

*GOD'S HAND IN THE
BUILDING OF AMERICA
Volume I*



Hook Dates of American History from
King John to President George H. Bush



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God's Hand in the Building of America Volume I

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Dear Parents, Teachers, and Students,

Welcome to the study course entitled, "God's Hand in the Building of America."

This is one of the most exciting research projects we have ever undertaken. For the past number of years, American History textbook writers have spent a considerable amount of time and money carefully taking out of our history books all references to the Creator. Actually, this was done to accommodate judges and politicians who have mandated these deletions so that public school classrooms would be free from religious biases and prejudices.

For students of American history, however, removing the references to God's influence in America was a real travesty. As Dr. Steiner of Germany said a number of years ago, "Perhaps no other country in the world can visibly show the direct influence of the Creator in its history as can America." (Rudof Steiner, *The Philosophy of Freedom*, Eng. Trans., 1964, p. 121),

In this manual, many stories and events are included which clearly demonstrate that God's hand was truly in the building of America. Every student who completes this course will have a greater appreciation of the majesty and magnitude of this great nation.

Using a method originated by the renowned author and teacher, W. Clean Skousen, we have incorporated the unique method of studying history called "hook dates." Benjamin Franklin encouraged this same approach when he wrote:

"Let [students] begin to read history, after having got by heart a short table of the principal *epochas* in chronology...[and award] little prizes or other small encouragements to those who are able to give the best account of what they have read, as to times, places, names of persons, etc. This will make them read with attention, and imprint the history well in their memories."
(*Albert Henry Smyth, Ed, The Writings of Benjamin Franklin, New York, The Macmillan Company, 1905-7, vol.3:25; quote written in 1750*)

Using "hook dates" makes it very easy for you to organize and compile historical events into your mind. Like a computer, all other knowledge can be "hooked" onto the dates with amazing accuracy, ease, and quickness.

In addition to learning the overview of history with the hook dates, it is important for you to understand that "history is God's dealings with mankind, and mankind's dealings with each other." This concept makes history important and sacred. When you begin to learn history with this kind of understanding, you will recognize that many Biblical prophecies dealing with America are actually being fulfilled in your own lifetime. Your self-worth will soar when the you see how important you are in God's plan during this pre-Millennia} era!

How to Use This Guidebook

Step One: Prepare a History Notebook. Obtain a 3-ring binder with a slip-in cover. Create a cover picture for your binder. Make it colorful. Write your name somewhere on this page. You will need about 100 sheets of lined paper for taking notes as you study this volume.

Step Two: Memorize the Ten Hook Dates. Turn to the page in this manual where the ten "hook dates" are listed and memorize them. These can be rehearsed aloud as a class, or memorized on your own. You should know them so well that you can recite them forwards and backwards. Review them every day until you can recite them without a mistake.

Step Three: Memorize the Ten Key Personalities. The next page shows the *key personalities* associated with each hook date. Adding a key personality to the hook date activates both hemispheres of the brain, as left-brain *facts* are attached to key *people* of the past. With this connection, the hook-date will then begin to have *meaning*. After you have memorized the key personalities, rehearse them aloud along with the hook-dates.

Step Four: Memorize the Key Events. The next page adds the *key event* to each hook date and key personality. When these are thoroughly memorized, you will have a good overview of the entire period of American history.

Step Five: Study each date thoroughly. Now you are ready to begin attaching a larger amount of information to each hook date. Read the information about the hook date, then choose from the Learning Projects suggested at the end of each hook-date section. You may wish to do further research from other resources. Study each hook date for approximately one week and be sure to take good notes. Remember that those who wish to graduate from the Glenn J. Kimber Academies will be writing a thesis using the facts and information recalled from your own written notes.

Step Six: Review Often. You will want to constantly be on alert for additional information which you can include in your notebook about a particular subject you are studying. Before long, you will notice that your knowledge on one date will begin to overlap the time period of another date, and your intelligence and depth of understanding of American history will be enlarged until you can actually teach it!

By following these six steps, God's Hand in the building of America – the truth about our country's history – will truly *come alive* for you!

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The Ten American History Hook-dates

1215

1492

1607

1776

1787

1830

1913

1945

1957

1991

The Ten American History Hook dates And Key Personalities

1215	King John
1492	Columbus
1607	John Smith
1776	Thomas Jefferson
1787	George Washington
1830	Andrew Jackson
1913	Woodrow Wilson
1945	Dwight D. Eisenhower
1957	John Dewey
1991	George H. Bush

The Ten American History Hook-dates, Personalities, and Key Events

1215	King John	Magna Charta
1492	Columbus	Discovery of America
1607	John Smith	Settle of Jamestown
1776	Thomas Jefferson	America Declares Independence
1787	George Washington	Structuring a Constitution
1830	Andrew Jackson	The Age of Reform
1913	Woodrow Wilson	America Re-evaluates
1945	Eisenhower	America Defends Herself
1957	John Dewey	Experimenting With Education
1991	George H. Bush	Islamic Terrorists Invade the World

1215

King John

The Magna Charta



Setting the Stage for the Building of America

(From W. Cleon Skousen, "Personal Notes and Research")

INTRODUCTION: The establishment of the American system of government would have been virtually impossible if the Roman Civil Law of Europe had succeeded in taking over the western hemisphere. And it almost did. The 1500s were dominated almost exclusively by the Spanish who imposed the "law of the ruler" wherever they went. During the 1600s the French blunted the northward expansion of the Spanish, but they, too, imposed the civil law or "law of the ruler" wherever they went.

It was only in the 1700s that the English succeeded in pushing the political power of France out of North America and instituting the principles of Common Law liberties and representative government up and down the northern portion of the American continent. The coming of Common Law to the western hemisphere is an important part of the Constitutional story.

Events in Europe before Columbus's Discovery of America

The Vikings: Beginning around 1000 A.D., small bands of European explorers began moving out across the world. It was at this time that the restless Norsemen went sailing in open vessels to Iceland and finally discovered Greenland. Eric the Red then established a colony there. His son, Leif Ericson, made a trip to Norway from Greenland and on his return voyage became lost and accidentally landed in a

new fertile territory which he called Vinland. It turned out that the Norsemen had reached the North American continent nearly 500 years before Columbus. However, nothing came of these notable

discoveries because within a few years the Norwegian settlements in both Greenland and Vinland were abandoned.

The Crusades: By 1098 A.D. another exploratory adventure had begun. Europeans from Germany, France and England were moving by water and land toward ancient Palestine in a series of Christian Crusades designed to rescue the holy city of Jerusalem from the Mohammedans. Returning Crusaders brought back with them samples of the affluent culture of the Middle East including rich spices, beautiful silks, carefully-cut jewels and descriptions of houses and living conditions which made the European lifestyle seem primitive by comparison. The Crusaders learned that most of the spices, silks, and precious gems came from far away China. India or the "spice islands" is what later became known as Indonesia. Before long a lively trade developed between the merchants of Europe and those of the Middle East. The latter acted as brokers for the expensive goods brought in to the Mediterranean basin by caravans or boats from the Far East and which were then shipped into Europe through Florence or Genoa. Eventually, a few Europeans became extremely curious to see the orient for themselves.

Marco Polo: The first European to leave a record of a journey to China was that of Marco Polo who, at the age of 17, accompanied his father and uncle to Acre (near modern Haifa in Israel) and finally reached Peking, the capital of China which was then called Cathay. While Marco's father and uncle busied themselves with trade, young Polo accepted employment with the Mongolian ruler, Kubla Kahn. He