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## Scalia on “Moderate Judges”

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Justice [Antonin Scalia](#) of the [U.S. Supreme Court](#) is a master wordsmith. Just take a look at this excerpt from a speech he recently presented in California:

*Now the Senate is looking for moderate judges, mainstream judges. What in the world is a moderate interpretation of a constitutional text? Halfway between what it says and what we'd like it to say?*

Exactly! Once interpretation is liberated from the actual text, and its controls, it inevitably slides into “what we'd like it to say.” That's true of interpreting any text, of course — the Bible included.

From [National Review](#), September 26, 2005, page 6.

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