

The Coming Backlash

By Geoff Arnold

Let me begin by encouraging you read this treatise with an open mind and with an objective and unbiased heart – even if you find yourself in disagreement. It is that important. And if you are not a Christian, please understand: I am only interested in truth, not politics or “spin”.

Please also understand that I am not an advocate of hatred, discrimination or racism. These are not the way of Christ, and so, not my way. I am not a conspiracy theory crack pot, either. I find conspiracy theory to be a waste of time. The opinions and observations that follow are a product of research, time in this world (57+ years), much study, and observance and study of behaviour in civil societies and nations during the past two thousand years of history, and the last one hundred years in particular.

Part One

Richard Wurmbrand grew up in Romania and became a Christian well before World War II. He became a pastor and founder of a Lutheran denomination there. Then the war came, and the Nazis. After that, the Soviets and Communism followed. He was arrested, imprisoned and brutally tortured for no other reason than that he was Christian and believed Jesus was supreme over Stalin. He refused to confess Communism or the State as the answer to life’s problems, nor bow to Stalin, nor later, to Khrushchev. His freedom was ‘purchased’ in 1964, at which time he came to the United States.

It should also be noted Mr. Wurmbrand said that during his incarceration and torture by the Communists, neither he or his fellow Christian prisoners ever hated their captors. They saw in their tormentors people in need of salvation and love that can only come through Christ Jesus. So they prayed daily, vigilantly and fervently for the souls of their captors.

Here is his observation about Communism:

“The Communists are impolite. They enter by violence into our hearts and minds. They force us to listen to them from morning to late in the night. They do it through their schools, radio, newspapers, posters, movies, atheistic meetings, and everywhere we turn. We have to listen continuously to their godless propaganda whether we like it or not. Jesus respects our freedom. He gently knocks at the door of our heart.”

Shall we examine this assessment in a more contemporary light?

1) “The Communists are impolite.”

People like George Soros, Richard Dawkins, Christopher Hitchens, Al Gore, Julian Assange, the United Nations and others, part of the rising Progressivism/Atheism around the world, are very impolite. They refuse any civil discourse or discussion in matters apart from their own views, which are consumed by their vision of how things should be – guided by their hand, of course. They are right, and the rest of the population is wrong.

They stand firm in their adamant support of social justice, the end of national sovereignty, and support International Law, as meted out by the “World Court” in the Hague. They champion the idea of global community; they stand firm in their support of Evolution (though many among their numbers profess to be Christian) and hold a fundamentally nihilist view of humanity and life.

God has no place here, not really. They consider religion in general, and Christianity in particular, as the source of much suffering throughout History. And they will not tolerate any consideration of the teaching of Creationism, Intelligent Design, or any other “origin of life” theories, along side the teaching of Evolution in our schools. They will not tolerate any argument that contradicts their views. Their view of life, the world, is that we have evolved to be better over countless millennia, and a brighter future awaits if we simply overcome our nationalist, selfish tendencies.

Further, the Press & Media, the so-called Fourth Estate, along with the champions of Liberalism, now being re-branded as “Progressivism”, lead in part by the likes of Bill Mahr, (Senator) Al Franken, Rachel Maddow, Michael Moore and others, routinely denigrate Christianity as a fool’s paradise, even saying that Christians are anti-science. They are constantly being taken to task over their offensive language in characterizing Conservatives and Christians as the ‘enemy’, much of which I cannot print here – it is that offensive and cruel. The truth of the matter is, in all major branches of Science, *Christians were the founders of these disciplines*, not atheists. Christians, more often than not over the last 400 years, have been responsible for the major breakthroughs in each scientific and mathematical discipline.

2) “They enter by violence into our hearts and minds.”

The openly stated agenda of the Progressives is to inculcate everyone into their way of thinking, even ignoring clear and obvious proofs they are wrong. Yet, this is exactly what they accuse their detractors of doing.

As an example: Global Warming, Climate Change, whatever you wish to call it, is declared to be the single greatest threat to humanity in the world. Really?

Never mind that terrorism is on the rise, and that Pakistan and North Korea are both terror supporting states – both have nuclear weapons. Pakistan, at the latest count, has over 150 warheads. Iran, another state terrorism supporter, is actively pursuing nuclear weapons (you don’t seriously believe they are only interested in nuclear power for energy, do you?). Islamic terrorists are surely pursuing a nuclear

weapon to use against the West. But we are told Islam is a religion of peace, that Muslims are not the enemy – only those ‘crazy’ radical extremist terrorist Muslims.

I will grant that many Muslims I have listened to don’t care about establishing a “global caliphate”. They love the pluralism and freedom the United States offers to them, to live quietly and without compulsion of religious compliance by a tyrannical system that exists in their former homeland. They recognize that a Democratic State that preserves liberty and freedom is preferable to the Religious State with restrictions no one can hope to keep.

But then, Islam says the faithful Muslim can lie to the infidel (unbeliever) about anything in service to the longer range goal of global Islam. So, while I choose to believe these folks, I still have a concern about this provision in Shariah Law, that lying is acceptable in some cases. ***How, then, can we ever know when we are being told the truth?*** It’s an honest question, not so much to make you fearful, but because it is a valid question that should be asked of all Muslims.

I suppose the one area in which we can be confident Muslims are speaking the truth is when we listen to mullahs and imams who encourage jihad against all non-Muslims. These people should be taken at their word. If we do not, then the threat some claim confronts us from Islam may become very real indeed. ***Note:** I do, in fact, see other things that pose a greater threat to Freedom and Liberty than Islam, which is the point of this series of articles.*

Yet, I’m supposed to be more concerned that CO₂ is a bigger threat. First, CO₂ is not a threat, not even a green house gas.

The biggest threat to the atmosphere, and the climate, is not carbon dioxide (occupying approximately 0.0038% of the atmospheric gas we breathe). Thirty thousand scientists from around the world have come out declaring the IPCC Climate report released in 2005 through the United Nations as a deeply flawed document. In truth, only 51 scientists signed off on this document, upon which over 2000 scientists participated in gathering the data to create the report. The remaining scientists refused to sign their names to the IPCC report because the data was intentionally distorted to “prove” global warming was human caused.

In fact, it is ***water vapor*** which poses a more primary threat to our environment. Scientists readily admit airborne water vapor will be more responsible for ‘trapping’ the heat cast off by the sun, and causing atmospheric heating, than anything humanity can do.

Carbon dioxide is loved by green plants and the ice core samples, gathered from Greenland and the Antarctic, have revealed that CO₂ ***does not increase during a period of global warming***, but is a trailing edge byproduct during a ***post*** warming period – in the ***aftermath*** of the warming. And it is at that time there is also an explosion of plant growth.

By the way, just so you know the cyclical nature of our warming and cooling patterns, that the evidence global warming is nothing new: Five times during the twentieth century alone people made declarations of global warming or global cooling. Five times. A cursory look into historic weather reporting over the centuries demonstrates similar cyclical patterns, such as the Maunder Minimum, a

period of low sun spot activity, which seems to have been one of the primary factors in a major cool period in Europe during the 18th century.

The Progressives and Environmentalists recently adopted the term ‘climate change’ because it allows them to continue to champion their anti-human, pro-environment rhetoric regardless of warming or cooling cycles. Both are our fault and need to be addressed, no matter the cost, no matter the consequences.

So we are being forced by social pressure and government mandates to adopt the Environmentalist manifesto as valid. Our children are being forced-fed that global warming is man caused (lacking all empirical proof) and is going to destroy the earth unless we begin now to create a “green” economy and a “green” eco-friendly environment by embracing renewable energy. Never mind that a wind farm that will produce the same 200 megawatts a nuclear plant generates (on 19 square miles), requires 19,000 square miles of land. Not particularly efficient. That’s part of why T. Boone Pickens abandoned his West Texas project to build a wind farm less than six months after announcing this plan to the world.

3) “They force us to listen to them from morning to late in the night. They do it through their schools, radio, newspapers, posters, movies, atheistic meetings, and everywhere we turn.”

It doesn’t matter where you turn, we’re hearing it on the evening news, late night television, the Discovery Channel, PBS, the National Geographic Channel, Lifetime; we’re reading it in the New York Times, Time magazine, Newsweek, the Wall Street Journal, on the Web, morning, noon and night.

