

What the U.S. Constitution means to me and how I can protect it

Matthew King

9/10/19

What man has ever sat down and thought, “If only everyone could do just as he wanted, and not have any authority telling him what to do... Then, and only then would we all finally get along and live in peace.” Or what parent has ever told their child, “Honey, if you just do everything that seems right to you, then you will always live at peace with you brother.” What business owner sat down at a employee meeting and instructed his personnel, “Men and women, from now on we will all do what seems right to each of us, if you want to do a task, buy an item, fire a coworker, or anything else, please feel free to do so. Upon this strategy we will flourish as a business.” This would be utter foolishness, but yet so many of us look at our Constitution and wonder, “If only we could get away from all of the rules and regulations, then we could finally live at peace, and thrive as a nation.”

This idea of “freedom from law brings peace”, has been in the mind of man since the fall in the Garden and many still seek for the release from authority. Our country was not only founded upon Godly principals, but also upon an organized political and judicial construct. It is because of our Constitution, in its many different facets, that we function as we do today, as one nation. To read through the many different articles and amendments is a bit of a task, but it reveals the care and precision that was applied to each letter; each word and phrase was carefully constructed to form guidelines for a way of life that would not only be functional for an entire nation, but also bring a sense of peace and stability on a global front.

Without the organization, precise instructions and stipulations, we as a nation would have fallen many years ago. It is because of these documents that our founding fathers set up, that we still stand today as the *United States of America*. We are united together, as a military, as a political democracy, and as a nation with freedoms. The issues in our unity seem to arise when people rise up and try to destroy elements of the constitution. Obviously, these change with the

times and there is a need to make amendment, but there are also instructions on how to make amendments properly.

Many today are trying to attack our first and second amendment rights. In doing this many fights and even small wars have broken out. Our founding fathers wrote these, and all the other amendments, as they did in order to inspire a nation that would be able to be free and not under the thumb of a king or ruler. As we look at these two amendments more closely we will see that they are both greatly under attack in our society today.

Amendment #1

Freedom of Religion, Speech, and the Press; Rights of Assembly and Petition

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievance.

The reason, it seems, that we as a nation need instruction like this is because men have a great desire to control what others can say, believe, and even worship. But, clearly our founding fathers were not interested in dictating that, and instead they wanted to allow for each individual to be able to exercise freely the religion that they chose. This amendment is probably that which has been under attack the most in last few decades. Men desperately want to make rules and regulations that limit his fellow man to doing as he sees fit. But again, our constitution was created by men that were escaping from the grip of a king who wanted to control them and their beliefs. That is why they created this document for all the following generations to abide by. This way their kids and great, great-grandkids would all be able to enjoy the freedoms of this new country without fear of a political or religious dictator.

Amendment #2

Right to Bear Arms

A well-regulated militia, being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed

The people's second amendment right is greatly under attack in our current political and social era. Our leaders, both nationally and locally, want to place rules and regulations upon who can bear arms. What they can do with them, and what they are allowed to actually possess. This was never the right of the government and definitely was never the intention of our founding fathers. Unfortunately, the way that our culture has gone today, people have placed the damage done by the arms possessed upon the arms, not as the responsibility of the person wielding said arms. Therefore, they believe that if they limit the arms allowed, they will limit or eradicate the problems caused by them all together. This, unfortunately, will not solve the problem. The issue lies in the sin nature and the lack of respect for each other and the human life itself. But, even though a gun cannot kill another person without someone loading it and firing it, the guns are still blamed as the problem.

With our depraved culture, that has fallen away from God, instead of holding to standards of right and wrong and true and false, they tend to go about their lives doing what they deem best, rather than looking out for the interests of others. The respect and love for their fellow man has been greatly reduced and, in some cases, lost all together. As it is written about in the times just prior to the flood, "Then the Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great on the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually." This is the direction

we are heading in, as each man, woman, and child wants his own way. This has manifested itself in small ways, as well as a push for national laws and even amendments to our Constitution.

As a voting citizen I may not have a lot of control, but I can do some. I can seek to be responsible with the freedoms that I have been given, both in relation to my fellow man and ultimately to God. I can be responsible with my speech and my freedom to express myself, always doing it in love and treating others as better than myself. As for the right to bears arms, I can do this responsibly also. I can stand up against wrong, respect others and the life that God has given to them that is not mine to take. I can use these arms to provide food for my family and protection against predators, animal or human. I can vote wisely; seeking to elect officials that will not withhold my rights as a citizen, but instead, stand behind the constitution and what it represents. I can pray for our leaders; that they will have wisdom and guidance from God to know how to follow the dream that our founding fathers started to make a reality. This dream may never come true on this earth but I will do what I can to keep peace with my fellow man by following the wisdom of the elders before me. By doing this, we as a nation under God can live in (relative) peace until the Lord returns to bring (final) peace to all the nations and the whole world.