

How Should We Then Vote?
Series

Lesson #10
July 16, 2020

Dean Bible Ministries
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How Should We Then Vote?

Divine Institution #1:

Personal Responsibility – Part 3

An iceberg floating in the ocean, with only the tip visible above the water. The background is a blue sky and sea. The text is overlaid on the image, with the top section above the water and the bottom section below the water.

Political/National or Individual Decisions

Ethics: What is right? What is wrong? What is good or bad?

Epistemology (Knowledge): How do we know truth? Right from wrong? Just or unjust?

Metaphysics: Ultimate reality, i.e., God, matter, energy, “the universe”, nothing

Foundation of *all* thought

Isa. 5:20, “Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; Who put darkness for light, and light for darkness; Who put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!

Isa. 5:21, “Woe to those who are wise in their own eyes, and prudent in their own sight!”

1 Sam. 17:47, “Then all this assembly shall know that the LORD does not save with sword and spear; for the battle is the LORD’S, and He will give you into our hands.”

The Foundations of Social Order

The Divine Institutions

Psa. 11:3, “If the foundations are destroyed, what can the righteous do?”

What is a Divine Institution?

Absolute social structures instituted by God for the entire human race—believers and unbelievers alike.

These are given for the perpetuation, stability, protection, and freedom of the human race.

A Divine Institution is *not* a social construct.

The Divine Institutions

1. Individual Responsibility

PRE-FALL

2. Marriage

3. Family

**Designed to promote
productivity and advance
civilization**

4. Government, judicial

POST-FALL

5. Nations

6. Israel

Designed to restrain evil

Gen. 1:26, “Then God said, ‘Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.’”

Gen. 1:27, “So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.”

Gen. 1:28, “Then God blessed them, and God said to them, ‘Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth.’ ”

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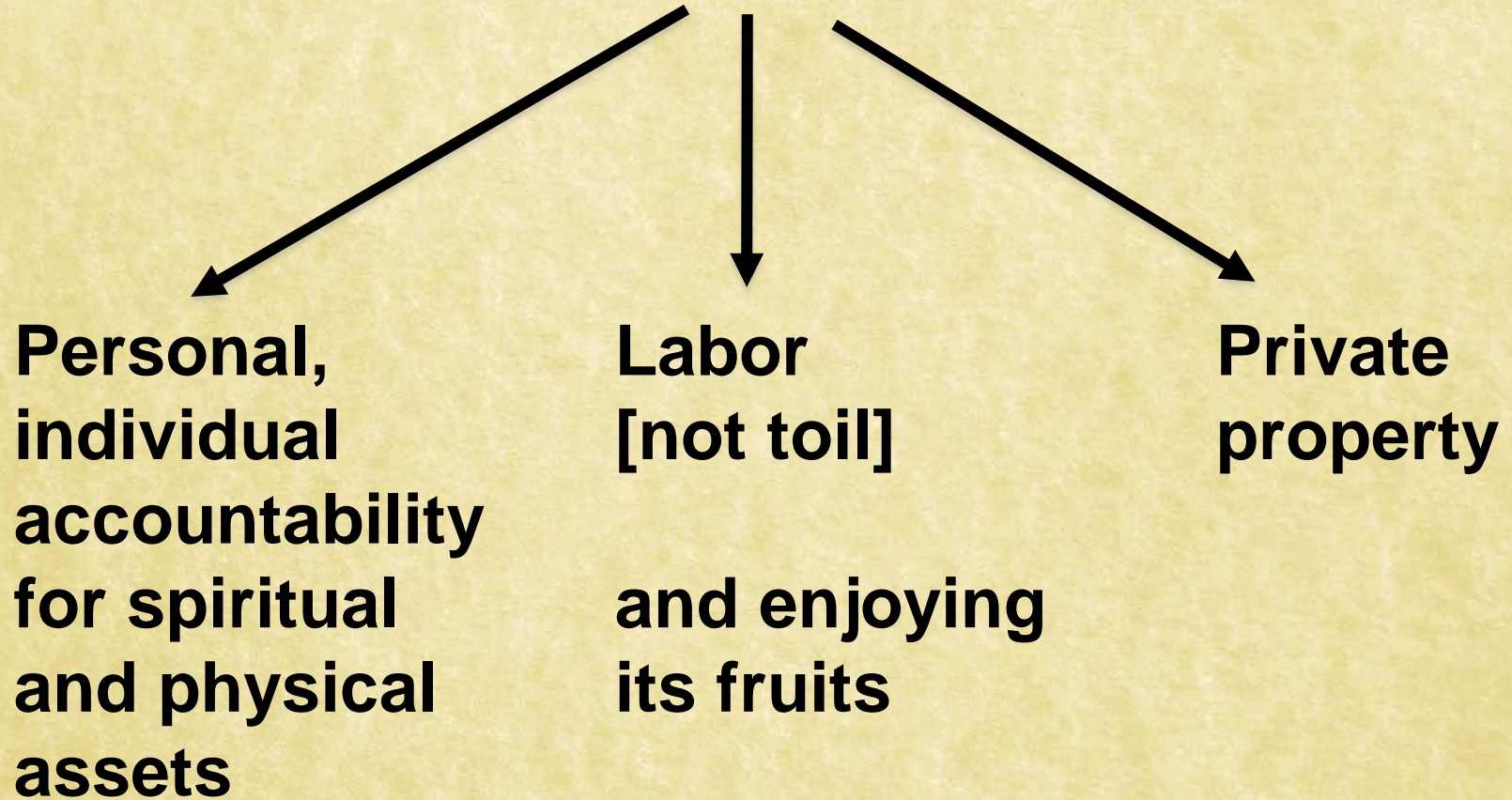
“A being only considers himself independent when he stands on his own feet; and he only stands on his feet when he owes his existence to himself.”

