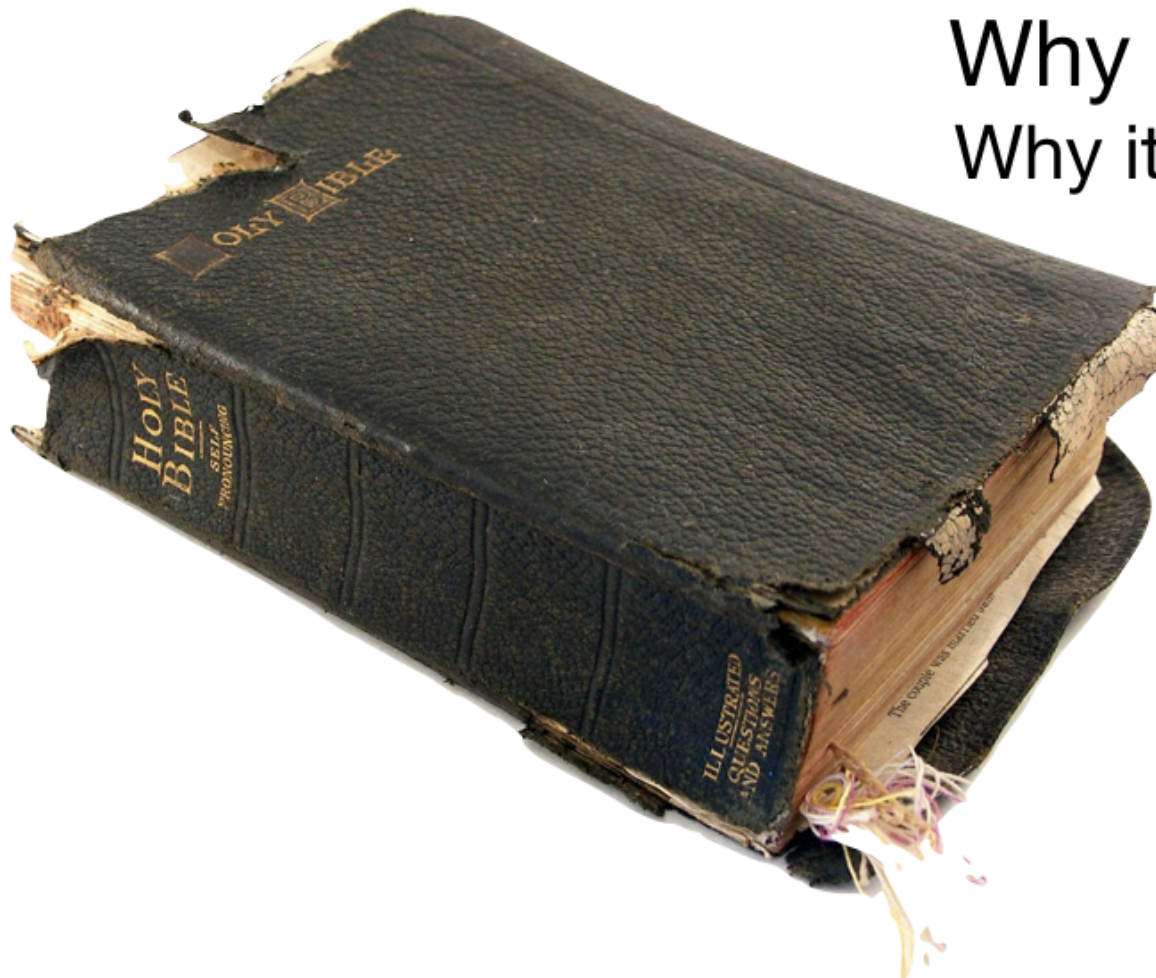


BIBLE ☒

Reliable -
so many copies,
so soon after originals,
so similar to each other,
so supported by archaeology
& external authors.

Revealed -
so continuous and complete,
so many prophecies,
so many timeless truths.
even tells us it is God's Word.



