

Americas 250th Anniversary
Great Things He Has Done!
The United States Constitution
Handout #3



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Foundational Documents

Mayflower Compact

*Having undertaken for the Glory of God, and Advancement of the Christian Faith,...
...do by these presents, solemnly and mutually in the Presence of God and one of another,*

Fundamental Orders of Connecticut

*“For insomuch as it hath pleased Almighty God...
...the Word of God requires that to maintain the peace and union of such a people there should
...orderly and decent government established according to God...”*

Declaration of Independence

*the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God
...all men are created equal
...that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights*

Articles of Confederation

Article XIII, Clause II... “And whereas it has pleased the great Governor of the world to incline the hearts of the legislatures we respectively represent...”

United States Constitution

Article VII... “Done in Convention by the Unanimous Consent of the States present the seventeenth day of September in the Year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty seven ...”

By studying the foundational documents we discover a main theme in the founding of America.

Four points of the main theme:

1. Our government is based on ideas from the _____.
2. The Bible teaches that government should be based upon _____ moral laws and the _____ of the governed
3. Government must be based on a foundation which is _____ than _____.
4. Government should be _____ in its authority to those areas specifically granted by the _____ of the governed.

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"In the name of God, Amen. We, whose names are underwritten, the Loyal Subjects of our dread Sovereign Lord, King James, by the Grace of God, of England, France and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, &. *Having undertaken for the* _____ *of* _____, *and* _____ *of the* _____, and the Honour of our King and Country, a voyage to plant the first colony in the northern parts of Virginia; *do by these presents, solemnly and mutually in the Presence of God and one of another,* covenant and combine ourselves together into a _____, for our _____ and Preservation, and Furtherance of the Ends aforesaid; ...

When the passengers on the Mayflower stated they would "covenant and combine ourselves together into a civil body politick, for our better ordering and preservation and furtherance of the ends aforesaid" they were telegraphing they clearly understood the _____ of man and were acting upon that understanding and instituting a protective measure based upon what would become social contract theory a half century later.

Fundamental Orders of Connecticut

Thomas Hooker

Pastor Hookers sermon was based upon **Deuteronomy 1:13**—a passage that states "Choose for your tribes wise, understanding, and experienced men, and I will appoint them as your heads."

In this sermon Hooker preached that God had _____ the _____ of _____ - _____.

What is it that made the Fundamental Orders of Connecticut such an important document in the "chain of human events" and is the reason it is regarded by some as the world's first written Constitution?

The Fundamental Orders created a _____, gave it _____, and established certain _____.

The colonialists believed that they had the right to self government for two reasons:

1. They had a _____ binding _____.
2. Their _____ rights as Englishmen.