



## **Summary:**

Conclusion: All Christians who are citizens of the U.S., should vote wisely and intelligently to preserve and defend the Constitution for this glorifies God.

Therefore the U.S. citizen in order to vote intelligently and wisely must understand the thinking embodied in the U.S. Constitution so that he can vote in a way that preserves and protects our heritage.

By understanding this biblical framework which informed the thinking of the founding fathers, a Christian can then vote more intelligently and wisely to preserve and protect the Constitution and the freedoms it recognizes.

The following is an excerpt from Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas's Wriston lecture to the Manhattan Institute last Thursday (10/16/08):

"Let me put it this way; there are really only two ways to interpret the Constitution – try to discern as best we can what the framers intended or make it up. No matter how ingenious, imaginative or artfully put, unless interpretive methodologies are tied to the

original intent of the framers,

they have no more basis

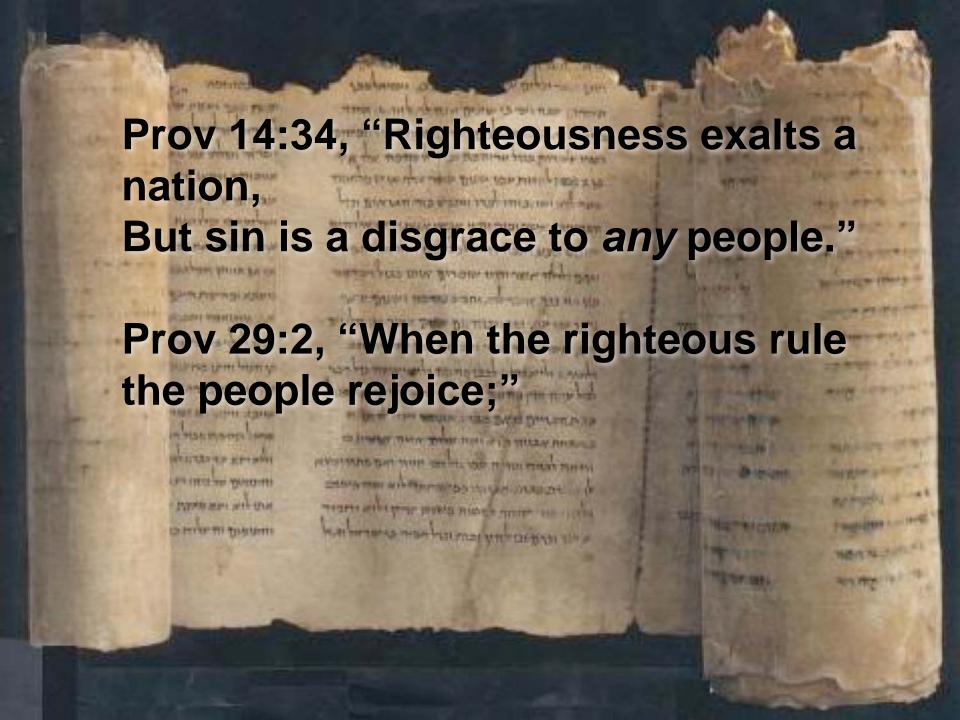
in the Constitution than the

latest football scores



"To be sure, even the most conscientious effort to adhere to the original intent of the framers of our Constitution is flawed, as all methodologies and human institutions are; but at least originalism has the advantage of being legitimate and, I might add, impartial."





## **The Divine Institutions**

The term "divine institution" has been used by Christians to speak of those absolute social structures established by God and embedded within the social structure of the human race. Thus these are for the entire human race—believers and unbelievers alike. These are unbreakable realities.

Modern paganism views them as by-products of man's psycho-social evolution, "cultural conventions."

## **The Divine Institutions**

1. Individual Responsibility

PRE FALL

2. Marriage

3. Family

Designed to promote productivity, and advance civilization

4. Government, judicial POST-FALL

5. Nations

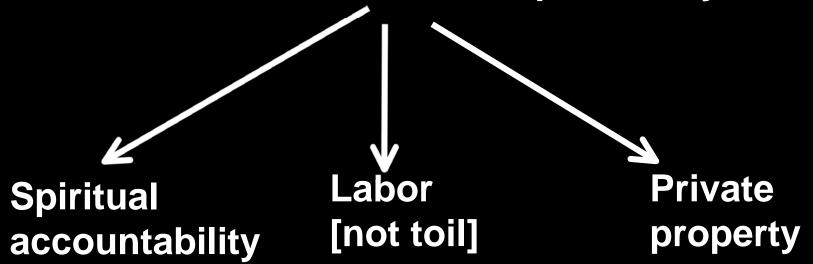
Designed to restrain evil

Gen. 2:15, "Then the Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to tend and keep it."

Gen. 1:27, "God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

Gen. 1:28, "God blessed them; and God said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it; and rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

## DI #1: Individual Responsibility



and enjoying its fruits

Lk 22:36, "And He said to them, 'But now, whoever has a money belt is to take it along, likewise also a bag, and whoever has no sword is to sell his coat and buy one."

Eph. 4:28, "He who steals must steal no longer; but rather he must labor, performing with his own hands what is good, so that he will have something to share with one who has need."

- 2 Th. 3:10, "For even when we were with you, we used to give you this order: if anyone is not willing to work, then he is not to eat, either.
- 2 Th. 3:11, "For we hear that some among you are leading an undisciplined life, doing no work at all, but acting like busybodies.
- 2 Th. 3:12, "Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to work in quiet fashion and eat their own bread."