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"Brother Can You Spare a Dime?"

The anthem for the Great Depression was written in 1932: "Say don't you remember, they called me Al? It was Al all the time. Say don't you remember, I'm your pal—Brother can you spare a dime?" Interestingly, dimes are back in the conversation. Take the example of 2 men who deal in the metals. For years, Bill Holter advised precious metal clients to obtain 'junk', pre-65, 90% silver coins. He focused on 'dimes/quarters' rather than higher premium, half dollars because smaller denominations are better for barter.

For barter, 'dimes' are '10 to the buck', whereas half-dollars are '2'. Assuming we see much higher silver prices, in barter with farmers, silver dimes will be the 'gold standard'.

Bill was advocating 'junk' when premiums were around a 'buck'. He also recommended American Eagle, 1 oz. silver coins when the premium was 2/3 bucks, Now, 'junk silver' premium is \$12/14 (if available), while Eagle premiums are even higher.

Miles/Franklin CEO, Andy Schectman, has a similar but distinct take compared to Bill. Andy is a proponent of 'junk silver', and 1 oz. Silver Eagles (were it not for restrictive premiums). Also, for some clients he recommends kilo-bars—2.2 pounds of silver.

Whether you hold silver dimes or ounces depends on how you see a collapse playing-out. If we experience a Minsky Moment (sudden collapse of the markets/dollar), precious metals will again become the dominant money—rapidly. In a scenario of confusion/fear, Americans will be left with no means to purchase goods and services.

Were it to happen precipitously, all hell would break loose. Forgot the 'carpetbagger pundits' that tell us to keep \$100K in dollars because everything will be on the 'chopping block' and assets will be had for 'pennies on the dollar'. If the entire thing caves-in on itself, it's not going to be about getting that guy's 67 Mustang Fastback or his condo for a few ounces of silver, it will be about keeping out of harm's way—staying alive.

Because less than 1% of Americans have gold and silver (slightly more than 3 million out of 333 million), what will the other 330 million be doing while you are out buying-up the cars of your youth? Through 'jaundiced eyes' they'll see what you have—and plot.

I see 3 things on the economic horizon, precious metals, privately-held crypto, and CBDC. The interplay amongst them suggests some realities. It will be a rough road to recognizing gold and silver as money, and (in the West), that transition will be met with great resistance. That said, in the end, gold will again become the measure—by necessity. But before that, private crypto and central bank elites will have it out, while gold

sits on the sidelines as a semi-detached observer—a 5000 year—shaper of history.

Those who understand the value of precious metals are mostly out of touch with crypto reality. More than 100 million young Americans, asked whether they would take '2 bits' (a silver quarter), or a 1 dollar Snickers bar, would lean towards the candy bar, because they have no idea the quarter buys 5 or 6 of those Snickers bars.

Because they don't understand gold, but they do understand and put their faith in technology, they assume cryptocurrency as the future of money. In the fight to keep wealth in the hands of the individual, Bitcoin may prove to be 'brother in arms' to gold. That, of course, assumes that crypto is not already under elite control as a diversionary tactic to get us used of the idea of 'blockchain'—in a plan for a locked-down CBCD.

Which economic speculation best represents what is to be our future? My title's song lyrics suggest how bad things are likely to get. And because US debt is magnitudes more than prior to the Depression, and we are no longer the nation of 'farmers fabricators' we were then, it could be much worse than 1929. Also, the US has no friends.

Because of sanctions and a weaponization of the dollar we can not expect anyone to come to our aid. Making it worse is a 'brain-dead' DC elite, scheming-up fantasies that we can/will take on China militarily—and prevail. With this lunacy the elite are driving Russia, China (and the BRICS), into a soon-to-come, gold-backed settlement system.

The US (in its haste to take on China), doesn't recognize that we are about to lose our proxy war in Ukraine, and like Ukraine, we may not be able to mount an offensive against anyone—ever. For a series of 'sand-lot-wars', we used a bombing and sanctioning tactic, then decided on that same tactic to employ war against global powers.

Russia made a calculation, thinking Ukraine would quickly be forced to the peace table and accept terms. Putin was correct and the combatants were days away from signing terms of peace—but no. The US pushed all its chips to the middle of the table, betting everything that its model for 'sand-lot' war would topple Russia and Putin.

Russia, set back, had to call up reserves and remobilize on a war footing—both militarily and in the production of armaments. But Russia, with almost endless natural resources and an economy of 'farmers and fabricators', was able to successfully adapt.

The US, however, is not the US of 1971, when we began to lose manufacturing and military prowess. Most Americans have no idea how much we lost to 'sloth', relying on the reserve currency and a 'petrodollar'. Assuming we could bring Russia to its knees and consolidate US control, we sanctioned/proxied Russian into a major global power.

Having placed various charges to blow-up our credibility in Europe (while signing-up Finland to a NATO that may soon not exist), the US is war-gaming and planning, almost openly, for a war in the Pacific with China. But, how many US warplanes and ships would even make it to a South China Sea war—not many—a few submarines?

The US wages wars of deception. But the war China and Russia would wage is reality based, using hyper-sonic missiles, EMP attacks, and an endless artillery barrage.

So, given the debt, derivatives, and a US without options, I'm betting on 'dimes and quarters' rather than 'kilo bars'. I watched 3 episodes of 'Waco' (Netflix) last night and was reminded just how stupid human beings are. Koresh, 'the Messiah', could have been picked up in town by 2 cops. Instead, our elites decided on a military genocide.

If I were in the market to purchase gold/silver, I would contact bholter@hotmail.com. My story: "Hey Siri"—Book One, is posted on my site—neverhadaboss.com. Contrarians can subscribe to my articles, by request: erik@neverhadaboss.com. Thanks.