



*Sanctuary*

*YOU ARE AWESOME, OH  
GOD, IN YOUR  
SANCTUARY; THE GOD  
OF ISRAEL GIVES  
POWER AND STRENGTH  
TO HIS PEOPLE. PRAISE  
BE TO GOD!*

*- PSALMS 68:35*

*Welcome to  
Sierra Community Church*







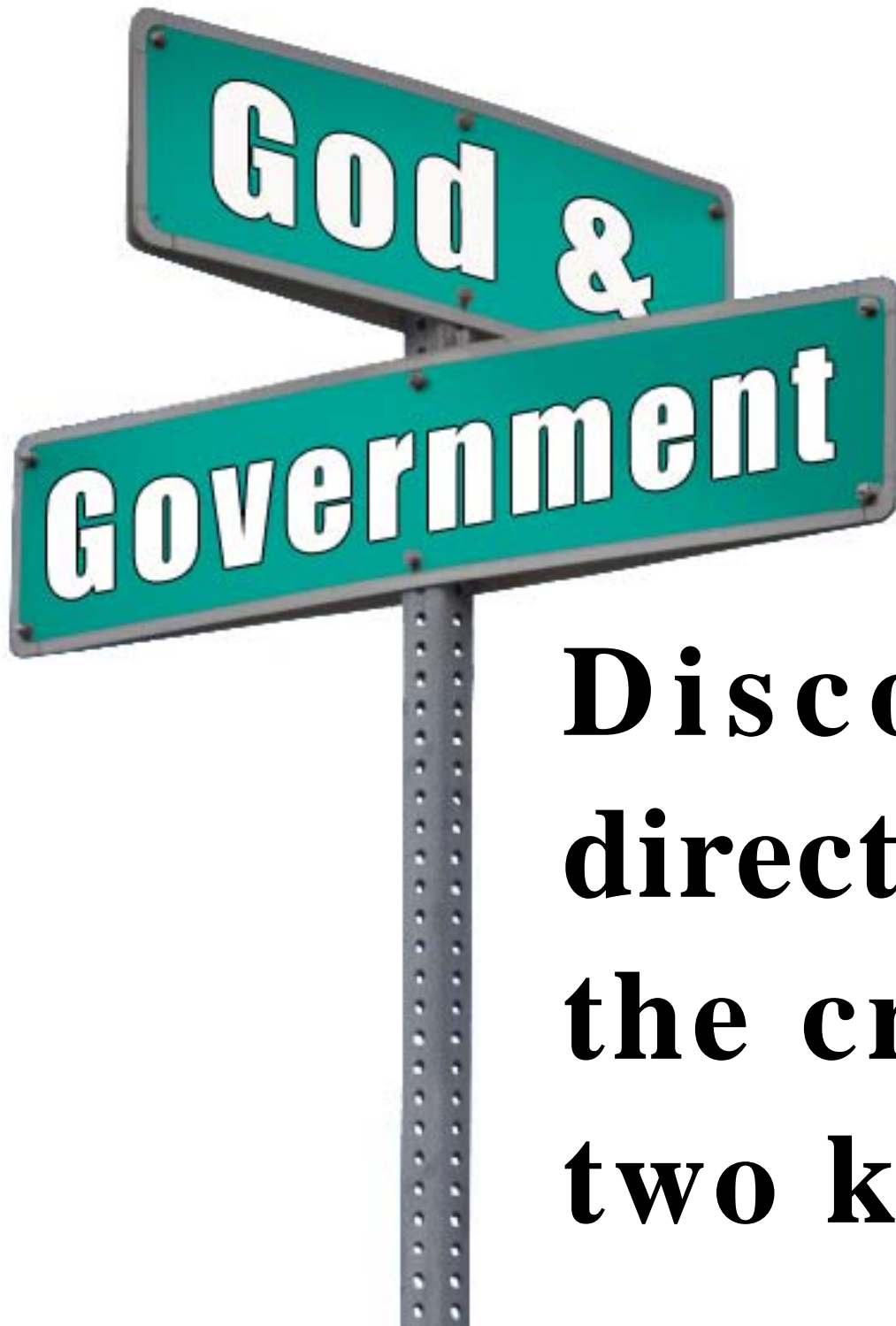






# Barbara Grant

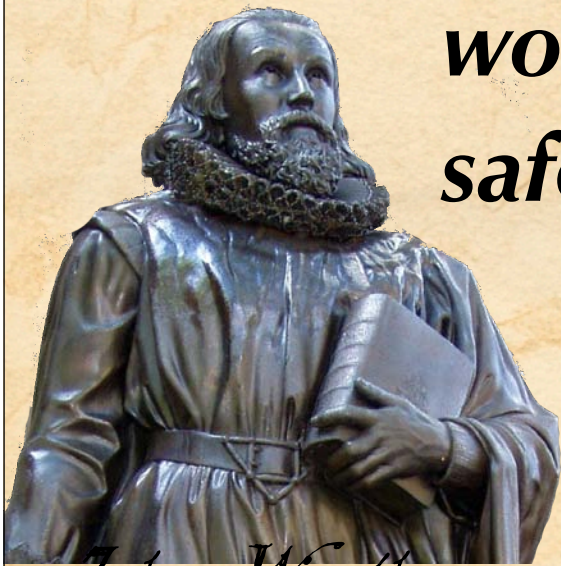




**Discover God's  
direction for life in  
the cross-roads of  
two kingdoms.**



***Diffuse the knowledge of the Bible, and the hungry will be fed, and the naked clothed. Diffuse the knowledge of the Bible, and the stranger will be sheltered, the prisoner visited, and the sick ministered unto... Diffuse the knowledge of the Bible, and the peace of the world secured by more substantial safeguards than either the mutual fear, or the reciprocal interests, of prince or people.***



*John Winthrop*



# Founding Fathers

- 1. Almost all were protestant Christians.**
- 2. They believed that political freedoms and liberties were God given.**
- 3. They warned of dangers of straying from religion's foundations for life and society.**

Original Intent



***“It cannot be emphasized too strongly or too often that this great nation was founded, not by religionist, but by Christians; not on religions, but on the Gospel of Jesus Christ. For this very reason people of other faiths have been afforded asylum, prosperity, and freedom of worship here.”***



*Patrick Henry*



***“Of all the dispositions and habits which lead to political prosperity, religion and morality are indispensable supports.”***



*George Washington*



***“Religion is the basis and  
Foundation of Government...The  
belief in God all powerful, wise,  
and good, is so essential to the  
moral order of the world and to  
