

# FREEDOM

## *Democracy, Independence and Liberty*

### 1. ESSENCE

- 1683 No man is free who cannot command himself.  
Pythagoras (B.C. 582-507)
- 1684 Liberty consists in the power of doing that which is  
permitted by the law.  
Cicero (B.C. 106-43)
- 1685 Who then is free?  
The wise man who can command himself.  
Horace (B.C. 65-8)
- 1686 Freedom is the right to live as we wish.  
Epictetus (50-138 A.D.)
- 1687 Liberty, then, about which so many volumes have been written  
is, when accurately defined, only the power of acting.  
Voltaire (1694-1778)
- 1688 The sovereignty of one's self over one's self is called  
Liberty.  
Albert Pike (1809-1891)
- 1689 Freedom - to walk free and own no superior.  
Walt Whitman (1819-1892)
- 1690 Freedom is the emancipation from the arbitrary rule of other  
men.  
Mortimer Adler (born 1902)

### 2. OPPOSITES

- 1691 Man is born free, yet he is everywhere in chains.  
Rousseau (1712-1778)
- 1692 None are more hopelessly enslaved  
than those who falsely believe they are free.  
Goethe (1749-1832)
- 1693 The shepherd drives the wolf from the sheep's throat,  
for which the sheep thanks the shepherd as his liberator,  
while the wolf denounces him for the same act as the  
destroyer of liberty.  
Lincoln (1809-1865)

- 1694 Freedom is the ferment of freedom. The moistened sponge drinks up water greedily; the dry one sheds it.  
Oliver Wendell Holmes (1809-1894)
- 1695 Only necessity understood, and bondage to the highest is identical with true freedom.  
William James (1842-1910)
- 1696 Liberty has restraints but not frontiers.  
Lloyd George (1863-1945)
- 1697 What a curious phenomenon it is that you can get men to die for the liberty of the world who will not make the little sacrifice that is needed to free themselves from their own individual bondage.  
Bruce Barton (1886-1967)
- 1698 No man was ever endowed with a right without being at the same time saddled with a responsibility.  
Gerald W. Johnson (born 1890)
- 1699 Communism destroys democracy.  
Democracy can also destroy Communism.  
Andre Malraux (1901-1976)
- 1700 The basic test of freedom is perhaps less in what we are free to do than in what we are free not to do.  
Eric Hoffer (1902-1983)
- 1701 We first have to find the way of freedom from involvement before we can introduce freedom in involvement.  
Pir Vilayat Inayat Khan (born 1916)

### 3. INSIGHT

- 1702 The secret of Happiness is Freedom,  
and the secret of Freedom, Courage.  
Thucydides (B.C. 460-400)
- 1703 Democracy arose from men's thinking that if they are equal in any respect, they are equal absolutely.  
Aristotle (B.C. 384-322)
- 1704 Freedom is not being a slave to any circumstance, to any constraint, to any chance; it means compelling Fortune to enter the lists on equal terms.  
Seneca (B.C. 3-65 A.D.)
- 1705 Is any man free except the one who can pass his life as he pleases?  
Persius (34-62 A.D.)

- 1706 Liberty is given by nature even to mute animals. 3 of 10  
Tacitus (55-117 A.D.)
- 1707 Only that thing is free which exists by the necessities of its own nature, and is determined in its actions by itself alone.  
Spinoza (1632-1677)
- 1708 The true character of liberty is independence, maintained by force.  
Voltaire (1694-1778)
- 1709 A country cannot subsist well without liberty, nor liberty without virtue.  
Rousseau (1712-1778)
- 1710 Abstract liberty, like other mere abstractions, is not to be found.  
Burke (1729-1797)
- 1711 He is the freeman whom the truth makes free, and all are slaves beside.  
Cowper (1731-1800)
- 1712 Liberty, according to my metaphysics...is a self-determining power in an intellectual agent. It implies thought and choice and power.  
John Adams (1735-1826)
- 1713 Enslave the liberty of but one human being and the liberties of the world are put in peril.  
William Garrison (1805-1879)
- 1714 The only freedom which deserves the name is that of pursuing our own good, in our own way, so long as we do not attempt to deprive others of theirs, or impede their efforts to obtain it.  
John Stuart Mill (1806-1873)
- 1715 Freedom exists only where people take care of the government.  
Woodrow Wilson (1856-1924)
- 1716 Liberty is not merely a privilege to be conferred; it is a habit to be acquired.  
Lloyd George (1863-1945)
- 1717 Democracy is the worst system devised by the wit of man, except for all the others.  
Winston Churchill (1874-1965)

- 1718 Perfect freedom is reserved for the man who lives by his own work and in that work does what he wants to do.  
Robin G. Collingwood (1889-1943)
- 1719 When people are free to do as they please, they usually imitate each other.  
Eric Hoffer (1902-1983)
- 1720 Democracy is a process, not a static condition. It is becoming, rather than being. It can easily be lost, but never is fully won. Its essence is eternal struggle.  
William H. Hastie (1904-1976)

