



## The 28 Principles of Liberty!

W. Cleon Skousen, the founder of the ***National Center for Constitutional Studies***, shared this paper that was written by a young student, Kari Hayes-Wentworth, who completed our one-semester course on the 28 Principles of Liberty entitled "American Government and Constitution, Part I." Kari began to mark verses in her Bible that correlated with the Principles of Liberty." She sent Mr. Skousen a copy of her project which she entitled, *A Scriptural Index to The 5000 Year Leap*.

The following, which is mostly Kari's work, is an indication of how the Founders' principles, explained in *The 5000 Year Leap*, indeed have their roots in the Holy Scriptures.

The same scriptures referenced by Kari have been replaced with the 1599 Geneva Bible scriptures. The Pilgrims brought the early version of the Geneva Bible over on the Mayflower and not the King James Bible (KJV) as King James believed in the ***Divine right of kings*** that is not Biblical.

**Principle 1** – *The only reliable basis for sound government and just human relations is Natural Law.*

**Leviticus 24:22** – Ye shall have one law: it shall be as well for the stranger as for one born in the country, for I am the Lord your God.

**Deuteronomy 30: 11-14** – <sup>11</sup> For this commandment which I command thee this day, is not hid from thee, neither is it far off.

<sup>12</sup> It is not in heaven, that thou shouldest say, Who shall go up for us to heaven, and bring it us, and cause us to hear it, that we may do it?

<sup>13</sup> Neither is it beyond the sea, that thou shouldest say, Who shall go over the sea for us, and bring it us, and cause us to hear it, that we may do it?

<sup>14</sup> But the word is very near unto thee: *even* in thy mouth, and in thine heart, for to do it.

**Psalms 19:7** – The Law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the Lord is sure, and giveth wisdom unto the simple.

**Principle 2** – *A free people cannot survive under a republican constitution unless they remain virtuous and morally strong.*

**Leviticus 18:26-28** – <sup>26</sup> Ye shall keep therefore mine ordinances, and my judgments, and commit none of these abominations, *as well* he that is of the same country, as the stranger that sojourneth among you.

<sup>27</sup> (For all these abominations have the men of the land done, which were before you, and the land is defiled:

<sup>28</sup> And shall not the land spew you out if ye defile it, as it spewed out the people that were before you?)

**John 8:31-32** – <sup>31</sup> Then said Jesus to the Jews which believed in him, If ye continue in my word, ye are verily my disciples,

<sup>32</sup> And shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

**Principle 3** – *The most promising method of securing a virtuous and morally stable people is to elect virtuous leaders.*

**Exodus 18:21** – Moreover, provide thou among all the people men of courage, fearing God, men dealing truly, hating covetousness: and appoint *such* over them *to be* rulers over thousands, rulers over hundreds, rulers over fifties, and rulers over tens.

**Job 34:30** – Because the hypocrite doth reign, *and* because the people are snared.

**Principle 4** – *Without religion the government of a free people cannot be maintained.*

**Genesis 4:8-12** – <sup>8</sup>Then Cain spake unto Abel his brother. And when they were in the field, Cain rose up against Abel his brother, and slew him.

<sup>9</sup>Then the Lord said unto Cain, Where is Abel thy brother? Who answered, I cannot tell. Am I my brother's keeper?

<sup>10</sup>Again he said, What hast thou done? the voice of thy brother's blood crieth unto me, from the earth.

<sup>11</sup>Now therefore thou art cursed from the earth, which hath opened her mouth to receive thy brother's blood from thine hand.

<sup>12</sup>When thou shalt till the ground, it shall not henceforth yield unto thee her strength: a vagabond and a runagate shalt thou be in the earth.

**2 Chronicles 7:14** – If my people, among whom my Name is called upon, do humble themselves, and pray and seek my presence, and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear in heaven and be merciful to their sin, and will heal their land:

**2 Corinthians 5:10** – For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that every man may receive the things which are *done* in his body, according to that he hath done, whether *it be* good or evil.

**Principle 5** – *All things were created by God, therefore upon Him all mankind are equally dependent, and to Him they are equally responsible.*

**Psalms 19:1** – The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament showeth the work of his hands.

**Malachi 2:10** – Have we not all one father? hath not one God made us? why do we transgress everyone against his brother, and break the covenant of our fathers?

**Revelations 20:12** – And I saw the dead, both great and small stand before God: and the books were opened, and another book was opened, which is *the book of life*, and the dead were judged of those things, which were written in the books, according to their works.