Our children are being taught to embrace unproved, even unsound, scientific ideas and theories as fact. Don’t believe me? Listen to Evolutionists when they speak. They are now declaring Evolution as a fact, dropping all the pretense of it still being a theory. They have zero proof, and only the same evidence as the Creationists and Intelligent Design proponents have.

Walk into any school and look at the posters in the hallways and classrooms. What do they promote? Green. Now, don’t get me wrong, I’m all for responsible stewardship of our resources; we should be concerned about wretched excess and abuse of the environment. But what I do not support is a wholesale brainwashing of our young into scientifically unsound beliefs and practices into a culture of “back to nature”, “save the planet” (from humanity), support of, and forced indoctrination into, unproved (scientific) theories and ideas, and other propaganda, as the answer to life’s problems – to the exclusion of all other views.

Read the science books they hand out to our children. It has been proved by Kent Hovind (love him or hate him, on this topic he is correct), a school teacher of math, that the science and biology text books our children study have numerous factual errors, even after mainstream scientists disproved elements still contained in the text. These factual errors have not been scrubbed from the books. Why? It doesn’t fit with the agenda of the Progressive ideal, following Adolph Hitler’s mantra, that if you are to succeed in making your ideas accepted, you first have to ‘teach’ the children the new order of things. They will then grow up to be compliant and zealous defenders of ‘the faith’ – which has been created for them to learn and believe.

God has been removed from the class room, the work place (even the wearing of a cross around the neck is discouraged, even a fireable offence in some cases), sports functions, the court rooms. Symbols of Christianity are routinely vandalized, legally challenged, forcibly removed from once sanctioned and legitimate installations – even war memorials and graveyards, not allowed on “public” property. Christmas trees are now called Holiday trees; Merry Christmas is now replaced with Happy Holidays, if spoken at all. We don’t celebrate the Christmas season, it’s now a Solstice Festival.

But other religious faiths are allowed to wear, display or otherwise “advertise” their beliefs without the same assaults or restrictions – all because of a ‘fear’ of offending the Muslim, Hindu, Buddhist or Sikh (just for starters). Only Christianity is targeted as offensive. This is not just happening in the United States. Great Britain, France, Germany, Italy, Spain and other European nations are facing the same anti-Christian and rising anti-Semitism bias.

None of these religious practices threatens anyone’s beliefs, choices, freedom or liberty, here or in any other nation. But the Progressives and Atheists demanded the removal of the Judaeo-Christian God and His symbols from the public square in as many cases as they could – and continue to – claim victory. These are not requests, they are full on assaults and demands (kind of like terrorist demands, with hostages threatened by death). They won’t stop until all references are gone. Who’s really threatening who here?

We’ve seen what removing God from society causes, what the result is. Look to Soviet era Russia, look at China today. When you remove God, you remove moral restraints. When you remove morality, based on biblically sound foundations, you open the door to despotism and evil. In such a land, if you disagree with the State, you are imprisoned, beaten, put in concentration camps - oh, sorry: re education camps – and often executed if you fail to embrace the State as mother, the State as father.

How soon until the Bible is illegal, broadcasting of religious programming is banned, church meetings are declared unlawful, home Bible studies – even the mention of Jesus – are considered seditious and treasonous activities?

Consider this fact, that Canada has hate speech laws that now intrude into the churches, even the pulpit. If you speak out against homosexuality, even another religious belief as being wrong, in a sermon, citing biblical passages as your proof text, you can and will be arrested and brought before a triumvirate court and, without fanfare, convicted of a crime for speaking your beliefs. It has already happened more than once. Do not be fooled, this will come to America, is already here in the hate crimes legislation. How soon before extends to our speech?

4) “We have to listen continuously to their godless propaganda whether we like it or not.”

Think for a moment, really think about this. When you pick up a newspaper, turn on the news, watch “news magazine” programs and talk shows, listen to talk radio, what are they all promoting?

The foundation upon which the Progressives build every argument (except when they “use” God in service to same) is that “we are the change we’ve been waiting for...”, that *we* can do it ourselves. *We* are the source of our inspiration and motivation. *We* are the means to the end. And that *with the help*

of Government, we can do anything. It is a Humanist, man centered philosophy, filled with conceit and self satisfied aggrandizement.

If God is a part of this, He is an afterthought, a “side-bar” mention, a foot note addendum. He is not central in anything they advocate. At best, God is a bystander, our rooting section, cheering our humanist ways. At worst, our antagonist – through His preachers, pastors and other *narrow-minded* religious leaders. So, God has to get out of the way. We are told by the ruling elite (not the “rich” elite) that nobody will get it done without the government’s help. Government is central to any recovery we can expect this nation to have. Government is central to future prosperity. That means they will demand and even take control over any recovery, prosperity, and even the distribution of wealth.

But let’s not forget one simple, very important fact: The leaders of the Progressive agenda, whether politician, civil or private citizen, are all quite wealthy themselves. Will they surrender their wealth and privilege in their new Utopian America? You know the answer to that question.

In their view, it is the corporate, or “rich” elite who now become the enemy of society. Listen to the rhetoric even our president has put forth: “There comes a time when you’ve made enough (money).” This is nothing less than shameless cries supporting, even encouraging, class warfare – pitting the ‘haves’ against the ‘have-nots’, giving the ‘have-nots’ the weapons – uh, “tools” – to do their dirty work. The ‘haves’ become the enemy of ‘the People’, the source of all that’s wrong with our country – the cause of the larger economic and social problems. Didn’t we see this in Russia? China? Yes, well, it is now happening in the United States, too.

Who is to say whether or not I’ve made enough money? If I take the risk, I should reap the reward. That’s part of the liberty and freedom of America. Bigger risk can result in bigger reward. But big risk can also result in total loss. Will the government come in and bail me out if I lose everything, having taken a big risk to create a product, jobs, or in some way contribute to economic growth? Nope.

Those unwilling to take the risk, to put everything on the line, in any investment, should not be allowed to ‘share’ the profits of those who take the risk beyond what they deserve, which would be as an investor (in which case if the venture fails, they lose their investment), an employee of the company (where they’ll get a salary and benefits as long as they work at the company) or a consumer buying the product. If they are not going to take risks, they shouldn’t benefit on the backs of those who do take the risks. They do not deserve to be ‘given’ what they have not earned, what I have worked so hard to achieve. They should not share in the windfall, financially, absent all risk, effectively stealing from the people who risked everything.

But this is the Progressive screed, that ‘the People’ deserve, are even *entitled* to have a piece of a pie they neither gave ingredients to produce or did any work to create. They need an enemy. And the rich are always a convenient scapegoat, along with the land owners.

This was done by Lenin and Trotsky, Stalin, by Mao Zhe Dung, Ho Chi Min, Robert Mugabe and every dictatorial progressive/communist leader in history.

And after the rich and the land owners? The intellectuals, the idea people, whose ideas become reality with the help of the land owners and business people willing to invest their money to bring that idea

beyond the drawing board and into our homes. They are all now the enemy. It is what Mao did in China, and what Stalin did in Russia, except those intellectuals that furthered their causes, of course.

The people we should be listening to? The very people the Progressives label kooks and nay-sayers, doomsday prophets and malcontents – all that's wrong with this country. Seriously.

And the further we go, the deeper we wade into this progressivism, the more it begins to look, sound and smell like something familiar...something we've all seen and heard before....something that has always failed, never succeeded in the history of civilization:

Communism.

Or perhaps you would prefer Socialism. It doesn't really matter, neither philosophical position is tenable to a freedom and liberty loving people.

And I know you don't like hearing it any more than I like saying it. But if you strip away all the rhetoric and look at what Progressives are striving to create, to bring about, you will see it involves some form of 'taking away' from the 'haves' through taxation or other means, and 'redistributing' that money to the 'have nots' through benefit programs, grants and other government sponsored and controlled entitlements and means.

5) “Jesus respects our freedom. He gently knocks at the door of our heart.”

In the Bible, Jesus says a wonderful thing: “Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him, and will dine with him, and he with Me.” (**Rev. 3:20**) It is an invitation. We can accept or reject it as we see fit. And Jesus will not turn around and become impolite. He understands free will. He created us to have this freedom to accept or reject Him and what He offers, what He teaches.

