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*imagineering*

## SPEECH PRESENTATION FROM

### "GREAT MOMENTS WITH MR. LINCOLN"

NOTE: Below is the speech delivered by Walt Disney's Abraham Lincoln figure in the "Great Moments with Mr. Lincoln" show. It is composed of excerpts from addresses delivered by the Great Emancipator. Those selections are keyed by numbers within parentheses to the list of speeches from which they were taken on page 3.

#### ABRAHAM LINCOLN:

- (1) The world has never had a good definition of the word liberty, and the American people, just now, are much in want of one. We all declare for liberty; but in using the same word we do not all mean the same thing.
- (2) What constitutes the bulwark of our . . . liberty and independence?  
It is not our frowning battlements, our bristling sea coasts, . . .  
These are not our reliance against . . . tyranny . . . Our reliance is in the love of liberty which God has planted in our bosoms.  
Our defense is in the preservation of the spirit which prizes liberty as the heritage of all men, in all lands, everywhere. Destroy this spirit, and you have planted the seeds of despotism around your own doors.
- (3) At what point shall we expect the approach of danger? By what means shall we fortify against it? Shall we expect some trans-Atlantic

military giant, to step the ocean, and crush us at a blow?

Never!

All the armies of Europe, Asia and Africa combined, . . . could not by force, take a drink from the Ohio, or make a track on the Blue Ridge, in a trial of a thousand years.

At what point then is the approach of danger to be expected?

I answer, if it ever reach us, it must spring up amongst us. It cannot come from abroad. If destruction be our lot, we ourselves must be its author and finisher. As a nation of free men, we must live through all times, or die by suicide.

- (4) Let reverence for the laws be breathed by every American mother to the lisping babe that prattles on her lap -- let it be taught in schools, in seminaries, and in colleges -- let it be written in primers, spelling books, and in Almanacs -- let it be preached from the pulpit, proclaimed in legislative halls and enforced in courts of justice.

And, in short, let it become the political religion of the nation; and let the old and the young, the rich and the poor, the grave and the gay, of all sexes and tongues, and colors and conditions, sacrifice unceasingly upon its altars.

- (5) Let us strive to deserve, as far as mortals may, the continued care of Devine Providence, trusting that, in future national emergencies, He will not fail to provide us the instruments of safety and security.

- (6) Neither let us be slandered from our duty by false accusations against us, nor frightened from it by the menaces of destruction to the Government nor of dungeons to ourselves.

Let us have faith that right makes might, and in that faith, let us,  
to the end, dare to do our duty as we understand it.

SOURCES OF THE LINCOLN MATERIAL

- (1) Address at Sanitary Fair,  
Baltimore, Md. , April 18, 1864
- (2) Speech at Edwardswille, Ill. ,  
September 11, 1858
- (3) (4) Address, before the Young Men's Lyceum,  
Springfield, Ill , January 27, 1838
- (5) Eulogy to Henry Clay,  
Springfield, Ill. , July 6, 1852
- (6) Address at Cooper Institute,  
New York City, February 27, 1860

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