the happiness  
of man...”***



*James Madison*





*Noah Webster*

***“No truth is more evident to my mind than that the Christian religion must be the basis of any government intended to secure the rights and privileges of a free people.”***





*Noah Webster*

***“The moral principles and precepts contained in the Scriptures ought to form the basis of all our civil constitutions and laws. All the miseries and evils which men suffer from vice, crime, ambition, injustice, slavery, and war, proceed from their despising or neglecting the precepts contained in the Bible.”***





*Samuel Adams*

***“The right to freedom being  
the gift of the Almighty...***

***The rights of the colonist as  
Christians... may be best understood by  
reading and carefully studying the  
institutions of the Greater Law Giver and  
Head of the Christian Church, which are  
to be found clearly written and  
promulgated in the New Testament.”***



***“History will also afford the frequent opportunities of showing the necessity of a public religion, from its usefulness to the public; the advantage of a religious character among private persons; the mischiefs of superstition, and the excellency of the Christian religion above all others, ancient or modern.”***



*Benjamin Franklin*



***“The longer I live, the more convincing proof I see of the truth -that God governs in the affairs of men... I therefore beg leave to move - that henceforth prayers imploring the audience of Heaven, and its blessings on our deliberations, be held in this assembly every morning before we proceed to business, and that one or more of the clergy of this city be requested to officiate in that service.”***