#### 4. POSITIVE

- 1721 Governing sense, mind and intellect, intent on liberation, free from desire, fear and anger, the sage is forever free.  
Bhagavad Gita (c. B.C. 400)
- 1722 In the light of his vision he has found his freedom: his thoughts are peace, his words are peace and his work is peace.  
The Dhammapada (c. B.C. 300)
- 1723 What is so beneficial to the people as liberty, which we see not only to be greedily sought after by men, but also by beasts, and to be preferred to all things.  
Cicero (B.C. 106-43)
- 1724 Freedom all solace to man gives:  
He lives at ease that freely lives.  
John Barbour (1320-1395)
- 1725 Liberty is one of the most precious gifts which heaven has bestowed on man; with it we cannot compare the treasures which the earth contains or the sea conceals; for liberty, as for honor, we can and ought to risk our lives; and, on the other hand, captivity is the greatest evil that can befall man.  
Cervantes (1547-1616)
- 1726 Countries are well cultivated,  
not as they are fertile, but as they are free.  
Montesquieu (1689-1755)
- 1727 Freedom hath a thousand charms to show,  
That slaves however contented never know.  
Cowper (1731-1800)

- 1728 Liberty, when it begins to take root,  
is a plant of rapid growth.  
George Washington (1732-1799) 5 of 10
- 1729 Perfect freedom is as necessary to the health and vigor  
of commerce as it is to the health and vigor of citizenship.  
Patrick Henry (1736-1799)
- 1730 Can anything be so elegant as to have few wants,  
and to serve them one's self?  
Emerson (1803-1882)
- 1731 Freedom is the last, best hope of earth.  
Lincoln (1809-1865)
- 1732 What light is to the eyes - what air is to the lungs -  
what love is to the heart, liberty is to the soul of man.  
Robert G. Ingersoll (1833-1899)
- 1733 Freedom is the open window through which pours the sunlight  
of the human spirit and human dignity.  
Herbert Hoover (1874-1964)
- 1734 There are two good things in life -  
freedom of thought and freedom of action.  
Somerset Maugham (1874-1965)

## 5. NEGATIVE

- 1735 No man is free who is a slave to the flesh.  
Seneca (B.C. 3-65 A.D.)
- 1736 No nation ancient or modern ever lost the liberty of freely  
speaking, writing, or publishing their sentiments, but  
forthwith lost their liberty in general and became slaves.  
John Peter Zenger (1697-1746)
- 1737 Those who would give up essential liberty to purchase a  
little temporary safety deserve neither liberty nor safety.  
Franklin (1706-1790)
- 1738 But what is liberty without wisdom, and without virtue?  
It is the greatest of all possible evils;  
for it is folly, vice, and madness,  
without tuition or restraint.  
Burke (1729-1797)
- 1739 Those who expect to reap the blessings of freedom must,  
like men, undergo the fatigue of supporting it.  
Paine (1737-1809)

- 1740 The wish to be independent of all men, and not to be under obligation to any one is the sure sign of a soul without tenderness.  
Joubert (1754-1824)
- 1741 Liberty is slow fruit. It is never cheap; it is made difficult because freedom is the accomplishment and perfectness of man.  
Emerson (1803-1882)
- 1742 The man who seeks freedom for anything but freedom's self is made to be a slave.  
Alexis De Tocqueville (1805-1859)
- 1743 The policy of Russia is changeless...Its methods, its tactics, its maneuvers may change, but the polar star of its policy - world domination - is a fixed star.  
Karl Marx (1818-1883)
- 1744 Not free from what, but free for what?  
Nietzsche (1844-1900)
- 1745 Liberty means responsibility.  
That is why most men dread it.  
G. B. Shaw (1856-1950)
- 1746 If a nation values anything more than freedom, it will lose its freedom: and the irony of it is that if it is comfort or money that it values more, it will lose that, too.  
Somerset Maugham (1874-1965)
- 1747 The death of democracy is not likely to be an assassination from ambush. It will be a slow extinction from apathy, indifference, and undernourishment.  
Robert Maynard Hutchins (1899-1977)
- 1748 Communism is the death of the soul. It is the organization of total conformity - in short, of tyranny - and it is committed to making tyranny universal.  
Adlai E. Stevenson (1900-1965)
- 1749 Man is condemned to be free; because once thrown into the world, he is responsible for everything he does.  
Jean-Paul Sartre (1905-1980)
- 1750 ...while they (Communists) preach the supremacy of the state and predict its eventual domination of all peoples on Earth, they are the focus of evil in the modern world...  
Ronald Reagan (born 1911)

