

Jefferson's First Inaugural Address Excerpt

In his First Inaugural Address (1801), Jefferson spoke of what he thought was necessary to make America a prosperous nation. Here is what he said:

“With all these blessings, what more is necessary to make us a happy and prosperous people? Still one thing more, fellow citizens -- a wise and frugal government, which shall restrain men from injuring one another, which shall leave them otherwise free to regulate their own pursuits of industry and improvement, and shall not take from the mouth of labor the bread it had earned. This is the sum of good government.

- What did Jefferson see as “good government”?

- Is what Jefferson said 200 years ago still relevant to our nation today?
