

The American Spectator

1611 North Kent Street, Suite 901, Arlington, VA 22209
Ph: 703-807-2011 / Fx: 703-807-2013 / www.spectator.org

An Introduction to the Individual Liberty Essay Series

The Future of Individual Liberty: Elevating the Human Condition and Overcoming the Challenges to Free Societies

Thanks to a generous grant from The John Templeton Foundation, *The American Spectator* is publishing a series of articles on the components of individual liberty as it evolved in the West and the state of individual liberty in the future – not only in the West but in the rest of the world.

The questions to be answered are: first, whether Christianity was necessary for the genesis of the idea of individual liberty in the West and, second, whether Christianity is necessary for its survival.

This is a ten-part series to be published over the course of a year by respected writers and thinkers on the subject of the components of individual liberty, its origins, and the influence that the ideals developed over centuries in the Christian World had on its development.

Although the primary focus will be on the state of Christianity in those parts of the world where individual liberty has flourished, particularly Europe and North America, we will take a secondary look at the relationship between individual liberty and Christianity in such places as South America and Asia.

We will also look at parts of the world where individual liberty has not been a major factor, particularly the Muslim world and the relationship there between Islam and liberty. Finally, as Christianity flourishes in Africa, we will explore whether such growth has had any impact on the development of individual liberty, and also whether the conflict in Somalia and the Sudan typifies the existential confrontation between Christianity and Islam.

The American Spectator is also partnering with several leading foundations and think tanks that champion the ideals of individual liberty in the world. We are providing digital copies of the

essay series to their members and stakeholders. These organizations have a vast network of opinion leaders, many of whom are within the top echelons of government, business, academia, and policy development. Moreover, these same organizations have an extremely large cadre of supporters, readers, and student activists who we believe would be receptive to such a series; disseminating additional knowledge about the topic and thus fostering a greater appreciation of individual liberty as a force for good in the world.

About *The American Spectator*

In 1967, R. Emmett Tyrrell, Jr. started a student review called *The Alternative* on the campus of Indiana University in response to the campus influence of the radical Students for a Democratic Society. Quickly growing into a national publication, it soon became *The American Spectator* and moved to Washington, DC.

Today *The American Spectator* is one of the nation's most respected and influential journals of conservative opinion. In its 40-year history *The American Spectator* has discovered and published young journalists of consequence – many of whom now write for national news publications, hold leadership positions at leading conservative and libertarian think tanks, and serve in the highest levels of government.

Its combination of outrageous humor and thoughtful commentary draws a loyal following among opinion leaders, policymakers, students on college campuses, and thoughtful Americans everywhere who are interested in advancing political ideas. The magazine and its online edition are supported by The American Spectator Foundation, which is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization based in Arlington, Virginia.