

Quotes from the Founding Fathers and an economist from the Revolutionary era cited in
"Twelve Bible Passages that Destroy Socialism and Uphold Free Enterprise, Part 2"
<https://t.ly/H4IsU>

The citations below appear in the order in which they appear in the article.

1. Founding Father Benjamin Franklin (1706-1790) had tremendous insights about the best ways to help the poor: "I am for doing good to the poor, but I differ in opinion of the means. I think the best way of doing good to the poor, is not making them easy in poverty, but leading or driving them out of it. In my youth I traveled much, and I observed in different countries, that the more public provisions were made for the poor, the less they provided for themselves, and of course became poorer. And, on the contrary, the less was done for them, the more they did for themselves, and became richer."
<https://t.ly/sdkxV>
2. During his Inaugural Address of 1801, Thomas Jefferson (1743-1826), America's third president, wisely observed that "a wise and frugal government, which shall restrain men from injuring one another, shall leave them otherwise free to regulate their own pursuits of industry and improvement, and shall not take from the mouth of labor the bread it has earned. This is the sum of good government...."
<https://t.ly/tKhIE>
3. John Adams (1735-1826), you will remember, was America's second president. He said this: "The moment the idea is admitted into society that property is not as sacred as the law of God, and that there is not a force of law and public justice to protect it, anarchy and tyranny commence."
<https://t.ly/Vr4N9>
4. Adams also declared, "We hold that each man is the best judge of his own interest."
<https://t.ly/sP2ov>
5. Further, John Adams said this: "Government is instituted for the common good; for the protection, safety, prosperity, and happiness of the people; and not for profit, honor, or private interest of any one man, family, or class of men...."
<https://t.ly/nosxa>
6. George Washington (1732-1799) gave this advice to his nephew, Bushrod Washington: "Let your heart feel for the afflictions and distresses of every one, and let your hand give in proportion to your purse; remembering always the estimation of the widow's mite, but, that it is not every one who asketh, that deserveth charity; all, however, are worthy of the inquiry, or the deserving may suffer."
<https://t.ly/iWKRk>
7. James Madison (1751-1836) was our nation's fourth president; he succeeded Thomas Jefferson in that office. Madison wrote, "Charity is no part of the legislative duty of the government."
<https://t.ly/-Jw-u>
8. Yet Madison also declared, "It is the mutual duty of all to practice Christian forbearance, love, and charity toward each other."
<https://t.ly/Lf2E8>
9. Economist Adam Smith (1723-1790) astutely observed: "By pursuing his own interest (the individual) frequently promotes that of the society more effectually than when he really intends to promote it. I have never known much good done by those who affected to trade for the public good."
<https://t.ly/3BJNi>