

This is Phil Arnott for community comment on K INS radio.

Nov 14

In a recent article in a magazine called Libertas published by Young America's foundation I read a very interesting article by Dr. Paul Kengor. Dr. Ken Gore is a professor at Grove city College and he is written a number of articles and biographies on Pres. Ronald Reagan. The article that I just finished reading was titled what did Reagan believe.

Ronald Reagan is synonymous with conservatism. Dr. Kang Gore says that if you look up conservatism in a dictionary you might just as well see a picture of Ronald Reagan. According to Mr. Reagan the essence of conservatism is to preserve and conserve time-tested values that have endured for good reason and for the best of society, for citizens, for country, and for order. This is the heart of American conservatism. Conservative wisdom and principles are derived from willingness to learn, not just what is going on now, but from what has happened before.

In other words you learn from experience and that's what so many of our politicians and leaders have failed to do. They have failed to discover through experience and he meant the combined experience of mankind and when conservatives say that they know something about political affairs and they can be stated as principles, the conservative is saying that the principles that the conservatives hold dear are those that have been found through experience, to be ultimately beneficial for individuals, for families, for communities and for nations and often because of bitter tasting of pain or sacrifice and sorrow.

Mr. Reagan believed in conservative principles which included freedom and liberty, free markets, religious freedom, constitutional rights and protections, anti-communism, smaller government, local government, individualism, volunteerism, communities, families, self-reliance, hard work, common sense, reason, and faith in God. He believed in a prudent government that spends money wisely and who acts with integrity and honesty

in one of his speeches Reagan spoke about conservatism in this way: we can do it in America. This is not a dream or a wistful hope. It is and has been a reality. I have seen the conservative future and it works he went on to say that our task now is not to sell a philosophy but to make the majority of Americans, who already share that philosophy, see that modern conservatism offers them a political home..

After inhering to that philosophy and ^{in the} 1980 presidential campaign he won the presidency in a landslide and again in 1984. In one of his final speeches as president he said that conservatives must always vote for limited government, family values and a tough, strong foreign-policy.

I leave you with a point to ponder: don't you believe that Ronald Reagan was right when he said that conservatism was a practical ideology given to practical application meaning that principled ideology produced cohesive principles.

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