**Principle 6** – *All men are created equal.*

**Exodus 30:12-15** – <sup>12</sup> When thou takest the sum of the children of Israel after their number, then they shall give every man a redemption of his life unto the Lord, when thou tellest them, that there be no plague among them when thou countest them.

<sup>13</sup> This shall every man give, that goeth into the number, half a shekel, after the shekel of the Sanctuary: (a shekel *is* twenty gerahs) the half shekel *shall be* an offering to the Lord.

<sup>14</sup> All that are numbered from twenty years old and above, shall give an offering to the Lord.

<sup>15</sup> The rich shall not pass, and the poor shall not diminish from half a shekel, when ye shall give an offering unto the Lord, for the redemption of your lives.

**Leviticus 24:22** – Ye shall have one law: it shall be as well for the stranger as for one born in the country, for I am the Lord your God.

**Numbers 15:15-16** – <sup>15</sup> One ordinance *shall be* both for you of the Congregation, and also for the stranger that dwelleth *with you, even* an ordinance forever in your generations: as you are, so shall the stranger be before the Lord.

<sup>16</sup> One law and one manner shall serve both for you and for the stranger that sojourneth with you.

**Deuteronomy 16:19** – Wrest not thou the Law, nor respect any person, neither take reward: for the reward blindeth the eyes of the wise, and perverteth the words of the just.

**Romans 2:11** – For there is no respect of persons with God.

**Principle 7** – *The proper role of government is to protect equal rights, not provide equal things.*

**Exodus 20:15** – Thou shalt not steal.

**Exodus 20:17** – Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's house, neither shalt thou covet thy neighbor's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maid, nor his ox, nor his ass, neither anything that is thy neighbor's.

**Principle 8** – *Men are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights.*

**Genesis 9:6** – Who so sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed: for in the image of God hath he made man.

**Exodus 20:15** – Thou shalt not steal.

**Leviticus 25:10** – And ye shall hallow that year, *even* the fiftieth year, and proclaim liberty in the land to all the inhabitants thereof: it shall be the Jubilee unto you, and ye shall return every man unto his possession, and every man shall return unto his family.

**Principle 9** – *To protect man's rights, God has revealed certain principles of divine law.*

**Exodus 20:1-17** – <sup>1</sup> Then God spake all these words, saying,

<sup>2</sup> I am the Lord thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.

<sup>3</sup> Thou shalt have none other gods before me.

<sup>4</sup> Thou shalt make thee no graven image, neither any similitude *of things* that are in heaven above, neither that are in the earth beneath, nor that are in the waters under the earth.

<sup>5</sup> Thou shalt not bow down to them, neither serve them: for I am the Lord thy God, a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children, upon the third *generation* and upon the fourth of them that hate me:

<sup>6</sup> And showing mercy unto thousands to them that love me, and keep my commandments.

<sup>7</sup> Thou shalt not take the Name of the Lord thy God in vain: for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his Name in vain.

<sup>8</sup> Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.

<sup>9</sup> Six days shalt thou labor, and do all thy work,

<sup>10</sup> But the seventh day *is* the Sabbath of the Lord thy God: *in it* thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maid, nor thy beast, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates.

<sup>11</sup> For in six days the Lord made the heaven and the earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: therefore the Lord blessed the seventh day, and hallowed it.

<sup>12</sup> Honor thy father and thy mother, that thy days may be prolonged upon the land, which the Lord thy God giveth thee.

<sup>13</sup> Thou shalt not kill.

<sup>14</sup> Thou shalt not commit adultery.

<sup>15</sup> Thou shalt not steal.

<sup>16</sup> Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor.

<sup>17</sup> Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's house, neither shalt thou covet thy neighbor's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maid, nor his ox, nor his ass, neither anything that is thy neighbor's.

**2 Timothy 3:16-17** – <sup>16</sup> For the whole Scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable to teach, to convince, to correct, *and* to instruct in righteousness,

<sup>17</sup> That the man of God may be absolute, being made perfect unto all good works.

**Principle 10** – *The God-given right to govern is vested in the sovereign authority of the whole people.*

**Exodus 24:3** – Afterward Moses came and told the people all the words of the Lord, and all the Laws: and all the people answered with one voice, and said, All the things which the Lord hath said, will we do.

