

News Release

Give Me Liberty: Thoughts on America's Freedom and Future



DERRICK G. JETER

McKinney, Texas--The polarizing election of 2012 is over, but discussion on the state of the union and the direction America is taking remains ongoing. As hyper-partisan politics divide and politicians palaver, others have even more basic concerns, such as liberty, freedom and the guarantees of the Constitution.

Derrick G. Jeter, a writer and speaker on faith and freedom says the reelection of President Obama represents a seismic shift and was a dangerous choice as the majority voted for state-supported security rather than liberty.

Thomas Jefferson thought liberty should be the great aim of government. Jeter, who has dedicated his professional life to challenging skeptics, seekers and followers of truth on questions of the life of faith and the preservation of liberty, says Americans today are less free than were our forefathers. In his thought provoking pamphlet *O America! A Manifesto on Liberty* (Jeter Press) says our precipitous fall from freedom has been in the making for a century or more. He cites advances in technology, large-scale corporate fraud, and the ever-present threat of terrorism that have put us all

under the ever-watchful eye of government. Government entitlements have reduced many fellow citizens to wards of the state. With government bureaucracy demanding more from individuals and businesses, he says, “We are no long masters over our public servants; we are now servants under our public masters ...”

Jeter says, “The surest way to destroy our country is to destroy its memory—its culture and its history.” He sees the sweeping overhaul of health care, comprehensive immigration reform and the ballooning environmental regulations of the Obama administration as tilting us toward socialism. As a result, he says, “American exceptionalism will give way to statism, making us little different than a European-

style Socialist nation which seeks to secure the well-being of every citizen, legal and illegal, from womb to tomb ... for a price.”

The remedy? Jeter says we must first return to a trust in God, not look to the state as our provider and sustainer. He says, “Unless we mean to lose our liberty, we must restore and practice the virtues our Founders treasured: individual responsibility, hard work, self-sacrifice, frugality, respect, self-sufficiency, truth-telling, self-restraint, modesty, wisdom, justice, diligence, duty, grace, mercy, civility, courage, and patriotism.” Jeter says we must live these virtues and demand that the leaders who represent us do the same.

He sees America at a crossroad, and asks, “Will we return to the ideas of our Founders, who believe in limited government and near unlimited liberty, or will we walk down a path laid out by those who favor near unlimited government and limited liberty?”

To schedule an interview with Derrick G. Jeter, contact Susan Otis at 800-858-9388.



Sample Questions

O America! A Manifesto on Liberty

Derrick G. Jeter

1. What prompted you to write this pamphlet on faith and freedom?
2. You title your book, *O America*, after a quote from William Stoughton. Who was he
3. and what do you mean by the title?
4. In what ways do you feel the election of 2012 impacts our freedom?
5. Why was securing liberty so important to the Founding Fathers?
6. You say the Founders believed in limited government and near unlimited liberty,
7. but that we are walking down a path of near unlimited government and limited liberty.
8. Can you explain this?
9. Do you feel that we in the twenty-first century are freer than those in the founding generation or less free?
10. When did this slow erosion of individual freedom begin?
11. What's so important about how the Constitution is interpreted?
12. How does a bloated bureaucracy impact liberty?
13. What do you think happens when we allow our moral and religious convictions to grow soft?
14. How are faith and freedom intimately connected?
15. Talk to us about work and freedom, and the dangers of our growing welfare system.
16. How does our ignorance of America's history and founding documents affect our liberty?
17. You say there are three goals that we must commit ourselves to in order to live up to the expectations of our founders. What are they?
18. Why is virtue so important and why should we demand it of our leaders?
19. What is the popular misunderstanding about the separation of church and state?
20. What do you say to the popularly espoused notion that our Founding Fathers were not religious men?

21. In what ways does it takes courage to maintain liberty?
22. How can we as a nation begin to restore liberty?

Biographical Sketch:



Derrick G. Jeter is a speaker and writer who dedicates his professional life to issues of faith and freedom. He challenges honest skeptics, seekers and followers of truth, encourages and exhorts Christians, and engages dialogue with shapers and consumers of culture. Trained as a public speaker with a B.S. in rhetoric from the University of Texas at Austin, he has a master's degree from Dallas Theological Seminary. In his public speaking consultancy, he works with professionals and politicians. Through an internationally known Christian ministry he has authored and co-authored twenty-five books. He is also the author

of *A 911 for 9/11: Finding Answers to the Evil of September 11, 2001*, and *Our Day of Dependence: a History Lesson from Thanksgiving*. Jeter lives in the Dallas area with his wife and five children.



Quotable Quotes From *O America!*

Thoughts on America

Thomas Jefferson: “The natural progress of things is for liberty to yield and government to gain ground” (p.10).

Derrick G. Jeter: “A republic cannot survive without liberty, liberty cannot survive without virtue, and virtue cannot survive without religion” (p. 11).

Alexis de Tocqueville: “Freedom sees in religion the companion of its struggles and its triumphs, the cradle of its infancy, the divine source of its rights. It considers religion as the safeguard of mores; and mores as the guarantee of laws and the pledge of its own duration” (p.13).

DGJ: “When citizens abandon God, private virtue fails; when private virtue fails, public virtue fails; and when public virtue fails, society fails, requiring either the passage of more laws or the machinations of history to govern a people no longer capable of governing themselves” (p.18).

DGJ: “The greatest danger to us lies not without but within. The surest way to destroy a country is to destroy its liberty ... from the inside. And once inside, the surest way to destroy a country’s liberty is to destroy its memory—its history” (p. 43).

DGJ: “If we are to reclaim our country and re-form it into the nation of which our Founders dreamt, then we must become the people our republic requires—people of faith and noble character, who hold the nation’s memories dear” (p. 44).

DGJ: “Unless we mean to lose our liberty, we must restore and practice the virtues our Founders treasured: individual responsibility, hard work, self-sacrifice, frugality, respect, self-sufficiency, truth-

telling, self-restraint, modesty, wisdom, justice, diligence, duty, grace, mercy, civility, courage, and patriotism. We must live these virtues and others like them every day of our lives and demand that our leaders do the same, or we must find other and better leaders to represent us and our nation” (p. 51).

DGJ: “The restoration of American liberty will only be achieved by doing the hard work of living virtuous lives and passing these virtues to our posterity, teaching our children the value of living a life worth imitating” (pp. 52-53)

Samuel Adams: “Our Independence, I think, is secured. Whether America shall long preserve her Freedom or not, will depend on her Virtue” (p. 64).

Benjamin Franklin: “Those who would give up essential liberty to purchase a little temporary safety deserve neither liberty nor safety” (p. 71).

John Adams: “when public virtue is gone, when the national spirit is fled ... the republic is lost in essence, though it may still exist in form” (p. 73).

Patrick Henry: “The great pillars of all government and of social life,—I mean virtue, morality, and religion. This is the armor, my friend, and this alone, that renders us invincible. These are the tactics we should study. If we lose these, we are conquered, fallen indeed” (p. 77).

George Washington: “Of all the dispositions and habits which lead to political prosperity, religion and morality are indispensable supports” (p. 101).