Defending our American Way of Life by JC Penney, 33 degree

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"America, in her ideals, opportunity, constitution, laws, liberty for the individual is epitomized by vital, fundamental rights and privileges... America was the Land of Dreams come true." The American way of life includes free speech, worship, choice...all summed up in one word – Democracy as Abe Lincoln said, "government of the people, by the people, for the people. Economically means free enterprise. We are aware of the tyranny of the Kremlin, Karl Marx.

Therefore:

- 1) We must fight for democracy abroad
- 2) Live it here
- 3) Reaffirm our faith in Bible, God the church and those spiritual values which lie at the roots of our American way of life.

Thomas Jefferson said, "The Bible is the cornerstone of liberty," and Daniel Webster "If we abide by the principles taught in the Bible, our country will prosper..."

4) Refresh our faith in freedom.

Sacrifice for freedom

(These are words inscribed on the monument at the Alamo, San Antonio, Texas. Monument sculpted by Pompeo Coppini, 1936, Italian Mason)

"From the fire that burned their bodies rose the eternal spirit of sublime heroic sacrifice which gave birth to an empire state.

"They chose never to surrender nor retreat, these brave hearts with flags still proudly waving, perished in the flame of immortality, that their high sacrifice might lead to the founding of this Texas."

(From brochure by the Daughters of the Republic of Texas, The Story of the Alamo)

"For this reason the Alamo remains hallowed ground and the Shrine of Texas Liberty."