~Karl Marx (1818–1883)

“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

Divine Institution #1: Individual Responsibility



Ideas Have Political Consequences

Biblical worldview

Liberal worldview

Human nature depraved and unchangeable
(Founding Fathers)

Human nature good and perfectible
(French Revolution)

Strict laws and punishments

Lax laws, few punishments, no need for police

Limit rulers' powers

Trust ruler's good intentions

Need to defend against other nations

Little need for national defense

“The revolutionary principles of republican liberty and self-government, taught and embodied in the system of Calvin, were brought to America. ... The vital relation of Calvin and Calvinism to the founding of the free institutions of America however strange in some ears [this sounds] is recognized and affirmed by historians of all lands and creeds.”

~John Eidsmoe, *Christianity and the Constitution: The Faith of Our Founding Fathers*

Gen. 2:16, “And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, ‘Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat;

Gen. 2:17, “ ‘but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.’ ”

Isa. 64:6, “But we are all like an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are like filthy rags; We all fade as a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away.”

Rom. 7:7, “What shall we say then? Is the law sin? Certainly not! On the contrary, I would not have known sin except through the law. For I would not have known covetousness unless the law had said, ‘You shall not covet.’ ”

Rom. 7:15, “For what I am doing, I do not understand. For what I will to do, that I do not practice; but what I hate, that I do.”

John 3:36, “He who believes in the Son has everlasting life; and he who does not believe the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him.”

2 Cor. 5:10, “For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.

2 Cor. 5:11, “Knowing, therefore, the terror of the Lord, we persuade men; but we are well known to God, and I also trust are well known in your consciences.”

Founders understood that a society or culture was best that gave people the greatest freedom to exercise their will to further their self-development and take full responsibility for their lives.

Each individual is important in their own right and should not be coerced into conforming to their “identity” group, or their class.

Though we are all influenced by our education, culture, family, friends, we are as individuals to think for ourselves, develop our own life plans, and to hold to a God-given code of conduct.

RACE, CLASS, AND GENDER IN THE UNITED STATES

An Integrated Study

SEVENTH EDITION

Paula S. Rothenberg

William Paterson University of New Jersey

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ASPECTS & ASSUMPTIONS OF WHITENESS & WHITE CULTURE IN THE UNITED STATES

White dominant culture, or **whiteness**, refers to the ways white people and their traditions, attitudes and ways of life have been normalized over time and are now considered standard practices in the United States. And since white people still hold most of the institutional power in America, we have all internalized some aspects of white culture — including people of color.



