

Why God blessed America?





為什麼美國從主曆1776年 起至1960年,過去180年間 蒙神的祝福?



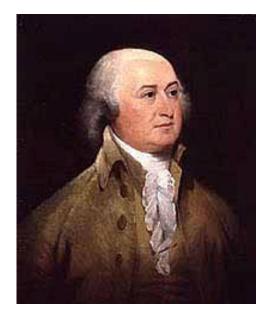
Why God blessed America?

創世記 12:1-3 (Genesis 12:1-3)

詩篇 33:12 (Psalm 33:12)

以耶和華為神的,那國是有福的(v.12)

Blessed is the nation whose God is Jehovah.





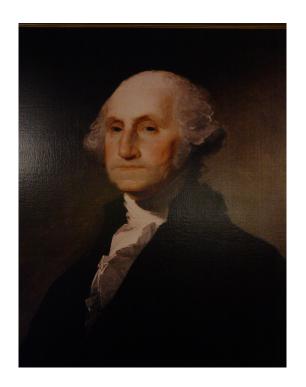
John Adams (1735-1826)

John Hancock (1737-1793)

 "We recognize no Sovereign but God, and no King but Jesus!"

April 18, 1775, on the eve of the Revolutionary War after a British major ordered them to disperse in "the name of George the Sovereign King of England."

美國國父,第一任總統 喬治華盛頓



George Washington (1732-1799)

- It is impossible to rightly govern the world without God and Bible."
- Is it necessary that any one should [ask], "Did General Washington avow himself to be a believer in Christianity?" As well may we question his patriotism, his heroic devotion to his country. His mottos were, "Deeds, not Words"; and, "For God and my Country." ... His life, his writings, prove he was a Christian."

--Written by his adopted daughter, Nelly Custis-Lewis

Give me liberty or give me death 不自由,毋寧死!

亨利柏崔克



Patrick Henry (1736-1799) "It cannot be emphasized too clearly and too often that this nation was founded, not by religionists, but by Christians; not on religion, but on the gospel of Jesus Christ. For this very reason, peoples of other faiths have been afforded asylum, prosperity, and freedom of worship here."

May 1765 Speech to the House of Burgesses

If the foundations are destroyed, what can the righteous do? (Psalm 11:3)

- 1962 禁止禱告
- 1963 禁讀聖經
- 1973 墮胎合法
- 1976 公文去神
- 1979 不提耶穌
- 1980 禁掛十誡

- 1.553% (10-14歲)未婚 懷孕
- 2.226% (高中生)性病
- 3.275% (17歲)婚前性交
- 4.117% 父母離婚
- 5.140% 單親家庭
- 6.536% 未婚同居

《 詩篇33 經文綱要 》

- 1. 義人當讚美神(1-3)
- 2. 因為神是至善至美(4-5)(Excellent character)
- 3. 神的威榮遍地可見(6-7)(God's majesty)
- 4. 當敬畏神,因祂掌管萬事的成敗(8-11)
- 5. 那一國及國民是有福的?(12)
- 6. 當倚靠神的無所不在與無所不能(13-19)
- 7. 因信靠神而有自信(20-21)
- 8. 至誠的祈禱(21)





Ben Franklin (1706-1790)



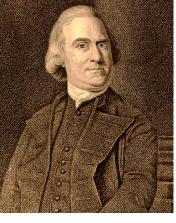
God's counsel stands forever

"God governs in the affairs of man."

Constitutional Convention Thursday June 28, 1787

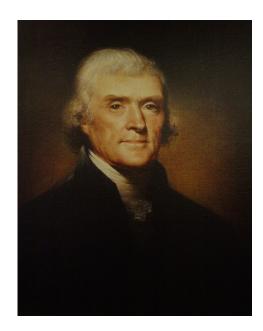
 "He who made all men hath made the truths necessary to human happiness obvious to all... Our forefathers opened *the Bible* to all." "American Independence,"
August 1, 1776. Speech delivered at the State House in Philadelphia

撒母耳亞當斯



Samuel Adams (1722-1803)

Let all the earth fear the LORD. 全地都敬畏神 (v.8)



傑彿遜,美國獨立 宣言起稿人,第三 任總統

Thomas Jefferson (1743-1826) "And can the liberties of a nation be thought secure if we have lost the only firm basis, a conviction in the minds of the people that these liberties are the gift of God? That they are not to be violated but with His wrath?"

