

## Editors' Notes



*History with its flickering lamp stumbles along the trail of the past, trying to reconstruct its scenes, to revive its echoes, and kindle with pale gleams the passion of former days.*

–**Winston Churchill**, Speech in the House of Commons, November 12, 1940

What is history? For the unwilling, it is the perception of a stiff, unyielding chronology that lends itself to stifled yawns and the rolling of eyes. To the dedicated seeker, history is an unlimited vista that links beyond the markers of time and place to view, not only what transpired, but what factors led to the events that happened, then transformed the future. And yet, history is still more than a series of events. It is the story of individuals who find themselves in a particular moment playing on a stage that will someday be reviewed, analyzed, and revised to decide what really happened. That is the excitement of history, finding another puzzle piece that allows the viewer to more thoroughly examine and decipher clues of the past.

*Happy I esteem those to be to whom by provision of the gods has been granted the ability either to do such actions as are worthy of being related or to relate them in a manner worthy of being read; but peculiarly happy are they who are blessed with both these uncommon talents.*

–**Pliny the Younger**. Letters.

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