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Memorial tribute to Franklin Delano Roosevelt, 1945.

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MEMORIAL TRIBUTE TO FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT

By  
Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

At  
The Temple

On  
Sunday morning April 15, 1945



At the funeral services yesterday afternoon for our departed President, the immortal Psalm 46 was read. It was a most fitting psalm to read, for it suggests that which was most admirable, that which was most inspiring about this valiant man who led our nation during <sup>a</sup>difficult and <sup>a</sup>most critical time. I want to call to mind one verse of that great psalm: "Therefore we will not fear, tho the earth do change and the mountains be moved into the heart of the seas." "Therefore we will not fear" -- President Roosevelt was a man unafraid, not because he was unaware of the dangers which were lurking or of the menace which was overhanging. Some people can go gaily undisturbed on their way through life because they are not forewarned of the dangers which lie ahead... Our great leader realized fully, more than most men, not so close to a knowledge of the facts how close we came time and again to danger. In the dark and deadful days of 1932 and 1933 -- then Peark Harbor -- but his courage mastered his fear.

You will recall his famous and enkindling and challenging utterance which he made on the occasion of his first inaugural in March 1933. Those few words will echo down the corridors of time and will become part of the treasure and anthology of imperishable utterances of great men of American history. Our nation, you will recall, at that moment lay prostrate. Millions of men were being thrown out of their jobs. Factories were shutting down. Banks were closing. A veritable fog of depression, pessimism, hopelessness, hate, settled down upon our people. It was in that dark hour that this man was summoned to the difficult position as Chief Executive of this nation. At that very moment he said to his people:

"This great nation will endure as it has endured, will revive and will prosper. So first of all, let me assert my firm belief that the only thing we have to fear is fear itself -- nameless, unreasoning, unjustified terror which paralyzes needed efforts to convert retreat into advance."

President Roosevelt believed in the power of will, in the strength of confident resolution to remake, to remold, to rise above defeat, to rise from the very ashes of ignorance and defeat. He believed in this country. He believed in the American



people. He believed in these United States of America. "God is in the midst of her, she shall not be moved." Again I quote from Psalm 46. "God is in the midst of her, she shall not be moved. God shall heap her at the approach of morning." There is night and darkness, but there is a morning.

When our Navy lay shattered in Peark Harbor, on that day which will live in infamy, when our Western Coast lay open to attack and invasion, when our country came as near disaster as at any time in its history, this great leader had faith. He knew, he believed that "The Lord of Hosts is with us - The God of Jacob is our High Tower."

He had a philosophy of life, a spiritual way of life which was simply this -- not to yield to fear, to draw upon the hidden reserves of the spirit in times of danger, to pit will against adversity and to reach out for the wings of faith when he felt the downward drag of cruel circumstance. This philosophy of life which was his he hewed out, he carved out for himself not out of proverbs or maxims learned from a book by rote. He carved it out for himself out of pain and devastating illness, out of bitter and prolonged experience with death and invalidism, out of days and months and years of wrestling with dark angels of despair and fear, and rising triumphantly from the unequal struggle unbroken in spirit, though crippled in body, rising to carve out for himself a career which led to the very summit of world achievement to become heir to grandeur. That courage wrested from pain and suffering made him a man of destiny.

Some people are destroyed by such an ordeal. Some human wills are burned up and consumed in such a furnace of affliction. But other wills are purged and emerge hardened, stainless, rustless steel. That was the case of Franklin Delano Roosevelt.

He knew from himself, from his own life, from his own experience that fear can be licked and he brought that confident conviction of his to the fearful problem. When the fearful problems ~~which~~ confronted his nation when he was President, he inspired a whole nation to renewed effort, to move forward, to advance. He was a leader.



