

Memorial Day 2008



Dear Friends and Families:

May your Memorial Day be filled with memories of those who have given you life, freedom, and a safe haven.

Though I have sent it before, the following poem/hymn, written by Rudyard Kipling, calls us to remember and to acknowledge the Providence of God in our safety and defense as a nation and people - lest we forget.....

Recessional, Kipling

God of our fathers, known of old--
Lord of our far-flung battle line
Beneath whose awful hand we hold
Dominion over palm and pine--
Lord God of Hosts, be with us yet,
Lest we forget - lest we forget!

The tumult and the shouting dies;
The captains and the kings depart:
Still stands Thine ancient sacrifice,
An humble and a contrite heart.
Lord God of Hosts, be with us yet,
Lest we forget - lest we forget!

Far-called, our navies melt away;
On dune and headland sinks the fire:
Lo, all our pomp of yesterday
Is one with Nineveh and Tyre!
Judge of the Nations, spare us yet,
Lest we forget - lest we forget!

If, drunk with sight of power, we loose
Wild tongues that have not Thee in awe--
Such boasting as the Gentiles use
Or lesser breeds without the law--

Lord God of Hosts, be with us yet,
Lest we forget - lest we forget!

For heathen heart that puts her trust

In reeking tube and iron shard -

All valiant dust that builds on dust,

And guarding, calls not Thee to guard -

For frantic boast and foolish word,

Thy mercy on Thy people, Lord!

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"Power and law are not synonymous. In truth, they are frequently in opposition and irreconcilable. There is God's Law from which all Equitable laws of man emerge and by which men must live if they are not to die in oppression, chaos and despair. Divorced from God's eternal and immutable Law, established before the founding of the suns, man's power is evil no matter the noble words with which it is employed or the motives urged when enforcing it. "Men of good will, mindful therefore of the Law laid down by God, will oppose governments whose rule is by men, and if they wish to survive as a nation they will destroy the government which attempts to adjudicate by the whim of venal judges."

- Marcus Tullius Cicero, 106-43 B.C

