

# UNDER GOD

*We the People*



**Returning to Our Roots**

**Workbook**

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©2021 by Melissa Riordan

Published by RIORDAN CLASSICS  
Crawford, Nebraska  
USA

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## INTRODUCTION

Welcome to *UNDER GOD, We the People, Returning to Our Roots* workshop.

This workshop is designed to give Christians a new perspective of the Preamble of the United States Constitution.

Learning about the Preamble may sound boring to some, but hang in there, this workbook is short, simple, and, yes, interesting.

For starters, you don't need to know anything about the Preamble or the United States Constitution.

On the other hand, one does need to know where to begin when studying or writing government documents. Should we begin with:

God?

Man?

Different forms of government?

Other Constitutions?

Because we are Christians, the answer is obvious. When studying or writing a nation's documents, we begin with God and God's Word because --

1. All true knowledge, wisdom, and understanding comes from God<sup>1</sup>;
2. God rules over all the nations<sup>2</sup>; and
3. Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life<sup>3</sup>, the Beginning and the End<sup>4</sup>.

So we will begin with God's Word!

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Just follow this workbook's FIVE STEPS (each Step won't take long, about 20 minutes in a group), and by the end, you'll be contributing your ideas for a New Preamble to the United States Constitution.

**STEP ONE: BEGINNING WITH GOD and GOD’S WORD**

Scripture is God-breathed<sup>5</sup> which means all the words of Scripture are God’s Words. So we’ll begin with God’s Word about nations, using 7 SCRIPTURES.

**7 SCRIPTURES FOR NATIONS**

**Read each aloud.**

1. “Give thanks to the LORD, call on His name; make known among the nations what He has done.” Psalm 105:1
2. “For dominion belongs to the LORD, and He rules over the nations.” Psalm 22:28
3. “Declare His glory among the nations, His marvelous deeds among all peoples.” Psalm 96:3
4. “You shall have no other gods before me.” Exodus 20:3
5. “The wicked return to the grave, all the nations that forget God.” Psalm 9:17
6. “Furthermore, since they did not think it worthwhile to retain a knowledge of God, He gave them over to a depraved mind, to do what ought not to be done. They have become filled with every kind of wickedness, evil, greed and depravity. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit and malice. They are gossips, slanderers, God-haters, insolent, arrogant and boastful; they invent ways of doing evil; they disobey their parents; they are senseless, faithless, heartless, ruthless.” Romans 1:28-31
7. Jesus said, “For by your words you will be acquitted, and by your words you will be condemned.” Matthew 12:37

**P.S. If you have a Scripture of your own and want to add it, please write it here:**

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**QUESTIONS, DISCUSSION, and YOUR NOTES  
about the 7 SCRIPTURES FOR NATIONS**

**Write your answers in the spaces provided.**

1. Is Scripture # 1 a command or a suggestion? \_\_\_\_\_  
How many commands/suggestions are in Verse #1? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Does Scripture #2 give us the answer to who rules over the nations? \_\_\_\_\_  
Who rules over the nations? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Scripture #3 gives us a command. What is it? \_\_\_\_\_  
Can nations obey this command? \_\_\_\_\_  
Should nations obey this command? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Could Scripture #4 apply to nations? \_\_\_\_\_ What might  
be some “other gods” for nations? \_\_\_\_\_
5. Based on Scripture #5, is it wise for a nation to forget God? \_\_\_\_\_  
If nations omit God from their preambles and/or constitutions, do you think they  
forgot God or deliberately omitted God? \_\_\_\_\_
6. Based on Scripture #6, is it wise for a nation to retain a knowledge of God?  
\_\_\_\_\_ Would it be wise to retain a knowledge of God in a nation’s  
preamble and/or constitution? \_\_\_\_\_
7. Preambles and constitutions are made up of words. Based on Scripture #7, will  
those who write preambles or constitutions—and those who sign them—be  
acquitted or condemned by their words? \_\_\_\_\_
8. DISCUSSION: If time allows, discuss your answers.