*Benjamin Franklin*



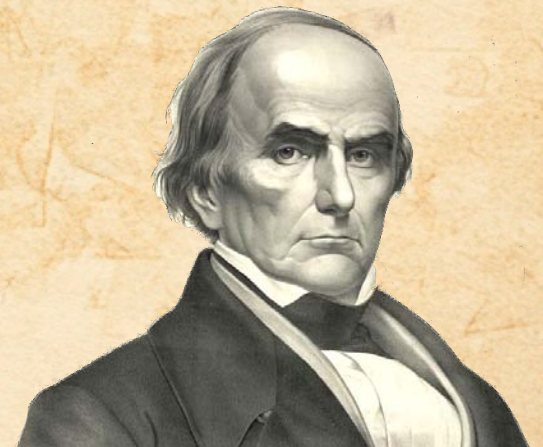
***“Providence has given to our people the choice of their rulers, and it is the duty, as well as the privilege and interest of our Christian nation to select and prefer Christians for their rulers.”***



*John Jay*



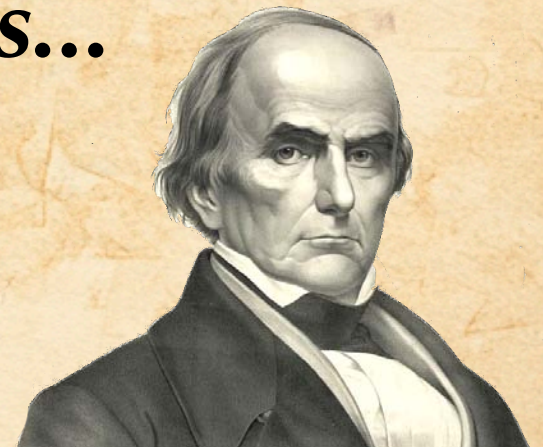
*“Let us not forget the religious character of our origin. Our fathers were brought hither by their high veneration for the Christian religion. They journeyed by its light, and labored in its hope. They sought to incorporate its principles with the elements of their society, and to diffuse its influence through all their institutions, civil, political, or literary.”*



*Daniel Webster*



***“Lastly, our ancestors established their system of government on morality and religious sentiment. Moral habits, they believed, cannot safely be trusted on any other foundation than religious principle, nor any government be secure which is not supported by moral habits... Whatever makes men good Christians, makes them good citizens.”***



*Daniel Webster*



# *Civic Foundations*

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- 1. Congress opens in prayer and employs a Chaplain.**
- 2. Our military employs Chaplains.**
- 3. Swearing in of Presidents and Court Officials.**
- 4. Many of our national holidays have their origins in the faith of our founders.**

**Original Practice**



## *Washington's Thanksgiving Proclamation:*

*“Whereas it is the duty of all Nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God, to obey his will, to be grateful for his benefits, and humbly to implore his protection and favor... Thursday the 26<sup>th</sup> day of November next to be devoted by the People of these States to the service of that Great and glorious Being, who is the beneficent Author of all the good that was, that is, or that will be, that we may then all unite in rendering unto him our sincere and humble thanks--for his kind care and protection of the People of this Country.”*



*George Washington*



# *A National Day of Fasting and Prayer*

*March 30, 1863*

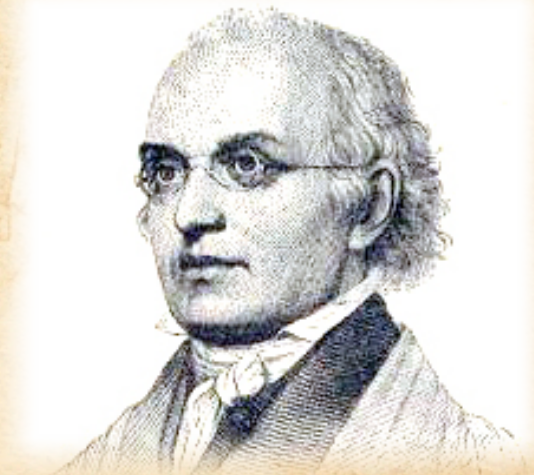
***“Whereas, the Senate of the United States devoutly recognizing the Supreme Authority and just Government of God in all the affairs of nations, has, by a resolution, requested the President to designate and set apart a day for national prayer and humiliation.”***