**Principle 11** – *The majority of the people may alter or abolish a government which has become tyrannical.*

**Psalms 133:1** – Behold, how good and how comely a thing it is, brethren to dwell even together.

**Philippians 2:2-4** – <sup>2</sup> Fulfill my joy, that ye be like minded, having the same love, being of one accord, and of one judgment,

<sup>3</sup> That nothing *be done* through contention or vainglory, but that in meekness of mind every man esteem others better than himself.

<sup>4</sup> Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of other men.

**Principle 12** – *The United States of America shall be a republic.*

**Exodus 18:21** – Moreover, provide thou among all the people men of courage, fearing God, men dealing truly, hating covetousness: and appoint *such* over them *to be* rulers over thousands, rulers over hundreds, rulers over fifties, and rulers over tens.

**Principle 13** – *A Constitution should be structured to permanently protect the people from the human frailties of their rulers.*

**Exodus 23:8** – Thou shalt take no gift: for the gift blindeth the wise, and perverteth the words of the righteous.

**Deuteronomy 17: 18-20** – <sup>18</sup>And when he shall sit upon the throne of his Kingdom, then shall he write him this law repeated in a book, by the Priest of the Levites.

<sup>19</sup>And it shall be with him, and he shall read therein all days of his life, that he may learn to fear the Lord his God, *and* to keep all the words of this Law, and these ordinances to do them:

<sup>20</sup>That his heart be not lifted up above his brethren, and that he turn not from the commandment, to the right hand or to the left, *but* that he may prolong his days in his kingdom, he and his sons in the midst of Israel.

**Principle 14** – *Life and liberty are secure only so long as the right of property is secure.*

**Genesis 1: 28** – And God blessed them, and God said to them, Bring forth fruit, and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it, and rule over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the heaven, and over every beast that moveth upon the earth.

**Deuteronomy 27:17** – Cursed be he that removeth his neighbor's mark: And all the people shall say: So be it.

**Psalms 8:4-8** – <sup>4</sup>What is man, *say I*, that thou art mindful of him? and the son of man that thou visitest him?

<sup>5</sup>For thou hast made him a little lower than God, and crowned him with glory and worship.

<sup>6</sup>Thou hast made him to have dominion in the works of thine hands, thou hast put all things under his feet:

<sup>7</sup>All sheep and oxen: yea, and the beasts of the field:

<sup>8</sup>The fowls of the air, and the fish of the sea, *and* that which passeth through the paths of the seas.



**Principle 15** – *The highest level of prosperity occurs when there is a free-market economy and minimum of government regulations.*

**Leviticus 25:10** – And ye shall hallow that year, *even* the fiftieth year, and proclaim liberty in the land to all the inhabitants thereof: it shall be the Jubilee unto you, and ye shall return every man unto his possession, and every man shall return unto his family.

**Leviticus 25:14** – And when thou sellest ought to thy neighbor, or buyest at thy neighbor's hand, ye shall not oppress one another.

**Deuteronomy 25:15** – *But* thou shalt have a right and just weight: a perfect and a just measure shalt thou have, that thy days may be lengthened in the land, which the Lord thy God giveth thee.

**Principle 16** – *The government should be separated into three branches – legislative, executive, and judicial.*

**Isaiah 33:22** – For the Lord *is* our Judge, the Lord *is* our lawgiver: the Lord *is* our King, he will save us.

**Principle 17** – *A system of checks and balances should be adopted to prevent the abuse of power.*

**2 Chronicles 26:16-21** – <sup>16</sup> But when he was strong, his heart was lifted up to *his* destruction: for he transgressed against the Lord his God, and went into the Temple of the Lord to burn incense upon the altar of incense.

<sup>17</sup> And Azariah the Priest went in after him, and with him fourscore Priests of the Lord, valiant men.

<sup>18</sup> And they withstood Uzziah the King, and said unto him, It pertaineth not to thee, Uzziah, to burn incense unto the Lord, but to the Priests the sons of Aaron, that are consecrated for to offer incense: go forth of the Sanctuary: for thou hast transgressed, and thou shalt have none honor of the Lord God.

<sup>19</sup> Then Uzziah was wroth, and had incense in his hand to burn it: and while he was wroth with the Priests, the leprosy rose up in his forehead before the Priests in the house of the Lord beside the incense altar.

<sup>20</sup> And when Azariah the chief Priest with all the Priests looked upon him, behold, he was leprous in his forehead, and they caused him hastily to depart thence: and he was even compelled to go out, because the Lord had smitten him.

