

THE EXTRA POINT

BY JERRY ROBERTS



985 A Look at Thomas Jefferson

Today, a brief look at one of America's "founding fathers," plus words and ideas he left for us. I'm Jerry Roberts, and we focus on Thomas Jefferson, next, on The Extra Point.

Thomas Jefferson is in the spotlight today. Here are some of the milestones and highlights in his life and career:

Age 9, studied Latin, Greek and French.

Age 16, entered the College of William and Mary. He was able to write in Greek with one hand, while writing the same in Latin with the other.

Age 19, studied Law.

Age 23, started his own law practice.

Age 25, was elected to the Virginia House of Burgesses.

Age 32, was a delegate to the Second Continental Congress.

Age 33, wrote the Declaration of Independence.

Age 36, was elected the second Governor of Virginia.

Age 40, served a term in Congress.

Age 46, was the first U.S. Secretary of State under George Washington.

Age 53, served as Vice President

Age 57, was elected the third president of the United States, then was re-elected.

Age 80, helped President Monroe shape the Monroe Doctrine.

Age 83, died on the 50th Anniversary of the Signing of the Declaration of Independence, along with John Adams.

John F. Kennedy held a dinner in the White House for a group of the brightest minds in the nation at that time. He made this statement: "This is perhaps the assembly of the most intelligence ever to gather at one time in the White House, with the exception of when Thomas Jefferson dined alone."

Jefferson left a treasure trove of thoughts and ideas for future generations to ponder. Here's are 15 of the very best.

1. "The democracy will cease to exist when you take away from those who are willing to work and give to those who would not."

2. "It is incumbent on every generation to pay its own debts as it goes. A principle which if acted on, would save one-half the wars of the world."

3. "I predict future happiness for Americans if they can prevent the government from wasting the labors of the people, under the pretense of taking care of them."

4. "The strongest reason for the people to retain the right to keep and bear arms is, as a last resort, to protect themselves against tyranny in government."

5. "Determine never to be idle. No person will have occasion to complain of the want of time who never loses any. It is wonderful how much may be done if we are always doing."

6. "Nothing can stop the man with the right mental attitude from achieving his goal; nothing on earth can help the man with the wrong mental attitude."

7. "One man with courage is a majority."

8. "Nothing gives one person so much advantage over another as to remain always cool and unruffled under all circumstances."

9. "I'm a greater believer in luck, and I find the harder I work the more I have of it."

10. "If you want something you've never had you must be willing to do something you've never done."

11. "The moment a person forms a theory, his imagination sees in every object only the traits which favor that theory."

12. "Educate and inform the whole mass of the people... They are the only sure reliance for the preservation of our liberty."

13. "It is error alone which needs the support of government. Truth can stand by itself."

14. "Enlighten the people generally, and tyranny and oppressions of body and mind will vanish like evil spirits at the dawn of day."

15. "When injustice becomes law, resistance becomes duty."

That's the Extra Point. Be responsible and make something good happen today. For 93.3 and the Ray Gibson Show, I'm Jerry Roberts.

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