

Bible Removed from Schools

In the early public schools, the BIBLE was one of the main textbooks. But on June 17, 1963 in *Abington Vs. Schempp* the Supreme Court removed BIBLE readings from public education.

When it came to education, Noah Webster (of Webster's Dictionary fame) stated: "Education is useless without the BIBLE . God's word, contained in the BIBLE , has furnished all necessary rules to direct our conduct."

Supreme Court Rulings on School Prayer & Bible Reading

There are three landmark cases that changed the meaning of the First Amendment as it was previously understood and practiced in America. In these three cases a parent of a child in school petitioned the courts to stop the school from exposing their child to prayer in school and reading the Bible in school. ACLU Lawyers used Thomas Jefferson's letter in the argument for the plaintiffs. They argued that the founding fathers wanted a "wall of separation between church and State"; therefore, the government should be neutral to religion in schools, and as a result the Warren Court ruled that there would be no prayer in school or Bible reading. The court's "majority ruling" reasoned that being neutral or not favoring one religion over another was the same as not allowing religious practices in school.



Justice Potter Stewart, the one dissenting vote blasted the ruling saying, "It led not to true neutrality with respect to religion, but to the establishment of a religion of secularism." True neutrality would not favor one religion over another, but the court's ruling favored atheism over all the religions of the world that believe in God. Atheism has been declared a religion by the U.S. Supreme Court, so the Court did not act neutrality, but instead favored a godless religion over all others. A recent national poll indicated 85% of Americans believe in the existence of God, yet the court ruled with the minority, atheist. If the Court had really been true to its intention of neutrality; it would have been impartial to the students, by neither forcing non-believers to pray, nor prohibiting believers from prayer. The court's actions were not neutral .

After the June 17, 1963 ruling the Wall Street Journal commented that atheism was now "the one belief to which the state's power will extend its protection."