

Principles of Liberty

IN CONGRESS, JULY 4, 1776.

The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen united States of America.

1. God exists, has established an ordered and moral universe, and holds humanity accountable.
2. Absolute truths exist and are knowable.
3. God and His laws establish the track on which men and nations must travel to attain happiness, fulfillment, and greatness; and to reach their God-given potential.
4. God has created human beings equal in value, and He intends for them to be treated with dignity and respect.
5. Rights are inherent and God-given and are rooted in God's having created members of the human race in His own image.
6. "Equality" as used by Jefferson and the rest of the Founders refers to equality of worth and affirmation of natural opportunities, not to equality of outcomes achieved by government manipulation of outcomes, opportunities, or both.
7. Rights are inextricably linked to God's laws.
8. Government does not grant rights but has the responsibility to recognize, maintain, and protect them.
9. Government has limited authority.
10. When government oversteps its authority and begins to achieve ends contrary to those it was established and designed by God to accomplish, the people have a right and even a duty to hold it accountable.