



The Four
Freedoms

No. 2

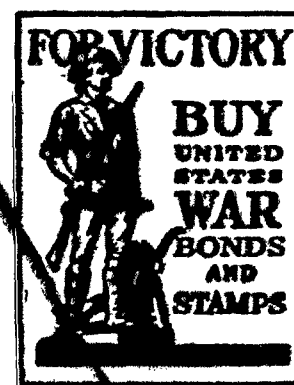
*A*MERICA stands as the world's greatest monument to Religion and to Faith. However, unlike most monuments, it is one that was never built. It is a living monument that has grown.

Our country was founded because a band of freedom-loving people insisted on the right to go about their daily lives thinking and believing and worshipping openly according to their own conscience and not according to the dictation of some arbitrary authority. Consequently, there can be no place in America today for even the thought of any social order that would impose upon or hamper the individual's spiritual beliefs.

The preservation of religious freedom as one of the inviolable rights carried America through the hardships of early colonial days, through the sacrifices of the War of the Revolution and through the troubled days of the first Federal Government. Always it has been faith in the Divine and devotion to individual freedom that have kept our country moving steadily ahead to the place of leadership among the nations of the world and now to the task of saving them.

Approximately two hundred thousand religious organizations and churches of some two hundred and fifty different faiths bear witness to the freedom and the vitality of Religion in America. Its teachings and its practices have influenced our people to live better and more useful lives, not just for their own sake, but for their fellowmen and for their country.

Religion asks that the individual treat his fellowman as his brother and be an example to him. All real Americans realize what this freedom of Religion means to us as individuals and as a nation and will safeguard it everlastingly for us and for all the world.



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