

Emancipation

Elder Allan Manuel
Hyattsville Seventh-day Adventist Church
July 12, 2019

Emancipate—*verb* from the Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

to free someone, especially from legal, political, or social restrictions

early 17th cent.: from Latin emancipat- “transferred as property,” from the verb emancipare, from e- (variant of ex-) “out” + mancipium “slave.”

Manci’pium—the etymology of this word is the same as that of the word Mancipatio, of which Gaius (I.121) says, “Mancipatio dicitur quia manu res capitur.” The term Mancipium then is derived from the act of corporeal apprehension of a thing; and this corporeal apprehension is with reference to the transfer of the ownership of a thing. It was not a simple corporeal apprehension, but one which was accompanied with certain forms described by Gaius.

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First reading of the Emancipation Proclamation of 1863

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“[I]f I perish, I perish.” Queen Esther

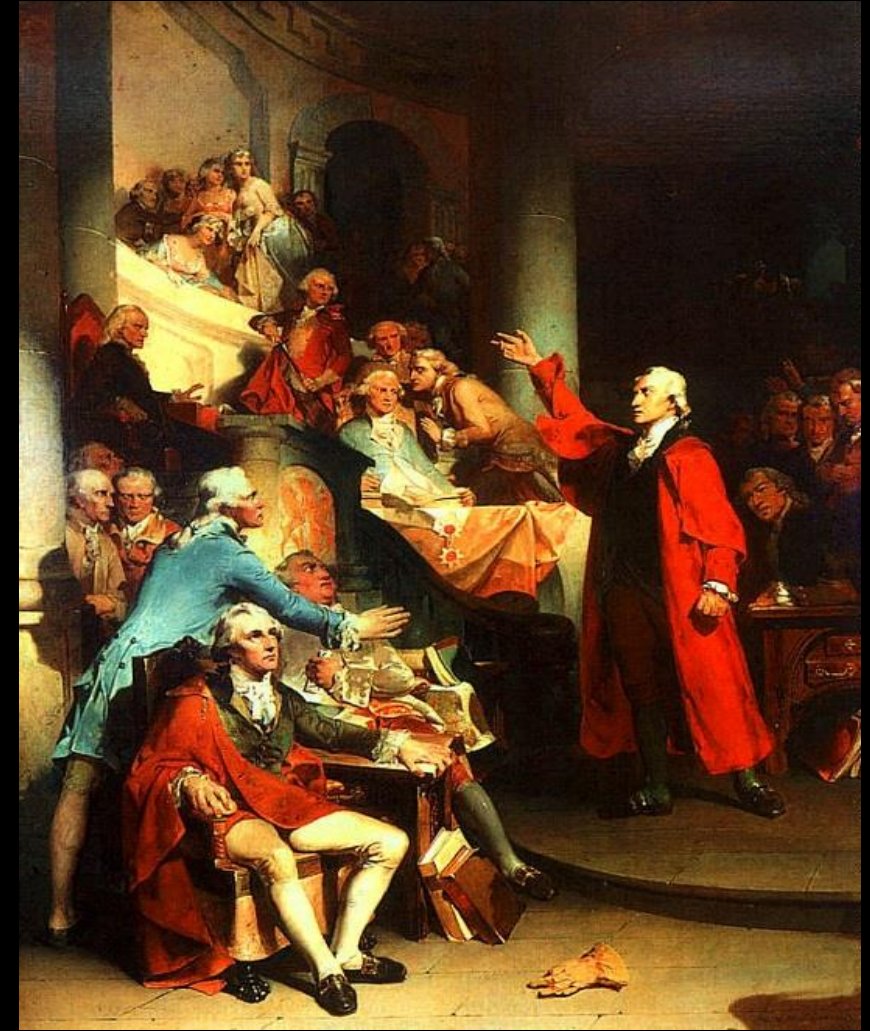
Esther 4:16

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To avoid interference from Lieutenant-Governor Dunmore and his Royal Marines, the Second Virginia Convention met March 20, 1775 inland at Richmond—in what is now called St. John's Church—instead of the Capital in Williamsburg. Delegate Patrick Henry presented resolutions to raise a militia, and to put Virginia in a posture of defense. Henry's opponents urged caution and patience until the crown replied to Congress' latest petition for reconciliation.

On the 23rd, Henry presented a proposal to organize a volunteer company of cavalry or infantry in every Virginia county. By custom, Henry addressed himself to the Convention's president, Peyton Randolph of Williamsburg. Henry's words were not transcribed, but no one who heard them forgot their eloquence, or Henry's closing words: "Give me liberty, or give me death!"



