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U.S. History-Based Writing

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Biblical Basis of the Constitution

George W. Bush, former president, was right when he said, “Use power to help people. For we are given power not to advance our own purposes nor to make a great show in the world, nor a name. There is but one just use of power and it is to serve people.” It is wrong to abuse power for someone’s own greedy reasons. There have been lots of examples in history when a powerful government has used its authority to abuse the people of their country. America should not do that. The Preamble to the Constitution states that the people of the United States should “*establish justice, ensure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity.*” Three of these, which are crucial to our government, are to establish justice, ensure domestic tranquility, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity.

To “establish justice”... What does establishing justice really mean? Justice is doing what is right and fair for everyone. Without justice, our world would be in complete and total disorder. Justice is incredibly crucial. It is needed in everyone’s lives. Few volunteer to uphold it. For example, police uphold justice and rules. They truly and rightly strive for justice although they aren’t always thanked for it. Like a judge, who

makes sure that there is a fair conclusion, they also uphold the law through logical arguments. They make sure that all who are guilty go to jail and those who are innocent go free. In present times, people aren't really being fair and making the right decisions. Their decisions are recklessly made and that's why the world we live in now is just in chaos. Justice is *not* being upheld, and laws are not taken seriously. But, even if we don't know how things are going to work out, God is sovereign and he knows what is going to happen. As it says in Romans 8:28 "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose" (NIV). God works things out for those who trust and love Him. So we know that some don't care about justice, but we can try to establish justice in our society. Isaiah 1:17 states that we have to "Learn to do right; seek justice." So, Americans must make correct decisions and pursue justice for all.

The Constitution says that we, who are the people, want to "*ensure domestic tranquility*." To ensure means to "make sure" of something; to make sure something will or will not happen. Domestic has two meanings; one means "in a home" (Oxford American Dictionary), and the other means "existing or occurring in a particular country" (Oxford American Dictionary). The preamble is talking about the second one. Tranquility is peace. So, we want to make sure that our country has peace. Having peace is very important, but our government cannot truly provide that. By trusting in God, He will make sure that we have peace in the country. Jesus said in John 14:27, "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid." The world will tell us that to have peace and

safety is to trust in yourself and “follow your heart”, but if we really want to ensure America’s tranquility and safety, we have to trust in God.

Another goal in the Preamble is to “*secure the blessings of liberty for ourselves and our posterity,*” Maybe we take these “blessings of liberty” for granted. To have freedom is so wonderful. God has secured freedom for us and our country. Americans surely know what that means. It means for all Americans, in their generations, and their posterity. That means their children and future generations. So, the constitution says for citizens to keep their freedom for themselves and their children. America has strayed from the Word and even though we still have freedom, America has strayed from the Word and those who do not believe in God are still slaves to sin. When we have freedom and the liberty to do things, we cannot take it for granted and do whatever we would like. It says in Galatians 5:1, “It is for freedom that Christ has set us free...” Jesus has given Americans freedom. It is a blessing for the United States and people to come.

When George W. Bush said “Use power to help people”, what do you think he meant by it? Which “power” is he talking about? The power he’s talking about is probably the government’s power and how they can use *their* power for the good of the people. Justice is good for everybody. People that uphold laws are people that are upholding justice. So all should seek to do justice. Peace is essential to lives as well. Without peace, there would be fighting, chaos, and maybe even war could happen. Freedom. Everyone should have freedom. But most take this gift for granted. The United States of America is free from oppression and slavery to others, and this is truly a blessing to the citizens of America and all those to come. This preamble is the heart of

the Constitution. Firstly, it is the most well-known part of it. Secondly, it really captures what the founding fathers wanted to write about. Overall, their main goal was to rightly lead America. This Constitution is so important because it gives law to America's citizens. The Preamble says that the Constitution exists "to form a more perfect union." This really means that they, the founding fathers, wanted to make a good government for their country. The most important thing, in all this writing, is justice. Justice connects to these other topics, freedom and peace. When justice is upheld, peace follows. Liberty comes when there is justice among the people who want it and aim to support it. The reason we have so many blessings – and it is a blessing to even have a free country – is all because of God's great love for us. God has blessed America and the people who wrote the Constitution. And the Constitution was written by Christians, who knew the Bible, following God in His ways.