And he wished that other human beings -- that was part of the rare spiritual greatness of the man -- he wished that other men similarly afflicted as he was would share the knowledge of faith, the strength and courage that had come to him. There are today thousands, countless children and adults blessed for the example which he set for them and for the faith which he restored to them. That is what we mean, friends, when we speak of the ministry of pain. Some wise men are blessed with a capacity of using pain, suffering by way of ministry for other men...And because he was unafraid, he was able to match his hour, an hour which called for new roads, new and untried experiments, some dangerous experiments, new adventures in government, economics and international relations. The old ways had led our country through the long dangerous economic depressions in our nation's history. Only bold new measures, a break with tradition, though not a break with the essential genius of the American people, only bold new measures could alone save the day. He took them unafraid. He had daring. He had spiritual order, if you will. He was not deterred by slogans, by hoary catch-words, by the fact that people denounced him as a dangerous radical. Now it isn't that all men agreed with him always, that all men thought that everything he did was correct. Not at all. Nor is to suggest that this man was perfect. "No man is perfect -- none but God is perfect." It is to suggest that this man had spiritual fortitude, new ways when the old proved bankrupt. The many measures which were taken in the emergency years of his first administration to salvage the economic system will remain as landmarks in the social progress of the American people. They are here to stay. There is no turning back.

And my friends, in all his social and economic thinking President Roosevelt was guided by one principle -- the welfare of the common man. He was a warm hearted individual. His solicitude was for the common man, what he called the forgotten man. He loved them. They in turned loved him. "The test of our progress," he declared in his second Inaugural address, "is not whether we add more to the abundance of those



who have much; it is whether we provide enough for those who have too little." Hence his deep interest in the rights of the laborer, the farmer, the youth of our land, the small home owner, the aged, the sick, the unemployed, the deep interest in what he called one-third of the nation, the ill-housed and the ill clad and the ill-nourished.

He loved men and he tried to ease their burden -- all men without distinction of race, creed or color. He was opposed, by his very nature, to all forms of intolerance, of discrimination. During the war, you will recall, he issued an executive order against discrimination in employment of workers in defense industries.

"Now, therefore, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the statutes, and as a prerequisite to the successful conduct of our national defense production effort, I do hereby reaffirm the policy of the United States that there shall be no discrimination in the employment of workers in defense industries or Government because of race, creed, color, or national origin, and I do hereby declare that it is the duty of employers and of labor organizations, in furtherance of said policy and of this order to provide for the full and equitable participation of all workers in defense industries without discrimination because of race, creed, color, or national origin."

Roosevelt wanted America to be one and united, a fair land for all. Time and again he warned the American people against succumbing to Nazi hate propaganda. Early in 1942, he said: "We must guard against divisions among ourselves and among all the other United Nations. We must be particularly vigilant against racial discrimination in any of its ugly forms." "Hitler will try again," declared the President, "to breed mistrust and suspicion between one individual and another, one group and another, one race and another....He is trying to do this even now."

He bitterly denounced the Nazi atrocities against the Jewish people. He warned the Nazi criminals that retaliation for the persecution of the Jews would come. He was a great friend of the Jewish people as he was of every people. He was deeply interested in the problem of the Jewish National Homeland of the Jewish people and he sought to help them. I recall my meeting with the President early last year on this very subject at the



White House. It is an experience, an unforgettable experience to meet with him and to talk with him....There was a vibrancy about the man. There was a grandeur about that man not to speak of that infectious charm of the man. And after I discussed with him the problem of Jewry in Europe, the tragic plight of our refugees, the need of Palestine as a national homeland of our people, the inadequacy of the White Paper which was closing the doors of Palestine to countless refugees who needed a place of refuge, he authorized us to issue the following statement: "The American government has never given its approval to the White Paper of 1939. The President is happy that the doors of Palestine are today open to Jewish refugees, and that when future decisions are reached, full justice will be done to those who seek a Jewish National Home, for which our Government and the American people have always had the deepest sympathy and today more than ever, in view of the tragic plight of hundreds of thousands of homeless Jewish refugees."

And again in October of last year he sent to the convention of the Zionist Organization of America a communication saying: "I ask you to convey to the delegates assembled my cordial greetings. Please express my satisfaction that in accord with traditional American policy, and in keeping with the spirit of the Four Freedoms, the Democratic Party at its July convention this year included the following plank in its platform: 'We favor the opening of Palestine to unrestricted Jewish immigration and colonization, and such a policy as to result in the establishment there of a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth.'"

"Efforts will be made to find appropriate ways and means of effectuating this policy as soon as practicable. I know how long and ardently the Jewish people have worked and prayed for the establishment of Palestine as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth. I am convinced that the American people give their support to this aim; and if re-elected I shall help to bring about this realization."

He reiterated this pledge of his just a few weeks before he died.

