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What Will It Be Like To Be An American?

Today I drove from I-15, Vegas to LA, over the worst 70 miles of road I've travelled in a car. Cracked concrete and monster gravel that I'd been over years before on my bike. About halfway I got concerned—no phone/no idea if this road goes into Death Valley.

Tonight I'm at Death Valley getting something to eat, suggesting what future inflation looks like. Can of coffee, \$7 bucks. Burger \$27. Prices soon to the norm—everywhere..

Earlier, I sat with a couple (he's from Italy/she's from France), bicycling from Alaska to Argentina. They view illegal immigration (something happening in all 3 of our countries), in the US, as necessary because migrants take the jobs Americans don't want.

Everywhere they ride, the work is being done by Mexicans. In my memory, it was always that way, starting back in the 50's with the *bracero* (strong arm) program that welcomed Mexicans (for a prescribed period), to work the fields in America, and send dollars home. With 1 major caveat—that worker program, unlike now, was well-vetted.

My family came to the US in 1956. from Canada. Immigrating back then was an extensive procedure. After 5 years of residing here, if you had reached your 18th birthday, you were required to pass a test on the Constitution/Bill of Rights before becoming a citizen. How does that compare with emptying-out Central American prisons and sending convicts to the US? And, those jobs Americans won't do—they took them in 1929.

A problem for the United States is the absence of continuity. I filled-up my tank in Nevada, at \$3.19 a gallon. A short-time later I was in California where gas was \$5.80. How does that make any sense? And where will the jobs be for Americans when the economy comes apart and there are 20 million illegals willing to work for lower wages?

I tried talking to the bicycling couple about silver, but, at 30 years of age, they are into bitcoin. I asked Manuel why he would be interested in something that's closing in on \$90K a coin, rather than silver at \$30? He had no good answer. But why should he listen to me—I'm just another American thinking he know things he has no idea about?

I got a call today from a new friend, a trucker from Wisconsin who wanted to talk about preserving wealth. Unless it has to do with rental property or precious metals, I'm definitely not the person to ask. He asked if I had any mining stocks. Over 8 decades I've never owned a stock. I should know something about metals—but what do I know?

Over my 80 years, gold has not been a means of exchange, and, pre-1965 90% silver was a long time ago. So, it sometimes slips my mind that gold and silver are the

real money. For instance, this month, I paid just shy of \$20K in property taxes, leaving me with 4 thousand dollars—causing me concern I needed to borrow from my son.

This, after deciding, years ago, that silver would be my bank account. After buying much more silver than I'll ever need, from friends, locally/nationally, who are gold/silver brokers, I've only bought the metal, never selling any. For me, it's not practical money.

After writing a novel, *The Audit*, around there being no gold at Fort Knox, devoting chapters to what happens when the dollar doesn't spend and there is no more credit, I would call Bill Holter to get his recommendation as to what to buy. It was always dimes.

For those who don't know of Bill—you ought to. Bill is our most down to earth economist, both feet on the ground, with the same message—always. He decks his message out w/facts but it revolves around 1 thing: credit—and what happens when credit goes away. Bill's site is: BillHolter.com, and his interviews are all across the internet.

My truck driver friend gets it right off—he knows the many credit lines necessary to haul and deliver a load. And he understands that when credit is no longer available—all trucking stops. More than that, once credit is no longer available—everything stops.

He wonders if he should trade his 10 oz. silver bars for dimes. He's like I was a couple of years ago until Bill drummed it into my head: if you go to the farmer's market for milk and eggs, and you pay w/10 oz. bar—maybe that's 10,000 eggs and their truck?

It's difficult for Americans to come to the realization, that because we haven't had to barter—barter will be our future. I feel certain it is. And I suspect it will come fast/soon.

At some point, when you point to 8 individuals who made a difference in your life, 1 will be whoever got you over to Miles Franklin for \$500-face value of pre-65 dimes (to cover my ass, I don't sell/profit from gold/silver sales). I only research/write about it.

How hard is it going to be—to be an American? Not since Marie Antoinette has there been a more entitled person—as your average American. I ask you—what happens when the credit stops, for desperate, entitled people who are but 1 tank of gas from where you live—north/south. That's when you should have already moved—but if not...

You best have enough metals (gold/silver/lead), to give you a fighting chance. Just imagine when there are no burgers or small cans of coffee—at any price. And no silver to be had. When gold is no longer priced in dollars. When lead has all been bought up.

I'm not suggesting that having the means to barter/live and a means to protect yourself, ensures your survival. Even with faith in a God of divine justice, in a well-ordered universe—it comes with tyrannical risk—not forgetting crocodiles/highwaymen/robbers.

Now, for me, politics are equally concerning as credit and the dollar. I write articles and then deal with my self doubt around what I wrote. I'm thankful I bought dimes when I could—and remember George Carlin's rule: *never trust anything government tells me*.

Yesterday, Trump nominated that little weasel, Marco Rubio, as Secretary of State (possibly his most important nomination). In disbelief—I reacted in my article, because Rubio is a horrible choice, incapable of conducting diplomacy with adversaries/BRICS.

But, there is more to Trump than Rubio. For Americans, Trump is a nationalist, offering us breathing room from *insidious left*—who would hand-over America to globalists.

For the rest of the world (who are not Americans), Trump will be another matter. Never have there been appointments (even under Biden), offering a pledge of total fealty to whatever Israel does. But Trump, and his policies (the good/bad/and the ugly), deserve more in-depth analysis. Hence a subject for my next article: *Hail to the Chief?*

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