

Washington's Farewell Address Excerpt

In his Farewell Address, Washington warned of possible dangers ahead:

“The great rule of conduct for us in regard to foreign nations is in extending our commercial relations, to have with them as little political connections as possible. It is our true policy to steer clear of permanent alliances with any portion of the foreign world.

As an important source of strength and security, cherish public credit. One method of preserving it is to use it as sparingly as possible; avoid the accumulation of debt, not only by shunning occasions of expense, but by vigorous exertions to discharge debts, which unavoidable wars may have occasioned, not ungenerously throwing upon [future generations] the burden, which we ourselves ought to bear.”

- What are some of the dangers that Washington cautioned the nation against?

- Which of these dangers does our nation still face today?
