



## AMERICAN GOVERNMENT &amp; ECONOMICS

*"The government of the United States is acknowledged by the wise and good of other nations, to be the most free, impartial, and righteous government of the world; but all agree, that for such a government to be sustained for many years, the principles of truth and righteousness, taught in the Holy Scriptures, must be practised. The rulers must govern in the fear of God, and the people obey the laws."*

(Ezra Willard, 1843)

*"... WHEREAS the Bible, the Word of God, has made a unique contribution in shaping the United States as a distinctive and blessed nation and people . . . WHEREAS Biblical teachings inspired concepts of civil government that are contained in our Declaration of Independence and Constitution of the United States . . . Now, THEREFORE be it Resolved . . . to designate 1983 as a national Year of the Bible . . ."*

(Public Law 97-28: Year of the Bible, declared October 4, 1983, by Joint Resolution of the House and Senate in the second session of the 97th Congress of the United States of America)

### Purpose for Studying Government and Economics:

Guide students to reason Biblically from presuppositions and foundational principles in order to recognize the nature and consequences of ideas, as well as to understand government and economics from a Biblical Christian perspective.

Cultivate the habits of Christian scholarship that develop from the ability to reason with the revelation of Scripture, so that students will know how to discern between that which is pagan and that which is Christian.

Form a Biblical worldview in each student by

teaching how to think and reason from truth through Christian principles and leading ideas of government (internal to external, cause to effect, choices to consequences; doctrine to character to government).

Study the nature and character of America's form of government and system of individual enterprise as designed by our Founding Fathers.

Encourage and challenge students to be true reforming powers and leaders by mastering and implementing Christian principles in their own lives and in their nation.

### COURSE CONTENT

I. The Study of Economics: This course, developed at StoneBridge School by the author, Dr. Charles Hull Wolfe, is published in *A Guide to American Christian Education for the Home and School* by James B. Rose, A.C.H.I., 1987, and is used with permission.

#### A. Introduction to Economics

#### B. The rudiments of God's economy:

##### 1. Definitions:

- a. **economy:** [Greek root: *house and law or rule*] A frugal and judicious use of money; economy includes also a prudent management of all the means by which property is saved or accumulated; a judicious application of time, of labor, and of the instruments of labor (Webster's 1828). "Government is the house in which the economy lives." (Verna Hall)

- b. **economics:** The science that

