



# THE PATRIOT POST®

VOICE OF ESSENTIAL LIBERTY

ALEXANDER'S  
ESSAY

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## ENDOWED BY OUR CREATOR

“To the distinguished Character of Patriot, it should be our highest Glory to add the more distinguished Character of Christian. The signal Instances of providential Goodness which we have experienced and which have now almost crowned our labours with complete Success, demand from us in a peculiar manner the warmest returns of Gratitude and Piety to the Supreme Author of all Good.”  
--George Washington

Today is National Prayer Day.

In 1775, on the eve of Revolution, the First Continental Congress called for “a day of publick humiliation, fasting, and prayer.”

Apparently, our Founders saw a national day of prayer as a fitting observance, not unlike the establishment of Thanksgiving, of which George Washington wrote in 1777, “Being the day set apart by the Honorable Congress for public Thanksgiving and Praise; and duty calling us devoutly to express our grateful acknowledgements to God for the manifold blessings he has granted us, the General ... earnestly exhorts, all officers and soldiers, whose absence is not indispensably necessary, to attend with reverence the solemnities of the day.”

Other Founders continued the tradition.

John Adams declared May 9, 1798, as “a day of solemn humiliation, fasting, and prayer ... that our country may be protected from all the dangers which threaten it.”

James Madison followed this tradition, but wrote, “I was always careful to make the Proclamations absolutely indiscriminate, and merely recommendatory; or rather mere designations of a day, on which all who thought proper might unite in consecrating it to religious purposes, according to their own faith & forms. In this sense, I presume you reserve to the Govt. a right to appoint particular days for religious worship throughout the State, without any penal sanction enforcing the worship.”

Our Founders were greatly and rightly suspect of any encroachment by government upon religious freedom, and

codified that proscription in Amendment I of our Bill of Rights: “Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof...”

In other words, Congress may not mandate that a particular religion be nationalized, and others be prohibited.

Our Founders were not radical secularists. Far from it. One need only examine their many writings on the subject as evidence. But, rightly, they didn't want the United States to be wedded with a particular church, as was the case with England and the Anglican Church.

Thomas Jefferson, a vigilant though skeptical Anglican, made clear this prohibition in his obscure but maliciously misconstrued 1802 letter to the Danbury Baptist Association. Far from calling for the coercive stripping of all religious influences from public life, Jefferson merely assured his Baptist constituents in Connecticut that their denominational practices were safe because our Constitution provided a “wall of separation” between church and state, which would prohibit the national government from recognizing Anglicanism as the national religion. (Notably, two days after writing that letter, Jefferson attended religious services in the House of Representatives.)

But as Madison wrote, our Constitution, the one he penned, does not bar the government from designating “particular days for religious worship throughout the State.”

However, in the latter half of the 20th century, judicial activists (the “despotic branch”) as Jefferson called them) have “interpreted” the First Amendment to suit their political agendas, placing evermore severe constraints upon the free exercise of religion while wholly misrepresenting the aforementioned “Wall of Separation” in a concerted effort to expel religious practice from any and all public forums.

They have done so by falsely putting forth a “living constitution,” a revisionist document which has little resemblance to the authentic Constitution that once was our Republic's standard for Rule of Law.

As noted by former Chief Justice William Rehnquist, “The wall of separation between church and state is a metaphor based upon bad history, a metaphor which has

proved useless as a guide to judging. It should be frankly and explicitly abandoned. ... The greatest injury of the 'wall' notion is its mischievous diversion of judges from the actual intention of the drafters of the Bill of Rights."

The intended consequence of this artificial barrier between church and state is to remove the unmistakable influence of our Creator from all public forums, particularly government education institutions, and thus, over time, to disabuse belief in a sovereign God and the notion of natural rights. This erosion of knowledge about the origin of our rights, the very foundation of our country and basis of our Constitution, has dire implications for the future of our Essential Liberty.

In 1952, Congress established the National Day of Prayer as an annual event by a joint resolution, signed into law by President Harry Truman. The NDP designation (36 U.S.C. § 119) calls for the nation "to turn to God in prayer and meditation."