It is for us to decide whether we shall arise and open the door to invite Him in. He does not invade, impose, force, demand, compel or require us to believe in Him. We are allowed to disagree, argue, criticize and stand against God and Christ without fear of retribution in this life.

Yes, in the past we have had despots *use Christianity for their own ends*. But don't confuse what men have done, what they have corrupted, as being representative of God's view. You need only read the Gospels to see that Jesus never condones or encourages the abuse of His lessons, what He teaches, as outlined in the pages of the Word of God, the Bible. What men do with that Gospel message cannot be thrown back upon God as the responsible party. Men are accountable for their actions. And evil men will have to account for their evil.

My father was an atheist. He read the Bible. When I became Christian, he respected my choice and we had a few conversations about his thoughts on God and the Bible. My father always respected my beliefs, never denigrating them, because he knew the Bible, at least, contained great wisdom. He just didn't agree with the Christian world view and scripture as the only truth of consequence.

But if you do not read the Bible with an open mind (if only to learn what it actually says), if you refuse to read the greatest book ever written (whether or not you agree with what it professes in the way of Creation and Jesus' sovereignty), you will never truly know the real Christianity, the real way to follow Jesus. You will not understand that Christians are not to be feared, but embraced as champions of freedom and liberty (including their quiet tolerance of beliefs that do not agree with their own). Christians stand as a *security against despotism* if they are allowed to live and worship freely, precisely because of their beliefs. Christians will not compel you into any belief you do not freely choose.

Progressives demand you agree with them; they are right and all other views are wrong, period.

The "agents of Tolerance" are out there demanding compliance. Listen to them when someone takes them to task. What is their response? They call people who disagree with Obama racists; they call people who choose to believe in God narrow minded bigots and intolerant, even hateful. Really? They deride the over 30,000 (and growing) scientists who challenge Global Warming claims as lackeys and puppets of the conservative, right wing political machine. But many of these scientists aren't even Americans – nor Christian!

The words of these so-called agents of Tolerance are belligerent and intolerant, filled with venom and bile. Their tolerance is reserved only for those who agree with them, but completely absent with those of differing opinions, even crossing into the realm of violent hostility.

I find that amusing, that people calling for tolerance often are the least tolerant people I've ever met. How many stories I can tell of people who ceased to associate with me simply because I disagree with them just on the issue of homosexuality. Am I no longer entitled to my own views and opinions? Must I agree with the Progressive agenda and platform on all counts? And can friends no longer have disagreements, yet preserve their deep, abiding and long lasting friendship? What has become of the world?

Okay, now I'm going to repeat Richard Wurmbrand's words, but insert Progressive where it says Communist...

"The Progressives are impolite. They enter by violence into our hearts and minds. They force us to listen to them from morning to late in the night. They do it through their schools, radio, newspapers, posters, movies, atheistic meetings, and everywhere we turn. We have to listen continuously to their godless propaganda whether we like it or not. Jesus respects our freedom. He gently knocks at the door of our heart."

I tell you the truth. This is not comforting to read. But if you step back from your bias and really listen with an objective ear and observe with a dispassionate eye, you will see the truth of it soon enough. Communism is alive and well and thriving under a new name in the United States: Progressivism.

Part Two

Perhaps it would be instructive to demonstrate how the United States has been steadily moving into being a Communist/Socialist State. And there could be no better measuring rod to use than Karl Marx's own Ten Planks, contained in his Communist Manifesto, first published in 1848.

From the top:

1) Abolition of private property in land and application of all rents of land to public purpose

Under the "authority" of what is called *eminent domain* and the varied zoning regulations, land use regulations by the Bureau of Land Management, property taxes, and 'environmental' justifications, private property rights have suffered a continued dilution. Private property, vehicles, and other forms, are seized on a daily basis under the "forfeiture" provisions of the RICO statutes, even the "War On Drugs".

2) A heavy progressive or graduated income tax

An income tax on private income became law in 1913 under the provisions of the 16th Amendment to the US Constitution. This tax continues to fuel government expenditures, expansion and control. As the population grows, so does the taxable income from which the government can collect. Some would say this cripples capital assets, future growth in the form of business starts, job creation and salary increases. The higher the percentage the government collects, the more true this belief becomes.

Corporate taxes in the United States sit at 35%. It is the highest in the Western World. It is what has been driving corporations off shore, putting their corporate headquarters in places such as Zug, Switzerland, where they will pay approximately 10 to 15% in taxes. It is why manufacturing is moving overseas, too. It isn't just about the high wages in the United States; it includes the taxes they will pay for operating here. Their only defence against high taxes is to have massive write offs through expenditures. As 90% of all companies in America are small businesses, they will pay that higher premium, which makes it hard to be able to expand their business and increase production, let alone hire more people for a decent wage.

Personal taxes top out at between 28 and 32%, if memory serves. Add in FICA (social security), Workers compensation and State and local taxes, and your paycheck begins to look quite anemic, with upwards of 40% of your wages going to Federal, state and local taxes and Social Security. Yes, you can declare up to 7 deductions on your W4, but at the end of the year, you'll still pay a premium for that privilege.

3) Abolition of all rights of inheritance

There are numerous Federal & State estate taxes, along with inheritance taxes, which have abolished, even diluted the right of private property owners to determine the disposition and distribution of their estates at their death. You could almost call this double taxation without representation. Sound

familiar? The money earned, that built the estate, was originally taxed at the time it was paid to the citizen. Now, at the end of their life, it is taxed again, simply because it is being transferred from one family member to another.

4) Confiscation of the property of all emigrants and rebels

This occurs in the form of government seizures, tax liens, “forfeiture” Public “law” 99-570 (1986); Executive order 11490, sections 1205, 2002, which gives private land to the Department of Urban Development. Let us not forget the imprisonment of “terrorists”, drug manufacturers, criminals and those who speak out or write against the government (1997 Crime/Terror Bill). Nor should we forget the IRS confiscation of property without due process that occurs on a regular basis.

.5) Centralization of credit in the hands of the State, by means of a national bank with state capital and an exclusive monopoly

The Federal Reserve System, created by the Federal Reserve Act of Congress in 1913, is just such a “national bank”, manipulating interest rates and holding a monopoly on legal counterfeiting in the United States. This follows the thinking of Marx and fulfills this plank.

6) Centralization of the means of communication and transportation in the hands of the State

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC), first established by the Communications Act of 1934, the Department of Transportation, the Interstate Commerce Commission (1887), and the Federal Aviation Administration, along with other regulations and bureaucracies, including a postal monopoly, AMTRAK and CONRAIL, all are government owned enterprises. These industries are “cartel-ized” through the government’s regulatory system.

7) Extension of factories and instruments of production owned by the State; the bringing into cultivation of wastelands, and the improvement of the soil generally in accordance with a common plan

The United States does not have “collective farms”, which never met their goals in Soviet era Russia. But, we do have a serious government involvement in agriculture through price support subsidies and acreage allotment and land-use controls; also the Desert Entry Act and the Department of Agriculture, along with the Departments of Commerce and Labor, Interior, the Environmental Protection Agency, Bureaus of Land Management, Reclamation, Mines, the National Park Service and the IRS control of business through corporate regulations

8) Equal obligation of all to work; Establishment of Industrial armies, especially for agriculture

The American name for these: the Social Security Administration and the Department of Labor. The national debt and inflation caused by the communal bank has created the need for a two ‘income’ family, bringing women into the workplace since the 1920s; the 19th Amendment of the US Constitution, the Civil Rights Act of 1964, various Socialist Unions, affirmative action, the Federal Public Works Program...the Equal Rights Amendment provides that women should do all work that

men do, including military service; should it have passed, women would also be subject to military conscription.

9) Combination of agriculture with manufacturing industries; gradual abolition of the distinction between town and country by a more equable distribution of the population over the country

The Planning Reorganization Act of 1949, zoning (Title 17 1910-1990) and Super Corporate Farms, along with Public “law” 89-136 pretty much create this condition, in principle if not actual fact. But it is clear that family farms are struggling against big Agro corporations. Monsanto has sued family farms for “stealing” their genetically modified crop *pollen*, when it blew off the corporate fields and into the private fields next door. Of course it is insane, but it is driving private farms out of business. And who do you think buys up the now bankrupt family farm?

10) Free education for all children in government schools. Abolition of children’s factory labor in its present form; Combination of education with industrial production, etc...

