

Americas 250th Anniversary
Great Things He Has Done!
The United States Constitution
Handout #2



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The effort to put the bible into the hands of the _____ was the precursor for all movement toward the principles of _____ - _____ and freedom.

Many of the protestant reformers wrote about and modeled many of the principles of liberty later embraced by our own Founders:

Transcendent principles of _____
_____ authority
An _____ citizenry as a safeguard against tyranny
Representative government accountable to the people and a higher _____

“Lex Rex” - Samuel Rutherford 1644

“Lex Rex” means: _____ is _____ as opposed to _____ is _____.

The New England Primer

Contents reflect a focus on teaching humanity’s _____ which in turn had heavy influence upon their view of the _____ authority.

Research on Founders Writings

In looking at the Bible’s influence on the American founding, political scientist Donald S. Lutz conducted a study and reported that the Bible was cited in the founders’ writings _____ than any European writer or European school of thought.¹

Lutz concluded that the Bible accounted for about a _____ of all _____ in the _____.²

¹ Donald Lutz, *A Preface to American Political Theory*, (Lawrence, KS: University Press of Kansas, 1992), 136.

² Donald Lutz, “The Relative Influence of European Writers on Late Eighteenth-Century American Political Thought”, *The American Political Science Review* 78, no. 1 (March 1984), 191.

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Research on Founders Writings

3154 direct quotes traced to their source.

- Baron Charles de Montesquieu _____ %
- William Blackstone _____ %
- John Locke _____ %
- The Bible _____ %

Baron Charles de Montesquieu – Cited by the founders more than any other source except the _____.

All _____ has its source in _____.

William Blackstone

The law textbook of America for the next 160 years. Premier legal textbook for the founding and subsequent generations. Settled disputes, _____ words, used to examine procedure.

Wrote about _____ and human authority.

Argued that God and _____ are the foundational sources of all true law, asserting that human laws are _____ if they _____ the law of God.

John Locke

Known for his “Two Treatises of Government.”

Cited the _____ frequently in his political writings.

Known widely for his “_____ Theory.”

Wrote extensively about the need for mankind to live under social agreement / contract due to human [sinful] nature.

Locke explained that in mankind’s natural state, men and women were free to pursue and defend their own interests, which resulted in a brutal state of _____.