

## Foundations

### *Federalist 86 by the Sons and Daughters of Publius*

Two hundred and thirty-five years ago, the final of eighty-five essays was published that are widely known today as *The Federalist Papers*. The first was written in October 1787 and the last one in May 1788. The writers' purpose was to discuss critical aspects of American governance and to support the ratification of the Constitution by the states. Authors included Alexander Hamilton, James Madison, and John Jay.

The Restore Liberty team has maintained the desire to gather and publish essays addressing those issues that remain critical to our Constitutional Republic. Our national sovereignty is under attack from within and without, and we find that there is no greater time to take on this task. We, therefore, invite writers from across the country to engage with us in this endeavor and send your two-page essays to patriots@restore-liberty.org. Whether you're a seasoned scholar or a journeyman writer, we welcome all.

This is an attempt to continue the work of the Founders -- poor though our efforts may be in comparison. It is our intention that this first essay is enshrined in American history as Federalist 86. It is appropriately titled "Foundations" for we must return to those foundational principles that made this nation great. It is not our intention to deify any human being or color over the uglier parts of America's history. Instead, we will focus on higher principles rather than humanity's constant failure to fulfill them. The principles are worthy of pursuit; the people are only human. Let us begin to outline these principles by starting at the foundation and work our way up.

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All structures require a foundation. For without one, they will collapse under their own weight or fall victim to the shifting sands or settling of the soil. Buildings then lose their level while cracks appear throughout the structure. Eventually, time fuels erosion and degradation requiring the structure be condemned. People may mourn the loss of a grand building that was once the envy of all who gazed upon her.

A solid foundation, though, means that a structure can be maintained with confidence and last for generations. Cracks may appear, but they can be repaired. Minor settling may occur as well, but this, too, can be fixed. Maintenance is required to keep a structure livable in any case. In America, "We the People" are the maintainers ultimately -- no one else, but we've ignored the problem for far too long. We must recognize what Thomas Paine said, "Those who expect to reap the blessings of freedom must, like men, undergo the fatigues of supporting it." It's time to get to work for we are near having to condemn the home and start over. Nobody wants to do that.

We see this proclivity of the foundational structure to shift and crack as society suffers under the vicissitudes and whims of men and women who seek power over serving their fellow man. A free society is not a guarantee nor perpetual, but through the labors of good citizens, it can be maintained. In the United States, the building blocks of liberty come in the myriad shapes and forms of God, Family, and Country. With these foundational pieces in place, we can look to fix the cracks, and as needed, reinforce parts of the foundation when settling is discovered. It requires a watchful eye -- a determined vigilance guided by the assumption that something will always attack that which is most precious, in this case, the foundations upon which true liberty is built. For God, Family, and Country are in order of priority, and if they are lost, so are we. By focusing on God, our families benefit, and with a focus on God and Family, a country can count its blessings.

## God

Our Founders' recognition of God is laced through all of America's history and engraved on our monuments in places of prominence. Yet few facts of our history are under attack more than our Judeo-Christian origins while our founding documents still reflect their beliefs and do so clearly. John Adams is quoted as saying, "Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people; it is wholly inadequate to the government of any other." He recognized the fact that people need an internal moral code to self-govern effectively. Far too many have discarded that moral code, and the church seems to have abdicated their position as the nation's dominant cultural influence. This leads to Benjamin Franklin's warning that, "Only a virtuous people are capable of freedom. As nations become corrupt and vicious, they have more need of masters." Our nation's desire to remove any references to God in schools, courtrooms, and other government institutions has led this nation to the point where we face great peril, and liberty may be lost. We must return to God.

## Family

The attacks on the family in America are legion, and the defense of the family is our most critical act aside from a return to God. Many discussions today are about the American people losing their faith and confidence in government institutions, yet that loss of faith is a result of their actions alone. The institutions of government have, regrettably, turned against the two most critical layers of America's success -- God and Family. Divorce is rampant. Children taught the lies that America is racist and that their successes and failures are determined by race and color. They are also taught that there are many genders, and they can choose whichever they want to be and pursue surgery to alter their God-given and created form. Sadly, parents are occasionally the ones reinforcing these ideas in their children. To save a nation, we must save the families.

## Country

What is a country after all? Lines on a map do not a country make, nor does a title such as "United States." The melting pot of America was at one point a nation of many-made-one through a Judeo-Christian ethic that bound us together. "E Pluribus Unum" was true for years but no more. We can turn it around by recognizing and magnifying our common culture and ensuring that our immigration systems and educational institutions focus, once again, on civics and what governance in America is intended to be. We are a nation founded on Judeo-Christian values. Although not every American citizen believes in that manner today, the principles embedded provide the necessary guaranteed freedoms of speech and worship for all. The Constitution and the Founding Fathers' writings make that clear. The plain meaning is that government cannot adopt and enforce an official state religion and that no government agency can enforce thought. No one in America can use the power of government to force their beliefs on another. To lose these liberties is to lose a country.

We need to return to the foundational beliefs that made this nation great. We must acknowledge God. We must build up the family and the traditional roles of mothers and fathers that every child needs, and by doing so, we can begin to save the country. Without the foundation repaired, the home will be condemned, and the people will suffer and find themselves homeless in the country their Founders built for them.<sup>i</sup>

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<sup>i</sup> This is not a research paper, so it is up to the reader to research our assertions and conclusions. In so doing, the reader will move deeper into the writing of the Founders. In so doing the reader will learn much from the Greeks and Romans and many other Western writers.