

USA = CHRISTIAN COUNTRY?

I sought for the greatness and genius of America in her commodious harbors and her ample rivers - and it was not there . . . in her fertile fields and boundless forests and it was not there . . . in her rich mines and her vast world commerce - and it was not there . . . in her democratic Congress and her matchless Constitution - and it was not there. Not until I went into the churches of America and heard her pulpits flame with righteousness did I understand the secret of her genius and power. America is great because she is good, and if America ever ceases to be good, she will cease to be great. *Alexis de Tocqueville, Democracy in America, (1835)*

**Can the US be considered a Christian country now? Ever?
Are the “sins” of the US not as bad as other countries?**

What are the attributes of a Christian country?

What about the judge in Alabama and his 10 Commandments statue? Is this a violation of “Separation of Church and State?”

Does the US Constitution use the phrase “Separation of Church and State?”

Amendment 1: Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.

Does the Pledge of Allegiance violate the “Separation of Church and State?”

How many of the 10 Commandments are actually laws in our system of government?

10 COMMANDMENTS – EXODUS 20

¹ And God spoke all these words, saying:

²“I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.

³“You shall have no other gods before Me.

⁴“You shall not make for yourself a carved image--any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth; ⁵you shall not bow down to them nor serve them. For I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth generations of those who hate Me, ⁶but showing mercy to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments.

⁷“You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not hold him guiltless who takes His name in vain.

⁸“Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. ⁹Six days you shall labor and do all your work, ¹⁰but 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. ¹¹For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it.

¹²“Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long upon the land which the LORD your God is giving you.

¹³“You shall not murder.

¹⁴“You shall not commit adultery.

¹⁵“You shall not steal.

¹⁶“You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

¹⁷“You shall not covet your neighbor’s house; you shall not covet your neighbor’s wife, nor his male servant, nor his female servant, nor his ox, nor his donkey, nor anything that is your neighbor’s.”

Our money says “In God We Trust.” What God does this refer to and what are we trusting him with? Should one consider the Great Seal to be a Christian symbol?

Annuit Coeptis: “The eye of providence has favored our undertakings”



Tolerance issues – Are all ideas, religious or otherwise, created equal?

"School sponsorship of a religious message is impermissible because it sends the ancillary message to members of the audience who are nonadherents that they are outsiders, not full members of the political community, and an accompanying message to adherents that they are insiders, favored members of the political community. " U.S. Supreme Court ruling, *Santa Fe v. Doe*, (2000).

Can we legislate the God of the Bible out of our society? What are the consequences?