His outlook upon all things was world-wide. In nothing was he parochial. There was a world sweep and scope to his political and economic conceptions. More than any



other statesmen did he come to understand the newer methods of transportation, the inter-relatedness and inter-dependence of all nations of all parts of the globe. He made a better and quicker adjustment to the new geography which modern communication and transportation created than any living man. He understood that the modern airplane made all nations neighbors and that only a policy of good neighborliness could save this closely net world from falling into chaos and disaster. And he earnestly sought to drive this lesson home not only to the American people but to the world. As recently as his fourth Inaugural address he stated: "And so today, in this year of war, 1945, we have learned lessons -- at a fearful cost -- and we shall profit by them.

"We have learned that we cannot live alone, at peace; that our own well-being is dependent upon the well-being of other nations far away. We have learned that we must live as men, and not as ostriches, nor as dogs in the manger.

"We have learned to be citizens of the world, members of the human community."

We must live in that human community if we are to live in peace at all. His aim was to foster good neighborliness in the world and if necessary, to curb those nations who practice bad neighborliness.

Sooner and before any of the other great statesmen of the world, President Roosevelt appreciated the deadly threat to this program of peaceful neighborliness in the world in the Fascist-Nazi barbarism which was sweeping over the world. He appreciated sooner than anyone else the inherent vicious nationalistic aggressiveness of Fascism and Nazism and their lust for power and world domination. He saw this challenge as early as 1937 when he issued this solemn warning against this plague: "The peace, the freedom and the security of 90 percent of the population of the world is being jeopardized by the remaining 10 percent who are threatening a breakdown of all international order and law...When an epidemic of physical disease starts to spread, the community approves and joins in a quarantine of the patients in order to protect the health of the community against the spread of the disease."



That was his famous quarantine speech in 1937, delivered in the city of Chicago, and realizing the menace of the approaching storms, Roosevelt began to prepare the American people for what was to come. He was called a war monger. He ignored it.... By dint of insistence and skillful leadership, he persuaded our country to repeal our neutrality law which was a necessary aid to the allies. The selective service law was adopted, the lend lease program was started to prepare our country for war, the war which he came to understand was now inescapable. He faced the danger unafraid and unflinchingly. "There comes a time in the affairs of men when they must prepare to defend, not only their homes, but the tenets of faith and humanity, whereon their churches, their government and their very civilization are founded."

President Roosevelt, good friends, wishes for, worked for what he called a free, civilized society, a society in which human rights would be supreme. He wishes for a world of freedom of speech, freedom of expression, freedom of worship, freedom from want and freedom from fear.

And in the name of these freedoms he led our nation into the war against those forces which sought to destroy them. Here he was again sustained by a faith, a faith in God "Who maketh wars to cease unto the end of the earth; Who breaketh the bow, and cutteth the spear in sunder. He burneth the chariots in Fire." He led our nation to the very threshold of victory. And on the eve of victory, this good lovable man, this intrepid leader of the free forces of mankind worn out by years of his efforts and struggles and cares and exacting responsibilities of his office ~~and~~ laid himself down to rest. Franklin Delano Roosevelt has joined the immortal company of our nations illustrious dead who lived in the deathlessness of their spirits and their influence.

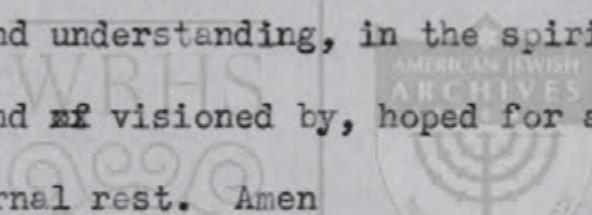
"And the days of Israel drew n ar to die," Rabbi Simeon said. Rabbi said: The days of the righteous die, but they themselves do not die." A great man's years come to an end. A great man never comes to an end! Wilson's days ended and Lincoln's days ended, but Wilson's life and dream has not ended, and Lincoln's life and dream have not ended. They cannot. In fact they go on and acquire increased fulfillment and



realization to the oncoming generations. And so Roosevelt's days have come to an end, but I am persuaded as I know you are that across the gulf which separates the dead from the living, that kindly, friendly, confident voice of his which once revived a nation by saying "the only thing we have to fear is fear itself, " -- that voice will continue to speak to our nation again and again and we and those who come after us will take courage in whatever tasks and whatever ordeals lie ahead of us, we will take heart and courage from this valiant spirit and in his spirit, we will carry on.

