

THE BIBLE VIEW

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Volume: 570 September 15, 2016

Government of-by-for the People

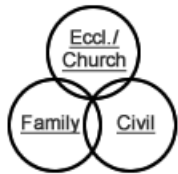
Dr. Earle E. Lee

How many forms of government did God ordain in the HIStory of creation? God ordained three forms of government recorded in His Word, the Bible. In order they are:

1. First, God ordained family government in Genesis when he created Adam and Eve, male and female, husband and wife and commanded them to multiply and replenish the earth. Family government involved husband, wife and children with parental responsibilities to govern the family. The family would raise children to become mature, respectful adults who in turn would marry and create more units of family government. (Genesis 1 & 2)
2. Second, God ordained civil government as evidenced by the ten commandments in Exodus 20:1-17. These concise commandments dealt with man's relationship to God first and established life principles for how each individual in society should treat his fellow man, woman, and children. These principles formed the

basis of the laws of the USA, which made our country great.

3. Third, God created ecclesiastical/church government in Colossians 1:18, “And he is the head of the body, the church...”, and verse 24, “...The afflictions of Christ in my flesh for his body’s sake, which is the church.” Christ started the church which exists today and gave specific governance principles for the church.



These three God-ordained governments can be best illustrated by three interlocking perfect circles with the church at the top, family and civil government side by side below that.

Here are distinct roles for each form of government that our founding fathers recognized in order to create government of the people, by the people, and for the people. In basic brief details they are:

1. The family had authority and responsibility to govern the family with father and mother working together to raise and govern the children. Civil government and ecclesiastical/church government had no authority over the family other than to encourage strong families in their duties as the basic unit of good government and churches, but never to usurp family governmental duties to themselves.
2. Civil government had authority to provide national defense, protect civil liberties by rewarding good and

punishing evil doers, and exercise capital punishment. Family and ecclesiastical/church government was to support civil government in its duties, but never to usurp civil governmental duties to them.

3. Ecclesiastical/ church had authority and responsibility to lead the individuals that made up the family to a right relationship with their Creator by understanding God's purpose for their lives here on earth and after death. Family and civil government were never to usurp ecclesiastical/church governmental authority to themselves.

As the illustration above depicts the trinity of God-ordained government, patterned after the triune Creator God, it is clearly revealed by the interlocking of the circles that each of the governments work together to create harmony through government of the people, by the people, and for the people, while supporting each other's distinct God-ordained roles.

In God's order of establishing three governmental bodies, it is abundantly clear that individuals that make up family government are and must be the individuals that are involved in civil and ecclesiastical/church government.

Christian family members that do not get involved by voting, and running for office in civil government and attending with active involvement in ecclesiastical/church affairs are failing to meet God's ordained role of the members that make up family government.

May God grant each of you the wisdom to exercise your God-ordained role as an individual in the elections of 2016, and beyond; fulfilling your role in government of the people, by the people, and for the people that our founding fathers gave us to make our country the greatest country on the earth since creation.

“The things that are wrong with the country today are the sum total of all the things that are wrong with us as individuals.” — *Charles W. Tobey*

A Dangerous Omission

Christian Herald

The closing part of Lincoln’s famous Gettysburg address reads, “We here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain; that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom, and that government of the people, by the people, and for the people, shall not perish from the earth.” It is a wonderful ideal, but are we not in danger of omitting those two vital words, “under God”? A “government of the people, by the people, and for the people” may be little more than a form of tyranny, but government of the people, for the people under God, is a form of government that honors God, that submits to His righteous rule, and that is exalted thereby.

“Only Way Out Is Up!”

Walter B. Knight

On a gray morning during World War I, the Prime Minister of Britain, David Lloyd George, stood grim-faced before

his compeers, members of the British Cabinet. The seriousness of the situation was evident upon the faces of all. Said David Lloyd George, “Gentlemen, we are fighting with our backs to the wall. The only way out is up; our only hope is God; let us pray!” When nations turn to God in their trouble, deliverance is not distant.

“Arguments seldom settle things, but prayer changes things!”

Lincoln’s Concern

Baptist Standard

One day, when the Civil War was raging its worst, a minister said to Lincoln, “I surely hope the Lord is on our side.” Lincoln replied, “I am not at all concerned about that, for I know that the Lord is always on the side of the right; but it is my constant anxiety and prayer that I, and this nation, should be on the Lord’s side.”

“America may die from the delusion she has moral leadership!” — *Will Rogers*

The Greatness of America

Author Unknown

About two hundred years ago, De Tocqueville of France visited America. Upon his return home he wrote, “I sought for the greatness of America in her harbors and rivers and fertile fields, and her mines and commerce. It was not there. Not until I went into churches and heard her pulpits flame with righteousness did I understand the greatness of her power. America is great because she is good; and if

America ever ceases to be good, America will cease to be great.”

Why Washington Succeeded

Sunday School Times

You may read in your United States history how George Washington found rest and relief in prayer during the trying times he and his soldiers faced at Valley Forge. With all the cares and anxieties of that time upon him, he used to have recourse in prayer.

One day a farmer, approaching the camp, heard an earnest voice. On coming nearer, he saw George Washington on his knees, his cheeks wet with tears, praying to God. The farmer returned home and said to his wife, “George Washington will succeed! The Americans will secure their independence!”

“What makes you think so, Isaac?” asked his wife.

The farmer replied, “I heard him pray, Hannah, out in the woods today, and the Lord will surely hear his prayer. He will, Hannah. Thee may rest assured He will.”

“Lord, Teach America to Pray!”

Author Unknown

And as her flag unfurls on high
Its starry splendor to the sky,
May we, in grateful thanks to Thee
Who gave to us this land so free,
Preserve her freedom in Thy way.
Lord, teach America to pray!

May our good land be true and just,
Her motto e'er "In God we Trust."
May she be guided by Thy Word,
Thy wisdom in her halls be heard.
May all who love her plead today,
Lord, teach America to pray!

"Do not face the day, until you have faced God!"

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