

## The Responsibilities of Liberty

**1 Peter 2:15-17 (LSB)** – *“<sup>15</sup>For such is the will of God that by doing good you may silence the ignorance of foolish men. <sup>16</sup>Acts as free people, and do not use your freedom as a covering for evil, but use it as slaves to God. <sup>17</sup>Honor all people, love the brethren, fear God, honor the king.”*

### I. Introduction

“A republic, if you can keep it.” - Benjamin Franklin

### II. The Grounds of Liberty

1. America was founded to be a \_\_\_\_\_ nation

**Romans 13:1-7** makes it clear that government is established by the Lord and is a *good* thing

2. From the Pilgrims to the Puritans to the Founders, we have an \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ heritage
3. God guided our Founders to set up a system of governance that supported individual \_\_\_\_\_ under God and a healthy distrust of men who had been given \_\_\_\_\_

### III. Yay, Independence...Now what?

1. Each of us must choose how we are to use our \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_
  - i. Too many people have used their freedom to campaign for bondage again:
    1. To Hedonism
    2. To Big Government
    3. Self
    4. Individual expressionism at any cost
  - ii. What have you been freed *from*:
    1. Spiritual blindness
    2. Spiritual death
    3. Fruitless ways of living/endeavors
    4. Taking up space

iii. What you are being called *into*:

1. A life where every moment is filled with meaning and purpose
2. Abundant life
3. Access to endless heavenly resources
4. Light that can be shone for others to draw near to Christ through

2. Each of us will give an account for who and what we \_\_\_\_\_ for

- i. Live for the *glory* of God
- ii. Love your family *well*
- iii. Use your liberty for the good and Godly benefit of others, especially your fellow countrymen

#### IV. Conclusion

1. A righteous people will see the blessing of the Lord in their nation and in their lives.
2. Freedom isn't free, but it must be handled well.
3. As America returns to God, His blessing will remain and indeed increase.

## **Answer Key:**

### **I. Introduction**

"A republic, if you can keep it." - Benjamin Franklin

### **II. The Grounds of Liberty**

1. America was founded to be a **CHRISTIAN** nation
2. From the Pilgrims to the Puritans to the Founders we have an **ANGLO-PROTESTANT** heritage
3. God guided our Founders to set up a system of governance that supported individual **FREEDOM** under God and a healthy distrust of men who had been given **POWER**

### **III. Yay, Independence...Now what?**

1. Each of us must choose how we are to use our **FREEDOM** and **LIBERTY**
2. Each of us will give an account for who and what we **LIVED** for

### **IV. Conclusion**