

TWELVE STATEMENTS BY THOMAS JEFFERSON THAT YOU WILL WANT YOU TO READ:

Jefferson wrote,

"The mass of mankind has not been born with saddles on their backs, nor a favored few booted and spurred, ready to ride them. . . . An aristocracy of wealth is of more harm and danger than benefit to society." *Thomas Jefferson*

"The issue today is the same as it has been throughout all history, whether man shall be allowed to govern himself or be ruled by a small elite." *Thomas Jefferson*

I hope we shall take warning from the example [of England] and crush in its birth the aristocracy of our monied corporations which dare already to challenge our government to a trial of strength and bid defiance to the laws of our country." *Thomas Jefferson*

Rogues. . . always contrive to nestle themselves into the places of power and profit. These rogues set out with staling the people's good opinion, and then steal from them the right of withdrawing it, by contriving laws and associations against the power of the people themselves. . . . I am not among those who fear the people. They, and not the rich, are our dependence for continued freedom." *Thomas Jefferson*

"I am conscious that an equal division of property is impracticable. But the consequences of this enormous inequality producing so much misery to the bulk of mankind, legislators cannot invent too many devices for subdividing property." *Thomas Jefferson*

"Think as you please and let others do so; you will then have no disputes." *Thomas Jefferson*

"If there be one principle more deeply rooted than any other in the mind of every American, it is that we should have nothing to do with conquest." *Thomas Jefferson*

“Never was so much false arithmetic employed on any subject, as that which has been employed to persuade nations that it is in their interest to go to war. *Thomas Jefferson*

**Jefferson also remarked, “Breaking men to military discipline, is breaking their spirits to principles of passive obedience.”
*Thomas Jefferson***

“Millions of innocent men, women, and children, since the introduction of Christianity, have been burnt, tortured, fined, imprisoned; yet we have not advanced one inch towards uniformity. What has been the effect of coercion? To make one half the world fools and the other half hypocrites. . . . I may recover health by medicines I am compelled to take against my own judgment, but I cannot be saved by a worship I disbelieve and abhor. . . . The impious presumption of legislators and rulers, civil as well as ecclesiastical, who. . . have assumed dominion over the faith of others, setting up their own opinions and modes of thinking as the only true and infallible, and as such endeavoring to impose them on others, hath established and maintained false religions over the greatest part of the world and through all time.” *Thomas Jefferson*

“ If one link in nature's chain might be lost, another and another might be lost, till this whole system of things should vanish by piece-meal.” *Thomas Jefferson*

I never submitted the whole system of my opinions to the creed of any party of men whatever, in religion, in philosophy, in politics or in anything else, where I was capable of thinking for my self. Such an addiction is the last degradation of a free and moral agent. If I could not go to heaven but with a party, I would not go there at all.” *Thomas Jefferson*