*Abraham Lincoln*



*“...at the time of the adoption of the Constitution, and of the first amendment to it... the general, if not universal, sentiment in America was that Christianity ought to receive encouragement from the State, so far as was not incompatible with the previous rights of conscience and freedom of religious worship.”*



*Joseph Story*



*Continental Congress - Sept. 11, 1777*

*Order for 20,000 Bibles to American Troops*

**“...recommends that Congress will order the Committee of Commerce to import 20,000 Bibles from Holland, Scotland, or elsewhere...”**





*Northwest Ordinance*  
*August 7th, 1789*

Set forth the requirement of statehood for prospective territories.

***“Religion, morality, and knowledge, being necessary to good government and the happiness of mankind, schools and the means of education shall forever be encouraged.”***



# *Public Foundations*

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- 1. The first schools started in churches.**
- 2. Bible and basic doctrine was part of the curriculum.**
- 3. Higher Education was almost exclusively Religious.**

Original Practice



# *Private Foundations*

Princeton was founded in 1746  
by Presbyterians, their motto  
was: *“Under God’s Power  
She Flourishes.”*



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Original Practice



# *Private Foundations*

**Princeton's first President  
Reverend Jonathan Dickinson:**

***“Cursed be all learning that is  
contrary to the cross of  
Christ.”***



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**Original Practice**



1892 Supreme Court - Conclusion to study of the connection between Christianity and the Government.

***“These reference... add a volume of unofficial declarations to the mass of organic utterances that is a religious people... a Christian Nation.”***



*"The Bible... is the one supreme source of revelation of the meaning of life, the nature of God and spiritual nature and need of men. It is the only guide of life which really leads the spirit in the way of peace and salvation. America was born a Christian nation. America was born to exemplify that devotion to the elements of righteousness, which are derived from the revelations of Holy Scriptures."*



