

Presidential Thoughts on the Bible



On President's Day it is good to take a moment to reflect on some of the wisdom that past Presidents of the United States of America have stated concerning the Bible, God's Holy Word. The following quotes are presented that we might ponder what our past Presidential leaders have had to say regarding the place and importance that the Bible has had in the shaping our nation.

"That Book, sir, is the Rock on which our Republic rests." – *Andrew Jackson (1829-1837)*

"The fundamental basis of this nation's laws was given to Moses on the Mount. The fundamental basis of our Bill of Rights comes from the teachings we get from Exodus and Saint Matthew, from Isaiah and Saint Paul.... If we don't have a proper fundamental moral background, we will finally end up with a totalitarian government which does not believe in rights for anybody except the State!" – *Harry Truman (1945-1953)*

"In regard to this Great book, I have but to say, it is the best gift God has given to man. All the good the Savior gave to the world was communicated through this book. But for it we could not know right from wrong." – *Abraham Lincoln (1861-1865)*

"[T]he teachings of the Bible are so interwoven and entwined with our whole civic and social life that it would be literally ... impossible for us to figure to ourselves what that life would be if these teachings were removed." – *Theodore Roosevelt (1901-1909)*

"The rights of man come not from the generosity of the state, but from the hand of God." – *John F. Kennedy (1961-1963)*

"American life is builded, and can alone survive, upon...[the] fundamental philosophy announced by the Savior nineteen centuries ago." – *Herbert Hoover (1929-1933)*

“If you take out of your statutes, your constitution, your family life all that is taken from the Sacred Book, what would there be left to bind society together?” – *Benjamin Harrison (1889-1893)*

“[T]he authority of law, the right to equality, liberty, and property under American institutions, have for their foundation reverence for God. If we could imagine that to be swept away, these institutions of our American government could not long survive.” – *Calvin Coolidge (1923-1929)*

“The general principles on which the fathers achieved independence were ... the general principles of Christianity.” – *John Adams (1797-1801)*

“Hold fast to the Bible as the sheet anchor of your liberties, write its precepts in your hearts, and practice them in your lives. To the influence of this book are we indebted for all the progress made in true civilization, and to this we must look as our guide in the future. Righteousness exalteth a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people.” – *Ulysses S. Grant (1869-1877)*

“The first and almost the only book deserving of universal attention is the Bible. I speak as a man of the world...and I say to you, ‘Search the Scriptures.’” – *John Quincy Adams (1825-1829)*

“The strength of our country is the strength of its religious convictions. The foundations of our society and our government rest so much on the teachings of the Bible that it would be difficult to support them if faith in these teachings would cease to be practically universal in our country.” – *Calvin Coolidge (1923-1929)*

“Freedom prospers when religion is vibrant and the rule of law under God is acknowledged ...” – *Ronald Reagan (1981-1989)*

This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success. (Joshua 1:8)



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