Rugged Individualism

- The individual is the primary unit
- Self-reliance
- Independence & autonomy highly valued + rewarded
- Individuals assumed to be in control of their environment, "you get what you deserve"

Family Structure

- The nuclear family: father, mother, 2.3 children is the ideal social unit
- Husband is breadwinner and head of household
- Wife is homemaker and subordinate to the husband
- Children should have own rooms, be independent



Emphasis on Scientific Method

- Objective, rational linear thinking
- Cause and effect relationships
- Quantitative emphasis

History

- Based on Northern European immigrants' experience in the United States
- Heavy focus on the British Empire
- The primacy of Western (Greek, Roman) and Judeo-Christian tradition



Protestant Work Ethic

- Hard work is the key to success
- Work before play
- "If you didn't meet your goals, you didn't work hard enough"

Religion

- Christianity is the norm
- Anything other than Judeo-Christian tradition is foreign
- No tolerance for deviation from single god concept



Status, Power & Authority

- Wealth = worth
- Your job is who you are
- Respect authority
- Heavy value on ownership of goods, space, property

Future Orientation

- Plan for future
- Delayed gratification
- Progress is always best
- "Tomorrow will be better"



Time

- Follow rigid time schedules
- Time viewed as a commodity

Aesthetics

- Based on European culture
- Steak and potatoes; "bland is best"
- Woman's beauty based on blonde, thin — "Barbie"
- Man's attractiveness based on economic status, power, intellect

Holidays

- Based on Christian religions
- Based on white history & male leaders



Justice

- Based on English common law
- Protect property & entitlements
- Intent counts

Competition

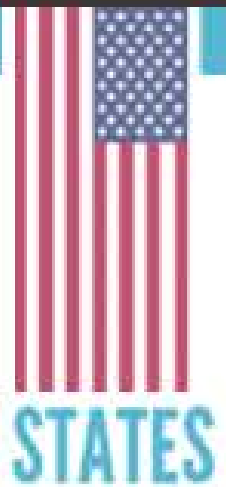
- Be #1
- Win at all costs
- Winner/loser dichotomy
- Action Orientation
- Master and control nature
- Must always "do something" about a situation
- Aggressiveness and Extroversion
- Decision-Making
- Majority rules (when Whites have power)



Communication

- "The King's English" rules
- Written tradition
- Avoid conflict, intimacy
- Don't show emotion
- Don't discuss personal life
- Be polite





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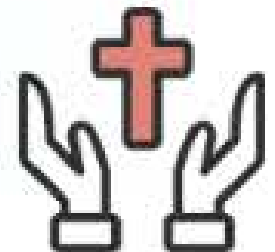


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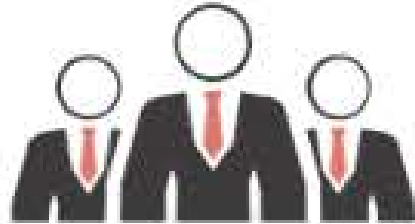
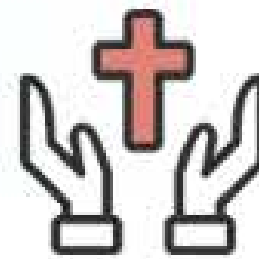
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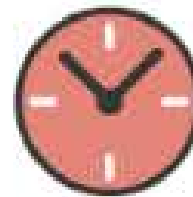


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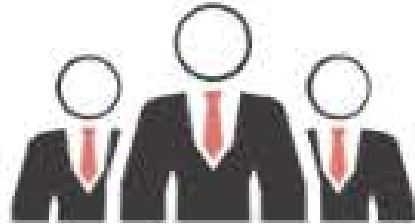
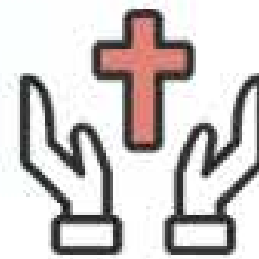
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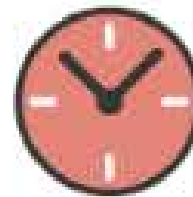


