

***"They that can give up essential liberty to obtain a little temporary safety deserve neither liberty nor safety."***

***-Benjamin Franklin,  
Historical Review of Pennsylvania, 1759***

**Fundamentally, Election 2008 is about the American Revolution: a revolution that is never won, totally; but one that can be lost, utterly and completely, in a single election day. It's about keeping faith with those visionary risk takers who began the Revolution and with those, in subsequent generations past, who bravely continued the good fight. It's about having the courage to empower ourselves by embracing our liberty and assuming the requisite responsibility, risk and sacrifice.**

**Or, is the election about abandoning the Revolution altogether, following the pundits' drumbeat like a siren's song? Will we opt for temporary security, however defined, over "essential liberty," casting aside the greatest republic on earth for want of courage? For without courage there is no trust; without trust there is no self-government; without self-government there is no liberty; without liberty there is no idea that is the United States of America.**

**Will we quit the promise of the American Revolution because we are too imperfect, too prosperous, too busy, too envious or too convinced of our own helplessness to continue? Are we already so fractured and demoralized as to ignore the cautionary tale that was the Soviet Union? Lest we forget, in 1917, Lenin's slogan was "Bread, Land and Peace," not "Bread Lines, Gulags and Firing Squads."**

**Ergo, if this election is about empowering government to pave the way for us to indulge our personal appetites and desires, with impunity, we are deluding ourselves and the American Revolution is lost. We will be the servants of government, loath to bite the hand that feeds us, forever fighting each other for the crumbs under Uncle Sam's table. Not good for those whose self-governing legacy is "Give me liberty, or give me death." Accordingly, *e pluribus unum* (out of many, one) will be turned completely on its head, hurling us onto an ash heap of suspicion, fear and hostility, leaving our children with shattered dreams and a bill they cannot possibly pay.**

**I, therefore, am reminded of a modern-day American Revolutionary, a Korean War veteran, who, in 2000, knew he would die soon and asked that his obituary read: "In lieu of flowers, vote for Governor George W. Bush." In honor of his courage, let us continue to keep the faith and do the same for another modern-day American Revolutionary and genuine hero of the Vietnam War, Senator John S. McCain. He deserves no less and neither do we.**

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