**6. ADVICE**

- 1751 Freedom is the sure possession of those alone who have the courage to defend it.  
Pericles (B.C. 495-429)
- 1752 Men well governed should seek after no other liberty, for there can be no greater liberty than a good government.  
Walter Raleigh (1552-1618)
- 1753 Free people, remember this maxim: We may acquire liberty, but it is never recovered if it is once lost.  
Rousseau (1712-1778)
- 1754 Let all your views in life be directed to a solid, however moderate, independence; without it no man can be happy, nor even honest.  
Junius (1740-1818)
- 1755 Our liberty depends on freedom of the press, and that cannot be limited without being lost.  
Thomas Jefferson (1743-1826)
- 1756 Yes! to this thought I hold with firm persistence;  
The last result of wisdom stamps it true;  
He only earns his freedom and existence  
Who daily conquers them anew.  
Goethe (1749-1832)
- 1757 Let us not be unmindful that liberty is power, that the nation blessed with the largest portion of liberty must in proportion to its numbers be the most powerful nation upon earth.  
John Quincy Adams (1767-1848)
- 1758 Liberty will not descend to a people;  
a people must raise themselves to liberty; it is a blessing that must be earned before it can be enjoyed.  
Colton (1780-1832)
- 1759 Whoever will be free must make himself free.  
Freedom is no fairy gift to fall into a man's lap.  
What is freedom?  
To have the will to be responsible for one's self.  
Max Stirner (1806-1856)
- 1760 You can only protect your liberties in this world by protecting the other man's freedom. You can only be free if I am free.  
Clarence Darrow (1857-1938)

- 1761 To enjoy freedom we have to control ourselves.  
Virginia Woolf (1882-1941)
- 1762 If the fires of freedom and civil liberties burn low in  
other lands, they must be made brighter in our own...If in  
other lands the eternal truths of the past are threatened by  
intolerance, we must provide a safe place for their  
perpetuation.  
Franklin D. Roosevelt (1882-1945)
- 1763 By All Resources Realize Yourself...  
Fetters fall off of themselves  
when the knowledge of self is gained.  
A. L. Linall, Jr. (born 1947)
- 1764 The saving man becomes the free man.  
Chinese Proverb

## 7. POTPOURRI

- 1765 Happiness follows sorrow, sorrow follows happiness, but  
when one no longer discriminates happiness and sorrow, a  
good deed and a bad deed, one is able to realize freedom.  
Buddha (B.C. 568-488)
- 1766 The traveller has reached the end of the journey!  
In the freedom of the Infinite he is free from all sorrows,  
the fetters that bound him are thrown away,  
and the burning fever of life is no more.  
The Dhammapada (c. B.C. 300)
- 1767 Such being the happiness of the times,  
that you may think as you wish,  
and speak as you think.  
Tacitus (55-117 A.D.)
- 1768 How happy is he born and taught,  
That serveth not another's will;  
Whose armour is his honest thought,  
And simple truth his utmost skill!  
Henry Wotton (1568-1639)
- 1769 If I have freedom in my love,  
And in my soul am free,-  
Angels alone that soar above,  
Enjoy such liberty.  
Richard Lovelace (1618-1657)

- 1770 I am as free as nature first made man,  
Ere the base laws of servitude began,  
When wild in woods the noble savage ran.  
Dryden (1631-1700)
- 1771 Liberty is to the collective body,  
what health is to every individual body.  
Without health no pleasure can be tasted by man;  
without liberty, no happiness can be enjoyed by society.  
Bolingbroke (1678-1751)
- 1772 The tree of liberty must be refreshed from time to time  
with the blood of patriots and tyrants. It is its natural  
manure.  
Thomas Jefferson (1743-1826)
- 1773 How does the Meadow flower its bloom unfold?  
Because the lovely little flower is free  
Down to its root, and in that freedom bold.  
Wordsworth (1770-1850)
- 1774 When Freedom from her mountain height  
Unfurled her standard to the air.  
She tore the azure robe of night,  
And set the stars of glory there.  
Joseph Drake (1795-1820)
- 1775 Of old sat Freedom on the heights  
The thunders breaking at her feet:  
Above her shook the starry lights;  
She heard the torrents meet.  
Alfred Tennyson (1809-1892)
- 1776 If a man does not keep pace with his companions,  
perhaps it is because he hears a different drummer.  
Let him step to the music which he hears,  
however measured or far away.  
Thoreau (1817-1862)
- 1777 His brow is wet with honest sweat  
He earns what'er he can,  
And looks the whole world in the face,  
For he owes not any man.  
Longfellow (1807-1882)
- 1778 We Americans...bear the ark of liberties of the world.  
Herman Melville (1819-1891)

- 1779 It is by the goodness of God that in our country we have those three unspeakably precious things: freedom of speech, freedom of conscience, and the prudence never to practice either.  
Mark Twain (1835-1910)
- 1780 All we have of freedom - all we use or know - This our fathers bought for us, long and long ago.  
Kipling (1865-1936)