"Now it came to pass after the death of Moses, the servant of the Lord, that the Lord spoke to Joshua." And Joshua was filled with the spirit of wisdom, for Moses had laid his hands upon him." Within sight of the promised land, Moses died, but Joshua carried on.

May God grant to his successor, the new President of the United States to carry on in the spirit of wisdom and understanding, in the spirit of counsel so that he may lead us all into the beautiful land ~~of~~ visioned by, hoped for and died for by him who was this morning laid to his eternal rest. Amen





1) Ps. 46. <sup>of war</sup> A most fitting - For it suggests  
That which was most admirable + inspiring about - led our  
nation.

"Therefore we will not fear, tho' the earth do change and tho'  
the wits be moved into the heart, the seas."

He was a man unafraid. Not bec. he was unaware - flirting  
dangers - overhanging menaces. <sup>- neither forward nor</sup> Gaily undisturbed.

He realized fully - more > most men, not so due to a know-  
ledge, the facts - how dangerously near - 1933 - Pearl  
Harbor -

But his courage masked his fears!

His power enkindling + challenging Heaven - First Inaugural -

Mar. 4 - 1933

• will echo down the corridors of Time -  
part, the invaluable anthology of great utterances  
of the past men, Am. history. Nations was perished, then,

Just ①

He believed in the power, with, the strength of confident resolution,  
renate + renewed, ride along forward, from the ashes of defeat.

He believed in this country, in this American people:

He believed in the U.S. of America: "God is in the midst of  
her, she shall not be moved,

"God shall help her at the affront of morning".

After the night that will be a morning.

When our Navy lay shattered in Pearl Harbor - West Coast  
peril to attack of invasion - as near to disaster.

"The Lord of hosts is with us - The God of Jacob is  
an High Tower"



2/. His Sp. Way of life was  
 Not to yield to Fear  
 To draw upon hidden reserves of the Spirit  
 To pit will against adversity  
 And <sup>to reach for</sup> wings of Faith against down-ward drag of cruel Fate  
 He hewed out that phil - proverb - maxim taught by rote  
Out of Paris - devastating illness  
Better + prolonged personal experience facing Death + invalidism  
Wrestling with Dark Angels of Fear + Despair through days  
And Rising triumphant from the unequal struggle, unbroken  
Rising to carve out a career which led - summit,  
Hither to grandeur. Courage made him a man of destiny

2b/. Some men are destroyed by such an ordeal  
 Some wills are burnt up & consumed  
 Others - purged - emerged hardened, sterner, surlier & steel

2c) He knew from himself that Fear can be beaten  
 He lost that confident conviction to the fearful problems  
 He inspired a Nation to renewed . A Leader!

3. He wished that others, similarly afflicted, should share  
 And crumblers thousands - valley - have blessed him  
Example - faith restored . Inspired Nation - content  
Ministry of Paris -  
"With his stripes were other men healed"



4) Be. he was unafraid - he ~~unleashed~~ <sup>unleashed</sup> his ~~heart~~ <sup>heart</sup>. ~~which~~ <sup>which</sup> called for (3)  
new roads, untried experiments, new adventure in government  
in economies, in inter. responsibilities.

- The old ways had led to the most prolonged & dangerous econ.  
deficiencies in our nation's history.

- Only bold, new measures, breathing with evolution but not with  
the essential genius of our way of life - ~~was~~ <sup>could save the day</sup> ~~unimpaired~~.

He took them - unafraid. <sup>During - Audacious</sup> He was not deterred by slayers,  
or heavy catch-words - nor when people denounced him as a danger.

Reckless - Not always Right - Always Agile - Perpet  
The many measures which were taken in the emergency years,  
his first administration to salvage an econ. system will  
remain as land-marks in the social progress of times.

They are here to stay - there is no going back

5) In all his social & econ. reform efforts - his guiding principle  
was the welfare of the common man. <sup>of warm love & solicitude for</sup> <sup>his followers - forgotten war</sup>  
"They loved him & stated by  
the test of our progress, he declared in his 2nd Inaugural, "is not  
whether we add more to the abundance of those who have much;  
it is whether we provide enough for those who have too little."  
Never ~~show~~ his deep interest in the rights, labor, the farmer,  
the youth of our land, the small business man, the aged the  
neg., the unemployed, and "the 1/3, the nation ill-housed,  
ill-clad and ill-nourished!"

