

"From the cowardice that shrinks from new truth, from the laziness that is content with half truths, from the arrogance that thinks it knows all truth, O, God of Truth, deliver us."

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The Ten "Cannots" – Good for the New Year! In 1916...

William J. H. Boetcker published a pamphlet with this title. It is needed even more nearly a century later. Here are his ten points:

- You cannot bring about prosperity by discouraging thrift.
- 2. You cannot strengthen the weak by weakening the strong.
- 3. You cannot help the poor man by destroying the rich.
- You cannot further the brotherhood of man by inciting class hatred.
- 5. You cannot build strong character and courage by taking away a man's initiative and independence.
- 6. You cannot help small men by tearing down big men.
- You cannot lift the wage earner by pulling down the wage payer.
- 8. You cannot keep out of trouble by spending more than your income.
- 9. You cannot establish security on borrowed money.
- 10. You cannot help men permanently by doing for them what they will not do for themselves.

This is often attributed to Abe Lincoln but Boetcker is usually considered the author.