People are being taxed to support what we call ‘public’ schools. They inculcate our young to work for the communal debt system. They teach our children unhealthy moral and ethical beliefs, even forcing false and unproved theories upon them as fact (as mentioned elsewhere in this treatise), excluding ‘balanced’ learning of alternative ideas which do not agree with their agenda. We refer to it as the Department of Education, the NEA and Outcome Based “Education”.

The idea that our children should learn critical thinking skills is dismissed as counter productive. So our children are force fed notions and ideas by those in power so they will become compliant, even willing participants, in the Master Plan our government is slowly passing into Law.

So there you have it, folks. If it wasn’t clear to you before just how close to a Socialist or Communist form of government we really are, how close we are to losing all liberty and freedom, this should give you pause to think about it.

You should also recognize that because these programs, laws and institutions of the government are already in place that it will be near impossible to prevent the inevitable corruption of our beloved system of justice, governance, liberty and freedom to the point of becoming tools of the State, subjects of a coming tyrannical and oppressive government. This is why I do not believe that even should we place moral and ethical people in positions of authority that they will prevail to dismantle the beast that has been decades in the making.

We didn’t ask for it. We didn’t vote for it. We didn’t elect people to Congress to promote it. But, in truth, because the average voter simply casts their vote for the party to which they most identify, we have indeed done just that. And you can be sure that those who enjoy the benefits of entitlements will continue to support those who favour the continuance of same.

Wait just a minute! We actually did ask for it? We actually voted for it?

We repeatedly elected people to Congress to promote it. And we did all this because we have been asleep at the wheel for decade after decade and stopped paying attention to what we were supporting with our vote, what our taxes were really being applied to in the way of government creation, promotion and expansion of programs that created greater dependence upon those very government agencies.

A very interesting thing about all this is that those who sought our vote actually told us exactly what they were going to do, should they be elected. We never believe what politicians say because they always tell us one thing during the campaign, and then do something quite different once elected. So we dismissed it as soap box rhetoric.

Therefore, it should be no surprise that a growing number of predominantly Progressive politicians began speaking about “social” this and “social” that, the “common good”, even “change”, giving us the impression they were talking about fairness and equality of opportunity – not doctrines and policies that would “spread the wealth” to people who had done nothing to earn it, in a way compelling you and I to fork over more of our hard earned money so our lazy neighbour could continue to collect a government check. We certainly did not wish for the enacting of entitlement programs which create a level of dependency that would promote and support a kind of “slave” population out of those who bought into the programs that took care of them; the poor, the disadvantaged, the minorities, the chronically unemployed – all receiving money without having to work.

And, once an entitlement begins to pour out its brand of “care”, those who are receiving it believe it is now their deserved right to continue to receive it – even in times of extreme economic turmoil and distress, such as the United States is experiencing in 2011.

Who is championing the continuity of entitlement programs in America?

Progressives.

Most rational minded people (who tend toward fiscal conservatism) understand that entitlements are not a solution, they are a drain upon the health morally, ethically and spiritually, of the country, especially during hard economic times. It was one of the major fights on the floor of Congress in 2011 during the budget debate to avoid default by August 2nd of that year, that entitlements not be subject to cuts or elimination. Yet, if you look at the federal budget, entitlements consume over 40% of every dollar the government spends. And that number only grows when you project into the future. By 2025, that percentage would be the sum total of all revenue collected, with nothing left for running the government, paying for defence spending or any other spending.

The failure of the American people to jealously guard their liberty and freedom against a government takeover has created this problem. We the people of these United States have forgotten – if ever we learned it in school (not likely) – that our Founding Fathers warned against a large government, and a government that seized more and more power, more control over the lives of the citizenry. Such a government should be discouraged and prevented. And it is only by the vigilant participation of the citizens of this nation that will prevent what is currently coming to pass in the United States.

Part Three

The reality is that as Liberalism, now called Progressivism, spreads deeper into the psyche of the Western heart, mind and soul, and in the United States specifically, there will continue to be even more radical changes in the political and social landscape of America, if not the entirety of Western Civilization.

Let us consider how different things are today than they were even just fifty years ago.

But, before we continue, let me clarify: I am not advocating a retreat, even a return, to ‘the good old days’ of yore. I have long held that to do so is unrealistic, even impossible. For, which “vision” of the good old days are we talking about?

For example: I grew up in a world very much like the 1950s television shows about family. We seemed the exception, not the norm. “Leave It To Beaver”, “Father Knows Best”, “The Donna Reed Show”, to name a few, were *idealized representations* of American family life. While some families, mine included, may have lived that idyllic existence, the reality for most families was very different. They were something far less than what was portrayed on the television screen beamed into millions of homes.

I think most families were likely something more akin to what was portrayed in “All In The Family”, which showed more a realistic family dynamic you might find in many households. Growing up in the 1950s and 1960s as I did, I can tell you I witnessed that reality in my neighbourhood.

The Catholic family with 13 kids, a few of which were inclined to hooliganism; a couple were good kids, and a couple more were somewhere in between. A lady who lived alone next door, aged and gray, rarely received visitors, but was happy when I would come to visit as a young boy. The family on the corner had a son in the military and struggled to make ends meet. My piano teacher across the street lived well, as did another family near by.

Most families, though, seemed reasonably happy, even as life was not particularly generous to some of them. They made do and tried to see the brighter side of life. And in times of trouble (like the hurricane that devastated our neighbourhood in 1962), we all came together and helped one another through it.

As the 1950s progressed, a more liberal philosophy and attitude began to emerge in our society. We had defeated the Axis powers Germany and Japan, were holding the Communists at bay, and our manufacturing base had returned to peace time productivity unmatched in previous decades. Products became cheaper, more affordable to the common household, and the general welfare of the populace increased, at least materially.

Into the 1960s we forged, increasingly more bold, even reaching into space and, by the end of the decade, attaining President Kennedy’s vision of putting a man on the surface of the Moon. This effort actually laid the foundation of the technological boom that exploded in the 1980s and 1990s, putting a computer in the home of virtually all Americans by the year 2000.

Yes, there was crime. But it was nothing compared to today. Gangs were small and more a nuisance than major trouble, being comprised of ne'er-do-well kids, some with troubles at home. And the trouble they did get in was rarely brazen or on a level of truly evil. And innocent bystanders were all but never harmed when there was a "rumble" between gangs – they just beat each other up, sometimes pretty badly, but rarely resulting in someone dying.

Rape was virtually unheard of. Murder has always occurred, but back then you saw maybe a handful over the course of a year in any given city. And so it was with crime in general, mostly petty, a few cars, some "stuff", and that was it. I am generalizing for brevity. In the bigger cities, like New York, Chicago, LA and the like, crime was more widespread. But even then, at that time, nothing approaching what it is today.

As time progressed, and with the new prosperity, came something else... a new openness, a new psychology about how we function. And there came also a shedding of the traditional, even the 'tried and true' practices and beliefs. People became adventurous, they tried new things. Drugs became one of those things.

While drugs have always been with us, this new experimentation was recreational, championed by people like Timothy Leary, glamorized by musicians of renown, and readily available, provided by willing entrepreneurs and criminal enterprises. Many young urban people opened their hearts and minds to the idea of giving these things a try, even embracing in some cases the 'religion' of the psychedelic. I know. I was one of them.

Recreational drug usage exploded in the 1960s. The usage of marijuana, heroin, cocaine (and crack), and methamphetamines continues unabated even today. From the inception of prohibition, back in 1933, advocates of marijuana's benefits have been waging a never ending effort to get it legalized again. And I will grant that, apart from the psychotropic aspects of marijuana, there are over 300 products that can be produced from this plant – all of them non-drug related, from rope and clothing to paper to oils. In much the same way as the peanut, marijuana has demonstrated quite a broad range of applications. But I digress...

In modern society, drugs are abused to a degree not seen in all of history. Pharmaceutical companies, working with psychiatrists and doctors, are creating new drugs for you to take. If you have an ache or a pain, there's a pill. One of my favourite "ridiculous" prescription drugs is for RLS, restless leg syndrome. I love this one. Can't keep still? Take this drug. We all suffer from this from time to time. But a drug is not the solution. I have found five minutes of focused stretching of the leg muscles takes care of the problem. You can all send me 50 bucks now for prescribing the cure.

