

“Not in Man to Direct His Own Steps”

On September 4, 2025, U.S. Senator Tim Kaine of Virginia publicly rejected the idea that our rights as a people come from the Creator. Instead, he insisted that our rights come from government laws that are devised and bestowed by people like himself. Such a statement reflects a troubling truth about mankind. When people place themselves in God’s seat, they inevitably wander away from what is right.

The prophet Jeremiah understood this long ago. *“O Lord, I know that was of man is not in himself; it is not in man who walks to direct his own steps.”* Jeremiah 10:23. Left to his own reasoning, man cannot establish true justice, peace or righteousness. At best, human wisdom changes with the times and moods of society. At worst, it produces oppression, confusion, and destruction. Scripture warns: *“There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death.”* Proverbs 14:12.

If rights truly depend on government alone, then they can just as easily be taken away as they are “bestowed” by the government. But if rights come from God, they are fixed, unchanging, and anchored in His eternal authority. The founders of this nation acknowledged this truth when they declared that all men “are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights.” To deny the Creator is to deny the very source of life, liberty, and moral guidance.

The psalmist reminds us that *“The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord, and He delights in his way.”* Psalm 37:23. True freedom is not found in man-made decrees but in submitting to God’s will. Jesus himself declared *“If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”* John 8:31-32.

As Christians, we must never forget that our ultimate allegiance is not to shifting human authority but to the eternal Word of God. While laws of men may change, *“the word of our God stands forever.”* Isaiah 40:8.

Let us be watchful. Let us not be deceived into thinking that mankind can wisely direct his own steps apart from the Creator. Instead, *“let us trust in the Lord with all our hearts, and acknowledge Him in all our ways, that He may truly direct our paths.”* Proverbs 3:5-6.

~Ron Josselet (Assisted by ChatGPT)