"Give me liberty, or give me death!" Patrick Henry

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Tiananmen Square, China—June 5, 1989



Goddess of Democracy—May 30, 1989

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Ukraine 2004



Prague, Czechoslovakia 1989



Hong Kong 2014



Baton Rouge, Louisiana 2016



Caracas, Venezuela 2019



2010-2011



Prague, Czechoslovakia 1989



Berlin, East-West Germany 1989



Ukraine 2004



2010-2011



Baton Rouge, Louisiana 2016



Hong Kong 2014



Caracas, Venezuela 2019

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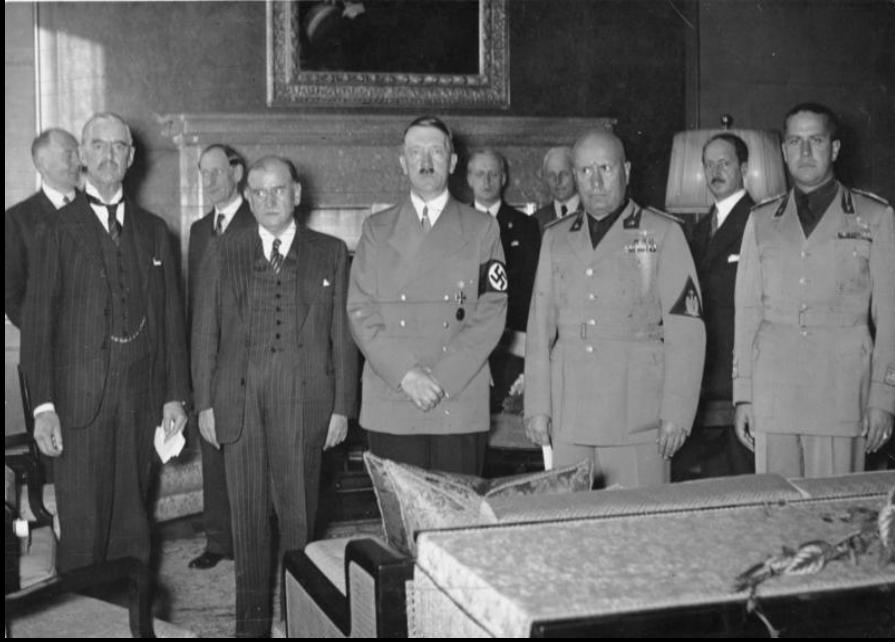
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Europe 1942

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Adolph Hitler (center) with Neville Chamberlain (far left) at the Munich Conference in 1938

“My good friends,

This is the second time in our history that there has come back from Germany to Downing Street peace with honor. I believe it is peace for our time.

We thank you from the bottom of our hearts. And now I recommend you to go home and sleep quietly in your beds.”

Neville Chamberlain (riffing off of Benjamin Disraeli, who said on returning from the Congress of Berlin in 1878, “I have returned from Germany with peace for our time.” Also from *The Book of Common Prayer* as “Give peace in our time, O Lord,” probably based on the 7th-century hymn “Da pacem Domine! in diebus nostris, Alleluja.”)

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Polish Captain Władysław Raginis

The Battle of Wizna was fought between September 7 and September 10, 1939, between the forces of Poland and Germany during the initial stages of invasion of Poland. According to Polish historian Leszek Moczulski, between 350 and 720 Poles defended a fortified line for three days against more than 40,000 Germans.



Wizna Battlefield overlooking Narew River near Góra Strękowa Photo by Wojsyl CC BY-SA 3.0

