

Part Two, The Making of America:

Lesson 4: *Discovery of Ancient Principles*

(Lesson Time 26:00)

Name: _____

[for Sunday, November 16, 2014]

Reading: The Making of America, pages 41-48

Discovery of Ancient Principles

Pre-lesson questions for homework study and review:

1. CONTRAST THE POLITICAL SPECTRUM THAT POLITICIANS AND THE MEDIA USE TODAY WITH THE SPECTRUM THE FOUNDERS USED. (PAGES 42-44)

Today's Political spectrum:

Left ----- Moderate----- Right
Communism _____ Facism

Founders Political Spectrum:

100% ----- People's Law----- 0%
<----->
Tyranny ----- Anarchy

2. DESCRIBE THE TWO OPPOSITE SYSTEMS OF LAW, AND TELL ABOUT THE FOUNDERS' EFFORTS TO ESTABLISH PEOPLE'S LAW. (44-47)

Swinging Political Spectrum

- o History of the world is changing governments
- o Example: French Revolution
- o Washington rejected the "pattern"
- [Liberty has to come from the people, a pattern of a man to lead doesn't work.]
- o Both extremes are dangerous
- o Must find the Balanced Center and fix it there.

3. WHAT TWO ANCIENT EXAMPLES DID THE FOUNDERS LOOK TO IN ESTABLISHING PEOPLE'S LAW IN AMERICA? (47-48)

Ruler's Law

- o Different names
 - Monarchy: rule by one
 - Autocracy: rule by Dictator
 - Plutocracy: rule by wealthy class
 - Aristocracy: rule by inherited, privileged class
 - Oligarchy: rule by exclusive few
 - Empire: aggregate of kingdoms rules by monarch
 - Military Dictatorship: rule by military leaders

Ruler's Law

- o Power by force, conquest, or legislative usurpation
- o All power in ruler
- o People are subjects
- o Land is realm
- o No unalienable rights
- o Rule of men
- o social and economic classes
- o Thrust of gov from ruler down [never from people up]
- o Problems solved by more government / taxes
- o Freedom is not a solution to anything
- o Transfer of power is by force
- o Continual misery

4. DESCRIBE MOSES' FIRST ATTEMPT TO GOVERN THE NATION OF ISRAEL. (49-50)

[Moses' attempt was a total failure, long lines waiting for him to judge; he could not do it by himself.]

5. WHO COUNSELED MOSES TO SET UP A BETTER SYSTEM? TELL HOW IT WAS EVENTUALLY DONE. (49-51)

[Jethro - his ideas covered next lesson in detail]

6. IDENTIFY SOME OF THE PRINCIPLES OF GOOD GOVERNMENT THAT WERE EVIDENT IN ANCIENT ISRAEL. (52-53)

Search for the Balanced Center

- o Ruler's law terminated with Declaration of Independence
- o Did not know what to do with freedom [text from p. 46, Declar of Independence]
- o Must come from the people
- o A frightening task [had never been done before]
- o Two ancient examples
 - Israelites &
 - Anglo-Saxons