- He loved men - fought to ease their burdens -

- All men - without distinction of race, creed or color -

- He was opposed to all forms of intolerance & discrimination

- During the war he issued an Executive Order ag. discrimination  
in employment, workers in defense industries. (Juli)



"Now, therefore, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the statutes, and as a prerequisite to the successful conduct of our national defense production effort, I do hereby reaffirm the policy of the United States that there shall be no discrimination in the employment of workers in defense industries or Government because of race, creed, color, or national origin, and I do hereby declare that it is the duty of employers and of labor organizations, in furtherance of said policy and of this order to provide for the full and ~~equip~~ equitable participation of all workers in defense industries, without discrimination because of race, creed, color, or national origin."--Executive Order 8802

4) Was the Amer. to be one & United! a fair land for all

In an address on Jan. 6, 1942, President Roosevelt warned the American people against succumbing to Nazi hate propaganda:

"We must guard against divisions among ourselves and among all the other United Nations. We must be particularly vigilant against racial discrimination in any of its ugly forms."

"Hitler will try again to breed mistrust and suspicion between one individual and another, one group and another, one race and another...He is trying to do this even now."

- 6) He later by denounced the Nazi atrocities against the J. people. He warned the Nazi criminals that retribution for the persecution, the Jews would come. Mar. 9. - Oct. 15 - National Headquarters Visit "Personality" - charm - force - mind (Dutch)
- 7) His outlook was world-wide. In nothing was he provincial.
  - There was a world sweep & scope to his J.P. Econ. Conceptions.
  - More than any statesman, he grasped the inter-relationships & interdependence of all nations & of all parts of the globe. He made a better & greater adjustment to the new Geography which modern communication & transportation creates than any living man. He understood that the modern airplane made all nations neighbors - and that only a good neighbor policy could keep the close world from falling apart into chaos.



How seriously he sought to drive this lesson home: ~~On this~~ for his 4<sup>th</sup> inaug. Jan 20. / this year (5

"And so today, in this year of war, 1945, we have learned lessons—at a fearful cost—and we shall profit by them.

"We have learned that we cannot live alone, at peace; that our own well-being is dependent upon the well-being of other nations far away. We have learned that we must live as men, and not as ostriches, nor as dogs in the manger.

"We have learned to be citizens of the world, members of the human community."—From his fourth inaugural address, Jan. 20, 1945.





Pres. authorized to say: that the Amer. govt. has never given its approval to the White Paper of 1939. The President is happy that the doors, Pol. are to day open to Jew. refugees, and that when further decisions are reached, full further will be done to those who seek a Jew. National Home, in which our Government and the American people have always had the deepest sympathy and to-day more than ever, in view, the tragic plight of hundreds of thousands of homeless Jewish refugees.

March 9, 1944



Oct 15, 1944

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#### THE JEWISH NATIONAL HOME

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President Roosevelt sent the following message to Senator Wagner who was in attendance at the recent Zionist Convention. The message was read by him as follows: "Knowing that you are to attend the 47th annual convention of the Zionist Organization of America, I ask you to convey to the delegates assembled my cordial greetings. Please express my satisfaction that in accord with traditional American policy, and in keeping with the spirit of the Four Freedoms, the Democratic Party at its July convention this year included the following plank in its platform: 'We favor the opening of Palestine to unrestricted Jewish immigration and colonization, and such a policy as to result in the establishment there of a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth.'

"Efforts will be made to find appropriate ways and means of effectuating this policy as soon as practicable. I know how long and ardently the Jewish people have worked and prayed for the establishment of Palestine as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth. I am convinced that the American people give their support to this aim; and if ~~re-elected~~ re-elected I shall help to bring about this realization."



His aim was to foster good-neighbor on earth, and those nations who were bad-neighbors had to be cured. (6)

8. Sooner than any other statesman he appreciated the deadly threat to this program of a peaceful world in the forest-rage Bush-ness its inherent vicious nat. aggressiveness short for power & world-domination. Challenges!

