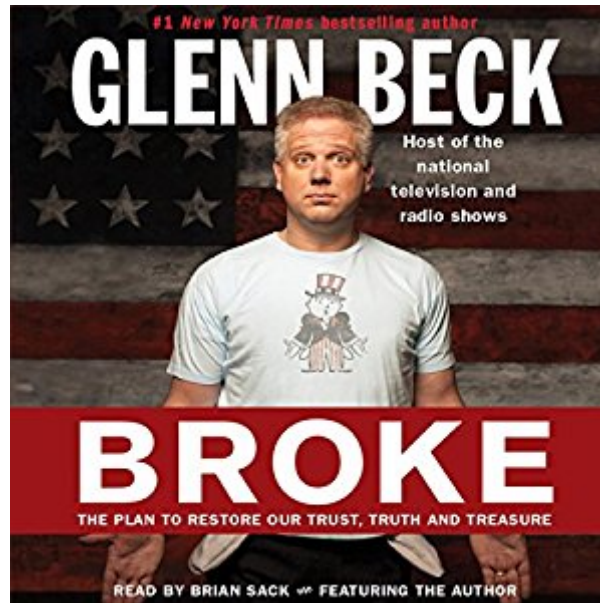


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# Broke: The Plan To Restore Our Trust, Truth And Treasure



## Synopsis

The facts. The future. The fight to fix America - before it's too late. In the words of Harvard economist Niall Ferguson, the United States is "an empire on the edge of chaos." Why? Glenn Beck thinks the answer is pretty simple: Because we've turned our backs on the Constitution. Yes, our country is financially broke, but that's just a side effect of our broken spirit, our broken faith in government, the broken promises by our leaders, and a broken political system that has centralized power at the expense of individual rights. There is a lot of work ahead, but we can't move forward until we first understand how we got here. Starting with the American Revolution, Glenn takes readers on an express train through 234 years of history, culminating with the Great Recession and the bipartisan recklessness of Presidents Bush and Obama. It's the history lesson we all wished we'd had in school. (Did you know, for example, that FDR once made a key New Deal policy decision based on his lucky number?) Along the way, you'll see how everything you thought you knew about the political parties is a lie, how Democrats and Republicans alike used to fight for minimum government and maximum freedom, and how both parties have been taken over by a cancer called "progressivism." By the end, you'll understand why no president, no congress and no court can fix this problem alone.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Broke, the latest release by Beck, is a surprisingly entertaining text to be sure. It's engaging, easy to read and designed as an unapologetic agenda...Beck style. It's also packed full of information that is sure to create a "teachable moment" among even the most vocal opponent. As a college instructor

and business writer, Beck is one of the personalities that tends to draw a lot of attention and followers/critics; for that reason I attempt to stay somewhat up to date with what he/others are doing however, I'm not a "fan" of Beck per se. Although I consider him in the realm of "entertainer" rather than serious economic or political leadership, Beck has done a very real service with the publication of this book if for no other reason than the historical and educational value of the first 2/3 of the book. Also, despite the fact that this is an early review of the book (versus my own personal opinion and/or agenda), please note that this is a verified purchase unlike others. If you want to debate the pro's and con's of the "agenda", the tea party, republicans vs democrats, liberals versus conservatives etc...this is NOT that review.

**Basics About the Book**First of all, this is a 400 pages of facts, figures, charts, explanations, history, examples and action-steps. It contains plenty of resources, ample visual impact and a clear concise style that encourages the reader to continue reading. This is the hardcover version with dust-jacket and I'm happy to say that it was well designed for maximum readability and audience appeal. Whether you are the type that sits down and reads 400 pages at once or just likes to browse a bit here and there, this book will work equally well.

This summer Laurence Kotlikoff (an economist at Boston U) published an estimate of the total debts and obligations of the US government: 202 trillion dollars- we ARE broke. The main sources of this gargantuan debt are the major Federal entitlement programs: Social Security and Medicare. The scary facts of Federal financial mismanagement discussed in this book have come out just in time for Halloween. The most obvious question to those interested in history is how did we get into this mess? Glen Beck proposes some answers in his new book. In 416 pages Beck recounts numerous historical examples (mainly in the first part of this book) of our drift from limited constitutional government, and towards unlimited government- which in our case came to mean unlimited spending. Washington politicians have been promising us more and more over time, mostly in the form of so-called entitlements. Washington politicians have hid their recklessness from us with these unfunded entitlements, well at least from most of us. Economists like Kotlikoff, and also Martin Feldstein, have been warning us about these fiscal imbalances for decades. Now the total sum of these legislated promises is more than American taxpayers can possibly pay. The establishment of entitlements and increased spending in general was done in the name of 'progressivism'. Now these supposedly progressive programs threaten future economic progress. The most obvious question to practically minded people is: how do we get out of this mess? Beck's answer is simple and highly plausible. Part three argues that we need to return to constitutionally limited government, one where individual states are sovereign, government is decentralized, and individuals bear

personal responsibility for their actions.

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