The Amazing Bible
Why it's unique
Why it's important

Bible
Under God
Common Code
of goodness
> Freedom
Reading
Printing
Government
Science
Exploration
Technology
Economy
Society

Tribalism

Why it's unique



Reliable

- Prophecies
- Events
- **Eyewitness Evidence** - Witnesses' own direct experiences (Jn20)
 - Examining, talking, touching, 40 days, (not glimpses) (Jn21)
 - Many witnesses (1Co15)
 - Interested research (Lk1)
 - Disinterested corroboration (1Co, by the way...
 - Hostile witnesses [Saul - nothing to gain, all to lose (Ac22)
 - Persecuted witnesses - nothing to gain, all to lose (Ac8)
- **Careful Copying:** So **many** docs, so **soon** after the events to the copies we have >
 - **Creed** within 0-4 years, 31-35 ad (1Co15)
 - **Sources** within 5-40 years, 40-70 ad (Q,L,M, Paul.
 - **All** New Testament books written within 5-70 years, 40-100 ad
 - **Existing** docs from < 100 years (P52, P90, P104, P98, P46...
- **Scholars Sift:** other ancient writers' references
 - Josephus, Tacitus, Pliny, Talmud
 - 1st century quotes Clement of Rome, Ignatius, Polycarp
 - Archaeological Support [Christ Scene Investigation >
- **Trustworthy Translations** from original languages

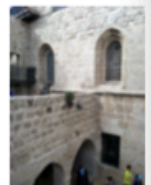
NO ANCIENT TEXT has originals

Ancient Work	Original written	Earliest Existing Copy	How SOON Years from Original to Existing Copy	How MANY # of Ancient Copies now	How SIMILAR
Caesar	58-50 bc	850 ad	900	10 (251)	
Homer (Iliad)	900 bc	415 bc	500	<u>1,900</u>	95.0 %
Thucydides	460-400 bc	250 bc	150	188	
Plato (Tetralogies)	427-347 bc	250 bc	<u>100</u>	238	
Bible (NT)	(31)40-100 ad	<130 ad (Gk) <850 ad (Oth)	<u>< 30</u>	5,856 <u>18,130+</u> <u>23,986+</u>	99.5%

OT MSS: 16,700+
(42,300, but 25,000 >1800.)
- McDowell 2018.

"No other ancient book has anything like such **early** and **plentiful** testimony to its text, and no unbiased scholar would deny that the text that has come down to us is **substantially sound**." - Sir Frederick Kenyon

Josh McDowell. John Dickson. Lee Strobel.



Revelation

- **Continuous Message**

- Coherent wisdom /God /worldview, start-to-finish history despite 1600 years, 66 books, 40 diverse authors, circumstances, literature-types ...

- **Prophecies fulfilled**

J.Barton Payne, *Encyclopedia of Biblical Prophecy*

- 8,362 verses, 1,817 predictions, 737 separate matters
- Messiah: 300 minor, 48 major prophecies (1:10¹⁵⁷)

- **Timeless Truths**

- Human nature, good/bad, love, hate, fear, faith, paradoxes, spiritual dimensions, origins, destinations, salvation, purpose...



- Data fits Biblical hypotheses better reasons.org, creation.com,
- *The Word of God is living and active (He4:12)*

- **Says so about Itself**

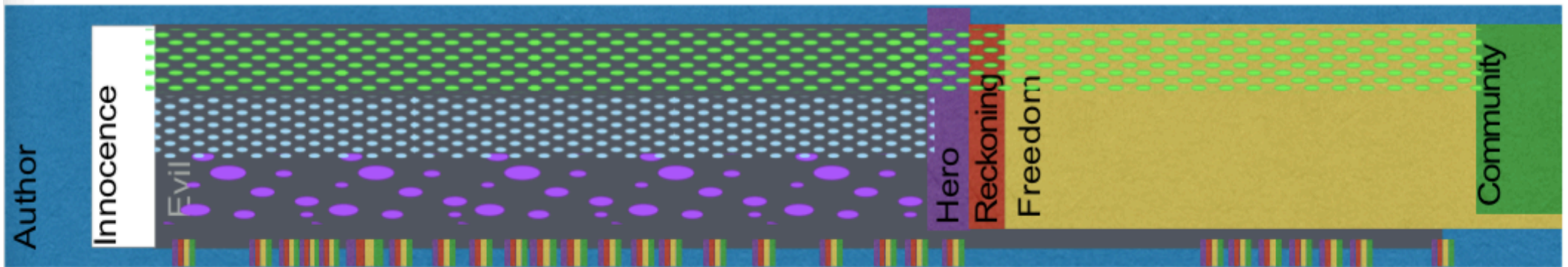
- *And God spoke all these words: (Ex20. Your Word. (Ps119*
- *All Scripture is God-breathed and useful (2Ti3:16*
- *Prophecy never had its origins in humans, but they spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit (2Pe1:21*

