

Highlights from Government Lectures by

Cleon Skousen



Compiled by Nate Richardson

RichardsonStudies.com

Contents

Introduction to Cleon Skousen Favorite Speeches Lecture Notes	3
Cleon Skousen: God’s Plan for America – Lecture Highlights	3
Cleon Skousen: God’s Perfect Law – Lecture Highlights	5
Cleon Skousen: The Naked Communist – Lecture Highlights	8
Cleon Skousen: Prayer in Schools – Lecture Highlights	11
Cleon Skousen: The Life of Thomas Jefferson – Lecture Highlights	12
Cleon Skousen: The Constitution & Prophecy – Lecture Highlights	18
Cleon Skousen on the Life of J Reuben Clark - Lecture Highlights	19
Cleon Skousen on God’s 10 Commandments VS Communism – Lecture Highlights	20

Introduction to Cleon Skousen Favorite Speeches

Lecture Notes

These lectures were uploaded to YouTube by the Light & Truth channel with the permission of Ensign Publishing. Cleon is always encouraging his audiences to take notes on his lectures and in that spirit I share here highlights from several of his lectures. Some of them are also in my religion book as they more particularly relate thereto.

[Cleon Skousen: God's Plan for America – Lecture Highlights](#)



<https://youtu.be/dvSNKihJLlo>

Everyone who came to the USA as a minority had it rough so don't think that just a certain minority the blacks are the Hispanics are the Chinese etcetera have it rough in America.

Nephi was probably 16 years old when called to be a prophet in the beginning of the Book of Mormon yeah. Three older brothers were not yet married and he himself became married to that year these indicate

he would have been quite Young

About one-fourth of the whole book of Isaiah is about America
See his verse by verse commentary which took him 14 years write

After the revolutionary war was won America almost fell apart into three different nations the states were turning on each other treating each other like foreigners Washington back to the people to have a convention of Congress Jamaica Constitution to unite them which they finally became desperate enough to do

Jefferson tutored Madison and gave him hundreds of books and taught him what should be in the Constitution. Washington Pennsylvania and Virginia from which Madison came were the first ones at the convention and they were able to work out the Virginia plan before others arrived and it was a good thing they did

Rodger shoemaker from Connecticut helped and the month-long debate at the convention as to whether States should have vote by population or one vote per state. This debate was so heated and drawn-out that Washington wished he had nothing to do with the whole convention and thought it would all fail. Rodger suggested the state senate vote and the population house vote, "the great compromise"

Franklin pleaded for God to help in the convention I didn't start to meetings with prayer because they couldn't afford a pastor to come I was paid to pray and they didn't want to take away that guy's vocation so Madison says they all did their own praying

In the last few weeks of the convention it became quite inspired they put away old things they've decided on they put in new things they hadn't thought of. They wrote of it being an inspired time, miraculous, impossible without the hand of God.

Cornwallis said even God Almighty wants Washington to win when a random hurricane blew their escaping boats back to Washingtons hands. Washington said many times God delivered them.

Federal Judges say don't quote the constitution site a case. Lawyers spend 1 week on the constitution and the rest studying cases.

Most schools haven't taught the constitution in 3 generations

D'Toquville said Americans would give up their freedom voluntarily as their prosperity would exceed their education and knowledge of principles of freedom. Says we are more concerned with our trivial business than our freedom, voting, etc.

Tax things don't tax people's wealth

Many business men went along with Hitler because it supposedly help their business but in the end they lost everything

President Benson said when you're about to do something the devil will tell you don't get involved you don't want to be controversial you want everyone to love you you don't have time for it with your church duties you don't want to be political you don't want to be controversial let the gentiles do it they have more time wait until the church agrees on something and then move forward.

