

the universal rule of such morality can put an end to the particular evils of men. Every other government that men may devise must fail: this alone can succeed. Every other must be judged by its fruits: this alone dominates fulfilment. Every other is abstract and provisional: this only is concrete and endures.

If then the law of the state inevitably admits the law of liberty around it, we may be sure that every expression of the wills of men, and every instrument of that expression, including democracy itself, must finally bow to judgement. Until they do; until they acknowledge the law that is the only master of all because it is the only servant of all; until they know the limits of the state in the sphere of obligations: any constitution under any name can and will be tyrannical. In the long run, there is but one power to preserve men from absolutism. That power is the absolute itself.

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