As we near Veterans Day 2014, it is only fitting that we render “honor to whom honor is due” to our nation’s veterans, our active duty military personnel, and their families. Perhaps you have asked yourself, “Where would we be without our great veterans? What if they had not crossed the deadly beaches of Normandy to free an entire continent from an evil empire? What if they had not stood firm and raised the flag at Iwo Jima and battlefields of virtue around the globe? What if they had not be present over the course of our nation’s history to defend the homeland and to lift up the downtrodden and the oppressed in sanctuaries of service around the globe?”

Gratefully we don’t have to ask “Where would we be without them?”. Our nation’s veterans have served selflessly under the toughest of conditions, allowing us to remain “The Land of the Free and the Home of the Brave” because of their courage and sacrifice on our behalf. In the very words of Jesus in John 15:13, “Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends.” Our nation’s veterans have pledged their very lives in defense of our nation, and many have paid that ultimate sacrifice. Yea verily, on Veterans Day 2014 we humbly and wholeheartedly honor the military uniformed servants of this nation—those from the past, those currently serving, and prayerfully those who have yet to serve.

There is yet another strong rationale to honor our nation’s veterans. In Resilient Nations (www.ResilienceTrilogy.com), one of the ten elements of National Spiritual Infrastructure is “Retention of National History and Traditions” (versus historical revisionism—changing historical facts to fit a convenient narrative). The role played by our nation’s military veterans is a critical facet of our nation’s history. It is important that we transfer proper and accurate knowledge and appreciation for our veterans to future generations. Veterans Day, and other military significant observances (such as Memorial Day in May) are the fitting opportunity for parents, schools, churches, communities, and civic organizations to honor our veterans. In the nation of Holland, grade school classes are assigned to be custodians of a particular monument commemorating past battles and feats of valor on behalf of the nation. The young people in the class plant flowers to beautify the monument, they prepare class presentations to recount the specifics of the historical event, and they conduct remembrances at key anniversary dates. In short, they learn and perpetuate the valor, the fidelity, and the selflessness of military veterans which became the next generation’s inheritance and their sacred trust.

One final point involves veterans themselves. As our nation’s veterans enter the twilight of their lives on earth, many tend to lose a sense of purpose and contribution. I want these veterans to...
know that they are important symbols of security for our nation. Even these veterans whose shadow on earth is lengthening by the day have a key role to play as they stand tall, walk proudly as servants of the nation, and serve as constant reminders of the values and character that younger generations of Americans desperately need to emulate. You veterans are a critical aspect of our Nation’s Spiritual Infrastructure and our exceptional history. You are a golden thread in the fabric of America. You still have a mission! Just as the American Flag, may you continue to symbolize what is good, and right, and true in America. May God Bless each of you!

The next Institute for Military Resilience (IMR) Webinar entitled “Honor to Whom Honor is Due” will be at 8 PM (EST) on November 4th. This special webinar will highlight stories contributed by many of you about “my favorite veteran” (maybe a father, brother, mother, sister, uncle, aunt) who has inspired you and others. Please send your stories in honor of your favorite veteran to militaryoutreach@liberty.edu. With your permission, we will read many during the Webinar and post your submissions on our next BLOG. We need your help to properly honor our veterans, your veterans.

May we truly “render honor to whom honor is due.”

Please tell us what you think about this on the LU Military Affairs Facebook page!

PS – Don’t Forget to Vote – an important “spiritual act of worship.”

Respectfully in Christ,

Bob

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