Notes on the State of Virginia (Philadelphia: Matthew Carey, 1794), Query XVIII, p. 237.

 "I tremble for my country when I realize that God is just; and that His justice will not sleep forever."

Notes on the State of Virginia, 1781

耶和華使列國的籌算歸於無有,使眾民的思念無 有功效。耶和華的籌算永遠立定;他心中的思念 萬代常存。以耶和華為神的,那國是有福的!他 所揀選為自己產業的,那民是有福的!(33:10-12)

Jehovah bringeth the counsel of the nations to nought; He maketh the thoughts of the peoples to be of no effect. The counsel of Jehovah standeth fast for ever, The thoughts of his heart to all generations. Blessed is the nation whose God is Jehovah, The people whom he hath chosen for his own inheritance. (33:10-12)

- 1. 籌算 (Counsel, plans)
- 2. 思念 (thoughts, intention, devices, purpose)
- 3. 有福 (blessed, happy, fortunate)
- 4. 神 (God, LORD, Yahweh)
- 5. 揀選 (has chosen, He chose)
- 6. 產業 (inheritance, possession, heritage)

7. 無有 (nothing, nought)

- 8. 無有功效 (frustrates, non effect)
- 9. 永遠立定 (stands for ever, stand firm forever)
- 10.萬代常存 (endure for / through all generations)

基督的信仰: 留給後代永恆的產業 (v.12b)

Blessed is the people whom God has chosen for His own inheritance. (v.12b)



Patrick Henry (1736-1799) "This is all the inheritance I can give my dear family. The religion of Christ can give them one which will make them rich indeed."

The Last Will and Testament of Patrick Henry

• "Doctor, I wish you to observe how real and beneficial the religion of Christ is to a man about to die..."

June 6, 1799 at his death





John Jay (1745-1829)

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."

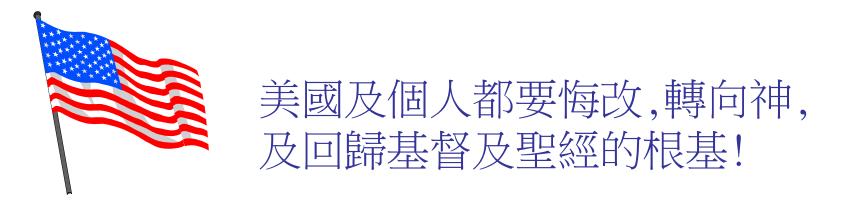
The Correspondence and Public Papers of John Jay, 1794-1826, Henry P. Johnston

 "Unto Him who is the author and giver of all good, I render sincere and humble thanks for His merciful and unmerited blessings, and especially for our redemption and salvation by His Beloved Son."

Last Will and Testament of John Jay

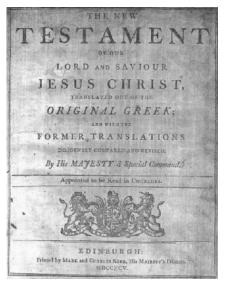
根基若毀壞,義人還能作什麼呢?(詩11:3)

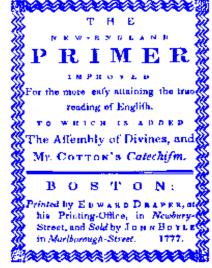
If the foundations are destroyed, what can the righteous do? (Psalm 11:3)



American return to God!

Early American Schools 早期美國教育





"The Bible was America's basic textbook in all fields." "Education is useless without the Bible" --Noah Webster. *Our Christian Heritage p.5*

- Used in public and private schools from 1690 to 1900 second only to the Bible
- Some of its contents:
 - \rightarrow A song of praise to God \rightarrow Prayers in Jesus' name
 - →The famous Bible alphabet
 - → Shorter Catechism of faith

School Prayer 公學校的禱告詞 (from 18C. To 1962)

- "Almighty God, we acknowledge our dependence upon Thee, and we beg Thy blessings upon us, our parents, our teachers and our Country." Amen
 - 全能的神,我們確認我們是倚賴祢.我們祈求 祢的賜福臨到我們,及我們的父母,老師,和國 家. 阿門!