<sup>21</sup> And Uzziah the King was a leper unto the day of his death, and dwelt as a leper in an house apart, because he was cut off from the house of the Lord: and Jotham his son *ruled* over the King's house, and judged the people of the land.

**Principle 18** – ***The unalienable rights of the people are most likely to be preserved if the principles of government are set forth in a written constitution.***

**Exodus 31:18** – Thus (when the Lord had made an end of communing with Moses upon mount Sinai) he gave him two Tables of the Testimony, *even* tables of stone, written with the finger of God.

**Deuteronomy 11:20** – And thou shalt write them upon the posts of thine house, and upon thy gates,

**Deuteronomy 27:8** – And thou shalt write upon the stones all the words of this Law, well and plainly.

**Nehemiah 9:38** – Now because of all this we make a sure covenant, and write it, and our princes, our Levites, *and* our Priests seal unto it.

**Principle 19** – ***Only limited and carefully defined powers should be delegated to government, all others being retained in the people.***

**Deuteronomy 17:15–20** – <sup>15</sup> *Then* thou shalt make him King over thee, whom the Lord thy God shall choose: from among thy brethren shalt thou make a King over thee: thou shalt not set a stranger over thee which is not thy brother.

<sup>16</sup> In any wise he shall not prepare him many horses, nor bring the people again to Egypt, for to increase the number of horses, seeing the Lord hath said unto you, Ye shall henceforth go no more again that way.

<sup>17</sup> Neither shall he take him many wives, lest his heart turn away, neither shall he gather him much silver and gold.

<sup>18</sup> And when he shall sit upon the throne of his Kingdom, then shall he write him this law repeated in a book, by the Priest of the Levites.

<sup>19</sup> And it shall be with him, and he shall read therein all days of his life, that he may learn to fear the Lord his God, *and* to keep all the words of this Law, and these ordinances to do them:

<sup>20</sup> That his heart be not lifted up above his brethren, and that he turn not from the commandment, to the right hand or to the left, *but* that he may prolong his days in his kingdom, he and his sons in the midst of Israel.

**Principle 20 – *Efficiency and dispatch require government to operate according to the will of the majority, but constitutional provisions must be made to protect the rights of the minority.***

**Exodus 23:2** – Thou shalt not follow a multitude to do evil, neither agree in a controversy to decline after many and overthrow *the truth*.

**Deuteronomy 27:19** – Cursed be he that hindereth the right of the stranger, the fatherless, and the widow: And all the people shall say: So be it.

**Principle 21 – *Strong local self-government is the keystone to preserving human freedom.***

**Exodus 18:22-23** – <sup>22</sup> And let them judge the people at all seasons: but every great matter let them bring unto thee, and let them judge all small causes: so shall it be easier for thee, when they shall bear *the burden* with thee.

<sup>23</sup> If thou do this thing, (and God so command thee) both thou shalt be able to endure, and all this people shall also go quietly to their place.

**Principle 22** – ***A free people should be governed by law and not by the whims of men.***

**Leviticus 24:22** – Ye shall have one law: it shall be as well for the stranger as for one born in the country, for I am the Lord your God.

**Numbers 15:15-16** – <sup>15</sup> One ordinance *shall be* both for you of the Congregation, and also for the stranger that dwelleth *with you, even* an ordinance forever in your generations: as you are, so shall the stranger be before the Lord.

<sup>16</sup> One law and one manner shall serve both for you and for the stranger that sojourneth with you.

**Principle 23** – ***A free society cannot survive as a republic without a broad program of general education.***

**Exodus 18:20** – And admonish them of the ordinances, and of the laws, and show them the way, wherein they must walk, and the work that they must do.

**Deuteronomy 6:6-7** – <sup>6</sup> And these words which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart.

<sup>7</sup> And thou shalt rehearse them continually unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou tarriest in thine house, and as thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up:

**Proverbs 9:9** – Give *admonition* to the wise, and he will be the wiser: teach a righteous man, and he will increase in learning.

**Isaiah 28:10** – For precept *must be* upon precept, precept upon precept, line unto line, line unto line, there a little, *and* there a little.

**Principle 24** – ***A free people will not survive unless they stay strong.***

**Deuteronomy 20:5-8** – <sup>5</sup> And let the officers speak unto the people, saying, What man *is there* that hath built a new house, and hath not dedicated it, let him go and return to his house, lest he die in the battle, and another man dedicate it.

<sup>6</sup> And what man *is there* that hath planted a vineyard, and hath not eaten of the fruit? let him go to return again unto his house, lest he die in the battle, and another eat the fruit.