Article 1 is for the legislature the first thing you have to do in a society is make rules article two is executive article three judiciary art before is for the states so they can live in harmony

Article 5 is to fix the Constitution with an amendment when needed

article 6 is supremacy

Article 7 is ratification

When teaching your kids the preamble of the Constitution teach them the Indian sign language this will help them understand the vocabulary

Cleon Skousen: God's Perfect Law – Lecture Highlights



https://youtu.be/7_4eu-db32M

D&C says we're supposed to be studying history and prophecy and putting the two together to see what's happening we miss out on the fun if we don't take advantage of our privilege to know what's going on

The scripture says the Lord's coming will catch people completely unawares they'll be going about as in the days of Noah marrying etcetera doing business they will have no clue

If we aren't careful will mess with the profits have been talking about for 6000 years which is happening now

In one generation we went from horse and buggy to jet plane around the world

See his verse-by-verse book on Isaiah whenever there was something challenging or complex he would go to what the brethren it said on the subject etcetera

People of all faiths need to unite and fight against evil by upholding the Constitution

J Reuben Clark said even when we do get a member of the church in politics he doesn't uphold the Constitution

Every conference president McKay would beg to people to get involved in the freedom fight

The founders teachings the pure Constitution had not been in a textbook since 1850

President McKay and courage study of good politics in church but eventually this led to contention among the members so the church had a new policy of just teaching gospel principles at church and members mistakenly interpreted this to mean that they never needed to study freedom etcetera and so we had a generation of totally uninformed members

There were over two hundred specific questions that the founders identified debated and found answers to

Jefferson said it is immoral to pass one generations debt on to the next generation that is taxation without representation

The founders warned against a direct tax and now that's the basis of our whole financial system

For 14 years his mind was a tornado wake me up at 4 a.m. remembering something you didn't put in considering revisions etcetera of the book on the Constitution

Hyrum Andrus went through the archives of the church and found the actual statement of Joseph Smith about the Constitution rich said that this people meeting the church are the people that the nation would lean on when the Constitution is about to be destroyed and that this people would save the Constitution

The first presidency had the vision of Charles D Evans patriarch recorded by the church and printed three times

Liberty of conscience social religious and political this is what one of the banners said which Evans Saw another of the banners said the government according to the original intent of the Constitution something like that

Evans saw a foreign power came to the United States and look like it was going to take over but then a power from the West to Rose defending the Constitution and everyone who loved Liberty join that banner and we won

Evans saw that in the University that students used Urim & Thummim everyone knew the truth no one had to speculate

Our job is to study the Constitution so that when the people are in desperate need we can let them know we have the answers it will be known that there are a group of people who have the answers they will go to us

Brigham Young said get used to thinking in terms of all the human race not just this people because our role is leadership

He says in this generation we have corrupted the whole system of the Constitution

When the church gets into China and Russia you'll know that's about where Nephi's vision ended (and that's where things really pick up)

[Cleon Skousen: The Naked Communist – Lecture Highlights](#)



Communism is a very persuasive false doctrine.

Our problem in the fight for freedom is that we continue to get distracted from our goal.

The criminal mind is very egotistic it thinks that it does not have to work like the rest of the people.

The criminal mind thinks that someone who invites him to dinner with nice things is stupid enough to invite a criminal to dinner so he must have not got his wealth by working but by being lucky and so he does not deserve it so he calculates how to get back into the house to steal those things thinking that the owner does not deserve them thinking that he is smarter than the owner and has the right to the stuff

The Czar of Russia was overthrown by Russia's best people it was not overthrown by the Communists

The Russians had a democracy when the Communists took over

His book shows the view of the Communists in the favorable light they painted in and then debunks it. It was the first to break down what the Communists were doing in one place so lay people could quickly get the information.

Stalin took complete credit for starting World war II

Stalin and Hitler made a pact which allowed Hitler to wage war in the West without interference

Russia's plan was to let Europe beat each other up and then come in after they were exhausted and take over everything easily.

After Europe was weak (except Britain) they just needed the last 2 great capitalist powers Japan and USA. So Russian made a pact with Japan saying they wouldn't stop each other in war efforts.