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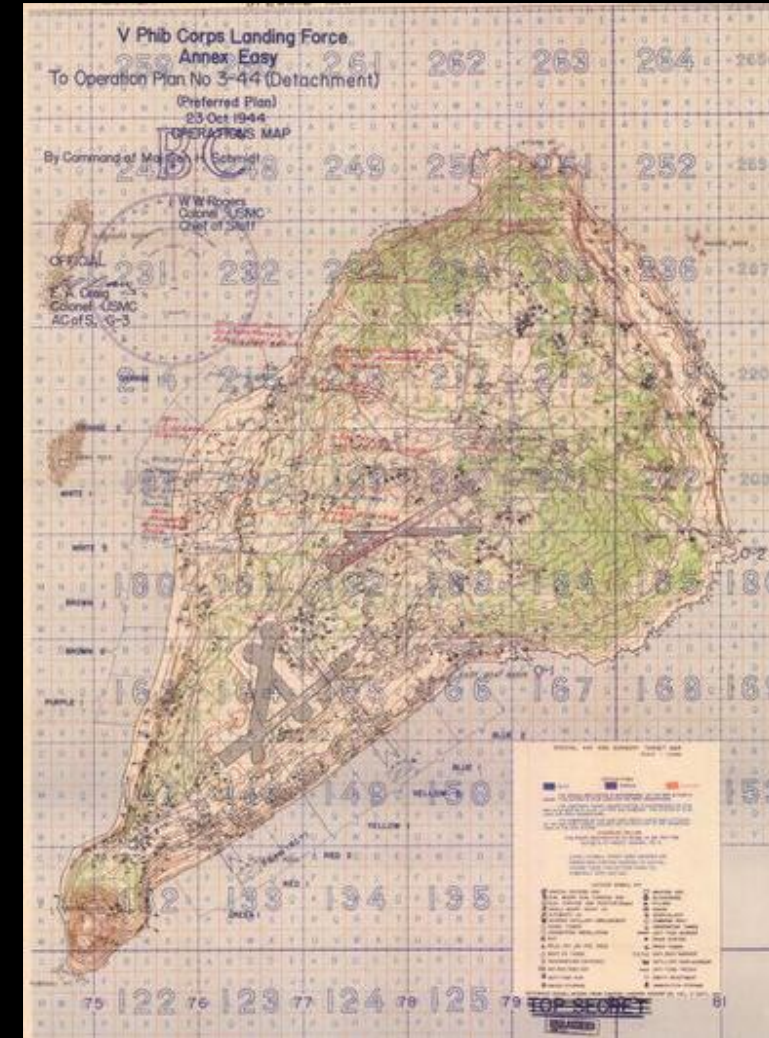


D-Day June 6, 1944

Allied Troops Landing at Normandy

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Harlon Henry Block (far right) (November 6, 1924 – March 1, 1945) was a United States Marine Corps corporal who was killed in action during the Battle of Iwo Jima in World War II. He was raised Seventh-day Adventist. This is one of the most famous, if not the most famous, images from World War II.

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Forty summers have passed since the battle that you fought here. You were young the day you took these cliffs; some of you were hardly more than boys, with the deepest joys of life before you. Yet, you risked everything here. Why? Why did you do it? What impelled you to put aside the instinct for self-preservation and risk your lives to take these cliffs? What inspired all the men of the armies that met here? We look at you, and somehow we know the answer. It was faith and belief; it was loyalty and love.

The men of Normandy had faith that what they were doing was right, faith that they fought for all humanity, faith that a just God would grant them mercy on this beachhead or on the next. It was the deep knowledge -- and pray God we have not lost it -- that there is a profound, moral difference between the use of force for liberation and the use of force for conquest. You were here to liberate, not to conquer, and so you and those others did not doubt your cause. And you were right not to doubt.

You all knew that some things are worth dying for. One's country is worth dying for, and democracy is worth dying for, because it's the most deeply honorable form of government ever devised by man. All of you loved liberty. All of you were willing to fight tyranny, and you knew the people of your countries were behind you.

The Americans who fought here that morning knew word of the invasion was spreading through the darkness back home. They fought -- or felt in their hearts, though they couldn't know in fact, that in Georgia they were filling the churches at 4 a.m., in Kansas they were kneeling on their porches and praying, and in Philadelphia they were ringing the Liberty Bell.

Something else helped the men of D-day: their rockhard belief that Providence would have a great hand in the events that would unfold here; that God was an ally in this great cause. And so, the night before the invasion, when Colonel Wolverton asked his parachute troops to kneel with him in prayer he told them: Do not bow your heads, but look up so you can see God and ask His blessing in what we're about to do. Also that night, General Matthew Ridgway on his cot, listening in the darkness for the promise God made to Joshua: "I will not fail thee nor forsake thee."



40th Anniversary of D-Day
Pointe du Hoc Ceremony
Ronald Reagan
June 6, 1984

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“Now I will break their [Assyrians] yoke from your neck and tear your shackles away.” Nahum 1:13

“The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me, because the Lord has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners[.]” Isaiah 61:1

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Christ came to set the captive free and to give hope to the broken hearted.

People are enslaved everywhere—by their governments, their neighbors, and their own choices and appetites.

The Nazi killing and cleansing machine gutted Europe while the Japanese brutalized China, Korea, the Philippines and other parts of Asia. At first, the world watched. Then gallant, free men fought for liberty.

Later, the Iron Curtain fell and light was again darkened in Eastern Europe. President Reagan, working with Pope John Paul, admonished Soviet Premier Gorbachev to, “tear down this wall!”

Today billions are “shackled” in China, Syria, Iran, North Korea, Venezuela, Cuba, and all over the world, including our backyard of Langley Park.

Freedom is not free. It comes at a cost. It takes energy to create, and energy to bind or shackle.

To unshackle, unbind, and free likewise requires energy. $E = mc^2$
Energy is action.

Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus, Ye Soldiers of the Cross

“Where duty calls or danger, Be never wanting there.”