The solution? Make it all legal; let the people become a drug dependent nation, and let people do what they want, once they reach a certain age, commonly agreed to be 21 years old. But this really isn't the solution. And while noted Conservatives have conceded that the "War on Drugs" has been a categorical failure, it does not mean we should just throw the doors open to allow access to them. Legalization is the advocacy, but monitored and through regulated means. A drug addled people are a compliant people, which is perhaps what the Progressives want. But, again, this doesn't solve the deeper problems in society.

Making drugs legal does nothing to address the problem of why people use them as a means of coping, solving/avoiding problems, or escape. Look, I was in this life, I know the truth. Recreational use is how it begins, for fun, for the 'high'. But after a short while, it ceases to be 'fun' and becomes more a choice, even a need. To a certain degree, addiction, whether psychological (as with marijuana) or physical (as with heroin, cocaine, crack, and methamphetamines), literally takes over your life and you live for the next dose. Your life now revolves around drugs. You may be able to continue to work, even as a professional, but at the end of the day, you go home and do your drugs, you pursue that life. Eventually, it does catch up to you and then you either get help, or you lose everything except the drug habit, and so end up as one of those stories we hear about on the news.

Concurrent to this was the sexual revolution, which exploded on the scene in the middle of the 1960s, and by the time Woodstock came about in 1969, the 'peace and love' generation was in full bloom. We call them Baby Boomers now, the generation born in the first 15 years after World War Two, between 1945 and 1960 or 1961. My generation.

It seems all conventions and traditions were challenged and under assault by 1970, many of which were soon to fall prey to the tide of the 'changing of the guard'. The idea that it is good to question authority, to cast off the shackles of the established ways, took root back then and permeates society even today. And as the baby boom generation matured, finished college and moved into the working world and the political world, we brought our high ideals and our loose morality with us. And we began to assume the mantle of leadership of our nation's businesses, political parties, families, churches and military.

Liberal thought (philosophy) is nothing new; we can trace the roots of "modern thought" all the way back to Ancient Greece, to Socrates, Aristotle, Plato and others. And it is not something to fear when engaged by thoughtful, reasonable people. But when a "true believer" in liberal philosophy comes along, happens to be charismatic and persuasive, becomes a leader of their peers, like minded people will be picked and encouraged to enter the halls of leadership. New ideas, the removal of established methods and systems that work, will be embraced. And while change can be good, change for the sake of change is rarely ever beneficial. Look to Communist China and their failed "Cultural Revolution" as an example. That movement was responsible for the destruction of millions of lives and livelihoods.

Scripture tells us, "Where there is no vision, the people perish." If a people, a nation, forges ahead without clearly understanding the long term consequences of the goals they are striving to accomplish, setting short term targets and making adjustments along the way to ensure success, it is likely failure will ultimately result. And, additionally, people will suffer for the lack of planning and foresight to anticipate problems that could cause great damage. And when you are talking about the future of a nation, the consequences of poor planning can be catastrophic.

One quick example: nuclear waste in the United States. Huge stockpiles of nuclear waste are stored 'on site' at each plant. Plans for a central storage facility were discussed for decades, and finally enacted in the 1990s. But in 2010, the President cut off funding of Yucca Mountain storage facility. Why? A remote location, having virtually no impact on the water table, geologically stable, generally inaccessible to the public...what's not to like? And having spent billions of tax payer dollars on construction (nearly complete), to pull the plug is madness.

As the baby boom generation has progressed, they have changed laws and practices that had served society quite well for centuries (in the bigger picture of human society). This generation extolled the ideals of Martin Luther King, Jr., but with none of the convictions he held, rooted in his core Christian beliefs. Dr. King was guided by the morality and ethics of the Bible, not humanism. The boomers were more interested in throwing open the barn door and letting all the animals out to live free, so to speak. All people should live without fear; that was the notion that guided the boomers. But it pursued without any clear design or plan, and from a humanist philosophical belief. So they never anticipated the long term consequences of what they were setting in motion.

Put in more relevant terms, as the boomers became lawyers, politicians, CEOs and statesmen, they brought their Progressivism with them; they changed the laws to allow a more open society, demanding society comply with their higher ‘wisdom’. This ‘freed’ people to abandon shame and the hiding of their sinful beliefs and behaviours and bring them out into the open. Because boomers are generally not religious, most faith based, biblically rooted notions don’t appeal to them. They are more interested in feelings and experience based vain philosophies and practices, consequences notwithstanding. They are more interested in saving the planet than people.

One of the earliest and most jarring examples of removing moral and ethical restraints, began with the Stonewall riot in Greenwich Village, in New York City in June of 1969. Up to that point, the homosexual community had been absorbing abuse, beating, arrest, imprisonment and general condemnation (which nobody should ever suffer because they make choices in how they live – even bad ones). These men had decided it was time to make a stand. In that moment was born the “Gay Rights” movement.

And from that day forward, homosexual advocates have been pushing and pushing against the societal prohibitions, slowly knocking down every law and ordinance that made their activities illegal. So much so, that today children are inculcated – forced – to learn in school that homosexuality is ‘normal’ and ‘natural’ in people, absent all proof and scientific evidence to support such a belief (for, in fact, that is all it is). You may disagree. But I would ask you to produce empirical evidence to support your assertions.

Again, to reiterate, I am not saying that people who practice homosexuality are to be reviled. I am actually saying the exact opposite. Their sin, homosexual behaviour, is still wrong, but the people themselves are still in need of hearing the truth, being treated with love, just as we are. For we are all sinners in the eyes of God, in need of the salvation that comes through Christ Jesus alone.

The deeper point here is that this example demonstrates the unforeseen consequence of removing moral restraints. People who disagree with the homosexual agenda are now considered ‘haters’ and evil for opposition to their agenda.

In 1947 the Supreme Court ruled that “separation of church and state” should mean that religious thought had no place in government. This idea is so ridiculous simply because everyone everywhere, whether in government or not, is guided by and make decisions based upon what we personally hold to be true. Christians are not going to support something the Bible says is sin - unless they choose to ignore this aspect of their belief. Atheists are not going to support anything that even suggests a religious connotation...even if it was reasonable and acceptable to society as a whole.

An interesting aside here: Atheists have always enjoyed liberty and freedom in America, even when it was clearly and openly a Christian ruled nation.

Subsequent to that decision, by 1963 prayer (and by extension any teaching from the Bible) had been removed from our schools. The reasoning was that it was considered to be a form of state supported religious indoctrination. It wasn't true, but that was the claim, and it won the day with the Supreme Court. Children were now taught Evolution, to the exclusion of any other view or scientific theory. It is the only theory that is protected by law.

The removal of all religious beliefs, practices, ideas, symbols and observances in public continues to this day. The problem is clear; we have historic examples of what happens when a society removes God from the public square: Soviet Russia, North Korea and Communist China are our best examples. These regimes suffered, materially, economically, spiritually, morally and ethically. The consequences are evident even to a rabid atheist, as long as they have an objective mind.

The only reason China is experiencing economic prosperity at the moment is because American companies have set up manufacturing there, ignoring the human rights abuses and philosophical differences. But as soon as it gets too expensive, they will move that base to another, cheaper, nation. So their prosperity is temporary. When it ends, it will have a deep impact on China's people and their economy. Russia is still struggling to find balance, so suffers still to this day.

At the time of this writing, the United States is suffering a second Great Depression, and fully 39% of the polled population does not believe we will ever return to the prosperity of years gone by. If any recovery is coming, it is years away, perhaps decades, barring a miraculous breakthrough and/or cancellation of the national debt. Concurrent to this decline is the increase in incidents of hostility, particularly toward the Christian faith. They are connected, even if you don't wish to believe so.

Right now we have an interesting dichotomy in America. On the one hand abortion is legal, and in most states can be performed up to 26 weeks. Yet, at the same time, we have legal precedents where a murdered pregnant woman results in the murderer being charged with *two deaths*. Curious how scientists will say they cannot categorically determine when life begins, but the court system in the United States has already made the case that life begins when it's convenient to make a better, and more emotionally charged case when it comes to murder.

Therefore, legally speaking, on the one hand life begins at birth; on the other, life begins just before a pregnant woman is murdered – for the sake of charging the perpetrator with two counts at trial.