Gangsters survive by making deals with other gangsters Knowing they will be double crossed but with a feeling that they can do the double crossing before the other person will. This is what Hitler did to Stalin, he attacked Russia.

When Germany began to beat Russian we said Russia let's be friends, ignoring the fact that Russia started the war. If it weren't for our help Russia would have fallen. They refused to thank the US.

Alger Hiss is who wrote the charter of the United Nations And it was based on the Russian Constitution of Communism. They know the Americans are too trusting They put in some of the stuff we wouldn't want to hear a little ways into it.

1948 Chiang Kai-shek's China went down He was trying to make a capitalist China but was told over and over that he couldn't defend himself And so China fell to Russia

McArthur wasn't allowed to attack the enemy in Korea. December to April he wasn't allowed to do anything and had to watch the slaughter. He told of this and was fired for telling that his hands were tied.

When they know we are willing to fight, they will return our prisoners etc. Carry a big gun and you won't have to use it.

Freedom, human dignity, protection of innocent people, these are all more important than peace! This is what the founding fathers knew. We must be willing to fight for it or we will lose it.

Criminals calculate their odds and take chances. If your gun is big enough, they fear death and won't try to harm you. If it's a small gun, they say I'll chance 40 years in jail.

With only 7% of the Earth's population the United States has made half of the

world's wealth. It hasn't even taken us that long. Yet people call for capitalism to end.

Cleon Skousen: Prayer in Schools – Lecture Highlights

Notes on a lecture found here which was uploaded to YouTube with permission from Ensign Publishing:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0YtlGlaO5SI&t=4s>

Some make a ridiculous claim that prayer in school violates the Constitution. the Constitution says nothing about separation of church and state however all it says is that they won't make laws about the free exercise of religion it's crazy that they misconstrue that so radically

It's ironic how they say freedom of speech means you can burn a country's flag with the same time it means you can't have a little prayer

If one group wants to ban prayer for everyone it's ironic because all the sudden they're forcing their anti prayer views on everyone

We prayed in schools for a hundred seventy years after the 1st amendment was adopted before anyone questioned it

People would wear pins on their shirts that say God is dead Cleon made one that says my God is alive sorry about yours

The American Religion which the founders wanted taught in the schools included these basic 5 principles as identified by Franklin:

1. God exists we should thank him
2. God has a system for us that works with morals of right and wrong
3. We are responsible for how we treat each other

4. We live after this life

5. God will judge us in the next life for the things we didn't get forgiven for in this life

(Notice all major religions believe these things)

Are we prepared to discuss with an atheist to persuade him to religion?

The declaration of Independence our pledge of allegiance and our coins and our behaviors and the beginnings of this country I'll make it obvious that the constitution never intended to separate religion from public institutions and functions.

Jefferson was happy about pastors using school rooms and court houses for their religious meetings

Jefferson called for teaching Hebrew Greek and Latin for studying the Bible

Cleon Skousen: The Life of Thomas Jefferson – Lecture Highlights

Notes on a lecture in the “Favorite Speeches” series found here:

<https://youtu.be/TAGTBZbq4sc>

Note on Samuel Adams - he decided to give his life to the betterment of mankind and knew that he would not be wealthy. He considered politics a Divine Science when administered correctly.

Thomas Jefferson's father was a very large man and very strong he was primarily self-educated and was an avid reader

His mother had ten children in 15 years

He started college as an advanced student at age 16

He was a natural instinctive student to expend 15 hours a day sometimes studying

He also like to dances and theater and hunting and guns contest switch often one

It was said that no matter how entertaining the company was when it came time for studying he would always tear himself away

Cleon says when it's time to write you go down to your office even if there's good company

He calls his study the salt mine

Jefferson said many of his colleagues became useless human beings but he was able to not be useless because he had three great tutors who brought him into math science law and high society.

