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The Role of Faith and Religion in the Life of African-Americans

The Individualists in Church and State

Faith Or Fact

Save Yourself Some Pain

Interpreting the Bible and the Constitution

Cumulative List of Organizations Described in Section 170 (c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954

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God Betrayed

The Faith, Values, Mission, Vision, Policies, and Procedures of Meridian Christian Church

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Reading the Bible with the Founding Fathers

Meridian Christian Church Leadership Manual

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Sectarian Heresies on the Subject of the Church and Ministry  
Cumulative List of Organizations Described in Section 170 (c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986  
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## **MAXIMO RIVERA**

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*The Role of Faith and Religion in the Life of African-Americans*  
Oxford University Press

God Betrayed explains: (1) the biblical principles concerning government, church, and separation of church and state which one needs to know in order to understand the First Amendment and why it was adopted; (2) the history of the theological warfare in the colonies that eventually resulted in the adoption of the First Amendment; (3) how and why, soon after the ratification of the Constitution and the First Amendment, many churches

subjected themselves to the state; (4) how the Supreme Court has used the First Amendment religion clause to remove God from practically all civil government affairs; (5) how civil government entices many churches to abandon their Supernatural and First Amendment freedoms; and (6) how churches in America can operate totally under God and free from any control by civil government. After graduating from college in 1970 and serving as an army officer in the Viet Nam conflict, Jerald Finney worked for the railroad and then started and operated a photography studio in Fort Worth, Texas. He was saved in 1982. God called him to enter the legal profession. He entered the University of Texas School of Law in 1990, and was licensed to practice law in 1993. Since that time, the Lord has

guided his career. In 2005, he became lead counsel for the Biblical Law Center. This book is the result of his in depth studies of the issue of separation of church and state, the main issue which is addressed by the Biblical Law Center.

The Individualists in Church and State Greenhaven Publishing LLC  
Whole church, for the sake of the world. A church informs about its faith through all that it is, says and does. This threefold way of telling determines what the recipient hears. Therefore, if a church wants to be true to its mission it must constantly ask itself two questions: What is the church's calling, and what is the message it sends? How do our churches deal with this challenge? The Church is not for its own sake, but for the world, one of the analyzed documents says. It is called to be an instrument for our loving God's plan to heal a broken world. The basic pattern is found in the Holy Scriptures, but in every time and every cultural context the Church must seek relevant ways and forms. And why not do this in conversation and with open ears to the experiences of others, and with the courage to change, if necessary? The first part of the book is the result of such a listening. Perhaps it surprises someone that I turned to three American Catholics to listen to their experiences. Inspired by the radical message of the Second Vatican Council, they challenge their own church to a radical paradigm shift on the way of being a trustworthy church. Using the model they developed as a base, I turned to my own church, the Uniting Church in Sweden, by asking the same question battery, and the same to an ecumenical document, The Church: Towards a Common Vision. And the result? Yet another reminder that every church that wants to be part of God's mission for the sake of the world must constantly test itself in the

face of the critical questions of how it faithfully can pass on its message of joys and hope to the world.

**Faith Or Fact** Wipf and Stock Publishers

This book came because I wanted to be a notary public. I met the lady in charge. She asked me to raise my right hand and swear to uphold the Constitution. My answer was, "I do not know what it says." Her answer was what caused me to study more and then do much intensive studying. She said, "That is okay. We don't know it either. This is the courthouse. That is okay. We do not need to know it." But God, He made me go back to my Church office, find a copy of the United States Constitution, and study others. The Declaration of Independence, the Olivette Petition, and then our Constitution are documenting what men wrote, wanting a nation where men can serve God freely. "We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable [that cannot be taken away or given away] rights." I began learning that Matthew 22:15-22 and Romans 13 had so many different meanings from other preachers. It was confusing. "That whenever any form of government becomes destructive to these ends it is the right of the people to alter [we try that at our polls] or to abolish it." We the people have the right under God and government to abolish bad government. Exercise it. You will learn the twenty-five reasons they gave for their freedom from tyranny. Today you will see that eleven of those reasons of separations are in our America today. "To know wisdom and instruction; to perceive the words of understanding; A wise man will hear, and will increase learning; and a man of understand shall attain unto wise counsels" (Prov. 1:2, 5).

*Save Yourself Some Pain* WordBridge Publishing

The Role of Faith and Religion in the Life of African-Americans by Florence Ray Van Liew Crain African-Americans who are highly involved in religion have fewer family problems than those who are not involved. The youths in these families have better emotional control and greater involvement in positive, productive activities. This book is a discussion of the history of African-Americans—through hundreds of years of cruelty and brutality in slavery, war, and segregation—and the role of Christian faith and churches in helping black people survive and overcome such enormous challenges. These facts offer powerful testament to the role of faith and religion in the lives of African-Americans. Encouragement, hope, faith, and determination will help us receive what God has for us if we serve Him! Author Florence Van Liew Crain hopes and prays that those who think they cannot make it will be able to get up, brush themselves off, and move forward.

