

Rick Atkinson

Pulitzer-Prize Winning Author and Military Historian

Follow the Leaders: What Our Military History Teaches About Being in Charge. World War II was the greatest political event in the last century, shaping the U.S. socially, economically, and internationally. Rick Atkinson looks at prominent military leaders of this great conflict and discusses what we can learn from their successes and failures as leaders. He focuses on General Eisenhower, assessing the strengths and weaknesses that led to his incredible rise in the military and successful leadership style. Atkinson's scope as a historian extends beyond WWII, allowing him to share stories of other prominent military leaders like Generals Washington and Petraeus. He shows audiences the commonalities amongst military greats and how they can apply the essential leadership characteristics – like resilience, adaptability, and perseverance – to their own lives and organizations. The stories and examples Atkinson shares are so vivid that audiences feel transported, learning the field-tested lessons as the generals do, and his depth of knowledge and recall for historical facts and figures is incredible.

Ten Things Every American Should Know about World War II. Atkinson is among the most celebrated historians of the Second World War, and his *Liberation Trilogy*—nearly 15 years in the making—has achieved both critical and popular success. It is what every American should know about the greatest epic of the 20th century. In this presentation, Atkinson shares amazing stories and lessons about WWII while discussing its seminal moments and how the war shaped our modern world, created an American heritage, and led to great social change (especially in gender and race relations), medical advancement, and more.

Bringing Back the Dead: History, Memory, and Writing About War. Atkinson discusses the art and craft of writing military history, why it matters in 21st century America, and how it shapes the way we think of the past and the future.

The British Are Coming. For 3,089 days – more than 8 years – Americans fought Great Britain for their independence in a war that was brutal, bloody, and often savage. What can we learn about ourselves and our country from that ancient quarrel? Rick Atkinson, author of the *New York Times* bestselling *The British Are Coming*, explains how this nation was born bickering, how leaders worthy of our enduring admiration rose to the occasion with grit and grace, and how the American Revolution affirms that whatever trials beset us today, we have overcome far greater perils in the past.