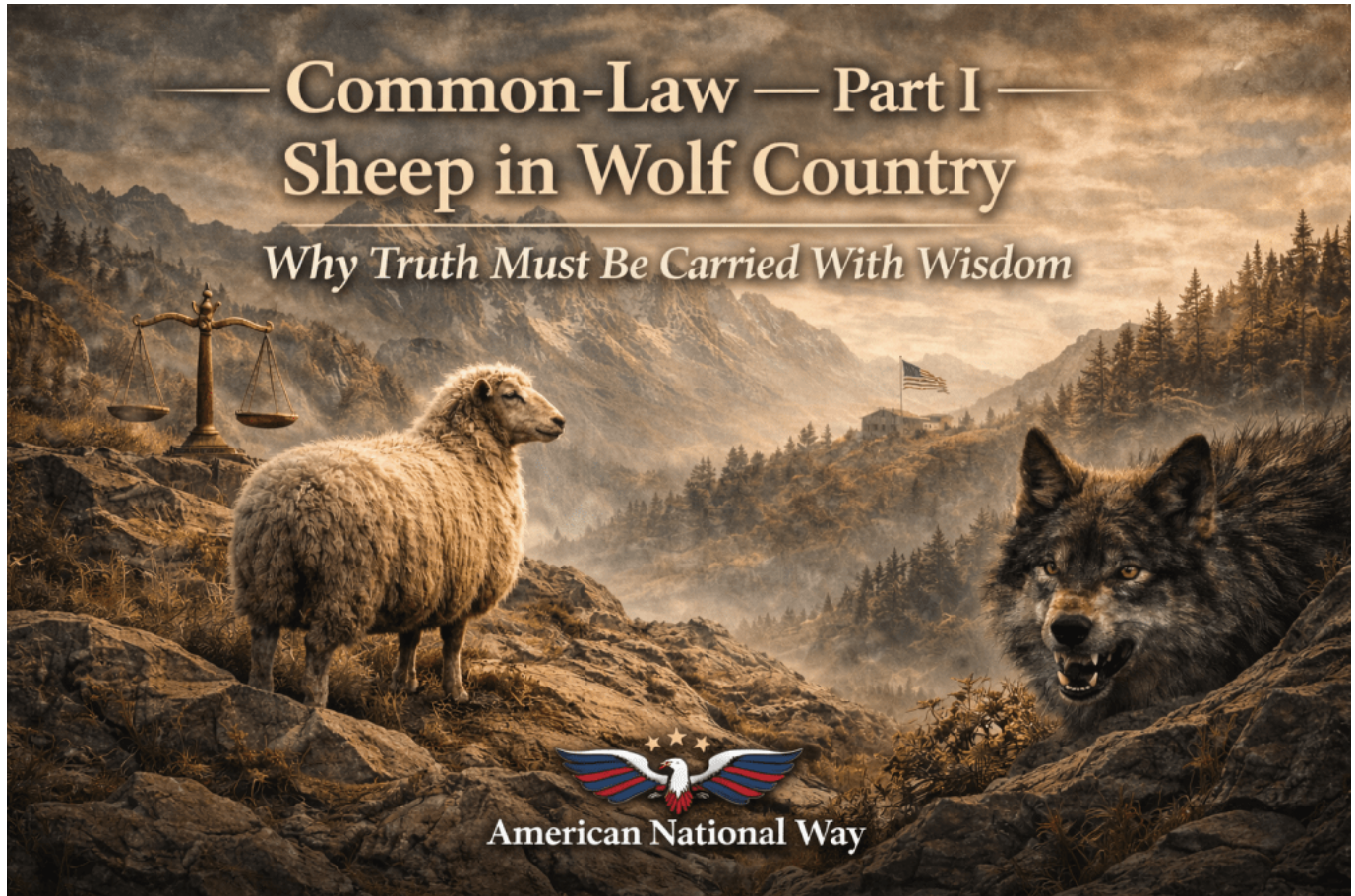


□ Common-Law – Part I: Sheep in Wolf Country

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□ The Metaphor That Explains Everything

Howard Freeman often returned to a simple but powerful image: **sheep living in wolf country.**

The sheep are not weak. They are not ignorant. They are peaceful by nature. They live by restraint, manners, and boundaries. They do not seek conflict, domination, or conquest.

