

SLIDE	NOTES
1	In this module, we discuss the safeguards to our liberty, and our role in protecting our freedoms.
2	<p><b>Quote</b> President John Taylor</p> <p><b>Anim:</b></p> <p>Q: So, how do we go about maintaining all these correct principles, and sustaining these glorious principles of liberty?</p> <p>We must understand and use the safeguards that the Lord has inspired to be implemented in the first place.</p>
3	<p><b>Three Safeguards</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Fortunately, there are 3 inspired safeguards to protect against this creeping tearing down of Constitutional principles.</li> <li>* Those who can name the three American safeguards of religious freedom, in their appropriate primacy order are those who are best prepared to defend and uphold these safeguards in the face of an ever growing assault on religious freedom.</li> </ul> <p><b>Anim1: Wedding Cake</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Much has been said regarding political lawsuits over wedding cakes and religious freedom...</li> <li>* So let's picture a 3-tier wedding cake as an easy way to think of these three American safeguards</li> <li>* The three safeguards in descending order are:</li> </ul> <p><b>Anim2: The bill of rights:</b> "A written guarantee"</p> <p><b>Anim3: A Constitutional Republic:</b> "A structural guarantee"</p> <p><b>Anim4: A Moral Majority:</b> "A foundational guarantee"</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Notice that each of these American safeguards of political liberty <i>AND</i> religious freedom represent three distinct kinds of guarantees.</li> <li>* The first: "written guarantee" resting atop the second: "structural guarantee," resting atop the third or "foundational guarantee" puts the 3-tier primacy of these guarantees in their proper place.</li> </ul> <p>We will review each of these 3 guarantees beginning with the "written guarantee."</p>
4	<p><b>Written Guarantees Statement</b></p> <p><b>Anim1: Legal Document Examples</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Birth certificates, marriage certificates, mortgage deeds and car titles come immediately to mind.</li> <li>* Even something as mundane as a purchased movie ticket is a written document of rights.</li> <li>* There can be no written guarantee if the meaning of the words change with evolving popular re-definition. Now you see the importance of an originalist perspective. There is no guarantee of anything without fixed meaning of the original intent.</li> </ul> <p>Q: So what "written guarantee," can we point to in defense of our religious freedom?</p> <p><b>Anim2: Quote</b> The Bill of Rights comes directly from the first two clauses of the First Amendment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Constitutional scholars refer to these first two "written guarantees" or clauses as the "establishment clause" and the "free exercise clause."</li> <li>* As highly valued and magnificent as the Bill of Rights is, we must not forget that this "written guarantee" is the most frail and least substantial of the three American safeguards.</li> <li>* Without the other two safeguards in place our Bill of Rights could not stand alone.</li> </ul>

	<p>* If anyone doubts the importance of further “structural guarantees” underlying, and enforcing our “written guarantees,” then as an existential proof try this simple but deadly experiment:</p>
5	<p><b>Frailty of Written Guarantees</b>  <b>Read Statement</b>  <b>Anim1:</b> One-Way Ticket Statement  <b>Anim2:</b> Q: Ask yourself what is missing in these authoritarian regimes?</p>
6	<p><b>Structural Guarantees</b>          * What is missing in these authoritarian regimes is our second safeguard, a correct structural guarantee, or what we call a Constitutional Republic, based on individual natural rights.</p> <p><b>Anim1:</b> Statement  <b>Anim2:</b> Founding Fathers</p> <p>* The inspired nature of the Constitution consists in the ingenious way the Constitution was structured. Never before had such “a structural guarantee” been devised.          * So important was this “structural guarantee” to the Framers of the Constitution that they put off the “written guarantee” or Bill of Rights until after the Constitution had been ratified.          * This Constitutional Republic was no small accomplishment and was an unparalleled achievement well worth our examining.</p> <p><b>Anim3:</b> There are actually Two Structural Guarantees setup by the Founding Fathers.</p>
7	<p><b>Structural Guarantees</b>          * These two structural guarantees are designed to protect our individual liberties by preventing the centralization of an all-powerful government.          * The Framers and Ratifiers of the Constitution knew that no Bill of Rights or “written guarantee” would stand in the way of an all-powerful centralized government.          * So they did everything possible to prevent this potential monopoly of governmental powers from falling into the hands of a despotic and ruling class.</p> <p><b>Anim1:</b> Federalism          * The first structural guarantee is called Federalism.          * Federalism is the dispersing of overall government power horizontally with the individual States balancing out the Federal government.</p> <p><b>Anim2:</b> Federal Separation of Powers          * The second structural guarantee is the separation of Federal powers.          * "Separation of powers" is the dispersing of Federal government itself into 3 separate sources of power.          * By separating the 3, it makes it three smaller beasts each keeping an eye on each other, instead of one giant beast keeping an eye on we the people.          * This is all designed to limit the power of the representative government from becoming tyrannical.</p> <p><b>Anim3:</b> Check and Balances          * This dispersion of federal powers involves checks and Balances on each of the three branches of government.          * The Framers and Ratifiers of the Constitution were so fearful of despotism that they provided for numerous Checks and Balances as additional “structural guarantees” throughout the Federal System.          * All these various “structural guarantees” are what makes America a Constitutional Republic.          * The addition of a Bill of Rights or “written guarantee” is simply further evidence of the seriousness of the Founders insistence upon safe-guarding our individual rights and liberties.</p>

