

The West Meadow
By Pastor Wes Higgins

It seems everybody today are demanding their rights. The Declaration of Independence declares that all are endowed by our Creator with certain rights that are nontransferable – they belong to us by right of birth and they include life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness – the Constitution adds to these unalienable rights the right to free speech, to free exercise of religion, the right to assemble and the right to petition, the right to bare arms, and the right to be secure in their possessions – houses papers and effects. You should note that not one of these rights infringe on another person. As Walter Williams put it, these rights do not demand others to provide them, only the duty of non-interference.

But we see today many people demanding special rights – rights that infringe on others. The homosexual and transgender groups demand special words be added giving them privileges to demand special treatments. Many women demand the right to chose killing their yet to be born child, taking the child's right to life away. The “right” to free healthcare, to higher wages, to free or low cost housing, the right to free education, to a job, the list goes on and on. Every one of those “rights” demands that someone else pay for them, either through taxation, direct payment, or the loss of freedom. “If one person has a right to something he did not earn, it means another person does not have the right to something he did earn.” – Walter Williams

The Bible has a term for that. It's called Theft. We do not have the right to take from someone else their money, their food, their house, or their life. If you have just a passing knowledge of the Bible you know that God is not a socialist. God supports and upholds ownership of private property. His ten commandments and statutes and judgments set down guidelines for protecting private property. You shall not steal: do not take property that belongs to someone else – whether it be in form of taxation, unfair wage (too much or too little), or demanding someone else take care of your needs. You shall not commit murder: this includes the yet to be born. You shall not commit adultery: the husband and the wife belong to each other. You shall not lie: fake news is false witnessing, and usually used to take away someones freedom.

God says “My people are destroyed for the lack of knowledge” (Hosea 4:6, NKJV), the lack of knowing right from wrong. The foundation of what is right is the same foundation of our unalienable rights – God and His Word.

“And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free”, John 8:23, NKJV.

“I am the way, the truth, and the life”, John 14:6, NKJV.

Don't let your Rights infringe on the rights of others.