Answer Key
for U.S. History to 1877

Answers for *America: The Last Best Hope*,
Assumptions that Affect Our Lives,
Never Before in History,
and *Under God*

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AMERICA: THE LAST BEST HOPE

Introduction – page *xi*

This book was written for six reasons:

1. Instill hope – The author believes America continues to be the world's best hope, but only if its citizens uphold its ideals.
2. Rekindle appreciation for America's founding values – by reintroducing the joys of understanding American history.
3. Inspire gratitude – toward the multitudes who lived those American ideals, even if it cost them their lives.
4. Tell the truth about U.S. history – a balanced view as a "loving critic," acknowledging both failures and successes.
5. Encourage a new patriotism – informed, reflective, and reasoned
6. Encourage Americans to fall in love with their country – and the American Dream.

Stamping Out Unfair Taxes – page 1

- Franklin's family in danger after consenting to the Stamp Act
  - Stamp Act = "unconstitutional"

Big question argued: do colonial legislatures have the right to tax colonists? British Tyranny?

- Unity in opposition, Americans KNOW their rights

- External tax > internal tax

lots of tax evasion due to import tax, "Writs of Assistance" issued to stop this

Boston becomes tense

Boston Massacre leads to lots of controversy, even between family

Example 2

Student answers may be much shorter.

1765 – In an effort to pay off the debt and to offset the annual cost of governing the colonies, Parliament imposed a tax in the American colonies on almost everything that was written or printed. This was called the Stamp Act because printed materials on which the tax was paid were stamped. Colonists were outraged because the tax had been passed in Parliament without their consent or representation.

In Virginia, Patrick Henry delivered a fiery speech in the House of Burgesses condemning the Stamp Act and introduced resolutions asserting only elected colonial assemblies could impose taxes. This set off widespread resistance to the Stamp Act. Colonists protested across the continent, targeting tax collectors and staging demonstrations. In October, nine colonies met at the Stamp Act Congress, issuing a Declaration of Rights affirming their rights as Englishmen and rejecting taxation without representation.

NEVER BEFORE IN HISTORY

You should not expect your answers to be word-for-word copies of the ones presented below. Simply read and think about the answers provided as if you were having a discussion with your teacher.

Pages i, v-vi, 1-11a

Preface

1. What is one of the primary changes that occurred in the past century in the viewpoints of authors of American History textbooks?
   American history has become a history of diversity, with Christianity being one of many equally important influences in its founding and development. p. v

2. What is the authors' purpose for *Never Before in History*?
   Their purpose is to offer compelling evidence, by citing original documents, that Christianity was the major influence on the founding and development of America. p. vi

3. How would the authors respond to the statement, "Christianity had a minimal influence on the Founding Fathers"?
   While it is true that Greek, Roman, Renaissance, and Enlightenment sources influenced the Founding Fathers, by far the greatest impact on their thinking and worldview was Christianity. It influenced their educational philosophy, their love of science, and their understanding of law and rights. p. vi

Unit One Introduction

1. How was the Magna Carta derived from Pope Gregory VII's reforms?
   Pope Gregory's reforms limited state power by denying political rulers the right to control the church. The Magna Carta extended this thought to the rights of citizens. p. 5

Unit One Chapter One: The Reformation's Role in Advancing Political and Religious Liberty

Martin Luther

1. What is meant by "liberty of conscience"?
   A person should be free to follow his own conscience in religious matters. p. 7

Under God

Introduction

Do you remember what you have read? p. *xx*

1. Our nation is under God's rule and under God's care. p. *xiv*

2. You promise to be loyal, faithful, and obedient to the republic. p. *xvii*

For further thought p. *xx*

1. We stand at attention to show respect.

2. Answers will vary. Some Christians do not feel any conflict between their ultimate obedience to Christ and their pledging obedience to the republic. Other Christians feel they cannot legitimately pledge obedience to any entity without violating their allegiance to God.

