



THE CRISIS

THOMAS PAINE
RETOLD BY SARA SIMPSON

Retold by Sara Simpson

These are very difficult times. Men who only wanted to go to war when things were easy will run away from their responsibilities now, but men who continue to fight deserve the respect of every man and woman in this country. A cruel and controlling ruler is like the devil: not easy to defeat. We should be glad that it has been hard to win our freedom; the harder the conflict, the better it will feel when we win. When a person is able to get what he wants too easily, he does not appreciate it. It would be silly if something as important as freedom were easy to achieve.

Britain has a large, strong army to enforce their tyranny. Britain says they have a right to tax us as much as they want and to do whatever is necessary to get us back under their control. If this isn't slavery, I do not know what is. The idea that one man can have total control over another man is offensive; total power can only belong to God.

Looking back on the situation, I think we waited too long to declare our independence. If we had started the process eight months sooner, things would be going better right now. We have no one to blame but ourselves for how difficult it has been. Howe, the leader of the British troops, has been doing lots of damage to property but he has not managed to beat us.

I am not a very superstitious person, but I believe God will not let the British beat us. This is why. We have tried very hard to avoid war, and I think that God will help us win because we tried so hard to keep peace. Britain, on the other hand, wants to fight. The king of Britain is no better than a common murderer or thief.

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This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are approximately 20 lines visible. The paper has a slight shadow on its right side, suggesting it's resting on a surface.

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with ten horizontal black lines, resembling notebook paper. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There is no handwriting or other markings on the paper.

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