<sup>7</sup> And what man *is there* that hath betrothed a wife, and hath not taken her? let him go and return again unto his house, lest he die in battle, and another man take her.

<sup>8</sup> And let the officers speak further unto the people, and say, Whosoever is afraid and faint hearted, let him go and return unto his house, lest his brethren's heart faint like his heart.

**Luke 14:31-32** – <sup>31</sup> Or what King going to make war against another King, sitteth not down first, and taketh counsel, whether he be able with ten thousand, to meet him that cometh against him with twenty thousand?

<sup>32</sup> Or else while he is yet a great way off, he sendeth an ambassage, and desireth peace.

**Principle 25** – ***“Peace, commerce, and honest friendship with all nations – entangling alliances with none.”***

**Exodus 23:32** – Thou shalt make no covenant with them, nor with their gods:

**2 Corinthians 6:14** – Be not unequally yoked with the infidels: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?

**Principle 26** – *The core unit which determines the strength of any society is the family; therefore, the government should foster and protect its integrity.*

**Genesis 2:24** – Therefore shall man leave <sup>[a]</sup>his father and his mother, and shall cleave to his wife, and they shall be one flesh.

**Exodus 20:12** – Honor thy father and thy mother, that thy days may be prolonged upon the land, which the Lord thy God giveth thee.

**Proverbs 20:20** – He that curseth his father or his mother, his light shall be put out in obscure darkness.

**Matthew 5:27-28** – <sup>27</sup>Ye have heard that it was said to them of old time, Thou shalt not commit adultery.

<sup>28</sup>But I say unto you, that whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her, hath committed adultery with her already in his heart.

**Ephesians 6:1-4** – <sup>1</sup>Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right.

<sup>2</sup>Honor thy father and mother (which is the first commandment with promise)

<sup>3</sup>That it may be well with thee, and that thou mayest live long on earth.

<sup>4</sup>And ye, fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in instruction and information of the Lord.

**Principle 27** – *The burden of debt is as destructive to freedom as subjugation by conquest.*

**Proverbs 22:7** – The rich ruleth the poor, and the borrower *is* servant to the man that lendeth.

**Romans 13:8** – Owe nothing to any man, but to love one another: for he that loveth another, hath fulfilled the Law.

**Principle 28** – ***The United States has a manifest destiny to be an example and a blessing to the entire human race.***

**Psalms 33:8-12** – <sup>8</sup> Let all the earth fear the Lord: let all them that dwell in the world, fear him.

<sup>9</sup> For he spake, and it was done: he commanded, and it stood.

<sup>10</sup> The Lord breaketh the counsel of the heathen, *and* bringeth to nought the devices of the people.

<sup>11</sup> The counsel of the Lord shall stand forever, *and* the thoughts of his heart throughout all ages.

<sup>12</sup> Blessed *is* that nation, whose God is the Lord: *even* the people *that* he hath chosen for his inheritance.

**Acts 17:26-27** – <sup>26</sup> And hath made of one blood all mankind, to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath assigned the seasons which were ordained before, and the bounds of their habitation,

<sup>27</sup> That they should seek the Lord, if so be they might have groped after him, and found *him*, though doubtless he be not far from every one of us.

After reviewing the 28 Principles of Liberty in terms of the Holy Scriptures, we are brought to proclaim with the Psalmist:

**Psalms 19:7-11** – <sup>7</sup> The Law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the Lord is sure, and giveth wisdom unto the simple.

<sup>8</sup> The statutes of the Lord *are* right, and rejoice the heart, the commandment of the Lord *is* pure, and giveth light unto the eyes.

<sup>9</sup> The fear of the Lord *is* clean, and endureth forever: the judgments of the Lord *are* truth: they are righteous altogether,

<sup>10</sup> And more to be desired than gold, yea, than much fine gold: sweeter also than honey, and the honeycomb.

<sup>11</sup> Moreover by them *is* thy servant made circumspect, *and* in keeping of them there *is* great reward.

Source: <https://nccs.net>

## ***Disclaimer:***

While **Joe Myers** the founder of **Law And Mankind** agrees with the Constitutional content from the ***National Center for Constitutional Studies (NCCS)*** – Joe would like to make very clear he is a **Jesus follower** who believes in the **Triune God** and does not believe in the *Mormon* doctrine as does the founder of *NCCS*, **W. Cleon Skousen**.