America: Principled, Prosperous

Has the constitution become extinct? Shouldn't the government shift with the changing times? In order to find the answers to these and other questions, one must sift through the unchanging vaults of logic and history. When the founding fathers approved the constitution, they had to consider what real freedom was and is. They had to weigh the faults of human nature in the balance of justice. They had to chisel the immovable lines that the government could never cross. The product of this process is the glory of America. The undying principles that the constitution was based on still hold fast.

Furthermore, the system of government outlined in it has shown itself to be effective in years past, and in the present.

The solid principles that founded America are definitely needed today. As always, the citizens of this country are not perfect. Our country needs a base line, a straight-edge that never wavers, with which to judge the ever-changing situations of life. That reference point, put in place by our forefathers, is called the U.S. constitution. A key principle that a government should stick to is accountability for those in authority. Also, the government should treat crimes in such a way that the majority is restricted by neither over-regulation nor uncontrolled crime. Other values, outlined in the constitution itself, must be considered too. The basic needs and operations of society do not change with the calendar. The structure of this great nation, based on the Bible, is not blown aside with a mere breeze. Rock solid values and faith are the springboard from which come liberty and justice for all. When the first pilgrims came here seeking the new world, that's exactly what they were looking for. A new world. A different world. A world where freedom could flourish. America. Our constitution is relevant today, because its principles still stand today.

Secondly, the constitution's success is measured by its durability over time. Just because time has passed does not render something inherently invalid, or valid, for that matter. The real question is this.

Does it work? To find the answer, we must take a journey into the past. Throughout history, whenever unconstitutional ideas are put into practice, trouble takes off. Sometimes the best way to test such a proposition is to take it to the extreme. Please consider the following examples. If pre-World War Two Germany had operated under the U.S. constitution, the holocaust could never have taken place. It would have been stopped before it started, because the government would not have had the power to search houses and arrest citizens without justifiable cause. Next, let us imagine that pre-revolution France was operating under the U.S. constitution. If that was the case, a mob of infuriated commoners would not have taken the desperate action they did. In fact, they wouldn't have needed to. Why? because the freedom of oppression aristocrats took advantage of would never have been theirs to wield. The purpose of this far-fetched train of thought is by no means to suggest some sort of American-born one world government. It is simply to illustrate a point. When constitutional thought is pushed aside, "anything goes" becomes the monarch's boast, or the people's battle cry. When constitutional thought is embraced, it leads to things like free enterprise, the end of slavery, and a thriving nation. Clearly, the constitution has passed the test of time with flying colors; those colors are red, white and blue.

As previously illustrated, the constitution is relevant because of its sound principles and effectiveness when taken as authority. Without it, the spirit of America would be lost. John Milton once remarked, "None can love freedom heartily but good men. The rest love not freedom, but license." Without the constitution, one would have license to do anything, but freedom to do nothing. Unconstitutional meddling can seem to produce in the present a "change for the better." However, when placed in the wrong hands, the power to disregard the constitution can ruin a nation with disturbing celerity. The principles that our forefathers strove to ingrain into the constitution should be recognized as the rudder that steers our government. Also, the constitution should be trusted because of

its tried and true credentials. But yet, the question remains. Is the constitution extinct? Pointless?

Obsolete? Of course not. The document, inspired by Godly principles and instated by unqualified firebrands still stands triumphant. It is our duty to give it its due. After all, it is America's principles that have made her great.