**YOUR NOTES:** Take a moment to jot down what you want to remember from STEP ONE.

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## **STEP TWO: OUR 50 STATES and THEIR PREAMBLES**

A PREAMBLE is found at the beginning of a constitution. The preamble defines the authority, ideals, and the motives for the constitution. A constitution lists the basic laws for a nation or a state.

Each of our 50 States has a preamble to its constitution.

Example:

*We, the people of the State of Wyoming, grateful to God for our civil, political and religious liberties, and desiring to secure them to ourselves and perpetrate them to our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution.*

Of the following 7 SCRIPTURES, circle the one(s) that apply to Wyoming's preamble.

1. "Give thanks to the LORD, call on His name; make known among the nations what He has done." Psalm 105:1
2. "For dominion belongs to the LORD, and He rules over the nations." Psalm 22:28
3. "Declare His glory among the nations, His marvelous deeds among all peoples." Psalm 96:3
4. "You shall have no other gods before me." Exodus 20:3
5. "The wicked return to the grave, all the nations that forget God." Psalm 9:17
6. "Furthermore, since they did not think it worthwhile to retain a knowledge of God, He gave them over to a depraved mind, to do what ought not to be done. They have become filled with every kind of wickedness, evil, greed and depravity. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit and malice. They are gossips, slanderers, God-haters, insolent, arrogant and boastful; they invent ways of doing evil; they disobey their parents; they are senseless, faithless, heartless, ruthless." Romans 1:28-31
7. Jesus said, "For by your words you will be acquitted, and by your words you will be condemned." Matthew 12:37

**DISCUSS your answers.**

**Guess how many** of the 50 States acknowledge God in their Preambles. \_\_\_\_\_

**Share your answers.** You'll find the answer in the Appendix, *Preambles of the 50 States*.

**Now choose a State.** Read its preamble (see Appendix, *Preambles of the 50 States*). Circle one or more of the 7 SCRIPTURES that apply to your State's preamble.

**NAME YOUR STATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

1. "Give thanks to the LORD, call on His name; make known among the nations what He has done." Psalm 105:1
2. "For dominion belongs to the LORD, and He rules over the nations. Psalm 22:28
3. "Declare His glory among the nations, His marvelous deeds among all peoples." Psalm 96:3
4. "You shall have no other gods before me." Exodus 20:3.
5. "The wicked return to the grave, all the nations that forget God." Psalm 9:17
6. "Furthermore, since they did not think it worthwhile to retain a knowledge of God, He gave them over to a depraved mind, to do what ought not to be done. They have become filled with every kind of wickedness, evil, greed and depravity. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit and malice. They are gossips, slanderers, God-haters, insolent, arrogant and boastful; they invent ways of doing evil; they disobey their parents; they are senseless, faithless, heartless, ruthless." Romans 1:28-31
7. Jesus said, "For by your words you will be acquitted, and by your words you will be condemned." Matthew 12:37

**By acknowledging God,** his sovereignty, our dependence on him, and our gratitude to him, did any of these States establish a religion? Circle your answer: YES NO

**DISCUSSION:** If time allows, discuss your answers.

**YOUR NOTES:** Take a moment to jot down what you want to remember from STEP TWO.

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**STEP THREE: 5 NATIONS and THEIR PREAMBLES**

**Read aloud the following preambles.** Which nations mention God, which do not?

**COLOMBIA**

The people of Colombia, In the exercise of their sovereign power, represented by their delegates to the National Constituent Assembly, invoking the protection of God, and in order to strengthen the unity of the nation and ensure to its members life, peaceful coexistence, work, justice, equality, understanding, freedom, and peace within a legal, democratic, and participatory framework that may guarantee a just political, economic, and social order and committed to promote the integration of the Latin American community, decree, authorize, and promulgate the following:

**PHILIPPINES**

We, the sovereign Filipino people, imploring the aid of Almighty God, in order to build a just and humane society, and establish a Government that shall embody our ideals and aspirations, promote the common good, conserve and develop our patrimony, and secure to ourselves and our posterity, the blessings of independence and democracy under the rule of law and a regime of truth, justice, freedom, love, equality, and peace, do ordain and promulgate this Constitution.

**EGYPT**

In the Name of Allah, Most Gracious, Most Merciful

This is Our Constitution; Egypt is the gift of the Nile for Egyptians and the gift of Egyptians to humanity.