Divorce used to be near impossible to get in America. People were forced to face the problems they had and find solutions, or face a lengthy, difficult and contentious process if they really wanted to end the marriage. This had the effect of keeping families together, preserving stability for their children...and a good example that problems have solutions.

Once New York legalized 'No Fault' divorce, the other states followed suit. No Fault divorce basically says that two people agree it isn't working, divide their possessions under the "what's yours is yours, what's mine is mine" approach, decide where any children of the marriage will reside, and who will pay support. It's all so 'civilized' and 'clean' and 'neat'. No muss, no fuss.

History demonstrates that family, more than anything, is the bedrock of a healthy society. Families ensure security, continuity, consistency and stability for a society. But the growing consensus in the United States is that while family is important, the psychological health of the individual trumps everything. In other words, the laws have been modified, even changed, passed, or in some cases overturned, to accommodate the self centered, 'me first' ideology of the individual over the centuries old practice and belief in honouring and keeping to commitments.

The Progressive agenda has been waging a war on family for over five decades. It is therefore rather ironic that "gay marriage" comes along as a hot button issue, because homosexuals originally wanted to eschew 'tradition', abandon marriage and other established institutions, to pursue their own self centered ideas. The liberal camp has been saying that marriage is antiquated and outmoded, even furthering that humans are not monogamous – by nature, but without a shred of valid scientific data to support their claim. But convenience has caused them to now do an about-face and demand the right to marry for homosexuals and lesbians, with all the associated rights and protections it affords.

These are but a few of the deep seated and very real problems facing the United States. You probably already know all this, and you may or may not agree that these are problems. The one thing that cannot be denied, even by ardent Progressive 'true believers', is that America is changing, and at the moment, not for the better. Our children are facing the prospect of being the first generation in over a century that will not have a better life than their parents. This warning actually first surfaced in the 1970s, that future generations were facing a less prosperous America. This time, though, it is true.

But at the heart of this is the fact that in the United States, bloated government and entitlements, impossibly high national debt, abortion, drug abuse, homosexuality, pedophilia, divorce, gangs, illegal immigration, moral equivalency, waning faith in the God of the Bible, and a host of other conditions, problems and questionable 'alternative' life choices, are taking away the potential of our nation, the future, and handing it over to despots and counterfeit 'saviours', people who claim to have a vision for a 'greater' America. These are all symptoms of a nation in distress, a nation adrift and without a rudder.

The vision of these people is undermining the foundation of our nation, the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. The Patriot Act has eroded certain protections we have enjoyed for over 200 years; the TSA is now groping people with the presumption of guilt in a nation where we are supposed to be viewed as innocent until proved guilty. The term 'hate crime' is now applied to certain criminal acts against a specific segment of society – giving them 'special protections' the rest of us do not enjoy, thereby creating a separate protected 'class' of people.

Criminal behaviour is still criminal behaviour, it doesn't matter the motivation. Giving certain crimes "special status", which actually doubles the potential sentencing mandates, is idiotic. Murder is still murder, rape is still rape... you see what I mean? All criminal activity involves some form of 'hate'. All crime could be called "hate crimes".

Our prisons are filling up to capacity, to overflowing, with people who have fallen into, or chosen, a life of crime – the reason is irrelevant. This evidence, along with the 'alternative', highly unstable life style choices of huge segments of society, and the crumbling infrastructure of local, state and federal

institutions, demonstrates that we are a people in deep, deep trouble. And there are no clear plans, no guarantee that anything we do will turn things around.

The new religion of this nation is man-centered. “Yes we can!” rang out in the 2008 presidential election cycle; “We are the change we’ve been waiting for” was declared at every whistle stop and town meeting. This specific candidate had no corporate background, no business experience, no practical political history. He stood before the American people an inexperienced candidate, possessing a compelling way with words and challenging everyone to demonstrate how ‘evolved’ and ‘mature’ we are as a nation, that they should elect him to the highest office in the Western World, lacking even a single demonstrable qualification that would convince any reasonable person they should do so.

This has nothing whatsoever to do with race. If you own your home, and you need an electrician to wire up your new addition, would you hire someone who says they know the ideas and principles of electrical work, but who possess no demonstrable experience, let alone credentials? I seriously doubt it. No one would accuse you of some form of bias. But, in 2008, that is exactly what happened, we hired a man wholly unqualified to do the job. It is a further proof of how far away from a focused, concrete and clear plan and direction this nation has gone. The people voted in favour of what is called a kakistocracy – rule by the least qualified. That is no way to run your personal life, a household, a company, an institution, a municipality, a state, a nation.

And it is precisely why, when you consider even just the evidence I have presented here, the United States, and by extension Western Civilization, is in decline. We don’t like it, we want to ‘fix’ it, and people are working even now to do just that. It is this work that is the result of and in response to the licentious, despotic, debauchery running rampant throughout the United States. The coming backlash has already begun.

Part Four

In this fourth and final section we will lay out the reasons any effort to “take back” or “return” America, even the West as a whole, to a Godly center will ultimately fail. And I do not say this with cynicism and contempt for the efforts of well meaning people who wish our nation to come back to a Christian foundation, and so be ‘covered’ by the protections enjoyed by an obedient people before a holy God. I simply hold a different view based on the facts of scripture and what it says about the days leading up to the return of our Lord.

In the scriptures we are told that during the End Times the world will be very much like the days of Noah (**Matt. 24:37,38; Luke 17:26**). A quick read of the story of Noah reveals that the world had turned their back upon God. They were worshippers of self, idols, things and engaged in all manner and form of wanton, evil behaviour. In fact, the account even goes so far as to suggest, if not outright say, that Noah was alone in his worship of God among all of humanity (**Gen. 6:8**). And, as we look about us today, we see the world behaving in much the same fashion as then, demonstrating that human nature has not changed, people are no different today than at that pivotal time in History; therefore a sign of the coming End of Days.

The proponents, preachers and authors of the varied materials that offer a hope that we can “restore”, “return”, “take back” our nation, even the world, from the enemies of freedom, even God, do so with all good intentions, I’m sure. Nobody wants to look at the glory of their nation’s history and the manifold good done during that time, and watch it slowly crumble, descend into decay and otherwise fall apart, becoming quite the opposite of what they grew up believing. They believe that by placing Godly people in positions of authority, by electing biblically grounded political figures, electing and appointing morally centered judges, and other similar actions, that through these efforts there will result, at least in part, a turning of the tide, fending off the evil of the atheistic hoards who are destroying our way of life.

But this conflicts with the scriptural account.

The so-called “Agents of Tolerance” are predominantly Progressive (liberal) in their politics, agnostic in their beliefs, and somewhat hostile to the rich (though the leaders of the whole Progressive agenda are themselves quite wealthy). And they are anything but tolerant with people who do not believe as they believe, even oppose what they champion and support. I know, I’ve been the target of this anger and hostility. And when I confront them with their own “creed” of tolerance, and how they have zero tolerance for my admittedly conservative, even Christian, position, they get even angrier. The more reasonable among them may stop and consider this fact, and some even apologize, recognizing the reality that they have been guilty of intolerance of opposing views. Fewer still “repent” of this hypocrisy.

The supporters of the “restoration” movement consists of people who want to bring the United States back to a God fearing and worshipping national consciousness; they tend to be very tolerant of the Progressives, but are hoping to remove the progressive influence and agenda from our nation’s legislatures and Congressional ranks.

Their goal is to reign in the very things that they believe are the cause of the decline of the American Experiment, the destruction of a way of life in the United States that is quickly disappearing right before their eyes. They see the liberalization of the laws, the removal of Christian symbology, references and observances, the acceptance of what the Bible calls sin as “normal” and “healthy”, and the general slide of society into a condition where “good” is considered evil, and “evil” is considered good, as very, very bad for our society.

Essentially, they see the moral and ethical condition of this nation as having been turned inside out, upside down, completely absent shame and humility in the conduct of the people – especially those in leadership – of this country. They see this as a sure sign that judgment is coming upon this nation, has already begun with a number of devastating events.