Creator Image Satan
LORD God of God & Sin

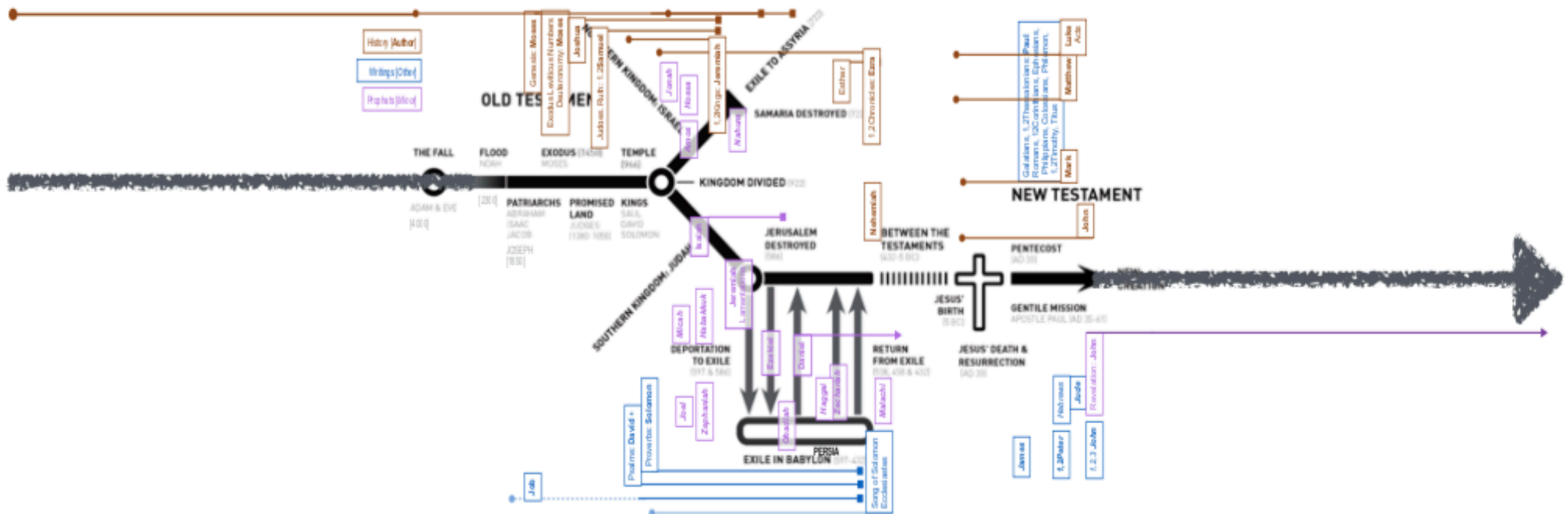
History, Law, Wisdom & Prophets

Son of Cross Spirit
God & Res of God

Second
Coming



Messiah Prophecies: 50 major, 300 minor + second coming



Why it's unique

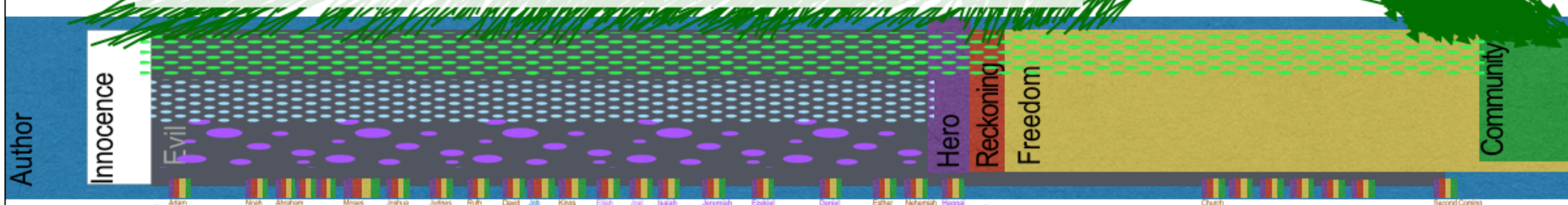
• Prophecies fulfilled

"The Bible is the **only** volume ever produced containing a large number of **prophecies** about *specific individuals, nations, & ...the Messiah.*

Not in the entire gamut of Greek and Latin literature can we find **any** real specific prophecy of a great historic event to come in the future, nor **any** prophecy of a saviour to arise in the human race.

None of the founders of **any** [other religion] ... can identify **any** ancient text specifically foretelling their appearance."

