

AMERICAN EXCEPTIONALISM



Is the concept of 'American Exceptionalism' (the belief that the United States is unique, or exceptional, when compared with the historical development of other countries) valid, or is it nationalistic bravado? What does God's word have to say on the topic?

MAN'S PERSPECTIVE

Without God, people are the product of Darwinian evolution, and people groups (nations) rise and fall just as other parts of the visible world and universe rise and fall. For a time, a nation may be prosperous, have a lot of national pride, and extend a hand of virtue for the good of all mankind. However, this does not make the nation exceptional, only at a different point to other nations in its cycles of life.

GOD'S PERSPECTIVE

1. God's Word

Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, ... (Psalm 33:12).

Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people (Proverbs 14:34).

For the Lord is our judge; the Lord is our lawgiver; the Lord is our king; he will save us (Isaiah 33:22).

2. Internet Videos

A City Upon A Hill: The Spirit Of American Exceptionalism

Published by **Citizens United**; Date: April 2011

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oQsCW1hbOGw>

Extract

Exceptionalism for Americans is the belief that the United States is, in some ways, more open, more vigorous and more optimistic than other nations.

During his travels in 1831, French writer Alexis de Tocqueville observed that America was an 'exceptional' nation with a special role to play in human history. He saw in the United States a culture arising out of limited government that was unlike anything he had ever seen.

Ronald Reagan on America

Published by **11highdef**; Date: July 2012

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nB2aREBkCFw>

Description

The video shows excerpts from various Ronald Reagan speeches that define American exceptionalism.

3. God's Hub Commentary

Why America Used To Be 'Exceptional' and How It Can Be Again

Here are five simple truths about American exceptionalism.

Truth #1

Exceptionalism only has one source – and that is God.

Truth #2

Exceptionalism is available to any nation that establishes its form of government on God's word, the Bible, and cherishes and maintains that form of government.

Truth #3

America used to be exceptional because our Founders established a "Republican Form of Government"¹ in the Constitution that was based on Biblical truths. Then, for almost two centuries, our Constitution was cherished and maintained with this national mind-set captured in the words of our Pledge of Allegiance².

Truth #4

America is no longer exceptional because we have turned away from God, the Constitution and its republican form of government. Instead, under the guise of 'progress', powerful liberal elements, activist judges and executive overreach have radically turned our nation towards a socialist democracy, which our Founders specifically warned against³, and intentionally removed God from the public arena.

Truth #5

America can once again be exceptional by returning to the Constitution, with its defined republican form of government, and by cherishing and maintaining this form of government with its Biblical foundation.

End Notes:

¹[The Constitution of the United States, Article IV, Section 4](#)

The United States shall guarantee to every State in this Union a **Republican** Form of Government

²[The Pledge of Allegiance](#)

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the **Republic** for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

³<http://www.libertyunderfire.org/2010/06/the-founding-fathers-rejected-democracy/>

4. Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father,

We recognize that the only source of good is You, and it was You who moved in the hearts and minds of our Founders to establish a nation based upon Your living presence working in the affairs of man.

You, dear Father, have blessed this nation and, indeed, there were times when America was seen as 'exceptional' by other nations.

We confess that we have turned from Your ways so that Your mighty hand no longer blesses our endeavors.

Dear Father, turn our hearts back to You, allowing Your presence to once again guide us, inspire us, and unify us to be exceptional.

Dear Heavenly Father, hear our prayers.

Amen