With its unique location and history, Egypt is the Arab heart of the world.

It is the meeting point of world civilizations and cultures and the crossroads of its maritime transportation and communications. It is the head of Africa on the Mediterranean and the estuary of its greatest river: the Nile.

This is Egypt, an immortal homeland for Egyptians, and a message of peace and love to all peoples.

In the outset of history, the dawn of human conscience arose and shone forth in the hearts of our great ancestors, whose goodwill banded together to found the first central State that regulated and organized the life of Egyptians on the banks of the Nile. It is

where they created amazing wonders of civilization, and where their hearts looked up to heavens before earth knew the three Abrahamic religions.

Egypt is the cradle of belief and the banner of glory of the revealed religions.

On its land, Prophet Moses - to whom Allah spoke - grew up and on Mount Sinai, the Revelation of Allah shone on his heart and Divine message descended.

On its land, Egyptians harbored in their bosoms Virgin Mary and her baby and offered thousands of martyrs in defense of the Church of Jesus, Peace Be Upon Him.

When the Seal of the Messengers Mohammad (Peace and Blessings Be Upon Him) was sent to all mankind to perfect the sublime morals, our hearts and minds were opened to the light of Islam, and we, labeled the best soldiers on Earth fighting for the cause of Allah, disseminated the message of truth and sciences of religion across the world. This is Egypt, a homeland in which we live and in our souls it lives.

In modern age...

(This preamble continues on for 2 more pages with modern Egyptian history).

### **IRELAND**

In the Name of the Most Holy Trinity, from Whom is all authority and to Whom, as our final end, all actions both of men and States must be referred,

We, the people of Éire,

Humbly acknowledging all our obligations to our Divine Lord, Jesus Christ, Who sustained our fathers through centuries of trial,

Gratefully remembering their heroic and unremitting struggle to regain the rightful independence of our Nation,

And seeking to promote the common good, with due observance of Prudence, Justice and Charity, so that the dignity and freedom of the individual may be assured, true social order attained, the unity of our country restored, and concord established with other nations,

Do hereby adopt, enact, and give to ourselves this Constitution.

### **UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

**DISCUSSION:** Write down your favorite preamble and why. Take a few minutes to share the things you thought were interesting about your favorite preamble.

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After your discussion, choose one of the 5 nations: Colombia, Philippines, Egypt, Ireland, USA, and circle one or more of the following 7 SCRIPTURES FOR NATIONS that apply to its preamble.

**NAME YOUR NATION:** \_\_\_\_\_

1. "Give thanks to the LORD, call on His name; make known among the nations what He has done." Psalm 105:1
2. "For dominion belongs to the LORD, and He rules over the nations." Psalm 22:28
3. "Declare His glory among the nations, His marvelous deeds among all peoples." Psalm 96:3
4. "You shall have no other gods before me." Exodus 20:3
5. "The wicked return to the grave, all the nations that forget God." Psalm 9:17
6. "Furthermore, since they did not think it worthwhile to retain a knowledge of God, He gave them over to a depraved mind, to do what ought not to be done. They have become filled with every kind of wickedness, evil, greed and depravity. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit and malice. They are gossips, slanderers, God-haters, insolent, arrogant and boastful; they invent ways of doing evil; they disobey their parents; they are senseless, faithless, heartless, ruthless." Romans 1:28-31
7. Jesus said, "For by your words you will be acquitted, and by your words you will be condemned." Matthew 12:37

**Did any of these nations** establish a religion in their Constitutions? Circle your answer: YES NO

**Which nations that acknowledged God** did not establish a religion?

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**Which nations** did not acknowledge God? \_\_\_\_\_

**DISCUSSION:** If time allows, discuss your answers.

**YOUR NOTES:** Take a moment to jot down what you want to remember from STEP THREE.

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**STEP FOUR: BREAKING DOWN THE PREAMBLE OF THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION**

Read the following Scriptures aloud.