Chapter 1

Do you remember what you have read? p. 6

1. Authority is the right to command and to be obeyed. p. 2

2. God has the right of supreme authority over the world because authority is inherently a part of His divinity and because He created the world and all that is in it. p. 2

3. The four main spheres of authority are the home, the school, the church, and the state. pp. 2-4

4. As you mature, the authority of the home and school diminishes, and the authority of the state and church increases. pp. 4-5

For further thought p. 6

1. Answers will vary.

2. According to Acts 5:29, Christians must obey God when the laws of God and the laws of the state conflict.

3. Because all spheres of authority rest within the realm of God's authority, there are no blank spaces in which there is no authority over us.

4. Answers will vary. In the Scriptures we see that God sometimes allowed the Israelites to be oppressed as a form of discipline. However, there may have been other reasons as well. Some Bible scholars have pointed out that the domination of Rome in the first century actually aided the spread of the Gospel because of good roads and safe travel. A Christian's response to an oppressive government will vary. In the book of Romans, Paul advocates submission. However, in other times in history, Christians have felt Acts 5:29 compelled them to attempt to change the government through political means or rebellion.

5. Answers will vary.

6. According to Acts 5:29, Christians must obey God when the laws of God and the laws of the state conflict. However, many times we confuse our *interpretation* of God's law with God's actual law. God's law is always correct; our interpretation of what the Bible says may be flawed. Hence, such disobedience to the state should be weighed carefully. In addition, from numerous Biblical examples we see that obeying God's laws over the laws of the state results in punishment by the state. This should be neither surprising nor resented since the Biblical characters accepted and rejoiced in similar circumstances.

7. a. State
   b. Home
   c. School
   d. State
   e. Church or God
   f. Church
   g. State
   h. Home
   i. State
   j. State

ASSUMPTIONS THAT AFFECT OUR LIVES

You should not expect your answers to be word-for-word copies of the ones presented below. Simply read and think about the answers provided as if you were having a discussion with your teacher.

Chapter One: From Athens to Jerusalem

Key People, Places, and Concepts

The role of assumptions in the decisions we make
Our decisions are based on our assumptions. From turning off a light because you assume no one is in the room to the more fatal act of the Lady Be Good*, assumptions influence actions. p. 11*

The West as a cultural mixture of Hebrew and Greek assumptions
The European-American heritage, commonly called the West, is a descendent of the Roman Empire which adopted much of its worldview from Greece. However, the influence of Christianity and its Scriptures infused a Hebrew worldview into the West. Thus, both Hebrew and Greek assumptions have influenced the Western worldview. p. 14

The cultural signs of moral decay
- *People, especially the educated ones, have rejected traditional religion.*
- *Cults from the East have been accepted.*
- *Astrology is practiced.*
- *Etc. pp. 19-20*

The importance of questioning our assumptions
Our assumptions affect our decisions. If our presuppositions are incorrect, the decisions we make will be incorrect as well. However, if we question our assumptions and discover they are wrong, then we can change our actions. p. 12

The similarities between decadent Greece and the present
Present-day America and Greece in the last stages of its decline share many commonalities as listed on pp. 19-20.

The primary contributions of the Greeks to our culture
Greek thought shaped our ground rules for philosophy, science, politics, education, competitive sports, and creative arts. p. 14

The primary contributions of the Hebrews to our culture
Hebrew thought shaped our concepts of morality, law, and ethics. p. 14

For Further Thought and Discussion

(Note: The student and the parent/teacher should discuss these questions orally. Possible answers are provided as a guide. They should not be viewed as the only answers. The parent/teacher is encouraged to read the chapter if possible.)

1. *may be omitted*

2. *The decisions we make today are based on our presuppositions about the world around us. Those presuppositions were formed in and are inherited from the past. Thus we can understand the present better by first understanding the past. Many in America believe democracy is the best form of government and is the form of government toward which every nation should aspire. This idea is influenced by Greek thought.*

3. *Today it is almost unthinkable to question the concept of two-income families; yet prior to WWII, two-income families were most uncommon. With the advent of two-income families, costs began to rise. Because two incomes could buy a larger and more expensive house than one could, houses became larger and more expensive. Because*