

American Government & Politics: A Christian Worldview – Quiz 2
(“Judeo-Christian Impact” – “The Enlightenment”)

- _____ 1. What did the American settlers have the benefit of prior to the 1770s?
A. A centralized church-state system
B. A mandate to reject all Enlightenment philosophy
C. Absolute immunity from British taxation
D. Over 160 years of experience living and governing themselves
- _____ 2. According to James Madison, what is the “great difficulty” in framing a government?
A. Enabling the government to control the governed and then obliging it to control itself
B. Finding citizens who are willing to vote
C. Ensuring the government is powerful enough
D. Establishing a monarch who is a “philosopher king”
- _____ 3. What did ancient Greek philosophers emphasize as the chief tool for political thinking?
A. Divine revelation B. Feudal loyalty C. The separation of church and state D. Reason
- _____ 4. What was Plato’s vision for the ideal ruler?
A. A democratically elected (by at least a majority) representative
B. A strong military dictator who secures the state
C. A philosopher king who is wise and not tempted by power
D. A group of wealthy aristocrats who are highly educated
- _____ 5. Marcus Tullius Cicero is best known for advocating _____.
A. the necessity of absolute imperial power C. the rejection of natural law
B. a government of laws rather than men D. the creation of a state religion
- _____ 6. What is the primary characteristic of a republic compared to a democracy?
A. Ruled by the direct vote of the majority on every issue
B. Governed by representatives who protect liberties and justice
C. Dictated by the military elite, with a focus on liberties
D. Managed by a single philosopher king
- _____ 7. What was the “positive” aspect of the Renaissance focus on the individual?
A. It encouraged the creation of state-enforced religious systems.
B. It promoted the idea that man is the center of the universe.
C. It restored the positive characteristics of the feudal social order.
D. It spread the belief that governments should not wield absolute power.
- _____ 8. What was the primary lesson drawn from Machiavelli’s *The Prince*?
A. That rulers should always be honest and religious
B. That feudalism is the best way to organize a society
C. That the type of person who seeks absolute power will be brutal to keep it
D. That reason is the highest measure of truth
- _____ 9. What is the main purpose of separating the legislative, executive, and judicial branches?
A. To prevent rulers from abusing their power
B. To ensure the government runs more efficiently
C. To allow the judiciary to write new laws as needed
D. To eliminate the need for a Constitution
- _____ 10. What did John Adams mean when he called the revolution principles the “principles of nature and eternal reason”?
A. He was acknowledging that the revolution was a miracle from God.
B. He was quoting directly from the book of Genesis.
C. He was influenced by Greek rationalism.
D. He believed reason was secondary to prophecy.

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