Back in 1937 <sup>at Chicago</sup> he cried out a warning against this plague.

"The peace, the freedom and the security of 90 per cent of the population of the world is being jeopardized by the remaining 10 per cent who are threatening a breakdown of all international order and law. \* \* \* When an epidemic of physical disease starts to spread, the community approves and joins in a quarantine of the patients in order to protect the health of the community against the spread of the disease."—From a speech at Chicago, Oct. 5, 1937.

"The Government of Italy has now chosen to preserve what it

Began to prepare America for the storms which he foresaw. Called him war-monger. I proved it. Aided allies

- ✓ Repeal of neutrality law - banned shipment of arms to
- ~~Set up a dollar dollar emergency fund~~
- ~~Created a War Relocation Authority~~
- Trade so disrupted to J. B. for naval fair losses
- ✓ Selective Service Law
- ✓ Lend-Lease program. Mar. 1941

He knew the menace. He knew that war was inevitable and he faced it - unflinchingly.

JAN. 3, 1939

"There comes a time in the affairs of men when they must prepare to defend, not only their homes, but the tenets of faith and humanity, whereon their churches, their government and their very civilizations are founded."



9). He wanted ~~swelled~~ <sup>by</sup> ~~for~~ <sup>by</sup> "a freely civilized  
world", a world in which ~~the~~ <sup>human</sup> rights will be supreme.  
A world of freedom - of speech + expression; freedom of  
worship, freedom from want + freedom from fear.

And in this name he led his nation into war  
against ~~forces~~ <sup>forces</sup> which might to destroy them. Faith in  
a God who ~~was~~ <sup>was</sup> to ~~close~~ <sup>close</sup> unto the end of the earth. Who breaketh the  
bow, and cutteth the spear in sunder. He burneth the chariots in fire

10). Victory! <sup>on the threshold of Peace Day</sup>  
An eve of Victory this good great, good lovable man -  
this intrepid leader of the hosts of freedom - worn out by  
the years of his efforts + struggles + cares of high purpose + humble responsibilities  
has gone to rest.

F. D. R. has joined the immortal company of our nation's  
illustrious dead - who live in the deathless, their spirit  
and influence.

"And the days of Israel are near to die". R. Simeon R.  
~~"And the days of David"~~ " " "

Zalutsky said: "The days, the righteous die, but they them-  
selves do not die". ~~It does not say~~

A great man's years come to an end. A great man never  
comes to an end!

Wilson's days ended - Lincoln's days ended. But Wilson's  
Lincoln's life and dream - go on - unendingly +  
increasing in fulfillment + realization with the  
meaningful generations of men.

And so R's days have come to an end!



But from across the ~~low~~ gulf which separates the (5)  
dead from the living - the friendly confident voice, the  
valiant voice who once ~~resisted~~ <sup>rejoiced</sup> the ~~step~~ <sup>spirit</sup> of a nation by his words:  
"the only thing we have to fear is fear itself" - will speak  
again & yet again -

And we and those who come after us will talk  
heart for ~~our~~ <sup>whenever</sup> tasks and difficult ~~adventures~~ <sup>ahead of us</sup> & ~~carry on~~ <sup>will stand</sup>

II/ "Now it came to pass after the death of Moses  
the servant, the Lord, that the Lord spoke to  
Joshua!"

"And Joshua was full, the Spirit, wisdom  
for ~~Moses~~ <sup>him</sup> had laid his hands upon him."

Rev. Harry S. Truman -



Sermon 660

EXCERPTS FROM MEMORIAL TRIBUTE PAID TO FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT BY DR. ABBA HILLEL SILVER AT THE TEMPLE, ANSEL ROAD AND E. 105TH STREET ON SUNDAY MORNING, APRIL 15, 1945.

It is most fitting that Psalm 46 was read at the President's funeral services, for that immortal Psalm suggests that which was most admirable and inspiring about President Roosevelt. "Therefore we will not fear though the earth do change and though the mountains be moved into the heart of the seas."

