

## *1:2a “Separation of Church and State” and Beliefs of the Founding Fathers*

- Term “Separation of Church and State” appears in a letter written by Jefferson to the Danbury Baptists.
- The purpose of the letter was to assure the Baptists that they would be free to worship as Baptists, since there would be no Official State church.
- The phrase “Separation of Church and State” appears nowhere in the Constitution.
- Term was improperly cited by a Supreme Court judge in 1962.

*1:2c Examples of Christian Views of Founding Fathers cont*

- Thomas Jefferson believed that American liberties are a gift from God.
- Benjamin Franklin called for prayer at the deadlocked Constitutional Convention of 1787.
- John Adams believed that the Constitution was made for a religious people.
- George Washington prayed for deliverance of America at Valley Forge.

## *2:1 Rewriting American History*

- EQ: Has American History been changed to reflect a secular perspective?
- Bible Verse for the Lesson: Judges 21 Verse 25, "In those days there was no king in Israel: every man did that what was right in his own eyes."

## *2:1 Rewriting American History cont*

- We are told that the Israelites had no king, only Judges, and that every man did whatever he personally felt was right for him.
- Those who argue that there is no such thing as true right and wrong prefer to do what they like.

## *2:1 Rewriting American History cont*

- Today there are judges and lawyers who believe that the traditional approach to our laws should be changed. They believe in a “living” Constitution that can change with the times. They are not interested in the original intent of the Constitution.
- Other members of the legal community disagree and believe that the original intent of the Framers is critical in interpreting our laws.

## *2:1 Rewriting American History cont*

- American law has traditionally looked to case law (past decisions) to decide current cases. As such, the Framers intent was important to them, and personal passions and preference were to be kept out of the legal decision process.
- The danger of “everyman doing what was right in his own mind” is that those in authority would make their own rules for themselves.

## *2:3a Historic Omissions at the Capitol Visitors Center*

- The Capitol Visitors Center was built to educate the public about American History
- Those in charge deliberately omitted historic references to God throughout the building.
- In report entitled: *Reconstructing American Leadership* by Rick Tyler, December 12, 2008, Tyler substantiates the CVC planners' clear bias in four major areas:
  - 1) America's Godly heritage;
  - 2) our system of American governance
  - 3) Constitutional interpretation; and
  - 4) ideology.

## *2:3b Historic Omissions at the Capitol Visitors Center*

- The National Motto
- The CVC had incorrectly identified “E pluribus Unum” in its Unity display as our national motto. Since 1956, our national motto has been “In God We Trust.”
- The CVC fully embraces the theme of “E pluribus Unum” - from Many, One - and explains its meaning, yet it fails to correspondingly explain the nation’s motto “In God We Trust.”



## *2:3b Historic Omissions at the Capitol Visitors Center*

- “E pluribus Unum” comes from the obverse side of the Great Seal of the United States adopted by Congress in 1782. On the reverse side are the Latin phrases *Novus Ordo Seclorum* (New Order of the Ages) and *Annuit Cœptis* (He approves our undertakings).
- The Seal includes a “watchful eye of God” symbolizing “His favor on America”. Yet, the Great Seal of the United States is missing from the CVC entirely.

## *Activity 3:4 The influence of Sir William Blackstone's Commentaries on American Law*



- Oxford trained jurist 1723-1780 Sir William Blackstone
- One of the foremost authorities on law in the 18th century.
- His Commentaries were widely used and read in 18th and 19th Century America and England.

*Activity 3:4 The influence of Sir William Blackstone's Commentaries on American Law*

- He believed that the laws of God were the Foundation of and superior to the laws of Man.
- He believed in Natural law of God.
- His works were studied and used by the Founders and Framers.

## 7.4b Eisenhower and MacArthur



Gen. Eisenhower addresses US Paratroops

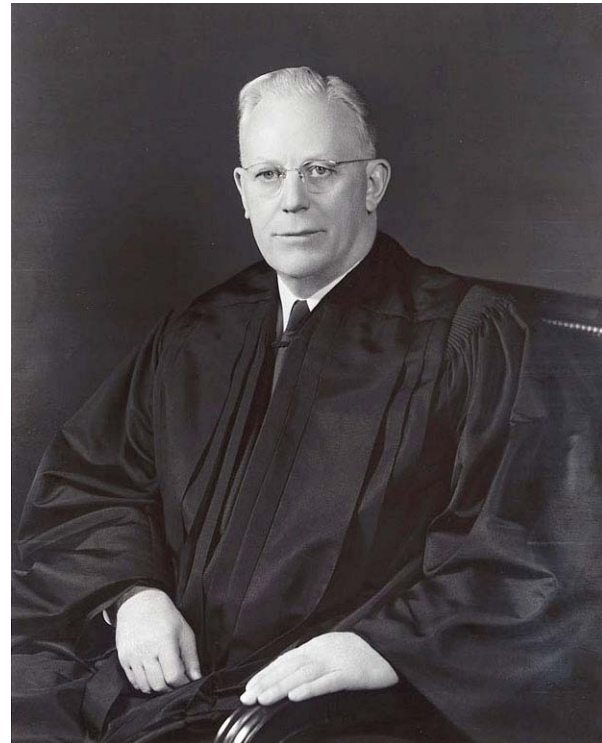
- General Eisenhower's D Day Address to his Troops June 1944
- Eisenhower issued the order to all of the American, British and French forces ready to liberate the occupied countries of Europe from Nazi tyranny

#### *7.4b Eisenhower and MacArthur*

- Eisenhower said they were “embarked upon a great crusade”
- He said that the “prayers of liberty loving people everywhere are with you”
- He prayed to Almighty God to for blessings upon the invasion

## *7.5c Justice Warren*

“I believe no one can read the history of our country without realizing that the Good Book and the spirit of the Savior have from the beginning been our guiding geniuses...



Chief Justice Earl Warren

## *8.5a The End of American Exceptionalism?*

- The French historian and Philosopher Alex de Tocqueville, whom we discussed in lesson 5 wrote “America is great because she is good.”
- Until very recently Americans believed they lived in a special place of freedom and liberty. Americans understood that although we were not perfect, America was truly the land of opportunity:
- People from all over the world come to America for freedom and opportunity, they do not flee her

### *8.5a The End of American Exceptionalism?*

- American's fought to be free of Kings, to rule themselves as free men
- America owned black slaves yet fought a great Civil war where hundreds of thousands of whites died to free the slaves
- America rescued Europe from German Imperial domination in WWI
- America rescued Europe from Nazism and Asia from Japanese aggression in WWII



### *8.5a The End of American Exceptionalism?*

- America invested billions to restore Europe and her former enemies after WWII
- America protected the world from Soviet Communist domination from 1945-1990
- Everyone is free to worship or not worship