1. “Unless the LORD builds the house, its builders labor in vain. Unless the LORD watches over the city, the watchmen stand guard in vain.” Psalm 127:1
2. The LORD “grants peace to your borders and satisfies you with the finest wheat.” Psalm 147:14
3. The LORD’s “arm will bring justice to the nations...” Isaiah 51:5
4. “...where the Spirit of the LORD is, there is freedom.” 2 Corinthians 3:17
5. “Every good and perfect gift is from above...” James 1:17
6. “Cursed is the one who trusts in man, who depends on flesh for his strength and whose heart turns away from the LORD.” Jeremiah 17:5
7. “Blessed are all who fear the LORD, who walk in his ways. You will eat the fruit of your labor; blessings and prosperity will be yours.” Psalm 128:1-2
8. “...victory rests with the LORD.” Proverbs 21:31

**Now read aloud the Preamble of the United States Constitution:**

*We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.*

**Based on Scriptures #1-8**, is it possible for a nation by omitting God (as written: We the People of the United States) to achieve on its own any of the 6 goals of the Preamble of the United States Constitution? If so, which ones?

- form a more perfect Union # \_\_\_\_\_
- establish Justice # \_\_\_\_\_
- insure domestic Tranquility # \_\_\_\_\_
- provide for the common defense # \_\_\_\_\_
- promote the general Welfare # \_\_\_\_\_
- secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and Posterity # \_\_\_\_\_

**Based on Scriptures #1-8**, is it possible for a nation by acknowledging God (We the People of the United States acknowledging God, His Sovereignty and Provision, and Imploring His help) to achieve any of the 6 goals of the Preamble of the United States Constitution? If so, which ones?

- establish Justice # \_\_\_\_\_
- insure domestic Tranquility # \_\_\_\_\_
- provide for the common defense # \_\_\_\_\_
- promote the general Welfare # \_\_\_\_\_
- secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and Posterity # \_\_\_\_\_

**Discuss your answers.**

**BONUS ROUND: Two Great Nations—Babylon and Media/Persia**

**Read aloud the following 2 Scriptures:**

Daniel to Nebuchadnezzar King of Babylon: “You, O king, are the king of kings. The God of heaven has given you dominion and power and might and glory; in your hands he has placed mankind and the beasts of the field and the birds of the air. Wherever they live, he has made you ruler over them all. You are that head of gold.” Daniel 2:37-38

“This is what the LORD says to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I take hold of to subdue nations before him and to strip kings of their armor... I will go before you and will level mountains; I will break down gates of bronze and cut through bars of iron... I will strengthen you, though you have not acknowledged me...” Isaiah 45:1, 2, 5

**Based on these 2 Scriptures**, did God make Babylon and Media/Persia great even though they did not acknowledge him? Circle your answer: YES NO

**Based on these 2 Scriptures**, is a nation’s greatness determined by whether it acknowledges God or not? Circle your answer: YES NO

**Based on these 2 Scriptures**, can God make the United States great even if We the People do not acknowledge him in our U.S. Constitution? Circle your answer: YES NO

**DISCUSSION:** If time allows, discuss your answers.

**YOUR NOTES:** Take a moment to jot down what you want to remember from STEP FOUR.

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## **STEP FIVE: RETURNING TO OUR ROOTS: THE MAYFLOWER COMPACT**

**Read the following MAYFLOWER COMPACT aloud.** This document written 400 years ago is our foundational American governing document establishing our roots in Christianity as it proclaims the ideals and motives for combining *together in a civil body politick*.

### **THE MAYFLOWER COMPACT**

*In the name of God, Amen.*

*We, whose names are underwritten, the loyal subjects of our dread Sovereign Lord, King James, by the grace of God, of Great Britaine, France and Ireland king, defender of the faith, etc.*

*having undertaken, for the glory of God, and advancement of the Christian faith, and honour of our king and country, a voyage to plant the first colony in the Northerne parts of Virginia,*

*doe by these presents solemnly and mutually in the presence of God and one of another, covenant and combine ourselves together into a civill body politick, for our better ordering and preservation, and furtherance of the ends aforesaid;*

*and by virtue hereof to enacte, constitute, and frame such just and equal laws, ordinances, acts, constitutions and offices, from time to time, as shall be thought most meete and convenient for the general good of the Colonie unto which we promise all due submission and obedience.*

