

*Ending American Slavery Once and  
for All: Lincoln, Natural Law, the  
Bible, and the Federal Government*

by Alexander R. Marks-Katz

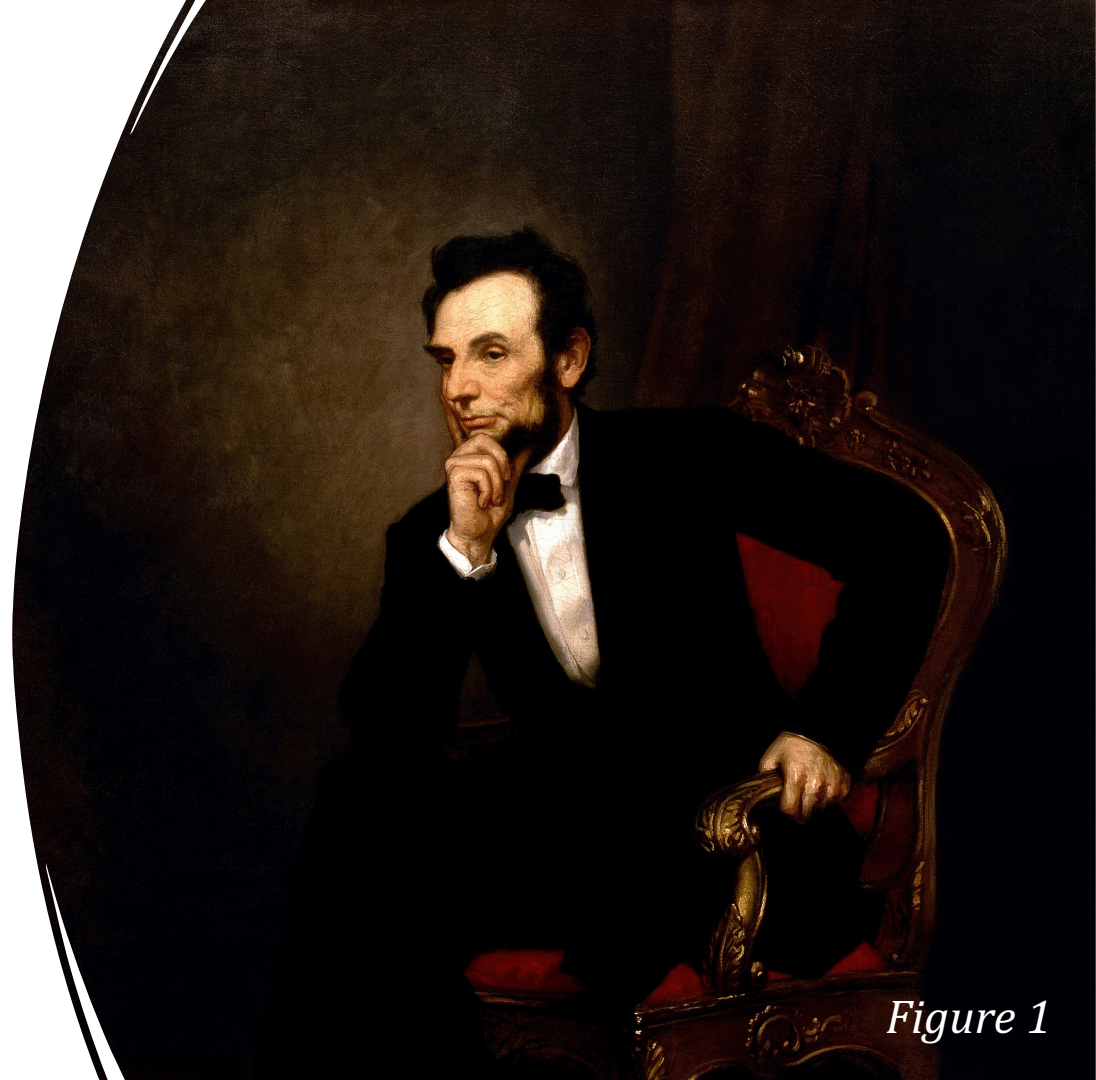
Mentor: Dr. Craig Q. Hinkson

LIBERTY  
UNIVERSITY

# Research Question

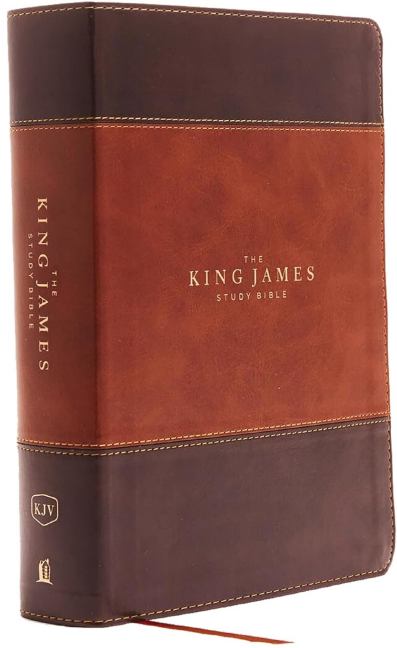
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- How did Abraham Lincoln conceive of liberty?



