

If freedom and democracy are to remain,
we cannot dismiss two absolute foundations:

I. Moral Authority

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“We hold these truths to be
self-evident, that all men are created
equal, that they are endowed by their
Creator with certain unalienable Rights,
that among these are Life, Liberty and
the pursuit of Happiness.”

—*Declaration of Independence*

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“Can the liberties of anyone or
any people or any nation be
secure when we have removed
the conviction that those
liberties are a gift from God?”

—Thomas Jefferson

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If freedom and democracy are to remain,
we cannot dismiss two absolute foundations:

I. Moral Authority

2. Responsibility

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“The teachings of the New Testament are
foreshadowed in Micah’s verse: “What
more does the Lord require of thee than to do
justice, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly
with thy God?” Do justice; and therefore fight
valiantly against those that stand for the reign
of Moloch and Beelzebulb on this earth.

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Love mercy; treat your enemies well;
succor the afflicted; treat every woman as
if she were your sister; care for the little
children; and be tender with the old and
helpless. Walk humbly; you will do so if
you study the life and teachings of the
Saviour, walking in His steps...

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Remember: the most perfect machinery of government will not keep us as a nation from destruction if there is not within us a soul. No abounding of material prosperity shall avail us if our own spiritual senses atrophy.

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The foes of our own household will surely prevail against us unless there be in our people an inner life which finds its outward expression in a morality like unto that preached by the seers and prophets of God when the grandeur that was Greece and the glory that was Rome still lay in the future."

—Theodore Roosevelt, 1917

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¹What misery is mine! I am like one who gathers summer fruit at the gleanings of the vineyard; there is no cluster of grapes to eat, none of the early figs that I crave. ²The faithful have been swept from the land; not one upright person remains. Everyone lies in wait to shed blood; they hunt each other with nets.

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³Both hands are skilled in doing evil; the ruler demands gifts, the judge accepts bribes, the powerful dictate what they desire—they all conspire together. ⁴The best of them is like a brier, the most upright worse than a thorn hedge. The day God visits you has come, the day your watchmen sound the alarm. Now is the time of your confusion.

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⁵Do not trust a neighbor; put no confidence in a friend. Even with the woman who lies in your embrace guard the words of your lips.

⁶For a son dishonors his father, a daughter rises up against her mother, a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law—a man's enemies are the members of his own household.

—Micah 7:1-6 NIV

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But as for me,
I watch in hope for the LORD,
I wait for God my Savior;
my God will hear me.

—Micah 7:7 NIV

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“Good questions inform,
but great questions transform.”

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He has shown you, O mortal, what is good.
And what does the Lord require of you?
To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly
with your God. —Micah 6:8 NIV

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What does it take to be a man of God?

- Do justice.

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Justice (*mishpat*):
“the way prescribed, rightful action”

In the Bible, it is linked to God’s
revealed character. God is the
One who establishes justice.

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Righteousness exalts a nation,
but sin is a reproach to any people.
—Proverbs 14:34 ESV

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First Amendment

Congress shall make no law respecting an
establishment of religion, or prohibiting the
free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom
of speech, or of the press; or the right of the
people peaceably to assemble, and to petition
the Government for a redress of grievances.

-.018.tiff

“Of all the dispositions and habits which lead to political prosperity, religion and morality are indispensable supports. In vain would that man claim the tribute of patriotism, who should labor to subvert these great pillars of human happiness, these firmest props of the duties of men and citizens. The mere politician, equally with the pious man, ought to respect and to cherish them. A volume could not trace all their connections with private and public felicity.

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Let it simply be asked: Where is the security for property, for reputation, for life, if the sense of religious obligation desert the oaths which are the instruments of investigation in courts of justice? And let us with caution indulge the supposition that morality can be maintained without religion. Whatever may be conceded to the influence of refined education on minds of peculiar structure, reason and experience both forbid us to expect that national morality can prevail in exclusion of religious principle.” —George Washington, Farewell Address, 1796

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“American Exceptionalism”

“Americans have a duty to see that
‘government of the people,
by the people, for the people,’
shall not perish from the earth.”
—Abraham Lincoln, Gettysburg Address

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What does it take to be a man of God?

- Do justice.
- Love kindness.

“The government doesn’t generate profit apart from its citizens. Every single dime the government receives comes out of what otherwise would be the wages of its citizens.” —Philip Holmes

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Socialism is “a social and economic system that through legal or governmental or military coercion... establishes social ownership at the expense of private or personal ownership. You could say where coercion is used to establish social control—if not by means of ownership, at least control of the means of production in society.

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And thus, through control, you effectively eliminate many of the implications and motivations of private ownership. In other words, socialism borrows the compassionate aims of Christianity in meeting people’s needs while rejecting the Christian expectation that this compassion not be coerced or forced.

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Socialism, therefore, get its attractiveness at certain points in history where people are drawn to the entitlements that Socialism brings, and where people are ignorant or forgetful of the coercion and the force required to implement it...”

—John Piper

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What does it take to be a man of God?

- Do justice.
- Love kindness.
- Walk humbly.

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“I now make it my earnest prayer that God... would most graciously be pleased to dispose us all to do justice, to love mercy, and to demean ourselves with that charity, humility, and pacific temper of mind, which were the characteristics of the Divine Author of our blessed religion, and without an humble imitation of whose example in these things, we can never hope to be a happy nation.” —George Washington, 1783

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