*Woodrow Wilson  
28<sup>th</sup> President*





**Wall Of  
Separation?**





*Thomas Jefferson*

*Correspondence - Danbury*

*Baptist Convention - Jan. 1<sup>st</sup> 1802*

**Jefferson was an Anti-Federalist, he reassures them there existed “a wall of separation between Church and State.”**

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**Original Intent**

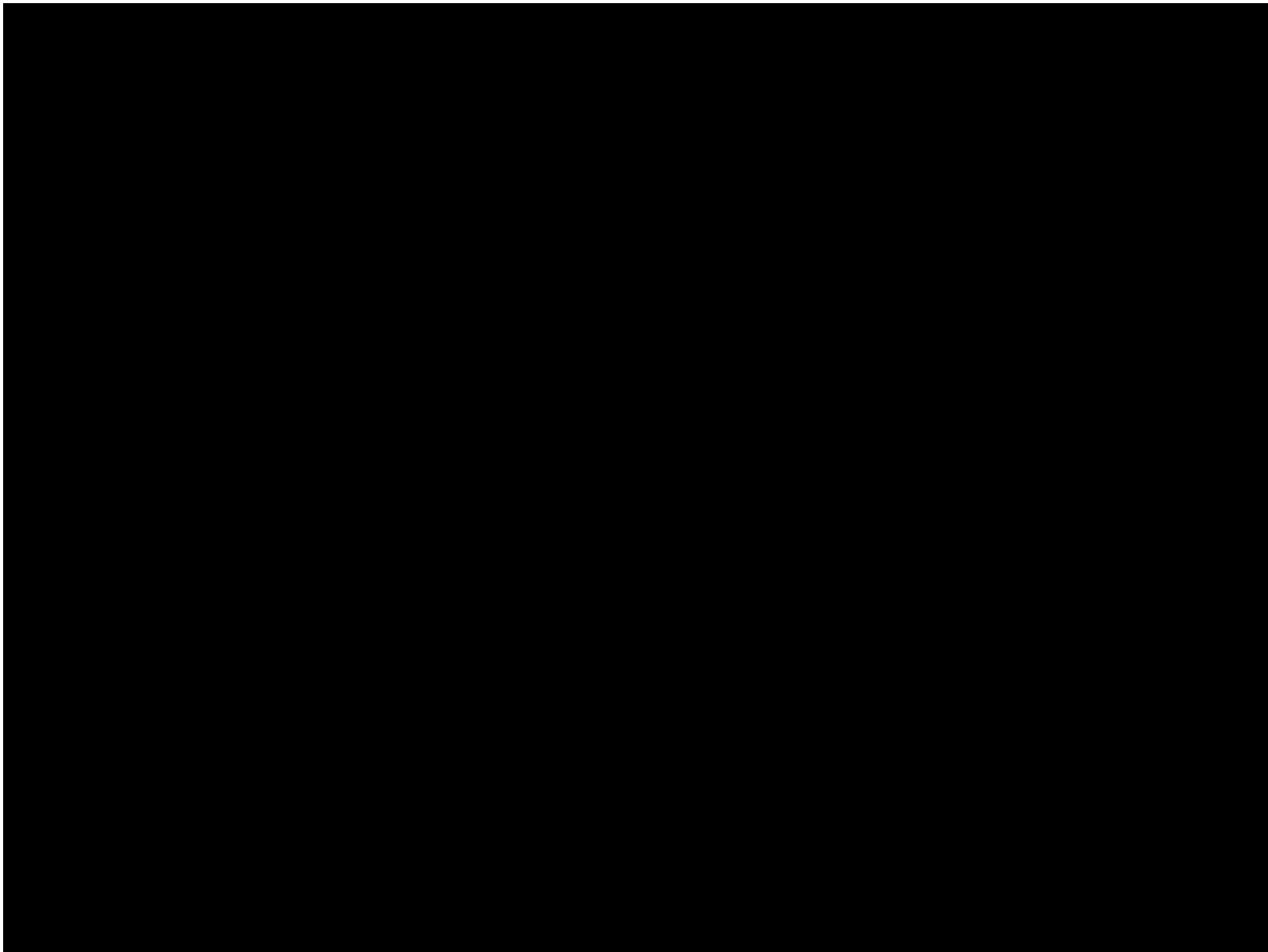




*Thomas Jefferson*

***“God who gave us life  
gave us liberty. And can  
the liberties of a nation  
be thought secure when we have  
removed their only firm basis, a  
conviction in the minds of the  
people that these liberties are of the  
gift of God?”***







*“Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other.”*



*John Adams*

John Adams, October 11, 1798, in a letter to the officers of the First Brigade of the Third Division of the Militia of Massachusetts. Charles Francis Adams, ed., *The Works of John Adams - Second President of the United States: with a Life of the Author*, Notes, and Illustration (Boston: Little, Brown, & Co., 1854), Vol. IX, 228-229.