- Wilbur Smith



Gen 22:18 Born from **Abraham's** line. Gal 3:16
 Genesis 21:12 from **Isaac's** line. Luke 3:23-34
 Numbers 24:17 from **Jacob's** line. Luke 3:23-34
 Genesis 49:10 from the tribe of **Judah**. Luke 3:23-34
 Isaiah 11:1 from **Jesse's** line. Luke 3:23-34
 Jeremiah 23:5 from **David's** line. Luke 3:23-34
 Micah 5:2 in **Bethlehem**. Mt 2:1
 Isaiah 9:1 Commence ministry in **Galilee**. Mt 4:12-17
 Hosea 11:1 Out of **Egypt**. Mt 2:14, 15. [Nazarene Mt 2:23]
 Isaiah 40:3 **Announced** by a Prophet. Mt 3:1-2
 Psalm 78:2 Teach in **parables**. Mt 13:34-35
 Isaiah 35:5-6 Perform many **miracles**. Matt 9:35
 Zechariah 9:9 Enter Jerusalem on a **donkey colt**. Mt 21:2
 Malachi 3:1 **Clear** the Temple. Ps 69:9. John 2:15-16
 Psalm 41:9 **Betrayed** by a friend. Mt 26:49
 Zechariah 11:12 **Thirty** silver pieces. Mt 26:15
 Zechariah 11:13 Thrown on Temple floor. Mt 27:5
 ...and used to buy a potter's field. Mt 27:5
 Zechariah 13:7 **Deserted** by his disciples. Mk 14:50
 Psalm 35:11 **Accused** by false witnesses. Mt 26:59-60
 Isaiah 53:7 **Silent** before his accusers. Mt 27:12
 Isaiah 53:5 Wounded and bruised. Mt 27:26
 Psalm 69:4 Hated without a cause. Jn 15:25
 Isaiah 50:6 Struck and **spat** upon. Mt 26:67
 Isaiah 53:3 Mocked, ridiculed, rejected. Mt 27:27-31. Jn 7:5, 48
 Psalm 109:24-25 **Collapse** from weakness. Lk 23:26
 Psalm 22:6-8 Taunted with **specific** words. Mt 27:39-43
 Psalm 109:25 People will shake their heads at him. Mt 27:39
 Psalm 22:17 People will stare at him. Lk 23:35
 Isaiah 53:12 Executed among **sinner**s. Mt 27:38
 Psalm 22:16 Hands and feet will be **pierced**. Lk 23:33

Isaiah 53:12 **Prays** for his persecutors. Lk 23:34
 Psalm 38:11 Friends and family will **stand far off**. Lk 23:49
 Psalm 22:18 Soldiers will **gamble** for his clothes. Jn 19:23-24
 Psalm 69:21 Will **thirst**. Jn 19:28
 ...and be given gall and **vinegar**. Mt 27:34
 Amos 8:9 **Darkness** over the land at midday. Mt 27:45
 Psalm 31:5 **Commits** himself to God. Lk 23:46
 Psalm 34:20 Bones will be left **unbroken**. Jn 19:33
 Psalm 22:14 **Heart** will rupture. Jn 19:34
 Zechariah 12:10 Will be **pierced**, "pour out" grace. Jn 19:34
 Isaiah 53:9 Buried in **rich man's** tomb. Mt 27:57-60
 Daniel 9:24 Will die **483** years after Artaxerxes declared the Temple be rebuilt (in 444BC.)
 Psalm 16:10 **Rise from the dead**. Ps 49:15. Is 26:19. Gospels
 Psalm 68:18 **Ascend** to heaven. Ac 1:9
 Psalm 110:1 Seated at God's **right** hand. Heb 1:3

Messiah Prophecies: 50 major, 300 minor + second coming

Messianic Ruler

- 1,845 references in the Old Testament.
- 17 books give prominence to the event.
- 318 references in the New Testament.
- 216 chapters.
- 23 of 27 books give prominence to the event.
- **For every prophecy of Christ's 1st Coming there are 8 of His 2nd Coming!**

Isaiah 7:14 **Virgin Birth**. Lk 1:27, 34
 Isaiah 9:6, 40:3 **God** among His people. Ex 3:14. Ex 2. Ps 45:6. Zech 12:10. Jn 1. Col 1.
 Daniel 7:13, 8:17 **Son of Man**. Mt 9:6
 Isaiah 53:4-6-12 **Bear all our sins** on his body. 1Pe 2:24
 Exodus 30:10 **Sin offering**. Heb 10:10-12, 18.
 Exodus 12:5. Lev 22:20. Deut 17:1 Without defect. 1Pe 1:19
 Exodus 29:14 Outside the camp. Heb 13:11-13
 Psalm 110:4 Messiah as **Priest**. Heb 8-10
 Genesis 12:2, 3. Saved by **Blessing** thro Abram Ga 3:8.
 Genesis 15:6. Habakuk 2:4. Saved by **trusting**. Ro 3:25-6.4:3.