Naturally, the Despot Branch is challenging that resolution, asserting that religion and politics don't mix.

On April 15, 2010, U.S. District Judge Barbara Crabb (a 1979 Jimmy Carter nominee) ruled that the statute establishing the National Day of Prayer was unconstitutional, as it is "an inherently religious exercise that serves no secular function."

That ruling, of course, has no basis in our Constitution, but merely among those who have contorted its true meaning into a grotesque remnant of its original brilliance.

Perhaps Ms. Crabb, and all other jurists who are attempting to amend our Constitution by judicial diktat in full disregard for the constitutional prescription for amendment in Article 5, should pause and consider the faith of our Founders.

Perhaps they should look into the depth of faith that motivated the actions of Patriot Founders John Hancock, Roger Sherman, John Dickinson, Hugh Williamson, Benjamin Rush, Samuel Huntington, John Adams, William Williams, Robert Treat Paine, Rufus King, William Livingston, James Wilson, George Mason and Patrick Henry.

Here are but a few examples of how our Founders expressed their faith when in positions of authority.

Hancock called on his home state of Massachusetts to

pray, "that universal happiness may be established in the world [and] that all may bow to the scepter of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the whole earth be filled with His glory."

According to John Adams: "The general principles on which the fathers achieved independence were the general principles of Christianity. I will avow that I then believed, and now believe, that those general principles of Christianity are as eternal and immutable as the existence and attributes of God. ... The Christian religion is, above all the religions that ever prevailed or existed in ancient or modern times, the religion of wisdom, virtue, equity and humanity. ... Suppose a nation in some distant region should take the Bible for their only law book and every member should regulate his conduct by the precepts there exhibited. ... What a Eutopia -- what a Paradise would this region be!"

Henry wrote, "The Bible ... is a book worth more than all the other books that were ever printed. ... The great pillars of all government and of social life [are] virtue, morality, and religion. This is the armor, my friend, and this alone, that renders us invincible."

Samuel Adams called on Massachusetts to pray that, "we may with one heart and voice humbly implore His gracious and free pardon through Jesus Christ, supplicating His Divine aid ... [and] above all to cause the religion of Jesus Christ, in its true spirit, to spread far and wide till the whole earth shall be filled with His glory."

Even those who were cautious about the public expressions of religion left evidence of their views on Christianity.

Jefferson wrote, "I am a Christian in the only sense in which He wished anyone to be: sincerely attached to His doctrines in preference to all others. ... I am a real Christian -- that is to say, a disciple of the doctrines of Jesus Christ."

Benjamin Franklin wrote, "As to Jesus of Nazareth ... I think the system of morals and His religion as He left them to us, the best the world ever saw or is likely to see."

Beyond these many writings -- as if further proof were needed -- our Founders unequivocally enumerated the natural rights of all men in our Declaration of Independence: "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."

"Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness..." These are

natural rights -- gifts from God, not government.

Notably, the conviction that our rights are innately bestowed by “the Laws of Nature and of Nature’s God,” is enumerated in the constitution preamble of every state in our Union.

Thomas Jefferson proclaimed, “The God who gave us life, gave us liberty at the same time. ... Can the liberties of a nation be thought secure when we have removed their only firm basis, a conviction in the minds of the people that these liberties are the gift of God? That they are not to be violated but with his wrath? Indeed I tremble for my country when I reflect that God is just: that his justice cannot sleep for ever.”

Prayer is Almighty God’s prerequisite for true hope and change, and our nation needs an abundance of both right

now. The Patriot Post’s National Advisory Board and staff invite you to join us, and millions of our countrymen, in prayer for our nation today at 1200 local time.

Semper Vigilo, Fortis, Paratus et Fidelis!

Mark Alexander  
Publisher, PatriotPost.US

Veritas vos Liberabit -- Semper Vigilo, Fortis, Paratus, et Fidelis! Mark Alexander, Publisher, for *The Patriot Post’s* editors and staff. Read online at <http://patriotpost.us>

(Please pray for our Armed Forces standing in harm’s way around the world, and for their families -- especially families of those fallen Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines and Coast Guardsmen, who granted their lives in defense of American liberty.)