*In witness whereof we have hereunder subscribed our names at Cape-Codd the 11. of November, in the year of the reign of our sovereign lord, King James, of England, France and Ireland, the eighteenth, and of Scotland the fiftie-fourth. Anno Dom. 1620.*

**In light of the Mayflower Compact**, once again read aloud the Preamble of the United States Constitution.

### **THE PREAMBLE OF THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION**

*We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.*

**UNDERLINE THE REFERENCES TO GOD** in both the Mayflower Compact and the Preamble of the United States Constitution.

**NOW LIST** those references:

Mayflower Compact: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Preamble of the United States Constitution: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**USING THE SCRIPTURE VERSES IN THIS WORKBOOK –**

**Can we say that acknowledging God** in a nation’s Constitution makes a difference?  
Circle your answer: YES NO

**Can we say that not acknowledging God** in a nation’s Constitution makes a difference? Circle your answer: YES NO

**YOUR VOICE FOR AMERICA**

If you had an opportunity to change the Preamble of the United States Constitution, what would you write? Would you return to our roots? Would you acknowledge God, give thanks to God, ask God for protection? Or would you keep the Preamble as is?

**DISCUSSION:** If time allows, discuss your answers.

**YOUR NOTES:** Take a moment to jot down what you want to remember from STEP FIVE.

\_\_\_\_\_

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## Appendix

# **PREAMBLES OF THE 50 STATES OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

**ALABAMA** - We, the people of the State of Alabama, in order to establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, invoking the favor and guidance of Almighty God, do ordain and establish the following Constitution and form of government for the State of Alabama.

**ALASKA** - WE THE PEOPLE OF ALASKA, grateful to God and to those who founded our nation and pioneered this great land, in order to secure and transmit to succeeding generations our heritage of political, civil and religious liberty within the Union of States, do ordain and establish this constitution for the State of Alaska.

**ARIZONA** - We, the people of the State of Arizona, grateful to Almighty God for our liberties, do ordain this Constitution.

**ARKANSAS** - We, the people of the State of Arkansas, grateful to Almighty God for the privilege of choosing our own form of government, for our civil and religious liberty, and desiring to perpetuate its blessings and secure the same to ourselves and posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution.

**CALIFORNIA** - We, the People of California, grateful to Almighty God for our freedom, in order to secure its blessing, do establish this Constitution.

**COLORADO** - We, the people of Colorado, with profound reverence for the Supreme Ruler of the Universe, in order to form a more independent and perfect government, establish justice, insure tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this constitution for the "State of Colorado".

**CONNECTICUT** - We, the people of the State of Connecticut acknowledging with gratitude, the good providence of God, in having permitted them to enjoy a free government, do, in order more effectually to define, secure, and perpetuate the liberties, rights and privileges which they have derived from their ancestors;

hereby, after a careful consideration and revision, ordain and establish the following constitution and form of civil government.

**DELAWARE** - Through divine goodness all men have, by nature, the rights of worshiping and serving their Creator according to the dictates of their consciences, of enjoying and defending life and liberty, of acquiring and protecting reputation and property, and, in general, of attaining objects suitable to their condition, without injury by one to another, and as these rights are essential to their welfare, for the due exercise thereof, power is inherent in them, and, therefore, all just authority in the institutions of political society is derived from the people, and established with their consent, to advance their happiness, and they may, for this end as circumstances require, from time to time, alter their constitution of government

**FLORIDA** - We, the people of the State of Florida, being grateful to Almighty God for our constitutional liberty, in order to secure its benefits, perfect our government, insure domestic tranquility, maintain public order, and guarantee equal civil and political rights to all, do ordain and establish this constitution.

**GEORGIA** - To perpetuate the principles of free government, insure justice to all, preserve peace, promote the interest and happiness of the citizen and of the family, and transmit to posterity the enjoyment of liberty, we the people of Georgia, relying upon the protection and guidance of Almighty God, do ordain and establish this Constitution.

**HAWAII** - We, the people of Hawaii, grateful for Divine Guidance...establish this Constitution

**IDAHO** - We, the people of the State of Idaho, grateful to Almighty God for our freedom, to secure its blessings and promote our common welfare do establish this Constitution.