He was very good at the violin

He thought of his three mentors those role models you thought of what they would think when he was tempted to do something bad that his peers around him were doing

He proposed to a woman he was deeply in love with at age 19 she rejected him and you didn't get the courage to propose again to someone until age 28

He knew many languages and physics agriculture mathematics philosophy chemistry anatomy zoology botany religion politics History literature and rhetoric. George Withe what are the three great tutors would give him a book and say this is a great book why don't you read it I'll check in with you to see what you think in two days. Jefferson says these were thrilling days of learning.

Efficiently operated thousands of acres multiple plantations

He was stirred by a debate speech of Patrick Henry

He's planning on a quiet homestead life but after this speech he knew his life would be in public service

Jefferson pass the bar exam at a young age and gave profound dissertations on ancient and modern law such as the judges had never heard from such a young

law student.

You knew more than his judges and teachers and much of that from his self study.

It was an immediate success as a lawyer and when asked why he always won his case he said because I always choose the right side.

You talk to both parties and decide for himself which was right and only defend the one that was right he wouldn't defend the person with the most money is only deciding factor was which one was right.

He was elected to the House of burgesses at age 25 this was the state legislature Is disgusted with how they made things too complicated more complicated than they had to be he said he wants any bill that he writes to be so simple that his servants who can read but understand

One of his houses burnt down

Who built the house on a mountain top the first in America to do so
It was his lifelong hobby remodeling and building it and a lot of special gadgets hidden closet etcetera in it
He put his bedroom between two rooms so that if anyone snuck up on him through on he could escape through the other

He would ride a horse multiple days enjoying the scenery

Him and his newly-married wife moved into a small unfinished house

Explains the Boston tea party that it was a solemn affair

Jefferson instigated the Continental conference after the Kings heavy persecution after the Boston tea party. They decided to pay King George for the tea and explain to him that they just want to be represented when taxed. King George refused to read the letter and threw it in the fire and this made even the pacifists upset in the colonies.

He did not give long speeches he said most people give too long of speeches and all he has to say he can say in a few minutes

Washington Jefferson and Franklin hardly ever speak more than 10 minutes I was in those minutes they said more then the long debates

When his mother died he had several weeks of intense migraine headaches

He said he loved the British aisles and wanted to remain part of them but if they are going to continue to treat them badly he would sink the whole island

Hear Otis turn paper to take George the colonies would not publish it collectively so it was just published in his name and he became the next Patrick Henry, a fiery voice

They wanted the US seal to be of Moses leading Israel by fire

Thomas Jefferson got rid of the law in Virginia that you have to give your entire estate to your first born son no matter how unfit he may be and the law that you have to give it all to that one person not splitting it

Thomas Jefferson prophesied that after they won their freedom the United States wouldn't be able to handle it and that each state would turn against each other which is exactly what happened

There was a large army coming to capture the legislature of Virginia and especially Thomas Jefferson someone rode through the night on his horse to warn them getting last rated by all the tree branches etc his face was very bloody when he arrived he carried the scars from that to his grave He warned them and Jefferson escaped by about 3 minutes

His wife had six children over 10 years and died after the last one was born After her death he stayed in his room for 3 weeks and wouldn't talk to anyone They had to bring him food when he did come out later he wouldn't talk to anyone and he would just go walk or ride his horse

Over a nine year. He lost his mother and four of his children and his wife. A bold and aggressive sense of mission came over him and he began writing like never before etc.

