

The U.S. Constitution & the Doctrine & Covenants

Doctrine and Covenants 101:80

God established the Constitution of the United States

President J. Reuben Clark of the First Presidency said:

Clark, J. Reuben Jr.

“To me, my brethren and sisters, that statement of the Lord, ‘I have established the Constitution of this land,’ puts the Constitution of the United States in the position in which it would be if it were written in the book of Doctrine and Covenants itself. This makes the Constitution the word of the Lord to us. That it was given, not by oral utterance, but by the operation of his mind and spirit upon the minds of men, inspiring them to the working out of this great document of human government, does not alter its authority” (in Conference Report, Apr. 1935, 93).



Doctrine and Covenants 101:80

“Wise men whom I raised up unto this very purpose”

President Brigham Young spoke of some of the men who were instruments in the hands of God to establish the Constitution of the United States:

Brigham Young

“We believe that the Lord has been preparing that when he should bring forth his work, that, when the set time should fully come, there might be a place upon his footstool where sufficient liberty of conscience should exist, that his Saints might dwell in peace under the broad panoply of constitutional law and equal rights. In this view we consider that the men in the Revolution were inspired by the Almighty, to throw off the shackles of the mother government, with her established religion. For this cause were Adams, Jefferson, Franklin, Washington, and a host of others inspired to deeds of resistance to the acts of the King of Great Britain ... in thus establishing a new government upon a principle of greater freedom, a basis of self-government allowing the free exercise of religious worship.

“It was the voice of the Lord inspiring all those worthy men who bore influence in those trying times, not only to go forth in battle but to exercise wisdom in council, fortitude, courage, and endurance in the tented field, as well as subsequently to form and adopt those wise and efficient measures which secured to themselves and succeeding generations, the blessings of a free and independent government” (Discourses of Brigham Young, sel. John A. Widtsoe [1954], 359–60).