

GET THAT BIBLE OUTTA HERE

Ben Kinchlow

School has begun again and so has the assault on the religious liberties of students under the guise of “separation of church and state.”

Let me state unequivocally...the concept of separation of church and state used incessantly by anti-prayer, anti-Bible, and anti-God forces to erode our Constitutional liberties is clearly articulated in Article 124 of the Constitution. However, it is the **Soviet** (not the U.S.)

Constitution:

“... the church in the U.S.S.R. is separated from the State and the school from the church.”

So what about America and the *separation of church and state*?

Let us be clear at the outset; there is absolutely nothing in the U.S. Constitution or any other founding document that articulates, supports, or defends the concept of the separation of church and state.

The source of the subject phrase “separation of church and state” is a letter written by then-President Thomas Jefferson to a group of Baptist ministers in Danbury, CT, who were concerned that a state church would impinge upon their religious liberties, as was the case in England. Furthermore, it meant the exact *opposite* of what the anti-God forces infer today.

President Jefferson reassured them thusly:

“Believing with you that religion is a matter which lies solely between Man & his God, that he owes account to none other for his faith or his worship, that the legitimate powers of government reach actions only, & not opinions, I contemplate with sovereign reverence that act of the whole American people which declared that their legislature should ‘make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof,’ thus building a wall of separation between Church & State...” (Th Jefferson Jan. 1. 1802) (emphasis added)

Clearly, the “wall of separation” was/is to prevent the establishment of an official state church and to keep the state out of the church - not vice versa. While I am not an attorney, it seems clear to me that the moment someone invokes the First Amendment “establishment clause,” they immediately violate the “free exercise clause.” Furthermore, “*Congress shall make no law...*” - not local judges or school boards, etc.

As further proof that the First Amendment is not to keep people from the free exercise of religion, consider this quote submitted to the Congress by a Member of Congress in 1780:

“We have a dangerous trend beginning to take place in our education. We're starting to put more and more textbooks into our schools.... We've become accustomed of late of putting little books into the hands of children containing fables and moral lessons.... We are spending less time in the classroom on the Bible, which should be the principal text in our schools.... The Bible states these great moral lessons better than any other manmade book.”

That Congressman was Fisher Ames, who wrote what Congress subsequently adopted as the First Amendment.

It is manifestly obvious from an unbiased reading of American history that the Founding

Fathers and the U.S. Congress clearly understood that no conflict existed between one's religious faith and the liberties outlined in the American Constitution.

As you consider the answer as to the yes or no of the Bible in our public school systems, consider these thoughts on education and America:

“Education is a weapon, whose effect depends on who holds it in his hands and at whom it is aimed.”

“America is like a healthy body and its resistance is threefold: its patriotism, its morality, and its spiritual life. If we can undermine these three areas, America will collapse from within.”

Does that not sound suspiciously like those areas now under continuous assault by certain progressive or liberal groups in our country today? By the way, those revealing words are from Joseph Stalin.

Let me ask you... what is clearly the underlying foundation of two, if not all three, of these critical areas – patriotism, morality, and spiritual life - if not the **Bible**?!

Teach the Bible in public schools today? I join the Founding Fathers with a resounding yes! And you say?

(For more information, go to www.bibleinschools.net)