

FLAG - FREEDOM IS NOT FREE

By Dr. Hoyt W. Allen, Jr.

The following article came to me recently and I contended that I should pass it on. It has been slightly edited and a conclusion added.

I watched the flag pass by one day, it fluttered in the breeze.

A young Marine saluted it, and then he stood at ease.

I looked at him in uniform, so young - so tall - so proud,
With hair cut square and eyes alert, he'd stand out in any crowd.

I thought how many men like him, had fallen through the years.
How many died on foreign soil? How many mothers' tears?

How many pilots' planes shot down? How many died at sea?
How many foxholes were soldiers' graves? No, freedom is not free.

I heard the sound of "Taps" one night, when everything was still.
I listened to the bugler play and felt a sudden chill.

I wondered just how many times that "Taps" had meant "Amen,"
When a flag had draped a coffin of a brother or a friend.

I thought of all the children, of the mothers and the wives,
Of fathers, sons and husbands with interrupted lives.

I thought about a graveyard at the bottom of the sea,
Of unmarked graves in Arlington. No, freedom is not free.

Cadet Major Kelly Strong,
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May we thank God for those who have made our freedom possible!

Plainly, don't get short changed. Let's be ready to meet our Maker.
The Bible teaches that to avoid hell and gain heaven - one must:

1) Believe In Jesus As Savior (Acts 16:31) 2) Repent Of Sins (Acts 17:30) 3) Confess Christ Audibly (Acts 8:37) 4) Be Baptized In Water (Acts 2:38) 5) Live A Christian Life (Acts 14:22) 6) Be Active In the Church (Acts 2:47)

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