President Roosevelt was a man unafraid not because he was unaware of the lurking dangers or the overhanging menace, or because his courage mastered his fears. He believed in the power of will and of confident resolution to make straight that which is crooked, and to help men rise above failure and defeat. His spiritual way of life was to pit will against adversity and reach for the wings of faith when he experienced the downward drag of cruel circumstance. He hewed that philosophy of life out for himself not out of proverbs or maxims learned by rote, but out of the bitter pain of a prolonged and soul-searching despair through desperate days and months and years. Because he rose triumphantly from this unequal struggle unbroken in spirit though crippled in body to carve out a career which led him to the very summit of achievement he was able to bring a confident courage to the fearful problems of his nation when he became its Chief Executive in one of its darkest hours, and to inspire his nation to renewed faith and forward progress.

Because he was unafraid, he was able to match his hour which called for new roads and untried experiments, some of them fraught with danger, in government, in economics and in international relationships. Only bold new measures breaking with tradition but not with the essential genius of our way of life could save the day. He took them unafraid. He was not deterred by slogans or hoary catch-words, nor when people denounced him as a dangerous radical. Many of the measures which were taken in the emergency years of his first administration to salvage our economic system will remain landmarks in the social progress of America.

In all his social and economic thinking, his guiding principle was the welfare of the common man. He had a warm love for the common men and they in turn loved him.



He sought to ease the burdens of men, of all men, without distinction of race or creed. He was opposed to all forms of intolerance and discrimination. He wanted America to be one and united, a fair land for all.

His outlook was world-wide. In nothing was he parochial. There was a world sweep and scope to his political and economic conceptions. He made a better and quicker adjustment in his thinking to the new geography which modern communication and transportation have created than any living statesman. He understood that the modern airplane had made all nations neighbors, and that only a good neighbor policy could keep this world of ours from falling apart into chaos.

Sooner than any other statesman he appreciated the deadly threat to a neighborly and peaceful world in the Nazi-Fascist world aggression, and he issued a solemn warning against that menace. He faced also this danger unafraid, and he led the shaken and almost defeated freedom loving peoples of the earth out of the valley of defeat to the very threshold of victory.

And on the eve of victory this great, good and lovable man, this intrepid leader of the hosts of men, worn out by the long, hard years of effort and struggle and the cares and exacting responsibilities of high office, has laid himself down to rest. He has now joined the immortal company of our nation's illustrious dead who live on in the deathlessness of their spirit and influence.

From across the gulf which separates the dead from the living, the friendly and confident voice of this valiant man, who once revived the spirit of a nation by his words, "The only thing we have to fear is fear itself," will speak to us again and yet again in the oncoming years; and we -- and those who come after us -- will take courage for our tasks and ordeals, and in his spirit -- we will carry on.



President R. was a great & good man, who  
 served his country & mankind <sup>in</sup> with faithfulness  
 and high devotion. ~~There was a fundamental~~  
 in one of the most critical periods in the  
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President R. was a great & good man, who served his country & mankind <sup>in</sup> with faithfulness and high devotion; ~~There was a~~ ~~fundamental~~ in one of the most critical periods in the history of our nation & the world. He matched his hour. He was morally & spiritually equal to the great emergencies of his generation. He came to the leadership of our nation in 1 of its darkest hours & by the rare gift of his heart & mind he inspired a nation to confidence & to renewed progress. He was among the first of <sup>the of the world's</sup> great statesmen of ~~world~~ to appreciate the ~~great~~ dangers ~~to the~~ world which were inherent in <sup>in the rising tide</sup> the barbarism of the Nazi-Fascist <sup>barbarism</sup> ~~attack on~~ <sup>sweeping over the world.</sup> ~~modern civilization.~~ He led our nation to victory against these forces of darkness, and he laid the groundwork for a new world order of international security & peace. President R. will be remembered by a grateful world, along with Wilson & Lincoln, ~~for his heroic~~ as one of the architects of ~~international~~ the



world of tomorrow. The American people  
will proudly cherish his memory  
through all the oncoming years  
~~later~~ For he embodied in his life  
and in his public career the noblest

traditions of American democracy.  
His way ~~was~~ <sup>was</sup> ~~death~~ <sup>human</sup> ~~rich~~ <sup>rich</sup> in human sympathies.  
He ~~knew us~~ <sup>was</sup> ~~not~~ <sup>not</sup> ~~bravely~~ <sup>bravely</sup> ~~thorough~~ <sup>thorough</sup>  
He believed in human brotherhood.  
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friend of the J. people, ~~and~~ <sup>and</sup> gave expression to his  
deep interest in the cause of the rebuilding of the  
~~national life~~ <sup>national life</sup> ~~for people in its historic home, true~~  
and a true ~~man~~ <sup>man</sup> the passing of a  
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people. He believed in these United States of America. "God is in the midst of her, she shall not be moved." Again I quote from Psalm 46. ~~"God is in the midst of her, she shall not be moved."~~ "God shall <sup>help</sup> her at the approach of morning." There is night and darkness, but there is a morning.