He told the franchise they started their revolution that they were not ready for self government that they needed to get little victories and learn to read etc Only 10% of French could read

Slaves in the household of Thomas Jefferson were like his family he traded them like family when he was gone for a long period of time they wept and laughed

for joy to see him back home

He called them his servants and one of them stole a bunch of expensive nails they made in his nail factory and when Jefferson found out he brought that servant to him that a long talk and Jefferson told him to do it no more and he did not with him and the servant said he got religion from that meeting

There was no whipping of any of his slaves

While secretary of state he established a policy of neutrality of not getting involved in other nations

Those who followed him did not maintain that

Jefferson gave us our motto in God we trust

He gave us the dollar dime etc system rather than the pounds shillings etc

Jefferson and Hamilton didn't get along. Jefferson had five employees for his government department Hamilton had 70. Jefferson was not interested in the United States getting entangled with foreign affairs Hamilton was all about that. Hamilton set up a United States Bank Jefferson said you don't have authority to do that and you're setting up an avalanche of paper money which will make the bankers rich and it is pure evil. When Hamilton was unsuccessful at passing this he was able to get it passed under the guise that it would leave 20 years later when the emergency passed and the debts were paid but not so. Later Hamilton said he'd made a very serious mistake and that the government should have been who issued the money based on gold, not a bank.

Jefferson was very trim

He woke up at dawn or earlier

He never used tobacco he never swore he never played cards

He never ate much meat

He said the amount of meat he gave his servants for a week would have lasted him 6 months he ate a lot of fruits and vegetables

He was very generous to the poor who came to ask him for money

He had many books and sometimes had 20 of them down on the floor at a time

He was always singing whenever he was outdoors

In his inaugural address as President Jefferson said we're going to reduce taxes or just the number of people in public office reduce the army eliminate extra taxes

Calendar was upset about not being chosen for an office by Jefferson and so you made public false vicious slander about Jefferson. The claim that Jefferson had several children by one of his servants is absolutely fake.

He didn't answer when people slandered him he just hope people had enough sense to figure it out. The people knew they were trash they knew the character of Jefferson and they elected him regardless.

Fawn Brodie made it back talking about false rumors about Jefferson that have been proven false a long time ago. Note she also did the same thing with Joseph Smith.

Pirates demanded tribute from people and the United States had paid them going Jefferson. In he said no way and he sent warships and never paid pirates tribute.

He was responsible for the Louisiana purchase

When Jefferson was done being president he refused to take honorary chairs honorary carriage rides and to get attention he left Washington and never came back

He raised his grandchildren of his children that died. He danced with them.

Jefferson wrote on about every imaginable subject

While he was governor he ordered the people to participate in days of fasting and prayer for God to help the people in the revolution. He was not a theist as you hear in today's classrooms.

He was very critical of some of the mainstream churches as they emphasized ritual and false doctrines.

Latin German Greek and French all lined up teachings of Jesus he put them

together in one book it was called Jefferson's Bible.

The book *The Real Thomas Jefferson* has much more. It could be studied once a year.

Cleon Skousen: The Constitution & Prophecy – Lecture Highlights



Notes on Favorite Speeches series, a lecture found here <https://youtu.be/eynQnbVT5CU>

Sometimes you have to work till 4 a.m. to get what the Lord wants you to do done

The twelve apostles were giving him an assignment they went around the circle each person voicing his opinion multiple times until consensus was reached in the spirit confirmed their decision

He says this is also how the United States Constitution was made it wasn't just a collection of compromises it was people going around debating things inspiration would strike and people would eventually come to an inspired decision

Present Benson said with the right leadership and support the trend of the whole world could be reversed in 3 months
Don't talk about which political party is right talk about principles not loyalty to person or party

Reviews socialism wrecking nations

People pay 60% in taxes for socialism and still think it's free

Shares story of not being able to repair a home without a permit on pain of going to jail in a communist country he visited.

As the people prophesied as who will be turned to by the nation to save the Constitution, do we latter-day saints know how to constitutionally solve this nations problems? There's a vacuum we in the church have never filled.

D&C says don't wait to be commanded; don't wait for a formal church program.

President McKay said it must be a grass roots movement of all people not a church program. The church can supply people, but not a program.

