

# In the Hand of God

## The Lord Guided the Preparation of the U.S. Constitution

Soon after the revolutionary war, leaders of the United States saw the need for a stronger government. Therefore in February 1787, Congress asked the thirteen states to send representatives to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. 55 delegates came, representing every state but Rhode Island.

**Study the map with all the delegates and states.**

George Washington was president of the convention and during one of the early meetings made an important statement about the convention's purpose.

**Copy the statement here:**

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Writing the constitution was a difficult process. The delegates held different opinions about what authority government should have and how it should be organized. After 17 weeks of debate they finally created a document considered by many to be a miracle. The Constitution of the United States of America.

Part of the Constitution's sacred importance is based on the principle of agency. Arguments over this principle began in the council of heaven before the earth was created.

**Read Moses 4:1-4**

What did Satan try to destroy in verse 3?

**What is the difference between “agency” and “freedom”?**

Agency:

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Freedom:

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**Why is freedom important?**

Because of our Constitution, we enjoy freedom that very few people have experienced. President Ezra Taft Benson explained why we have been blessed with our Constitution.

Read his statement below

## George Washington Statement

"Let us raise a standard to which the wise and honest can repair. The event is in the hand of God."

## Ezra Taft Benson statement

"I testify that the God of heaven selected and sent some of his choicest spirits to lay the foundation of this government as a prologue to the restoration of the gospel and the second coming of our Savior."