

III.

The First Things to Learn and Teach About Government

GOVERNMENT

DIRECTION

REGULATION

CONTROL

RESTRAINT

BIBLICAL OR DIVINE ORIGIN OF GOVERNMENT

(OF DIRECTION, REGULATION, CONTROL AND RESTRAINT)

Who is directing, regulating, controlling
and restraining?

Direction

“Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.”
Genesis 1:26, 28

Regulation

“ . . . every tree, in which is the fruit of a tree yielding seed; to you it shall be for meat.
And to every beast of the earth, and to every fowl of the air, and to every thing that creepeth upon the earth, wherein there is life, I have given every green herb for meat: and it was so.”
Genesis 1:26–30

“ . . . every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat. . . .”
Genesis 2:15

Control

“But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it. . . .”
Genesis 2:17

Restraint

“ . . . for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.”
Genesis 2:17

CONCLUSION

The Biblical origin, source, of Government is God’s care for His creation.

BIBLICAL PRINCIPLES, GROUND OR FOUNDATION, OF GOVERNMENT

**God's Authority/Supremacy Established: One God is Supreme Law Over All;
All Equal Under One Law, in the Sight of One Supreme God**

“In the beginning God. . . .,” Genesis 1:1

**Power is From God and Is Delegated, Delimited and Defined,
But Never Surrendered.**

“And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.

“So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.”
Genesis 1:26–27; 2:15

Voluntary Obedience, Consent to Authority

“And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.”
Genesis 2:7

To Serve, Administer Good, But Never to Do Good *for* People.

“And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was very good.”
Genesis 1:31

CONCLUSION

Government begins with divine authority and whether man is obedient or disobedient to it.

Christianity's Form of Government Is Self Government

“Each religion has a form of government,
and Christianity astonished the world by establishing
self government.

With the landing of the Pilgrims in 1620,
Christian self-government became the foundation stone
of the United States of America.”

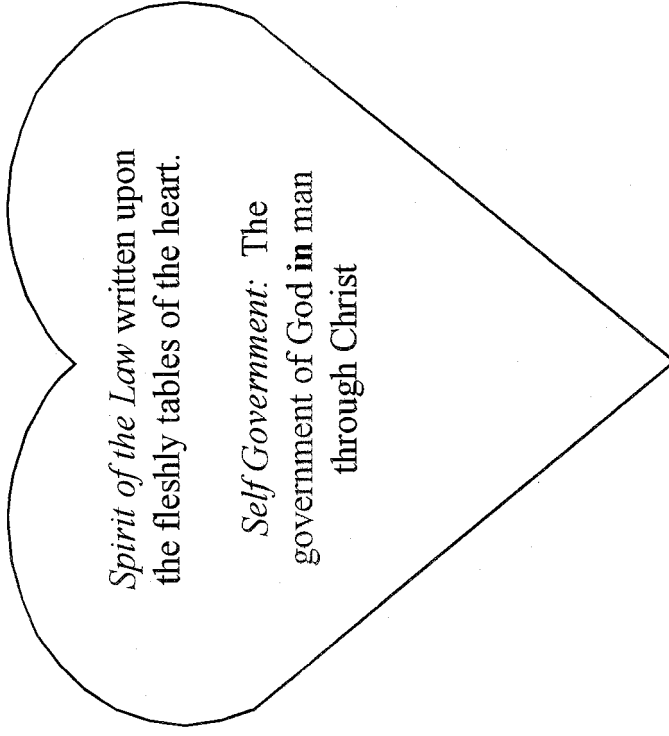
—Verna M. Hall, *The Christian History of the United States of America*, p. III

GOD EXTERNAL

- Duties Owed to God:**
- 1) Have no other gods
 - 2) Have no idols
 - 3) Take not His name in vain
 - 4) Remember the Sabbath
- Duties owed to man**
- 5) Honor thy father and mother
 - 6) Do not commit adultery
 - 7) Do not bear false witness
 - 8) Do not kill
 - 9) Do not steal
 - 10) Do not covet

Universal Law of God
The Moral Law on Stony Tablets

GOD INTERNAL



Pagan Civil Government:
Asiatic Centralization
Oriental Despotism,
Absolute external control with involuntary Union

Birth of Christianity

Christian Civil Government:
America's Constitutional Federal Republic
Local self government with voluntary union

Self Government

“The government of God
through Christ
indwelling.”

—Verna M. Hall

“He knows not how to rule a kingdom,
that cannot manage a Province;
nor can he wield a Province, that cannot order a City;
nor he order a City, that knows not how to regulate a Village;
nor he a Village, that cannot guide a Family;
nor can that man Govern well a Family
that knows not **how to Govern himself**;
neither can any Govern himselfe
unless his reason be Lord, Will and Appetite her Vassals:
nor can **Reason** rule unless
herself be **ruled by God**, and (wholy) be obedient to Him.”

—Hugo Grotius, 1654,
Teaching and Learning America's Christian History,
by Rosalie June Slater

“Let divines and philosophers, statesmen and patriots,
unite their endeavors to renovate the age,
by impressing the minds of men with the importance of
educating their little boys and girls, of inculcating in the minds of youth
the fear and love of the Deity and universal philanthropy,
and, in subordination to these great principles,
the love of their country;
of instructing them in the art of self-government,
without which they never can act a wise part
in the government of societies, great or small;
in short, of leading them in the study and practice
of the exalted virtues of the Christian system. . .”

— Samuel Adams, October 4, 1790,
The Christian History of the Constitution of the United States of America,
by Verna M. Hall,

GOVERNMENT