Cleon Skousen on the Life of J Reuben Clark - Lecture Highlights

Notes on Favorite Speeches series, a lecture found here: <https://youtu.be/9QJXTapQhIU>

Note on Heber Grant: Terrible at handwriting and pitching baseball but really wanted improve so repeated so much that he became very good
Heber studied many fields chemistry and other very different fields. Clark became one of Grants counselors.

Clark was told by Grant he was called to lead the church to awake the church and nation to the jeopardy of the Constitution. He knew more about the Constitution than anyone else in the church.

Church members were upset that he taught for the Constitution at conference. But it was established by God (D&C 98, 101).

Clark did 14-hour days. He made time to be a great student. Head of his class.

He said don't go try to solve the problems of other countries we usually can't do it as well as they themselves can.

His views matched those of the founding fathers.

He broke the Sabbath working to become a better lawyer on it and later repented of that. Says he was blessed in spite of it not because of it and called on members to keep it holy.

Goes over conspiracy that got federal reserve system in

It is prophesied that a generation will finally get it and do what God wants and what the country needs

He quoted from his earlier speeches from years back in which his prophecies came to pass.

Cleon Skousen on God's 10 Commandments VS Communism – Lecture Highlights



Notes on Favorite Speeches series, a lecture found here:
<https://youtu.be/fURCQY2ISdE>

Knowledge is the only defense against deception

I'm the coming struggle ideas will be more powerful than atomic bombs
said a communist leader

Moses first got the commandments with the congregation the God started talking and then everyone got scared and they ran away. There were a million of them because the soldiers alone were 600,000 and that doesn't count their wives children and parents

The problem is not that no one has seen God it's just that it's such a sacred experience that hardly anyone can endure it so not very many have though hundreds have

Communist hate and fear the Bible and Christianity these things teach that you can't just lie whenever your superiors tell you to you can't just steal and kill whenever your superiors tell you to in the Communist Stone words there are diametrically opposed to religion and no one can be religious and communist at the same time

The third commandment do not take the Lord's name in vain involves not lying under oath this is the oath that we take in the courts of law in the United States it's our word being held accountable to God that we do not lie

Our grandparents and woke up at 5:00 a.m. to knock the cows and work all day read the Bible more than us We buy a lot of bibles that we don't read them God's going to judge the generation as a generation of illiterate Christians if you read the book of Matthew out loud but it won't take you 2 hours That's how long it takes to watch a movie

To close the generation gap there are two things we have to do number one is to educate our children number two is to keep up on the issues that they're facing Be able to answer the questions that they will have from living in this society

The Communists know that the Sabbath day is a time for renovation and renewal of the Christians where they strengthen their faith and so the first thing they do when they get in power is get rid of the seventh day of rest

On the sabbath day people get bored they don't know what to do so they

go find something to play at but common things that the scriptures tell us we should do on the Sabbath is to learn the gospel and to serve the needy visit the sick etc We often don't have time for that as much during the week so this is a great time to do it

Honor thy father and mother that thy day may be long in the land this means that if we honor our parents our children are more likely to honor us this is all completely against the communist plan which tries to abolish the family

God commanded capital punishment. If we do not take the life of the murderer then the murderer's life becomes more sacred than the life of the man who has slain.

The Communists are very materialistic they say it's not a crime to rape a woman.

Fred said that morality and chastity cause mental illness but his immorality and unchastity is probably what caused his mental illness

Stealing and redistributing wealth and taking tax money to put it to other things than what you said you would this is a trademark of communism

Profit is the price you pay for something you want that you would not otherwise get

Profit is a commandment from God The parable of the talents he said you must increase what you have

People property wealth and power are things that the Communists covet

It's a commandment to multiply beautify and replenish the earth We just can't take it from other people We have to go out and work to make it happen ourselves

There's not such thing as honesty of a group only honesty of individuals

Francis Bacon said

It isn't what you earn it's what you save that makes you rich

It isn't what you preach it's what you practice that makes you a Christian