	<p>If we see the inspired checks and balances begin to stop working, we should all be alarmed and intervene politically to fix it.</p>
8	<p><b>Foundational Guarantees</b></p> <p>Even with the establishment of a Constitutional Republic the Founders knew that one more indispensable element was needed to truly safe-guard our freedoms.</p> <p><b>Anim1: Moral Majority</b></p> <p>The “foundational guarantee” of a moral majority is the most important of our three American safeguards.</p> <p>* As Ben Franklin left Independence Hall on the final day of the Constitutional Convention 1787, he was approached by a Philadelphia woman who asked Dr. Franklin:</p> <p><b>Anim2: Quote Philadelphia Woman</b></p> <p><b>Anim3: Quote Ben Franklin</b></p> <p>* The Founding Fathers were well aware that no “written guarantee” or even “structural guarantee” without a moral or “foundational guarantee” underlying the entire superstructure would ever stand.</p> <p>Our first ever President in his first inaugural address confirmed that any government policy rests upon private morality of the citizens.</p> <p><b>Anim4: Quote George Washington</b></p> <p><b>Anim5: Quote George Washington</b></p> <p>Washington understood that all our liberties rest ultimately on the state of individual citizens.</p> <p><b>Anim6: Quote John Adams said</b></p> <p>* What this means is that our Constitutional Republic and Bill of Rights depend upon the moral character of the American people.</p> <p>* Without a moral people, no society is governable, no matter how many police you put out on the streets to enforce things.</p> <p><b>Q: What constitutes a moral majority? Morality based on what?</b></p> <p>* Morality must be based on some standard of Ethics. You must have ethics right in order to get your politics right.</p> <p>* It should be clear by now that the Social Good definition of justice (which is based on the Duty Ethics of others over self) is not compatible with the Natural Rights definition of justice (which is based on Value Ethics with happiness as the end goal).</p> <p><b>Q: What happens if your foundational guarantee is based on the wrong ethics?</b></p> <p>This is a Big issue... You simply cannot get the right politics based on the wrong ethical foundation. The first thing to do is get ethics right (the ethics of happiness as opposed to the ethics of duty), and then secondly, defend natural rights with a proper moral foundation.</p>
9	<p><b>Book of Mormon</b></p> <p>* Like our Founding Fathers, the Book of Mormon prophets, left us with both a promise and a warning. Herein lies the warning:</p> <p><b>Anim1: Quote Mosiah 29:26-27</b></p> <p>* The judgments of God are not him sending down fire and brimstone. It is reality or anti-reality principles coming home to roost. By choosing iniquity we choose anti-reality, destroying ourselves when reality asserts itself.</p> <p><b>Q: Is choosing the Social Good definition of justice choosing iniquity?</b></p> <p>Yes. If we do so, we are literally choosing our own destruction by choosing a political practice that tramples on individual rights and has proven itself to be destructive time and time again.</p> <p>* If the time ever comes when "We the People" cease to be, it will be due to:</p> <p>1st: Citizens ceasing to be vigilant (strike one)</p> <p>2nd: Ceasing to revere the Constitution as a divinely inspired document (strike two)</p>

	<p>And 3rd: Ceasing to be a virtuous people (strike three you're out)</p> <p><b>Q: How many of these warnings do you think have been checked?</b></p> <p>(1) Are the majority a virtuous people?</p> <p>(2) Are the majority a vigilant people?</p> <p>(3) Are the majority a people who continue to revere the constitution?</p> <p>There can be pockets of virtuous people, but if they put in the wrong representatives into positions of power it cancels out the moral majority.</p> <p>Herein lies the divine promise:</p> <p><b>Anim2: Quote 2 Nephi 1:7</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Notice the Conditional Nature of the promise.</li> <li>* The promise is that as long as "We the People" are             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) a virtuous people</li> <li>(2) a vigilant people jealously guarding our liberties, and</li> <li>(3) a people who continue to revere our standard of liberty (The Constitution) as a divinely inspired document ...</li> </ol> </li> </ul> <p>This land will be blest unto us.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Ultimately then, a virtuous and principled Moral Majority of American citizens is the "foundational guarantee" upon which all our liberties rest — including our freedom of religion.</li> <li>* In fact, the "foundational guarantee" could just as easily have been called "the land of promise guarantee" or the "Book of Mormon guarantee" or even "the Lord's guarantee," for it all comes down to the same thing.</li> <li>* If the majority of the American people remain righteous, liberty and prosperity are assured, if, however, the majority of the American people are far more wicked than righteous, then we shall perish.</li> <li>* Those who know this are those who will know how best to defend political liberty and religious freedom in the face of an ever growing tyranny.</li> <li>* The best defense of our rights and freedoms is—"the pure and immutable principles of private morality."</li> </ul> <p><b>Q: What does this mean for us personally? How do we go about fulfilling our responsibility to protect the freedoms embodied in the Constitution?</b></p>
10	<p><b>POSITIVE ENGAGEMENT</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* It means positive engagement from us.</li> <li>* This should encourage each of us to speak up, and engage respectfully in the political process, when our values are under attack.</li> </ul> <p><b>Anim1: Quote Elder Cook</b></p> <p><b>Anim2: Quote Elder Cook</b></p>
11	<p><b>POSITIVE ENGAGEMENT</b></p> <p><b>Video Elder Oaks</b></p>
12	<p>Questions?</p>