*Figure 1*

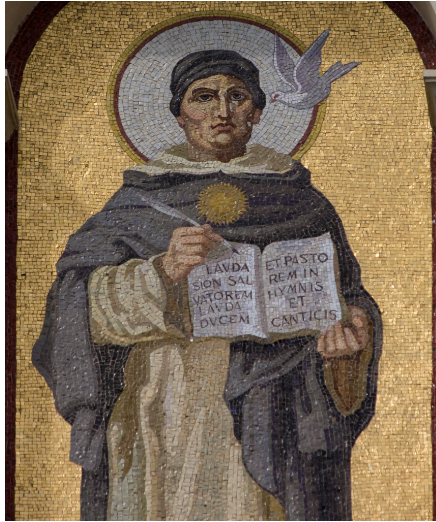
# Philosophers on Slavery



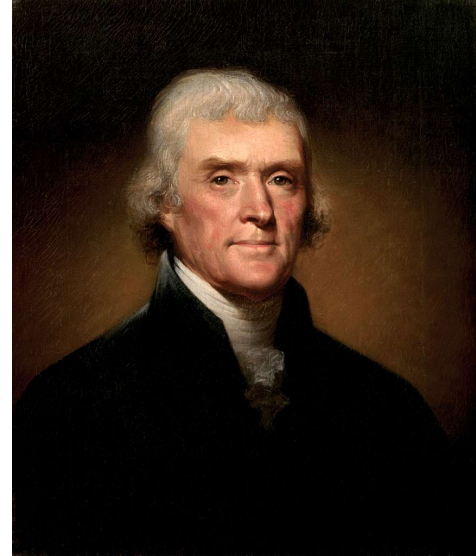
*Figure 2*



*Figure 3*



*Figure 4*



*Figure 5*

# Bible against Slavery

- Genesis 1:27 - “And He created, G-d, Man in His image. **In the image of G-d** He created him. Male and female He created them.”
- Romans 2:14 - “For when the Gentiles, which have not the law, do by nature the things contained in the law, these, having not the law, are a law unto themselves.” (KJV)

# Aristotle and Cicero

- Aristotle: political, natural, and legal justice
- Cicero: *lex naturalis* and positive law

# Aquinas and Rashi

- Aquinas's eternal law versus *hukim* in Judaism
- Aquinas: slavery is at odds with liberty
- Rashi on the captive war woman

Figure 6



# Locke and Jefferson

- *Two Treatises* on slavery
- The Declaration of Independence

# Conclusion

- Abraham Lincoln justified the Civil War by applying Aristotle's natural justice over the South's legal justice.
- But was a larger government worth an end to slavery sooner?



# Citations for Figures

1. George Peter Alexander Healy, *Untitled*, 1869, portrait, White House collection, Washington, DC, accessed March 7, 2024, <https://www.neh.gov/article/lincoln-great>.
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3. Alvaro Marques Hijazo, *Untitled*, 2019, bust photo, Wikimedia Commons, San Francisco, CA, accessed March 7, 2024, [https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Aristotle\\_transparent.png](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Aristotle_transparent.png).
4. Lawrence Op, *Untitled*, 2011, mosaic, Flickr, Rome, Italy, accessed March 7, 2024, <https://www.flickr.com/photos/paullew/5394573561>.
5. Rembrandt Peale, *Untitled*, 1800, portrait, White House Historical Association, Washington, DC, accessed March 7, 2024, <https://picryl.com/media/thomas-jefferson-by-rembrandt-peale-1800-2b8a55>.
6. Nissan Mindel, *Untitled*, 1648, photo of Bible commentary, Chabad.org, Brooklyn, NY, accessed March 7, 2024, [https://www.chabad.org/library/article\\_cdo/aid/111831/jewish/Rashi-Rabbi-Shlomo-Yitzchaki.htm](https://www.chabad.org/library/article_cdo/aid/111831/jewish/Rashi-Rabbi-Shlomo-Yitzchaki.htm).