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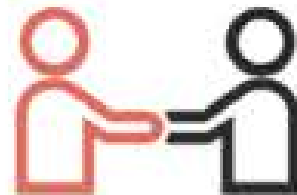


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Consequences of Sin

- **The physical world is corrupted.**
- **Humans will be born spiritually dead.**
- **All living things will eventually die.**
- **Earning a living for food, water, shelter, clothing, education, health care, child care, will be a constant struggle.**
- **There will be disease, famine, violence, wars, failure, misery, pandemics, economic collapse, extreme poverty, abuse of authority, and much more all because of sin.**

Consequences of Sin

- **Our constitution recognizes some God-given rights: Right to life, liberty, the [opportunity] to pursue happiness. Rights to liberty of speech, assembly, self-defense, to bear arms, to worship as we desire, and live out our convictions. Today some want to include the above.**

Luke 22:35, “And He said to them, ‘When I sent you without money bag, knapsack, and sandals, did you lack anything?’ So they said, ‘Nothing.’ ”

Luke 22:36, “And He said to them, ‘But now, whoever has a money belt is to take it along, likewise also a bag, and whoever has no sword is to sell his coat and buy one.’ ”

Ex. 20:8, “Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.

Ex. 20:9, “Six days you shall labor and do all your work,

Ex. 20:10, “but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the LORD your God. In it you shall do no work: you, nor your son, nor your daughter, nor your male servant, nor your female servant, nor your cattle, nor your stranger who is within your gates.”

Ex. 20:15, “You shall not steal.”

Eph. 4:28, “He who steals must steal no longer; but rather he must labor, performing with his own hands what is good, so that he will have *something* to share with one who has need.”

1 Pet. 2:13, “Therefore submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord’s sake, whether to the king as supreme,”

1 Pet. 2:14, “or to governors, as to those who are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers and for the praise of those who do good.

1 Pet. 2:15, “For this is the will of God, that by doing good you may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men—

1 Pet. 2:16, “as free, yet not using liberty as a cloak for vice, but as bondservants of God.

1 Pet. 2:17, “Honor all people. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the king.”

Titus 3:1, “Remind them to be subject to rulers and authorities, to obey, to be ready for every good work,

Titus 3:2, “to speak evil of no one, to be peaceable, gentle, showing all humility to all men.”

Gal. 6:4, “But let each one examine his own work, and then he will have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another.

Gal. 6:5, “For each one shall bear his own load.

Gal. 6:6, “Let him who is taught the word share in all good things with him who teaches.

Gal. 6:7, “Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap.”

2 Thess. 3:7, “For you yourselves know how you ought to follow us, for we were not disorderly among you;

2 Thess. 3:8, “nor did we eat anyone’s bread free of charge, but worked with labor and toil night and day, that we might not be a burden to any of you,

2 Thess. 3:9, “not because we do not have authority, but to make ourselves an example of how you should follow us.”

2 Thess. 3:10, “For even when we were with you, we commanded you this: If anyone will not work, neither shall he eat.”

2 Thess. 3:11, “For we hear that there are some who walk among you in a disorderly manner, not working at all, but are busybodies.”

2 Thess. 3:12, “Now those who are such we command and exhort through our Lord Jesus Christ that they work in quietness and eat their own bread.”

2 Cor. 5:9, “Therefore we make it our aim, whether present or absent, to be well pleasing to Him.

2 Cor. 5:10, “For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.”

Rom. 14:10, “But why do you judge your brother? Or why do you show contempt for your brother? For we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ.

Rom. 14:11, “For it is written: ‘As I live, says the LORD, every knee shall bow to Me, and every tongue shall confess to God.’

Rom. 14:12, “So then each of us shall give account of himself to God.”

1 Pet. 4:5, “They will give an account to Him who is ready to judge the living and the dead.”