**ILLINOIS** - We, the people of the State of Illinois, grateful to Almighty God for the Civil, political and religious liberty which He hath so long permitted us to enjoy and looking to Him for a blessing on our endeavors...do ordain and establish this Constitution for the State of Illinois.

**INDIANA** - TO THE END, that justice be established, public order maintained, and liberty perpetuated; WE, the people of the State of Indiana, grateful to ALMIGHTY GOD for the free exercise of the right to choose our own form of government, do ordain this Constitution.

**IOWA** - WE, THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF IOWA, grateful to the Supreme Being for the blessings hitherto enjoyed, and feeling our dependence on Him for a continuance of those blessings, do ordain and establish a free and independent government, by the name of the STATE OF IOWA...

**KANSAS** - We, the people of Kansas, grateful to Almighty God for our civil and religious privileges, in order to insure the full enjoyment of our rights as American citizens, do ordain and establish this constitution of the state of Kansas...

**KENTUCKY** - We, the people of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, grateful to Almighty God for the civil, political and religious liberties we enjoy, and invoking the continuance of these blessings, do ordain and establish this Constitution.

**LOUISIANA** - We, the people of the State of Louisiana, grateful to Almighty God for the civil, political and religious liberties we enjoy...do ordain and establish this constitution

**MAINE** - We, the people of Maine...acknowledging with grateful hearts the goodness of the Sovereign Ruler of the Universe in affording an opportunity...and imploring His aid and direction...

**MARYLAND** - We, the People of the State of Maryland, grateful to Almighty God for our civil and religious liberty, and taking into our serious consideration the best means of establishing a good Constitution in this State for the sure foundation and more permanent security thereof, declare:

**MASSACHUSETTS** - We...the people of Massachusetts, acknowledging with grateful hearts, the goodness of the Great Legislator of the Universe...in the course of His Providence, an opportunity...and devoutly imploring His direction...forming a new Constitution...

**MICHIGAN** - We, the people of the state of Michigan, grateful to Almighty God for the blessings and freedom, and earnestly desiring to secure these blessings undiminished to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution.

**MINNESOTA** - We, the people of the state of Minnesota, grateful to God for our civil and religious liberty, and desiring to perpetuate its blessings and secure the same to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution.

**MISSISSIPPI** - We, the people of Mississippi in convention assembled, grateful to Almighty God, and involving his blessing on our work, do ordain and establish this Constitution.

**MISSOURI** - We the people of Missouri, with profound reverence for the Supreme Ruler of the Universe, and grateful for His goodness, do establish this Constitution for the better government of the State

**MONTANA** - We the people of Montana grateful to God for the quiet beauty of our state, the grandeur of our mountains, the vastness of our rolling plains, and desiring to improve the quality of life, equality of opportunity and to secure the blessings of liberty for this and future generations do ordain and establish this constitution.

**NEBRASKA** - We, the people, grateful to Almighty God for our freedom, do ordain and establish the following declaration of rights and frame of government, as the Constitution of the State of Nebraska.

**NEVADA** - We the people of the State of Nevada Grateful to Almighty God for our freedom in order to secure its blessings, insure domestic tranquility, and form a more perfect Government, do establish this CONSTITUTION.

**NEW HAMPSHIRE** - Every individual has a natural and unalienable right to worship God according to the dictates of his own conscience and reason; and no subject shall be hurt, molested, or restrained, in his person, liberty, or estate, for worshipping God in the manner and season most agreeable to the dictates of his own conscience; or for his religious profession, sentiments, or persuasion; provided he doth not disturb the public peace or disturb others in their religious worship.

**NEW JERSEY** - We, the people of the State of New Jersey, grateful to Almighty God for the civil and religious liberty which He hath so long permitted us to enjoy, and looking to Him for a blessing upon our endeavors to secure and transmit the same unimpaired to succeeding generations, do ordain and establish this Constitution.

**NEW MEXICO** - We, the people of New Mexico, grateful to Almighty God for the blessings of liberty, in order to secure the advantages of a state government, do ordain and establish this Constitution.

