

# Protecting the Wall of Separation

Is America a Christian Nation?  
Let's see what the Founding Fathers had to say!

"Congress shall make **no law respecting an establishment of religion**"– First Amendment, Constitution of the United States of America.

"Erecting the **wall of separation between church and state**, therefore, is absolutely essential in a free society."– Thomas Jefferson, in an 1808 letter to the Virginia Baptists.

"the government of the United States is **not**, in any sense, founded on the Christian religion; as it has in itself no character of enmity against the laws, religion or tranquility of Musselmen [Muslims] ... it is declared ... that no pretext arising from religious opinion shall ever product an interruption of the harmony existing between the two countries ... **The United States is not a Christian nation** any more than it is a Jewish or a Mohammedan nation."– The Treaty of Tripoli, written under Washington, approved by the Senate, and signed into law by John Adams, 1797.

"In those parts of the world where **learning and science** have prevailed, miracles have ceased; but in those parts of it as are barbarous and ignorant, miracles are still in vogue."– Ethan Allen (American revolutionary hero), Reason the Only Oracle of Man.

"Strongly guarded as is the **separation between Religion & Govt** in the Constitution of the United States the danger of encroachment by Ecclesiastical Bodies may be illustrated by precedents already furnished in their short history."– James Madison (in 1811, he further demonstrated his support for church–state separation by vetoing a bill which would have set aside public land for a Baptist church).

"Of all the animosities which have existed among mankind, those which are caused by **difference of sentiments in religion** appear to be the most inveterate and distressing, and ought **most** to be deprecated."– George Washington.

"Think how great a proportion of Mankind consists of weak and ignorant Men and Women, and of inexperienced Youth of both Sexes, who have need of the Motives of Religion to restrain them from Vice, to support their Virtue, and retain them in the Practice of it."– Benjamin Franklin, 1757.

"The most detestable wickedness, the most horrid cruelties, and the greatest miseries that have afflicted the human race have had their origin in this thing called revelation, or revealed religion. It has been the most dishonorable belief against the character of the Divinity, the most destructive to morality and the peace and happiness of man, that ever was propagated since man began to exist."– Thomas Paine, The Age of Reason.

"My earlier views of the unsoundness of the Christian scheme of salvation and the human origin of the scriptures, have become clearer and stronger with advancing years and I see no reason for thinking I shall ever change them."– Abraham Lincoln (not a founding father, but generally considered a great president).

"E Pluribus Unum" (out of many, one); a statement promoting plurality which John Adams, Benhamin Franklin, and Thomas Jefferson chose to adorn all American coins. After their deaths, religious bigots replaced it with phrases such as "In God We Trust", which they now fraudulently misrepresent as "the words of our founding fathers".