



WISCONSIN FAMILY COUNCIL
Marriage|Family|Life|Liberty

Church Connection

July 2016

*Strengthening,
Preserving
& Promoting
Marriage,
Family, Life &
Liberty*

*But we know that
the law is good, if a
man use it lawfully;
Knowing this, that
the law is not made
for a righteous man,
but for the lawless
and disobedient, for
the ungodly and for
sinners...*

I Timothy 1:8-9a

Mark Your Calendar!
Tuesday, August 9,
Wisconsin Partisan
Primary

**“Your love of liberty—
your respect for the
laws—your habits
of industry—and
your practice of the
moral and religious
obligations, are the
strongest claims to
national and individual
happiness.”**

~George Washington

The Rule of Law or the Whim of Man?

Human government typically boils down to two basic alternatives: the rule of law or the whim of man. This stark reality comes as a startling truth for most people.

The United States of America is supposed to be a nation governed by the rule of law. That rule of law has been, or is supposed to be, based on the Constitution. The US Constitution admittedly is an imperfect document because it was written and voted on by imperfect people. However, by most anyone’s standard, it is still the finest example of an extant governing document in the world, especially for establishing a republican and representative form of government limited in its powers and recognizing “we the people” as the source of the government’s authority.



Grounding the rule of law on an independent, external, objective source allows those governing to rely on that source for determining right and wrong and applying justice. In contrast, the whim of man is based on the emotions and the completely subjective sense at any given time of the person in charge.

If you doubt the whim of man is currently alive and well in the world today, recall the incredible genocide in various countries in the 20th and 21st centuries, including in recent years Darfur and Syria. Such atrocities are committed because a ruler, a despot, a dictator decides he or she doesn’t like or can’t tolerate a certain group of people based on their ethnicity or their gender or their religion or their nationality or something.

The decision to eliminate or marginalize these people on a massive scale is based on the whim of the leader. Governing by the whim of man is volatile and unpredictable.

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Pray...

- For your pastor.
- For your elected officials.
- For the work of WFC.

How Can We Maintain the Rule of Law?

- Pray for our elected officials.
- Obey the laws of the land ourselves, even the ones we don't like, as long as in so doing we are not disobeying God.
- Support and vote for candidates for elective office who are committed to upholding the rule of law.
- Communicate with elected officials and encourage them to uphold and support laws that are good for marriage, family, the sanctity of life and the protection of religious liberty, and to overturn or defeat laws that are bad for these.
- Consider running for an elective office.

dictable—and almost always dangerous.

When a nation decides to ignore or reinterpret the governing document on which the rule of law is grounded, the whim of man almost always kicks in, especially since nature can't abide a leadership vacuum. The outcome is never good. Leaders begin "making it up" as they go along, doing whatever seems right in their own eyes.

America is quickly becoming a nation governed by the whim of man. The US Supreme Court, for example, has for years "discovered" ideas and so-called rights that are not in the Constitution, such as creating a right to abortion on demand or a right to marriage between persons of the same sex.

Elected officials do the same "whim" thing when they talk about "freedom of worship" instead of freedom of religion that is guaranteed by the Constitution. The intent is to confine Christianity to a church building. But Christianity is a faith that believes in making a difference 24/7, 365 days a year, in every realm of life. We live out our faith both publicly and privately. We do so by rendering to Caesar what is his, and by rendering to God what is His. Caesar does not get to tell us when and where we practice our faith. And that is precisely why the founders of this country clarified this foundational freedom in the Bill of Rights.

God blessed this nation with founders who had the insight and ability to craft a government based on the rule of law. They knew keeping this rule of law would not be easy, especially since doing so depends on the character of those elected to govern and ultimately on the character of "we the people" who do the electing. But they at least gave us the opportunity to avoid the ugliness and danger of government based on the whim of man. The question we must answer is, "What are we willing to do to keep the rule of law in this nation?" Doing nothing almost certainly means we will be subject to the typically destructive and unjust whim of man.

About Wisconsin Family Council

Wisconsin Family Council is a 501 (c)(3) organization that has been advancing Judeo-Christian principles and values in Wisconsin since 1986. We have largely done this by informing Wisconsin citizens, policymakers and churches about the important legislative and cultural issues so that they can be involved in strengthening and preserving marriage, family, life and liberty in our state.

"Church Connection" is published monthly by WFC and is available to churches in Wisconsin.

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