**Interpreting the Bible and the Constitution** Thomas Nelson How can freedom of religion protect the dignity of every human being and safeguard the well-being of creation? This question arises when considering the competing claims among faith traditions, states, and persons. Freedom of religion or belief is a basic human right, and yet it is sometimes used to undermine other human rights. This volume seeks to unpack and wrestle with some of these challenges. In order to do so scholars were invited from different contexts in Africa and Europe to write about freedom of religion from various angles. How should faith traditions in a minority position be protected against majority claims and what is the responsibility of the religious communities

in this task? When does the state risk overstepping its boundaries in the delicate balance between freedom of religion and other human rights? How can new voices, who claim their human rights in relation to gender roles, reproductive rights, and as sexual minorities, be heard within their faith traditions? These are some of the questions that are raised by the authors. This is a book for all who are engaged in faith communities, leaders as well as people trying to be recognized. It is also important reading for all interested in international legal frameworks for freedom of religion, state advisers, and human right defenders.

Cumulative List of Organizations Described in Section 170 (c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 Baker Academic

In Profit and Punishment, a Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist exposes the tragedy of modern-day debtors prisons, and how they destroy the lives of poor Americans swept up in a system designed to penalize the most impoverished. “Intimate, raw, and utterly scathing” — Heather Ann Thompson, Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *Blood in the Water* “Crucial evidence that the justice system is broken and has to be fixed. Please read this book.” —James Patterson, #1 New York Times bestselling author As a columnist for the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Tony Messenger has spent years in county and municipal courthouses documenting how poor Americans are convicted of minor crimes and then saddled with exorbitant fines and fees. If they are unable to pay, they are often sent to prison, where they are then charged a pay-to-stay bill, in a cycle that soon creates a mountain of debt that can take years to pay off. These insidious penalties are used to raise money for broken local and state budgets, often overseen by for-profit companies, and it is one of

the central issues of the criminal justice reform movement. In the tradition of *Evicted* and *The New Jim Crow*, Messenger has written a call to arms, shining a light on a two-tiered system invisible to most Americans. He introduces readers to three single mothers caught up in this system: living in poverty in Missouri, Oklahoma, and South Carolina, whose lives are upended when minor offenses become monumental financial and personal catastrophes. As these women struggle to clear their debt and move on with their lives, readers meet the dogged civil rights advocates and lawmakers fighting by their side to create a more equitable and fair court of justice. In this remarkable feat of reporting, Tony Messenger exposes injustice that is agonizing and infuriating in its mundane cruelty, as he champions the rights and dignity of some of the most vulnerable Americans.

*What if Jesus Had Never Been Born?* W. W. Norton & Company  
A point-counterpoint discussion about Christianity's proper social and political relation to the United States-whether the nation is distinctly Christian, distinctly secular, essentially Christian, or partly Christian.

**The Scriptural Constitution of Christian Churches, Being the Substance of a Discourse, Etc** St. Martin's Press

No book was more accessible or familiar to the American founders than the Bible, and no book was more frequently alluded to or quoted from in the political discourse of the age. How and for what purposes did the founding generation use the Bible? How did the Bible influence their political culture? Shedding new light on some of the most familiar rhetoric of the founding era, Daniel Dreisbach analyzes the founders' diverse use of scripture, ranging from the literary to the theological. He

shows that they looked to the Bible for insights on human nature, civic virtue, political authority, and the rights and duties of citizens, as well as for political and legal models to emulate. They quoted scripture to authorize civil resistance, to invoke divine blessings for righteous nations, and to provide the language of liberty that would be appropriated by patriotic Americans. Reading the Bible with the Founding Fathers broaches the perennial question of whether the American founding was, to some extent, informed by religious-specifically Christian-ideas. In the sense that the founding generation were members of a biblically literate society that placed the Bible at the center of culture and discourse, the answer to that question is clearly "yes." Ignoring the Bible's influence on the founders, Dreisbach warns, produces a distorted image of the American political experiment, and of the concept of self-government on which America is built.

**God Betrayed** Westminster John Knox Press

The church steadily weakens; the state, filling the void, steadily strengthens. Unbelief runs rampant; faith withers. The morality of the barnyard triumphs; decency and honour vanish in the mists. What lies behind the dominance of secular degradation, our cultural sickness unto death? Could it be the individualist mind-set infecting the church? In this sprightly work, the 19th century Swiss statesman Frédéric de Rougemont explores just this issue, right at the point of origin. His conclusion: revivalist movements spread individualism into the church, which went from there to society at large. In turn, this led to the radical separation of church and state and the consequent triumph of unbelief in and through the state. Rougemont's exposé leads us right to the

present day. He reminds us that through the church's negligence, this miserable condition was allowed to arise. This means that that through the church's faithfulness, it can be overcome. If only she would be faithful to her calling to the nations. This book is required reading for Christians who wish to understand the imperatives of the Christian life and the task of the church in modern society.

