

Biblical Citizenship Session 1

- **Biblical Principles and Freedom:** Biblical principles are presented as the foundational formula for a good society and the source of liberty and freedom, while their absence leads to societal decline.
- **Biblical Worldview:** Most Americans lack a biblical worldview, leading them to draw on other worldviews that deny absolute moral truth, creating confusion and a societal lack of direction.
- **The Bible as an Instruction Manual:** The Bible is depicted as a comprehensive and flawless instruction manual from the Creator, offering guidance for all areas of life, including personal relationships, work, and societal governance. Ignoring this manual, like throwing away a car's operating guide, inevitably leads to negative outcomes.
- **The Great Commission Redefined:** The Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20) is presented not merely as a salvation mandate but as a "discipleship mandate" that encompasses teaching obedience to all of Christ's commands, thereby influencing every aspect of community and culture for righteousness.
- **Christian Engagement in Politics and Civics:** Christians are called to actively engage in politics and civics, recognizing it as a duty ("stewardship") and a part of their religion, because politics is an area of life to which biblical principles apply. This engagement is crucial for God to bless the nation.
- **"We the People" as "Caesar":** In America's system, "We the People" are identified as "Caesar," implying that citizens have the responsibility to hold government accountable, design it, and determine its limits.
- **Importance of Fundamental Principles:** George Mason's warning that "no free government nor the blessings of liberty can be preserved to any people but by a frequent recurrence to fundamental principles" is emphasized, stressing the need to continually learn and apply the foundational principles of freedom.
- **Church's Role and Abdication:** The church is criticized for abdicating its duty to engage in politics and civic life, creating a vacuum that has contributed to societal problems. It is urged to resume its role in preparing people to participate as "biblical citizens."
- **Ecclesia and Public Engagement:** The term "ecclesia," as used by Jesus, is clarified as a secular term referring to an assembly of citizens in the public square to govern their community, reinforcing the idea that the church should be actively involved in societal governance and not just spiritual matters.