The wolves, by contrast, are aggressive, opportunistic, and

predatory. They understand systems of power, hierarchy, and control. They exploit confusion, fear, and ignorance – especially when others do not understand the environment they are standing in.

Freeman's warning was not emotional or dramatic. It was practical: *a sheep that does not understand it is in wolf country is in danger – not because it is wrong, but because it is unprepared.*

⚖️ **Common Law Is Not a Weapon**

One of Freeman's most consistent cautions was this:

Truth without wisdom becomes a liability.

Common Law, properly understood, is not a tool for confrontation. It is not a script to challenge officials, argue with agents, or provoke authority. Used that way, it becomes dangerous – especially for those who lack standing, capacity, or understanding.

Common Law is a **discipline of conduct**. It governs how a man or woman carries themselves, keeps their word, respects boundaries, and maintains peace.

In wolf country, restraint is not weakness. It is survival.

□ The Real Danger: Ignorance of Environment

Freeman did not teach fear of wolves. He taught **awareness**.

Most harm does not occur because wolves are evil – but because sheep assume they are in sheep country.

They assume:

- That authority is always lawful
- That silence means consent
- That systems operate as advertised
- That morality and legality are the same

In reality, modern systems often operate on **presumption**, not disclosure. Jurisdiction is assumed. Consent is implied. Authority is performed rather than proven.

A sheep who understands this does not panic. They adjust their conduct.

□ Jurisdiction Comes Before Rights

One of Freeman's most important teachings was that **rights do not exist in a vacuum**.

Before rights can be claimed, **jurisdiction must be established**.

Jurisdiction answers the question:

Who has authority here – and by what basis?

In wolf country, jurisdiction is often presumed through:

- Participation
- Registration
- Silence
- Failure to object
- Failure to understand the nature of the forum

Freeman emphasized that many people lose their footing not because they are wrong, but because they step into jurisdictions they do not understand.

□ **Consent Is the Currency of Control**

Wolves do not need force when they can obtain **consent**.

Consent may be:

- Express
- Implied
- Assumed
- Manufactured through confusion

Freeman warned that speaking carelessly, signing blindly, or arguing emotionally often supplies the very consent that systems rely upon.

The disciplined man or woman does not rush to speak. They observe. They record. They choose silence when silence is safer than speech.

☐☐ Peace Is a Lawful Position

Freeman rejected the idea that standing lawfully requires aggression.

Peace, when supported by understanding and clean conduct, is a **position of strength**.

A sheep that knows it is in wolf country:

- Moves carefully
- Keeps records
- Avoids unnecessary engagement
- Does not seek validation from wolves
- Does not confuse morality with procedure

This is not cowardice. It is wisdom.

☐ Why This Metaphor Matters

The metaphor of sheep in wolf country is not an insult. It is a warning offered with respect.

Freeman believed that most men and women are honorable by nature – but honor alone does not protect against systems designed without honor.

Understanding the environment allows one to live **peacefully, lawfully, and with dignity**, without becoming prey or becoming a predator.

□ Foundation for the Series

This first part lays the foundation for everything that follows.

Before discussing jurisdiction, consent, records, or standing in detail, one must first understand **where they are**.

Only then can Common Law be studied not as a weapon – but as a way of life.

Wisdom travels ahead of knowledge.

In wolf country, that makes all the difference.

□□ What This Understanding Reveals

Once the environment is seen for what it is, another realization quietly follows.

Many do not stumble in wolf country because they lack truth – but because they **forget their own nature** while carrying it. When peaceful men and women abandon restraint, mistaking confrontation for courage, the danger multiplies.

Part II – *When Sheep Forget What They Are* explores this failure of self-recognition, and why confronting wolves head-on often leads not to justice, but to loss.