Just a few examples of judgments they believe are actually warnings from God to America that they are falling away from Him:

- The 1983 attack on the US troop barracks in Beirut, Lebanon
- The 1993 World Trade Center bombing
- The Kobar Towers attack against the US in Sudan in the late 1990s
- The Dot Bomb collapse in tech stocks in 2000
- The events of September 11, 2001
- The “Great Recession”, really the beginning of a very real Depression, in 2007
- The storms, earthquakes and floods between 2004 and 2011 (as of this writing), destroying homes, crops, livelihoods and more

The examples could go on, but these alone are enough evidence for them that the United States is in deep trouble. They say the “warnings” were few and far between at first, but as time has progressed, and the United States has continued to become more sinful, the warnings, becoming judgments, have come closer together and grown worse.

There is a strong argument for their position.

However, scripture tells us these kinds of things would occur, even in 'diverse places'. And we have seen this. These are the signs we Christians are to be aware of as evidence of the soon return of our Lord Jesus.

And Jesus Himself said that things would not get better, but worse, as that time approached. Our response is to lift up our heads knowing, because of these signs, that our redemption draws near. **(Matt. 24:6,7,33)**

There is an increasing belief within a number of Christian congregations and denominations that the End Times are not coming, that in fact the scriptures speak an instruction to dominate the world systems, ruling in a theocratic dominion for a thousand years before the Lord's return. It's called Dominionism. It isn't a new idea at all, but a resurrection of a very old idea.

Not all people in the restoration camp ascribe to this belief. But it is clear, at the very least, they do hold to some form of belief reflective of what Dominionism represents.

The coming backlash is comprised of people who are rooted in Christianity; moral, ethical and essentially biblical in their beliefs. They are tired of the growing tide of criminals receiving minimal punishment, early release, even avoiding prosecution. They are tired of homosexuality affirming practices in society, even lessons invading the schools down to kindergarten levels, becoming 'forced' indoctrination to believe and accept homosexuality as 'natural' (absent any empirical medical or DNA evidence). They are tired of the sexual revolution's consequential fallout, resulting in broken homes, promiscuity in our young, pedophilia, and more. They are tired of the drug wars, the pharmacological ethos of the medical community, that any 'abnormality' can be treated with the right drug(s), to solve problems, instead of dealing with them in the age old fashion of confronting the core causation, which might actually be rooted in sin and not some mental or chemical imbalance.

Even a fair segment of people who are not biblical in their beliefs, but generally common sense oriented, though they may not agree in some things, will support these efforts to stem lawlessness, crime and the rampant madness gripping our inner cities and shallow consumerism, for the sake of restoring order. But they will balk at the religious tone, perhaps even any institutional implementation of faith based practices (should that become an issue).

If this conservative tide doesn't self destruct, it will gain strength and support among the political middle and independent voters – especially if their elected politicians enact laws and policies that actually begin to result in positive benefits to the nation. These people are angry that jobs are going overseas, that they can't find suitable work and have to take low paying wages if they find a job at all, that our pride of being a manufacturing and producing nation is gone. They are angry that they are being squeezed from the Right and from the Left. And they're beginning to push back, hard.

A quick fact: History demonstrates that any nation which abandons their manufacturing base quickly falls into decline. This is what has been happening in America over the last thirty years. Most products you buy are made where? China, Malaysia, Thailand, India, Korea and Japan. Just try buying only products made here in the United States. It can be done, but it is a whole lot harder today than twenty years ago.

So the general populace of America is fed up with the direction this nation is going. They are fed up with a president that keeps blaming prior administrations, yet offering no real solutions. They are fed up with political do nothings, and government allowing, even 'creating', crises where none ever needed to exist in the first place. They are fed up with endless war in Afghanistan and Iraq. They are fed up with being fed up. And they are going to do something about it with each election cycle if nothing has changed for them in their day to day lives.

And they will use the voting booth as their vanguard tool. We saw a possible foreshadowing in 2010, when conservative candidates got elected to state legislatures and Congress, based on the anger of the average voter in America that we are spending money we don't have, mortgaging our children's futures, making big payouts to companies that should have been allowed to fail in the "Great Recession" that has become a bona fide Depression.

The fact of the matter is simply this: Even should the "restoration" supporters succeed in the next four to six year election cycle in installing Bible believing people in all important positions of authority, from local to national office, this alone cannot and will not turn the nation around and restore faith in

America. It cannot in and of itself accomplish this task – even should these same leaders enact laws to compel people into compliance.

The heart of the people is where change begins in a nation. So, in the United States, if we do not convince the average person of the corruption and depravity that our nation is suffering, that the licentiousness and evil, now called ‘good’, is bringing the judgment of a Holy God upon us, this restoration will not succeed. These people need to see their behaviour and beliefs are part of the problem, but not the problem they want to accept. The real problem is spiritual, which means they need to be persuaded to repent and accept Jesus as their personal Saviour.

Without changing the heart of the people, without the transformative influence of Christ through His Holy Spirit, even should our leaders be Christian, the laws that could be enacted to turn the people away from evil may not be sufficient even with a Bible believing leadership.

In ancient Israel, it seemed that as goes the leader, so goes the nation. If the king was evil, the nation ‘followed’, and the poor leadership was reflected in the people as they turned to their own devices, their own beliefs, as it says in Judges, “...and the people did what was right in their own eyes.” And God judged the nation. If the king was righteous, the people were called to righteousness, the Law was read to them so they would know what is expected of them. And they turned from their evil, tearing down the idols and altars to ‘foreign gods’. And because they repented, God blessed the nation. But if they strayed, worshipping idols and abandoning the Law and ignoring God’s prophets and warnings, disaster came upon them.

The United States, as with most democratic nations, is a pluralistic society. This means that while the nation may for the most part be moral and ethical, it tolerates dissent, even sin in those who oppose the righteous elements of society. However, while there may be laws against the obvious evil behaviours, murder, rape, theft, and so forth, many other behaviours are tolerated, even ignored by law enforcement, due to the ‘grey’ nature of where these behaviours may fall within the parameters of the Law. The consequence of this ‘grey’ is the creeping, increasing prevalence of sin in our society. But if the sinful elements remain relatively small and without wide influence, the nation still prospers.

A president may call the nation to prayer, but the pluralism of the nation results in only those who actually believe in God responding and praying for our nation. Their prayer may assuage any potential wrath or judgment. But if the people are not materially engaged in raising their children right, as the Psalm says, “Raise your children in the way they should go, and when they grow old they will not depart from it”, if this is not done, then the unbelief takes root in the children, spreads beyond them to others, and eventually into the children of our children as well.

Should this be the case, as it appears to be in the United States today, any call to prayer by a leader will have virtually no benefit because the people have, “...(done) what was right in their own eyes.” That generally means they have abandoned faith and worship of the one true God, they have abandoned following Christ Jesus. We saw just such a trend begin in the 1950s, as society began to become more open and liberal toward new ideas. And by the end of the 1960s, the liberal youth were living openly sinful lives. Imagine the children they then bore, and what they grew up learning and believing as they watched their permissive parents.

You may be one of them. And if you are, ask yourself this question: What is it you really believe?

Because of this loosening of our moral and ethical standards, a further evil has penetrated our nation. Our schools are teaching a kind of tolerance that encourages acceptance of all belief systems - except Christianity. Evolution is taught as fact. It is, as stated before, the only belief taught that enjoys the protection of the Law. It is illegal to teach any other theory on the origins of life in public schools. So even if a child is reared in a Christian home, statistics have revealed that if they go away to college, after four years and graduation, upwards of 80% have turned away from their faith who held any faith at all before entering college.

Further, our Seminary institutions have become more and more liberal in their theology. Churches are now pastored by people who are trying to 'contextualize' the gospel message, make it more palatable to the unbelieving public, create acceptance in the surrounding communities, even bending over backward in their efforts to be loved - yes loved - by the community in which they exist.

But Jesus said we would not be loved (**John 15:18,19**). Why are we so focused on tailoring the gospel message to be appealing and acceptable to people who are facing judgment? Should we not be warning them of the coming wrath? If we believe we are living in the End Times, should we not be focused on making it clear, without question, what awaits any and all who reject Jesus' salvation gift?

Nope, that isn't the focus of the Church. The Church is more concerned with declawing the gospel message, removing all the uncomfortable bits, massaging the messages to focus more on the inclusive, loving Jesus. This is going so far that many churches are embracing a new ecumenicalism, one that is inclusive of Hindu, Muslim, Buddhist, whatever, that they are all paths to the same end, to God. Brian McLaren, the patron saint of Emerging/Emergent Christianity, even declares that a Muslim or Hindu or Buddhist can stay in his Muslim, Hindu or Buddhist belief, and bring Jesus back to his community. But that is not what scripture teaches.