Why it's important
"Western Culture"

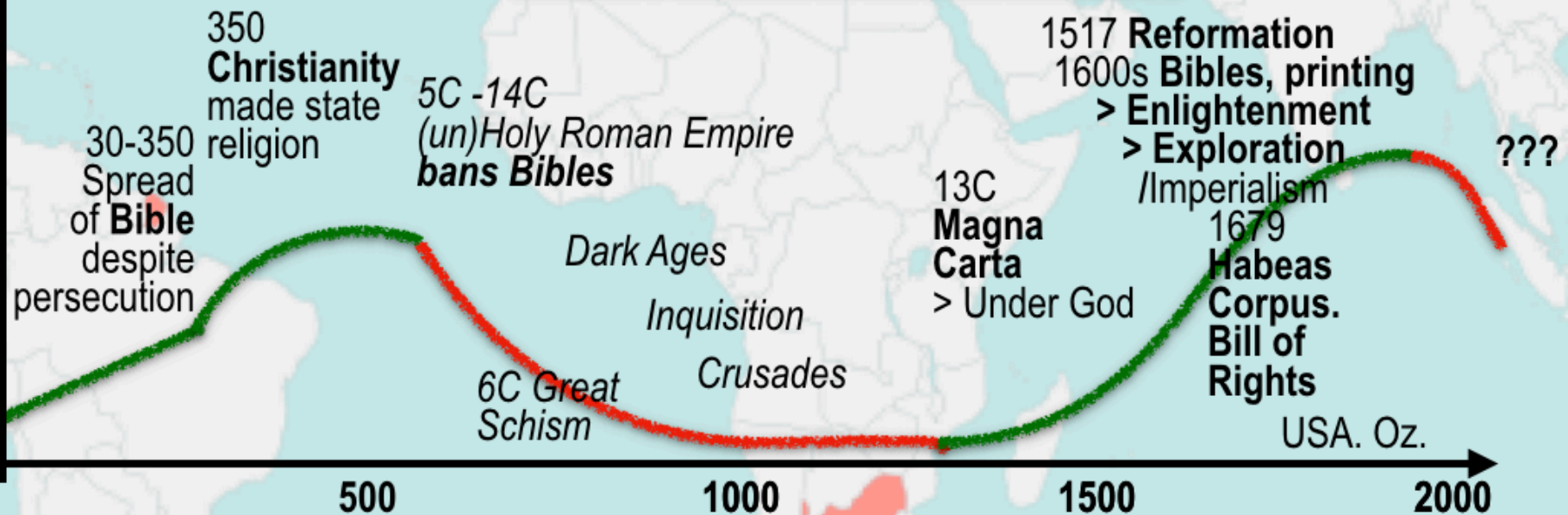


Christianity is the
very root and
foundation of
Western
civilization.

Dinesh D'Souza

meetville.com

Fortunes of Western Culture



A community needs a **soul** if it is to become a true human beings. - JP2

Self-interested Tribalism

Under Self

Dark Ages bad kings

WW1 German/Ottoman
Secular/Muslim Empires

WW2 Nazi/Fascist
Secular Empires

Cold War > Communism

vs "Democracy"
"PEOPLE rule" ???

60's pop culture
+ broadcast tech

Self-interested Tribalism

Why it's important

Under God

good kings

13C Magna Carta

1500s Enlightenment

1679 Habeas Corpus

English Bill of Rights

1776 US Dec of Independ

1901 Aust. Federation

1948 Universal Dec Human Rights

Free Speech, Religion, Voting, Fair trial. "Secular understanding of Judeo-Christian tradition" in conflict with Sharia - 1982 Iranian UN representative



Gen1:27 all made in God's image
Judges/Kings accountable to God
Lev 19:9-11 protect vulnerable
Josh 24:15 free to choose
Lk22:25-7 leaders serve
Ga3:28 all peoples valuable
Co3:11 JC unites all cultures
Re7 all nations in Heaven

Monarch NOT absolute power

All men have Right to Justice

Monarch can't govern Church

State law "under God" - Bracton

Revelation is Scripture **and Nature** (Ro1:20) - Locke

Can't imprison unfairly. **Restrictions on Monarch.** Christianity is parcel of the laws of England - Hale

Constitutional powers divided:

President, Congress, Courts.

"All men endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights."

Division of Powers. "humbly relying on the blessing of Almighty God" - Constitution.
Our laws, our whole system of jurisprudence, our Constitution... are based upon and interwoven with our Christian belief." - Sir Henry Parkes.