

CRAWFORD  
BROADCASTING  
COMPANY



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**THE STAND**  
**INDEPENDENCE**  
**OUR FREEDOMS**

Remember the words of Patrick Henry: “Give me liberty or give me death”.

Without liberty, death is inevitable. That is, death of a society, its culture, values and way of life. We the people, the American people, do indeed face that possibility unless we return to vigilance and vigor in the protection and growth of FREEDOM. From liberty to bondage!

Alexander Tyler, a Scottish history professor at the University of Edinburgh had this to say about the fall of the Athenian Republic some 2,000 years prior: “A democracy is always temporary in nature. It simply can not exist as a permanent form of government. A democracy will continue to exist up until the time that voters discover that they can vote themselves generous gifts from the public treasury. From that moment on, the majority always votes for the candidates who offer the most benefits from the public treasury with the result that every democracy will finally collapse due to loose fiscal policy, which is always followed by a dictatorship”.

It is jolting indeed to know that Tyler believes that democracy is always temporary in nature. Democracy in other words, can never be a permanent way of life or form of government. It is transient, variable, and subject to so many potential problems it can not survive. It is our duty as American citizens to prove Tyler wrong, if we can. Benjamin Franklin, the great early American statesman and politico reminded us that he and the founding fathers gave us a republic and further reminded us that it was a republic only “if we could keep it”. That is our task as citizens. We need to determine what we need to do, how much sacrifice is required in order for us to maintain our freedom and our democratic way of life.

Allow me to repeat a second time what Tyler said: “Every democracy will finally collapse due to loose fiscal policy”.

If that is the case, and many believe it is, America is on the verge of collapse. Our fiscal policy under the Bush administration and with a fiscally irresponsible Congress and Senate have created more federal debt than ever before in the history of our great country. Pork is rampant. Legislation is riddled with preferences. Waste abounds everywhere. Inefficiency and incompetence exist everywhere the federal dollar goes. Our fiscal policies as a nation are loose, irresponsible and virtually utterly without accountability. If these trends continue, if these fiscal policies compound, our country will in fact collapse and a dictatorship of some kind or sort would be inevitable.

**The Stand**  
**July 10, 2006**  
**PAGE 2**

Witness Germany after the first World War. Its economy was in ruins. Inflation ran rampant. The German mark was worthless. The people demanded the strongest possible course of action, and to power came Adolf Hitler. You know the rest.

History reveals that the average age of the world's greatest civilizations has been about 200 years. During those 200 years, nations have generally progressed through the following cycles and sequence:

1. From bondage to spiritual faith
2. From spiritual faith to great courage
3. From courage to liberty
4. From liberty to abundance
5. From abundance to complacency
6. From complacency to apathy
7. From apathy to dependence
8. From dependence back to bondage

Each of the world's great civilizations have traveled through these various cultural and political cycles beginning with some form of bondage and ending with another form of bondage. Professor Joseph Olsen of Hamline University School of Law believes that America is now somewhere between the complacency and apathy phase which if true, means that America has only to degenerate from apathy to dependence and finally from dependence to bondage. Bondage may well mean dictatorship or at the very least, the end of our liberty and democracy as we know them. It is up to us the people to prove Olsen wrong and to respond to the challenges which we face in order to preserve our way of life.

Professor Olsen further believes that roughly 40% of the nation's population already has reached the "governmental dependency phase". If that is the case, roughly one out of two Americans still believe, and live and act in that aggressive independent way to protect democracy, our way of life and theirs individually. The demand will grow to take from the doers and give to the dependents. That "loose" financial policy, unfair and doomed to failure, will be the very thing which brings about the end of our democracy. So say Tyler and Olsen. What do you say?

Think about our every growing, gigantic federal government. There is one department after another, bureaucracy, ever-growing. Congress creates agencies one after another and agencies create departments, sub-agencies with demand every year for more budget, more money, and more power. Think of the way Congress works, and in fact all political entities. There are deals and compromise. Parties and individuals build political capital and use it to bargain to get what they want whether or not it is right for the majority of America. Politicians will do or say anything to get elected. We are bombarded with political-speak, Washington-eze and all forms of communication which is not the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth. We get sound bites but never real, honest, complete and thorough dialogue. There is waste, inefficiency and incompetence at every level. There is outright corruption which exists in so many quarters, and corrupt, unethical and immoral people who administer the delegated power and the money taxed

**The Stand**  
**July 10, 2006**  
**PAGE 3**

from us. And, we elect these politicians, many of them career and permanent politicians, for years on end. Political machines and parties well vested virtually insure both the election and reelection of individuals hand picked and chosen whether right for America or not. They owe, and they pay their debts with legislation, grants and preferences. They become the champions of loose fiscal policy, and they and their politically correct actions will eventually bring down America.

Remember then that there are 545 people, American citizens who make all the important decisions for our country and for US. They know virtually no boundaries and they have almost no check and balance. They get our vote and forget about us. They, so many of them, do what they want and wait until reelection to make amends, justify, rationalize and of course begin the whole series of promises anew. And, for the most part, we are taken again, suckered in and the political cycle goes on, uninterrupted and virtually unchallenged. We may very well be more dependant than we realize which is the final stage before BONDAGE once again. Small wonder that Tyler says that democracy can not exist as a permanent form of government. The way it is run and operated, and the people who do so, are such that democracy seems always in peril. But as Blake says, when good men and women abandon the political arena, bad men and women take over. The worst of the bad are those who champion and foster "loose fiscal policy". They are everywhere and they are extremely dangerous. Many of them may very well be part of any so-called dictatorship which may succeed democracy. They will continue and they will prevail unless we who care, we who deeply believe in liberty and democracy, get back into the political arena with demand, and with vigilance and vigor to protect our liberty and way of life. That is the call, the challenge of July 4th. That day is set aside for us to remember, reassess, reevaluate, and recommit to INDEPENDENCE! I pray you will do so, not one day, but every day and for all your life. I am ready, as Churchill once said, to do whatever is required to keep America free and make liberty grow.

Are you?

If so, you and I need to do more, much, much more!

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