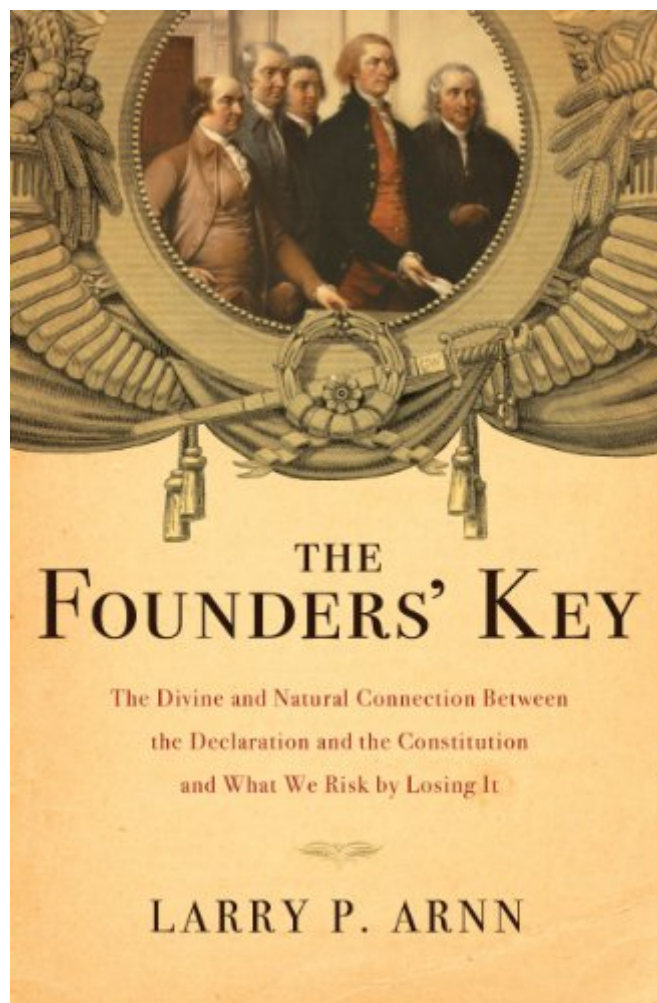




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The Founders' Key: The Divine And Natural Connection Between The Declaration And The Constitution And What We Risk By Losing It



Synopsis

Today the integrity and unity of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution are under attack by the Progressive political movement. And yet, writes Larry P. Arnn: “The words of the Declaration of Independence ring across the ages. The arrangements of the Constitution have a way of organizing our actions so as to produce certain desirable results, and they have done this more reliably than any governing instrument in the history of man. Connect these arrangements to the beauty of the Declaration and one has something inspiring and commanding.”

From Chapter 2, “The Founders”

Key Dr. Arnn, president of Hillsdale College, reveals this integral unity of the Declaration and the Constitution. Together, they form the pillars upon which the liberties and rights of the American people stand. United, they have guided history’s first self-governing nation, forming our government under certain universal and eternal principles.

Unfortunately, the effort to redefine government to reflect “the changing and growing social order” has gone very far toward success. Politicians such as Franklin Roosevelt found ways to condemn and discard the Constitution and to redefine the Declaration to justify government without limit. As a result, both documents have been weakened, their influence diminished, and their meaning obscured—paving the way for the modern administrative state, unaccountable to the will of the people. The Founders’ Key is a powerful call to rediscover the connection between these two mighty documents, and thereby restore our political faith and revive our free institutions.

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Customer Reviews

I consider myself to be reasonably astute, but reading 200 year old "legalese" was particularly vexing. I would have appreciated more "translation". It did cause me to look more closely at these historical documents

This very cogently written book far exceeded my initial expectations! First and foremost this is a well written, very easy to understand volume in a subject area, American Civics, that would normally be expected to send the reader deep into sleep approaching a coma state! Second, I must say it's a wonderful, highly educational read! Third, IF it were up to me -- it would be required reading for every senior in high school and then again in college!

Larry Arn writes a masterful account of our Constitution and the flawed men who created it. This document, almost semi-sacred, tells us our rights are not "state or ruler" created, but from the Creator. One of the best passages Arn writes comes from historian Joseph Ellis who states in chapter three, that; "the Constitution is conservative and the Declaration is liberal." This book is an important read for those constitutional students who now see this document, which like the Bible has a literal translation. In this time of change, and the progressive ideology which has developed over the past century, this book is very important. The movement is subtle to change the Constitution and make it a "living" document. The truth is set in stone and cannot be changed. Humankind's heart is corrupt and likes to make our failings (i.e. sins) palatable. Arn's first chapter's heading is perfect, "Eternal, Yet New."

The Constitution is a remarkable document in its own right, but Larry Arn makes a critical observation. The Constitution on its own is insufficient to communicate the complete essence of the

Founder's own understanding of the great experiment which they had formally undertaken in 1776. To paraphrase, as remarkable as the Constitution is, it is incomplete without the Declaration of Independence. If the Constitution is the by-laws of the new Republic, the Declaration, with its acknowledgement of unalienable Rights from a Creator, is the mission, or the Vision statement. Our Republic needs both.

Excellent for understanding the meanings and purposes of our country's founding documents. While they are often portrayed as separate and independent, the Founders' Key points out that they were both the products of a long ongoing discussion between our founding fathers of what governance should NOT be (in the Declaration of Independence, where it lists the crimes of King George III) and what it SHOULD be (as defined by the Constitution). The links between the two documents can be seen even more strongly by reviewing contemporaneous ones developed by the same people or close collaborators thereof, such as the Virginia Declaration of Rights, Virginia's 1776 Constitution, and the 1780 Massachusetts Constitution. The Declaration of Independence was a call to throw off a repressive government and establish a new one, where free men govern themselves. While the first answer to that call, the Articles of Confederation, was flawed, the experience of our Founding Fathers in observing both its operation and that of the governments of the 13 colonies put them in a special position -- possibly unique in all time -- to watch 14 experiments in governance in action. On the basis of what they observed, they proposed, in the form of our Constitution, a new structure for governance that kept the good things observed while correcting the flaws.

Knowing something (more) about our history is always good to know when we are repeating mistakes, even though I have no power to do anything about it.

Every natural born citizen and every immigrant seeking to take advantage of the most desirable governmental environment in the world needs to understand the "why" and "what" of the federalist structure that has allowed the United States of America to become the acknowledged beacon of freedom. This book provides a core knowledge of the fundamentals of our style of government and that knowledge should be mandatory for both supporters and critics of our constitutional form of government. Sadly few students and fewer immigrants have even the most basic understanding of our form of government and of comparative optional structures. This book can solve that deficiency.

If you like to refresh yourself with our history of the founding fathers this is a good place to start. It

gives you a better understanding of our founders wisdom and debates in the politics of the day which is also reflective of todays politics and who we are as a nation. Mr. Arnn is also the President of Hilesdale college. They offer free courses over the internet if you would like to dig deeper in our history and why and how our system of government works.

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