**The Faith, Values, Mission, Vision, Policies, and Procedures of Meridian Christian Church** InterVarsity Press

This volume offers partristic commentary edited by Gerald L. Bray on the first article of the Nicene Creed. Readers will gain insight into the history and substance of what the early church believed about God the Father.

**The Case Against Religious Correctness** e-artnow

The purpose of this booklet is to help newly elected elders and deacons of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) prepare for the offices and responsibilities to which they have been elected. This study is divided into eight sessions, covering the ordination questions. Each session includes a commentary on the question(s) and suggestions for reflection and action. Each participant should have a copy of this book, the Book of Order, the Book of Confessions, and the Bible.

**Reading the Bible with the Founding Fathers** Christian Faith Publishing, Inc.

Examines the ways in which the gospel is contradicted by the American dream and challenges Christians to join in a one-year experiment in authentic discipleship that promises spiritual transformation through the word of God.

Meridian Christian Church Leadership Manual BoD - Books on

Demand

Using the writings of the founders and records of their conversations and activities, John Eidsmoe demonstrates the influence of Christianity on the political convictions of the founding fathers.

**The Confession of Faith and Covenant** Dorrance Publishing  
Refutes the claims of the religious right that America was founded as a Christian nation, and emphasizes that separation of church and state was designed to guarantee religious freedom

**The Confession of Faith, the Larger and Shorter Catechisms, the Form of Government, the Book of Discipline** Multnomah

The Constitution of the Bible Presbyterian Church  
The Confession of Faith, the Larger and Shorter Catechisms, the Form of Government, the Book of Discipline  
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Faith Or Fact  
Whole Church for the sake of the world

One of the fundamental rights granted in the United States is religious freedom, but does this mean that religion should be entirely removed from politics or that all religious voices should

be considered equally? The separation of church and state was established in the Constitution, but the fact that as of 2015, 84 percent of Americans hold some sort of religious belief means that this is easier said than done. Religious morality frequently colors debates surrounding various policy issues, ranging from reproductive rights to education. This volume exposes readers to the ways in which religion inflects policymaking and the varying perspectives about religion's role in politics.

*The Constitution of the Bible Presbyterian Church* Ignatius Press

This document's purpose is to spell out the Church's understanding of the nature of revelation--the process whereby God communicates with human beings. It touches upon questions about Scripture, tradition, and the teaching authority of the Church. The major concern of the document is to proclaim a Catholic understanding of the Bible as the "word of God." Key elements include: Trinitarian structure, roles of apostles and bishops, and biblical reading in a historical context.

*Christian America?* Yale University Press

With forewords by both Joel Beeke and John MacArthur, you would be right to expect something special from this book. It is the result of decades of study and teaching. It provides a comprehensive overview of Calvinism in two sections: the "History" surveys the Reformed theologians and preachers, the development of the theology and the major controversies. The "Theology" section discusses doctrines related to the sovereignty of God, the five points of Calvinism and the distinctive contributions of Calvinism in other areas.

*A Study for Church Officers* B&H Publishing Group

Considered by many the bright jewel among the many enriching

books of Cardinal Henri de Lubac, this work is a hymn to the beauty of the Church, under some of whose leaders for a time he unjustly suffered. The Splendor of the Church is, in a sense, a personal testimony of the great theologian's humility and love of the Church of Christ. It is also a classic work in the theology of the Church. Indeed, de Lubac's profound insights significantly contributed to Vatican II's Dogmatic Constitution on the Church, *Lumen Gentium*, especially in its treatment on the Church as mystery and as the Sacrament of Christ.

**The Early Church, Its Faith and Constitution, Anterior ... to the New Testament Scriptures; a Letter to the ... Dean of Carlisle, by a Curate of the Diocese (T. F.). With the Dean's Reply** Princeton University Press

More than the citizens of most countries, Americans are either religious or in jail--or both. But what does it mean when imprisonment and evangelization actually go hand in hand, or at least appear to? What do "faith-based" prison programs mean for the constitutional separation of church and state, particularly when prisoners who participate get special privileges? In *Prison Religion, law and religion* scholar Winnifred Fallers Sullivan takes up these and other important questions through a close examination of a 2005 lawsuit challenging the constitutionality of a faith-based residential rehabilitation program in an Iowa state prison. *Americans United for the Separation of Church and State v. Prison Fellowship Ministries*, a trial in which Sullivan served as an expert witness, centered on the constitutionality of allowing religious organizations to operate programs in state-run facilities. Using the trial as a case study, Sullivan argues that separation of church and state is no longer possible. Religious authority has

shifted from institutions to individuals, making it difficult to define religion, let alone disentangle it from the state. Prison Religion casts new light on church-state law, the debate over government-

funded faith-based programs, and the predicament of prisoners who have precious little choice about what kind of rehabilitation they receive, if they are offered any at all.

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