**NEW YORK** - WE, THE PEOPLE of the State of New York, grateful to Almighty God for our freedom, in order to secure its blessings, DO ESTABLISH THIS CONSTITUTION.

**NORTH CAROLINA** - We, the people of the State of North Carolina, grateful to Almighty God, the Sovereign Ruler of Nations, for the preservation of the American Union and the existence of our civil, political and religious liberties, and acknowledging our dependence upon Him for the continuance of these blessings to us and our posterity, do, for the more certain security thereof and for the better government of the State, ordain and establish this Constitution.

**NORTH DAKOTA** - We, the people of North Dakota, grateful to Almighty God for the blessings of civil and religious liberty, do ordain and establish this constitution.

**OHIO** - We, the people of the State of Ohio, grateful to Almighty God for our freedom, to establish its blessings and promote our common welfare, do establish this Constitution.

**OKLAHOMA** - Invoking the guidance of Almighty God, in order to execute and perpetuate the blessings of liberty, to secure just and rightful government, to promote our mutual welfare and happiness, we, the people of the State of Oklahoma, do ordain and establish this Constitution.

**OREGON** - Bill of Rights Article I. Section 2. All men shall be secure in the Natural right to worship Almighty God according to the dictates of their consciences...

**PENNSYLVANIA** - We the people of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, grateful to Almighty God for the blessings of civil and religious liberty, and humbly invoking His guidance, do ordain and establish this Constitution.

**RHODE ISLAND** - We, the people of the State of Rhode Island...grateful to Almighty God for the civil and religious liberty which He hath so long permitted us to enjoy, and looking to Him for a blessing...

**SOUTH CAROLINA** - We, the people of the State of South Carolina...grateful to God for our liberties, do ordain and establish this Constitution...

**SOUTH DAKOTA** - We, the people of South Dakota, grateful to Almighty God for our civil and religious liberties, in order to form a more perfect and independent government, establish justice, insure tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare and preserve to ourselves and to our posterity the blessings of liberty, do ordain and establish this constitution for the State of South Dakota.

**TENNESSEE** - Art. XI.III. That all men have a natural and indefeasible right to worship Almighty God according to the dictates of their conscience.

**TEXAS** - Humbly invoking the blessings of Almighty God, the people of the State of Texas, do ordain and establish this Constitution.

**UTAH** - Grateful to Almighty God for life and liberty, we, the people of Utah, in order to secure and perpetuate the principles of free government, do ordain and establish this CONSTITUTION.

**VERMONT** - Whereas, all government ought to ...enable the individuals who compose it to enjoy their natural rights, and other blessings which the Author of Existence has bestowed on man....

**VIRGINIA** - BILL OF RIGHTS XVI...Religion, or the Duty which we owe our Creator...can be directed only by Reason...and that it is the mutual duty of all to practice Christian Forbearance, Love and Charity towards each other....

**WASHINGTON** - We, the people of the State of Washington, grateful to the Supreme Ruler of the Universe for our liberties, do ordain this Constitution

**WEST VIRGINIA** - Since through Divine Providence we enjoy the blessings of civil, political and religious liberty, we, the people of West Virginia, in and through the provisions of this Constitution, reaffirm our faith in and constant reliance upon God and seek diligently to promote, preserve and perpetuate good government in the state of West Virginia for the common welfare, freedom and security of ourselves and our posterity.

**WISCONSIN** - We, the people of Wisconsin, grateful to Almighty God for our freedom, in order to secure its blessings, form a more perfect government, insure domestic tranquility and promote the general welfare, do establish this Constitution.

**WYOMING** - We, the people of the State of Wyoming, grateful to God for our civil, political and religious liberties, and desiring to secure them to ourselves and perpetuate them to our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution.

Isaiah 11:2 - "The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him – the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of power, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD..."

<sup>2</sup>Psalms 47:8 – "God reigns over the nations, God is seated on His holy throne."

<sup>3</sup>John 14:6 – “Jesus answered, ‘I am the Way and the Truth and the Life...’”

<sup>4</sup> Revelation 22:13 – “I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End.”

<sup>5</sup> 2 Timothy 3:16 – “All Scripture is God-breathed...”