

American Government & Politics: A Christian Worldview – Test 1
(“How to Approach the Study of Government” – “The Virginia Statue for Religious Freedom”)

- _____ 1. What should be the ultimate standard for evaluating a good government?
A. the Constitution B. The consensus of historical scholars C. John Locke D. the Bible
- _____ 2. What is the Biblical purpose of government?
A. To build roads and provide medical care
B. To punish evildoers and provide justice
C. To regulate trade among the states
D. To ensure everyone has an affordable home
- _____ 3. According to Romans 13:3-4, what is the duty of the ruler?
A. To execute wrath upon him who does evil
B. To provide education for every child
C. To redistribute wealth to the poor
D. To act as a moral guide for all citizens
- _____ 4. How does the Bible describe the “spoiled” in Jeremiah 22:3?
A. Those who have been robbed of his life, liberty, or property
B. Those who refuse to pay taxes to the King
C. Those who disagree with the official state religion
D. Those who are members of an aristocratic family
- _____ 5. John Stuart Mill says the only purpose for which power can be fairly exercised over a person is _____.
A. to improve his moral character C. to prevent harm to others
B. to protect him from his own bad habits D. to ensure he pays his fair share of taxes
- _____ 6. How did early Puritans err regarding the government’s role?
A. By believing it was the duty of the magistrate to take care of matters of religion
B. By refusing to pay any taxes to the local government
C. By separating the church and state too completely
D. By rejecting the use of the Old Testament
- _____ 7. What is true about “Christian governments” in the past?
A. They were endorsed by the early apostles.
B. They have no basis in God’s Word.
C. They were the only successful models in history.
D. They were the only ones that avoided high taxes.
- _____ 8. What is the “bad” version of rule by the few (an aristocracy)?
A. Monarchy
B. Oligarchy
C. Mob rule
D. Democracy
- _____ 9. What is a “republic”?
A. A rule by the majority
B. A rule by a single person
C. A government of representatives
D. None of these
- _____ 10. Which characteristic of the Renaissance elevated the individual?
A. The focus on returning to feudalism
B. The recognition of individual rights and potential
C. The rejection of all scientific discovery
D. The mandate to attend government schools

- _____ 11. What is the central argument of Machiavelli's "The Prince"?
- A. That a ruler should always follow the Bible
 - B. That a ruler should do whatever is necessary to keep power
 - C. That all feudal lords were inherently good
 - D. That democracy is the best form of government
- _____ 12. What did the "Age of Reason" prioritize?
- A. Scientific method and human reason
 - B. Divine revelation from God
 - C. The ancient traditions of the Roman Empire
 - D. The warnings of the Apostles
- _____ 13. Why did Montesquieu argue for the separation of powers?
- A. To prevent rulers from abusing power through violence and oppression
 - B. To make the government more efficient
 - C. To encourage the development of new laws
 - D. To ensure that judges are always appointed by the people
- _____ 14. What was the significance of the Magna Carta?
- A. It was the first book written by a Greek philosopher.
 - B. It made the King the ultimate judge of all law.
 - C. It created the first standing army.
 - D. It helped establish that rulers are not above the law.
- _____ 15. How did English common law operate compared to statutory law?
- A. It was passed by a greedy legislature.
 - B. It was exclusively for those who were not Christians.
 - C. It was dictated by the monarch's mood.
 - D. It was found or discovered through customary rules.
- _____ 16. Why did James Madison dislike pure democracies?
- A. Because they are too stable
 - B. Because they are too expensive to maintain
 - C. Because they are violent and incompatible with personal security
 - D. Because they do not have enough power
- _____ 17. From whom do governments derive their just powers according to the Declaration of Independence?
- A. The King of England
 - B. The consent of the governed
 - C. Both of these
 - D. Neither of these
- _____ 18. Why did state constitutions include bills of rights?
- A. To give the government more power
 - B. To protect the people's liberties
 - C. To regulate the amount of tax money collected
 - D. To limit the number of people who could vote
- _____ 19. What is the significance of the "Treaty of Paris" being signed with 13 separate treaties?
- A. It reinforces the view that the original states were independent nations.
 - B. It shows they were already under one government.
 - C. It shows the King still owned the land.
 - D. It explains why the Senate was appointed.
- _____ 20. What makes "statutory law" often problematic, as opposed to common law?
- A. It is too easy to follow.
 - B. It is too short to be understood by the common man.
 - C. It is often senseless, unjust, and hard to get rid of.
 - D. It is based too much on individual conscience.

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