

Indiana State Treasurer Richard Mourdock Speaks to the Taxpayer March on Washington

Freedom loving Americans it is my great honor to be with you today. Thank you for coming and putting fear into the hearts of those who set the agenda in this building behind us!! But, let us remember, we are not here to demonstrate anger but to display love of country. It is less important that we criticize, more important that we celebrate. For we come to proclaim that which is right. What we define as right is, as Abraham Lincoln said, ‘the common right of humanity.’ Said more simply, we celebrate that our freedom is God’s gift to us.

Our forefathers were great men, great patriots. But they did not endow us with the spirit of freedom. It was already within us. They won our freedom from government. The suffering and sacrifice they experienced have now been re-lived, shared by no less than ten generations of Americans. Even in yesterday’s tributes, we were reminded that every generation has its moment. Today, half a globe away, that sacrifice continues.

We gather to celebrate freedom! Let there be no doubt that America’s place in the world has been defined across the centuries by selfless acts of sacrifice that have resulted in hundreds of millions of people living lives unencumbered of tyranny. Millions have sacrificed in places with now-sacred names: Valley Forge, Shilo, Gettysburg, San Juan Hill, the Maginot, the beaches of Normandy, Bastogne, Guadalcanal, Iwo Jima, Pork Chop Hill, the Mekong Delta, Khe Sanh, Kuwait City, Tikrit, Mosul, Baghdad, Kabul, and the Helmon Province. These places define Americas love for freedom because there it was tested, it was fired upon, and proven pure. And yet, amazingly, there are leaders today who would circle the world offering apologies for America’s altruism by saying such sacrifice was in fact, American arrogance. Apologies? For the gift of freedom that American’s have delivered across the centuries, no apologies are necessary, none are required, and none should be given.

Freedom! We celebrate freedom and nothing less. No government can grant the spirit of freedom, but any government can crush it. Through obvious, brutal, criminal acts of tyranny or through subtle, creeping incremental-ism, governments corrupt the ideal of individual freedom into statism, economic slavery, and governmental dependency, and dependency is the opposite of liberty. Freedom! We gather to reflect the joy of those blessed to live in this, the world’s greatest nation. Let no one here today be seen as an angry protestor for we are not here to protest what we think is wrong with America. We’re here as protagonist for what we know to be

right. Freedom! For its cause, we re-new the pledge made so long ago. In freedom's name, we pledge to each other our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor! USA!