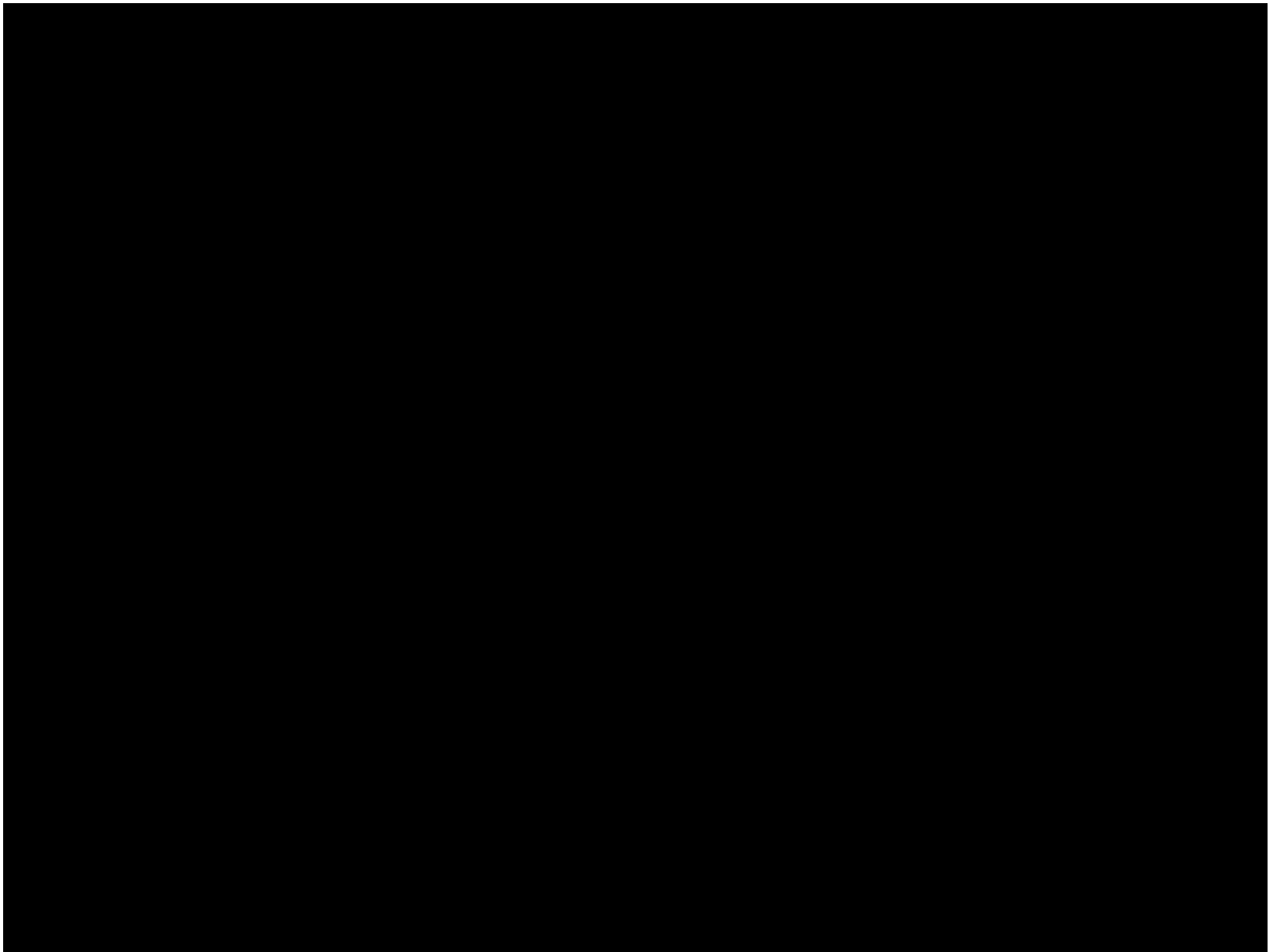
*Washington's Farewell Address:*

***“And let us with caution indulge the supposition that morality can be maintained without religion... reason and experience both forbid us to expect that national morality can prevail in exclusion of religious principles.”***



*George Washington*







# Take Away:

- 1. We should give thanks.**
- 2. We should ask forgiveness.**
- 3. The Bible is our basic road map for navigating life.**
- 4. There are no “walls” that divide our faith, it shapes all that we do and say.**





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