

add, however, religious citizens are expected to practice what they preach in political action. The Russians take it for granted that the communist party will continue to exercise as much control as possible over all aspects of their personal life. They expect the government to dictate policy to those churches it controls and know that fundamentally religious people cannot expect to gain much power or influence in the control of the party or the state. In America, we relate our belief in God to our loyalty to the United States. We find no conflict between the two, and we try to do whatever we can to preserve the United States as "one nation under God." With a government that is linked hopelessly with a militantly atheistic movement—communism—it is painful, if not impossible, for a Russian to relate his religion and his national loyalty.

In troubled times such as these, in which we are confronted by these forces of darkness, I believe it is essential that we Americans return to the simple faith of our forefathers. I think, for example, that we should strive to better the quality of our lives to match all the material blessings with which we are surrounded. I think we should rise above the mere necessities of living—our preoccupation with such things as jobs, homes, automobiles, clothes—and show more concern about the dignity and the character of the individual. I think we need to be re-inspired to work harder for freedom and justice and decency, both in our own wonderful land and in lands abroad. We need to reappraise our values to give us a proper perspective of life—to place spiritual values above material values. We should think more about such things as education and religion which stress intelligent and noble living and emphasize such ideals as the equality of individuals and justice for all people. It is time that we broaden our vision of life, remembering well the words: "Where there is no vision the people perish." If we are to retain our leadership in a turbulent world, we must make of America a citadel of man's true freedom and a vast reservoir of spiritual power, so that the light which shines in American lives will brighten the dark places of all mankind.