

American Government & Politics: A Christian Worldview – Test 1
(“How to Approach the Study of Government” – “The Enlightenment”)

- _____ 1. How should a Christian evaluate a law or court decision?
- A. Accept it as authoritative if it was written by Founding Fathers.
 - B. Use it as the final authority on the moral question it deals with.
 - C. Ignore it completely if it contradicts a famous philosopher’s opinion.
 - D. Measure it against the standard of God’s Word.
- _____ 2. Which of the following is one of the three keys for studying government?
- A. Memorize constitutional articles and amendments.
 - B. Work tirelessly to seek a better government on earth.
 - C. Recognize that governments are inherently flawed.
 - D. Focus on winning debates with secular thinkers.
- _____ 3. What are the two core matters that the Bible says government exists to handle?
- A. Education and healthcare
 - B. Punishing violence/theft and providing justice
 - C. Road building and affordable housing
 - D. Economic regulation and religion
- _____ 4. What does “spoil” mean in the context of biblical governance?
- A. A gift to the poor B. Robbery or oppression C. A collected tax D. All of these
- _____ 5. The biblical definition of an “evildoer” is someone who ____.
- A. kills, injures, assaults, or steals C. commits an evil sin like jealousy or cursing
 - B. disagrees with the king or ruler D. All of these
- _____ 6. John Locke said that the “end of the law” (purpose of the law) is to ____.
- A. abolish unnecessary freedoms
 - B. restrain the people from sin
 - C. allow rulers the power they need
 - D. preserve and enlarge freedom
- _____ 7. What is John Stuart Mill’s justification for exercising power over a community member?
- A. to make him morally better
 - B. to prevent harm to others
 - C. to improve his physical health
 - D. All of these
- _____ 8. What did Thomas Jefferson mean by a “wall of separation”?
- A. That religion should be removed from the lives of individuals
 - B. That government should not force religious beliefs or practices upon anyone
 - C. That the government must be hostile to all dangerous religions
 - D. That churches should have minimal influence on society
- _____ 9. When should a Christian disobey the government?
- A. When taxes are too high or clearly unfair
 - B. When the government orders a violation of a command of God
 - C. If the government is not a democracy or republic
 - D. Any of these
- _____ 10. According to James Madison, we need controls on government because government officials ____.
- A. often struggle with taxing/funding issues
 - B. are usually high-character individuals
 - C. Both A & B
 - D. Neither A nor B

- ____ 11. A “republic” is a government ____.
- A. run by representatives of the people
 - B. ruled by a majority of voters
 - C. headed by a monarch and legislative body
 - D. None of these
- ____ 12. What is “natural law”?
- A. The laws of science that govern the world
 - B. The decrees of ancient Roman emperors
 - C. Moral rights of life, liberty, and property
 - D. None of these
- ____ 13. What was Machiavelli’s *The Prince* about?
- A. A manual for building a republic that protects the rights of the people
 - B. A defense of the Renaissance against those who criticized its results
 - C. Spurious arguments that rulers should do anything to gain and keep power
 - D. A book of religious instructions for kings who wanted to rule their people effectively
- ____ 14. What is a “laissez faire” economy?
- A. A system of government-run business
 - B. Allowing individuals to pursue their own interests
 - C. A system of high tariffs that protect certain industries
 - D. The regulation of all labor and hiring practices
- ____ 15. What is the purpose of separating government branches?
- A. To make rulers less likely to abuse their power
 - B. To make passing laws a quicker and more efficient process
 - C. To ensure that the judicial branch is the most powerful
 - D. All of these
- ____ 16. What does Romans 13:3-4 mean when it says rulers are to be a “terror to evil”?
- A. They should keep tight control over non-Christian beliefs.
 - B. They should frighten all citizens into obedience.
 - C. They should threaten those who question their decisions.
 - D. They should deter those who commit crimes.
- ____ 17. The phrase “separation of church and state” originated from ____.
- A. a biblical command to early Christians
 - B. a letter Thomas Jefferson wrote to the Danbury Baptists
 - C. a Supreme Court ruling in 1787
 - D. the Federalist Papers
- ____ 18. What was the goal of Roger Williams in founding Rhode Island?
- A. To create a Puritan religiously-run government
 - B. To offer religious freedom for settlers
 - C. To establish a military base against Indians
 - D. To create a less strict state religion
- ____ 19. How can the excessive focus on “reason” lead to a diminishing view of God?
- A. Because science is inherently atheistic
 - B. Because it discourages the reading of historical documents
 - C. Because it leads man to raise himself and believe he is the center of the universe
 - D. Because it discourages people from participating in government
- ____ 20. Why is the “Enlightenment” often called the “Age of Reason”?
- A. Because it was the first time a wide number of people learned to read
 - B. Because Enlightenment thinkers were overwhelmingly Christians
 - C. Because it prioritized observation and human reason over God’s word.
 - D. Because it was the era when the Bible was written and distributed

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