Jesus was very clear: "None may come to the Father except through Me." "I am the way, the truth and the life, none may enter except through Me." "I am the door; none may enter except through Me." Nothing here about retaining any prior beliefs in gods or idols; in fact scripture is clear that these must be destroyed because God is a jealous God, and brooks no interlopers, stealing our attention and worship.

It is just this exclusive language that scares the mainstream church. They remove it from all messages, preferring to preach only on the comfortable bits. So any discussion of judgment, "hell", the Lake of Fire, even End Times topics, are off limits.

This is not the whole gospel message we are instructed to preach. It is another Christianity, a perverted and poisonous brand of belief, absent Salvation, the Cross, the blood atonement, repentance, sin, consequences and all the things Jesus spoke of that could keep you from the wrath of the Judgment Day.

So our own congregations have become a battle field in which we are fighting for the faith, a very real battle to 'save' true Christianity from those who would pervert and distort, even completely overhaul everything in the Bible as meaning something other than what is plainly written.

You see, taking America back in the cause of Christ is a fool's errand because we are warned the times would become worse, that people would turn away to false beliefs and even false messiahs and gospel messages. We see that running rampant in America today. And given that the mainstream churches are teaching a compromised gospel, even should we put "God fearing" people in office, the question has to be asked: which kind of God fearing people are they? Traditional, biblical Christians? Modern/Postmodern Emergent Christians? Rick Warren's ecumenically minded, everybody is okay Christians?

You see the problem.

We must stand firm in the faith, yes, of course. We must teach our children the truth. And we must share the truth with those in our lives outside our families. And we must be ready to lose friends, neighbours, acquaintances, colleagues, business, our jobs, alienate our families and generally be seen as hateful, mean, evil and counter to the betterment of society by a people who are lost and living in darkness.

Why would we expect to be embraced by them? Well, if we so dilute the gospel truth, yes, people will love us. But we're not here to adjust the Bible to the age. No, we are here to adjust the age to the Bible (as Charles Spurgeon so stated). If we believe the Bible is the true and inerrant word of God, then it doesn't need to be changed, fixed, reinterpreted to be more 'friendly', gentrified, gender neutralized, palatable to an unbelieving people. It just needs us to preach the whole undiluted gospel truth contained between its covers.

God needs us, calls us, to be the light set upon the hill. If our light is hidden behind specious doctrine and belief, it is not going to shine forth as a beacon of genuine truth, genuine salvation and life.

The world needs God's true believing people, uncompromising in the truth, and committed to suffering for the sake of the kingdom of God – as we are warned will happen to the truly faithful believers – in order that the real salvation of the world be offered to everyone, one person at a time. This is the very definition of the love Jesus taught we must embrace and share.

We do not fight to take back nations. We do not fight to reclaim land. We do not fight for any material gains. We fight for the heart and soul of everyone lost and living in darkness, who is going to die in their sin – and so face the Judgment Day wrath of God – if we do not show them the way to salvation, life, and most important of all, the love and forgiveness of Jesus, the Christ, our Lord, our God, our King.

We must prepare for the days ahead. They are going to be dark days, days in which your faith will be challenged, days in which you will see an increasing hostility toward Jesus, toward the God of the Bible, days in which it will become increasingly more difficult to openly proclaim Christ crucified, days in which it will become illegal to hold to the biblical Christianity we have come to take for granted, that is even now under external and internal assault.

Remember the words of Jesus: "It is the one who does the will of the Father who will enter the kingdom of heaven." And Paul, "Be sure you do not fall short of the goal.... that you finish the race..."

Look around; what do you see? The world descending deeper into divisions, all while our leaders speak of uniting together in a global society, even one day openly declaring support for a one world government. Yes, it is coming. But true Christianity will not be welcome in this new reality. There will be a price to pay, a very dear price for many in the days ahead, one that will demand even laying down your life in the defense of the faith and salvation that is found only in Christ Jesus.

Remember the words of the Colonial Americans as they stood in the face of British oppression: We have no King but Jesus.

How about you? Who is your king?

Epilogue

I have no doubt that there will be some success in the “restoration” movement, that they might actually gain control for a short while. But it becomes the equivalent of the old “rearranging deck chairs on the Titanic” example. They want order, and they have their vision of what it looks like.

But because Jesus is clear about the End Times days and events, that matters will only appear to improve, particularly with the rise of Antichrist to ‘save the day’, who will give people hope. But his is a false hope. And, in truth, he may rise out of this “restoration” movement.

Plato wrote a massive treatise called “The Republic”. Why do I bring this up? Because he very clearly explained how governments rise, and that they do so in a very particular order. In Plato’s view, the Republic is the perfect state, being an aristocracy of intellect. An Aristocracy is, by the Greek definition, rule by “the best”. In Plato’s mind, the best are the wisest and most qualified to rule. So, the four forms of government he describes, by their very nature, are a deteriorated state, each a further declining of the condition of the State.

The order follows this general flow:

- **Timocratic**, a government of honours and ambition, a blend of aristocratic and oligarchic, might and gold, a blend of good and evil, pitting higher against lower, the inferior man worshipping and possessing gold and power and military valour
- **Oligarchic**, rule by the few, the rich (which properly is called a plutocracy), power comes from money, and not always the most qualified - and results in a decline in virtue
- **Democratic**, rule by the many, a “charming form of government, full of variety and disorder”; no man is governed unless he chooses to be (obviously, in the United States, the clarifier is that as long as a person does not break set laws, they are mostly free to pursue whatever they fancy - basically the pursuit of licentiousness and pleasure, the ultimate downfall of such a state)
- **Tyrannical**, a government created by fear and the perceived need for a “strong” leader who, once in power, foments wars and invents crises and threats from “external”, even “internal”, enemies of the state; it also comes about as a reaction to increased licentiousness and a wanton disregard for civility and rules (as described of the democratic state), so a ‘backlash’ against unfettered social anarchy

And it is upon this basis that I have come to see that, in many ways, Plato got it right with regard to a democratic state. In order that a democratic state survive, the leaders are all but compelled to accede to the demands for more and broader freedoms. And we are seeing this in America. It has been a growing ‘cancer’ in this nation for over fifty years. People are demanding the “right” to indulge their every whim, whether sexual, pharmacological, or whatever they happen to think is their ‘entitlement’ to do...even live off the government handouts (as an ever increasing number of people seem to be doing in some form and to some degree).

It can’t last. And it is this deprecated state that is giving rise to the anger on the “right”, making the average citizen take notice. Whether illegal immigrants getting legitimacy, homosexuality gaining

marriage rights, recreational drugs now legal over the counter, or just fill in the blank as you see it, people are getting tired of the headlong slide into social anarchy.

And we are seeing the reaction to it. The creation of the T.E.A. Party (Taxed Enough Already), a cadre of people demanding the government stop their insane spending binge, and bring jobs back to domestic shores...a whole host of complaints, some actually legitimate. The rank and file voter, nonaffiliated, grows weary of yet another politician being caught in some scandal or another. The people tire of it. And they will vote for a change.

And, as mentioned earlier, they will find their “champion”. And it is this champion that we must be most guarded against because he will betray his supporters and followers, everyone, once he ascends to power.

This is a very black outlook, I understand that. But, again, the Bible is clear: life on earth in the End Times will not be good, particularly for the people who serve the Lord Jesus. Ironically, it is outwardly “Christian” people who are pushing for the “restoration” of America to values of a better time, values more reflective of scripture. But in a democratic state, that just isn’t practical. Most people are no longer religious, at least in the true Christian sense of the word. They won’t tolerate very much “regressive” legislation.

And in a nation that is descending ever deeper into sin and depravity, it is guaranteed to fail.

All we can do is strive to be good stewards over our families, pray for our leaders at all levels of government, live our Christianity as biblically as we are able, sharing the Gospel message of salvation, and know that the time of Jesus’ return, based on the appearing of the signs He said to be on the lookout to see, must surely be close at hand. The signs and the times most certainly are fulfilling His words in every way.

Come Lord Jesus!