When our Navy lay shattered in Pearl Harbor, on that day which will live in infamy, when our Western Coast lay open to attack and invasion, when our country came as near disaster as at any time in its history, this great leader had faith. ~~He knew,~~ He believed that "The Lord of Hosts is with us - The God of Jacob is our High Tower."

He had a philosophy of life, ~~a spiritual way of life~~ which was simply this -- not to yield to fear, to draw upon the hidden reserves of the spirit in times of danger, to pit will against adversity and to reach out for the wings of faith when he felt the downward drag of cruel circumstance. This philosophy of life ~~which was his~~ ~~he hewed out, he carved out for himself not out of proverbs or maxims learned from a book by rote.~~ He carved <sup>for himself out</sup> out of pain and devastating illness, out of bitter and prolonged experience with death and invalidism, ~~out of~~ days and months and years of wrestling with dark angels of despair and fear, <sup>He rose</sup> ~~and rising~~ triumphantly from the unequal struggle, unbroken in spirit, though crippled in body, ~~rising to carve out~~ <sup>carving</sup> for himself a career which led to the very summit of world achievement, ~~to become heir to grandeur.~~ That courage wrested from pain and suffering made him a man of destiny.

Some people are destroyed by such an ordeal. Some human wills are burned up and consumed in such a furnace of affliction. But other wills are purged and emerge hardened, stainless, rustless steel. That was the case <sup>with</sup> ~~of~~ Franklin Delano Roosevelt.

He knew from himself, from his own life, ~~from his own experience~~ that fear can be licked and he brought that confident conviction ~~of his~~ to the fearful problem. ~~When the fearful problems which confronted his nation when he was President, he inspired a whole nation to renewed effort, to move forward, to advance. He was a leader.~~



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And he wished that other human beings -- ~~this~~ was part of the rare spiritual greatness of the man -- ~~he wished that other men similarly afflicted as he would~~ share the knowledge of faith, the strength and courage that had come to him. There are today thousands, ~~countless~~ <sup>of</sup> children and adults blessed ~~for~~ <sup>by</sup> the example which he set for them and for the faith which he restored to them. That is what we mean, ~~when~~ <sup>when</sup> we speak of the ministry of pain. Some wise men are blessed with a capacity of using pain, ~~suffering by way of ministry for~~ <sup>to help</sup> other men. ~~Because he was~~ <sup>Because he was</sup> unafraid, he was able to match his hour, an hour which called for new roads <sup>with</sup> new and untried experiments, ~~some dangerous experiments~~, new adventures in government, economics and international relations. The old ways had led our country through ~~the~~ long dangerous economic depressions. ~~in our nation's history~~. Only bold new measures, a break with tradition, though not a break with the essential genius of the American people, ~~only bold new measures could alone save the day~~. He took them unafraid. He had daring. He had spiritual order, ~~if you will~~. He was not deterred by slogans, by hoary catch-words, by the fact that people denounced him as a dangerous radical. ~~Now it isn't that all men agreed with him always, that all men thought that everything he did was correct. Not at all.~~ <sup>That not</sup> ~~He is~~ <sup>is</sup> to suggest that this man was perfect. ~~No~~ man is perfect -- none but God is perfect. <sup>It is</sup> to suggest that this man had spiritual fortitude, new ways when the old proved bankrupt. The many measures which were taken in the emergency years of his first administration to salvage the economic system will remain as landmarks in the social progress of the American people. They are here to stay. ~~There is no turning back.~~

~~And my friends,~~ In all his social and economic thinking President Roosevelt was guided by one principle -- the welfare of the common man. He was a warm hearted individual. His solicitude was for ~~the common man~~, what he called the forgotten men. He loved them. They in turn ~~loved~~ loved him. "The test of our progress," he declared in his second Inaugural address, "is not whether we add more to the abundance of those



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