COVID-19 - When America Embraced Socialism Without a Whimper

When Patrick Henry echoed the battle cry of the American Revolution *"Give me liberty or give me death"*, was that initiated out of rebellion or Christian conviction?

Joel Belz's article <u>No Path to Normalcy</u> contained a line that has spurred me to write about a concern. Joel is the founder of WORLD Magazine.

"The very path being proposed to 'open' our nation for business smacks of socialism." He continues... "The freedoms we inherit on the other side of this tragedy will be altogether different from what we experienced coming in." 1.)

My perspective is always intended to point towards a Christian worldview – many will be offended by what I will say here. I hope that you will at least read and consider it as you go on your journey.

America is again at a crossroad where we need to decide **who we are and how we want to live**. At times like these in the past, we have **opted for liberty even at the expense of security**. Will we again or will we become more socialist?

A retired engineer friend – writing to the Billings City Council - points out that <u>deaths from the flu</u> in 2018 were 850% higher than COVID-19 deaths in Montana this year. In 39 states, COVID was worse than the flu. He asks the question "*Will we be going through the same economic and social shutdown for any flu that comes along next year?*" 2.)

My point is, you have been lied to on purpose! Not by all, certainly, many honest mistakes have been made. The people I respect also realize that there is an agenda playing out.

Many, including Fox News's Judge Andrew Napolitano would argue that the *closings* were done in unconstitutional ways. His article <u>Judge Andrew</u> <u>Napolitano: Coronavirus fear lets government assault our freedom in violation of</u> <u>Constitution</u> begins with this quote: 3.)

"The Constitution of the United States is a law for rulers and people, equally in war and in peace, and covers with the shield of its protection all classes of men, at all times and under all circumstances." – Ex parte Milligan, U.S. Supreme Court (1866) If your serious about this issue, please read Andrew's full article. Those leading this insurrection depend upon our ignorance of our constitution and our Bibles. If you read this article, you have to decide – do you want to live in the America of the Founders or do you want to live in an America redefined by those of a Socialist mindset? Freedom is never free; it never will be.

So, you decide! But remember this – you are deciding for the future generations and that is a big responsibility. Are we really more enlightened theologically than the Founding Fathers? That is the bottom line of this paper! If liberty can be taken away in times of crisis, then is it really liberty; or is it just a license, via a temporary government permission slip, subject to the whims of politicians in power?

Belz suggests that the *openings* are being done in ways that smack of socialist control. Napolitano suggests this is all un-American – defining American as constitutional. I believe that our Founding Fathers would be turning over in their graves to see how quickly and without resistance, **America has chosen security over liberty**. And – I would add – the voices of the thousands of men who have given "their last full measure of devotion" to protect that liberty are crying out also.

Those who **claim the** *moral high ground* **insist that lives trump liberty**. I will challenge the morality of that claim as short sighted, feminist, unconstitutional and - most important - lacking in theological understanding.

It's not *just* a matter of being unconstitutional, it is also a matter of common sense. When have we ever taken such draconian measures – endorsed and enforced by so few - with such little public input? The very idea of America shutting down needs to be questioned deeply. The Left will not let this crisis go to waste – their **New Normal will reek of socialism** as Belz has suggested.

On April 28th, Attorney General Bill Barr (who I love) issued an order the <u>"Constitution Isn't Suspended' for COVID-19"</u> 4.) directing his 94 U.S. attorneys to "be on the lookout for state and local directives that could be violating the constitutional rights and civil liberties of individual citizens."

But you don't have to have a Harvard law degree to see the blatant contradictions, even in his statements:

...The coronavirus virus "has <u>required</u> the imposition of extraordinary restrictions on all of our daily lives... even in times of emergency, when <u>reasonable and temporary</u> restrictions are placed on rights...

Translation? *Congress shall make no law...* except when we divinely gifted ones decide to override it. This is constitutional heresy no matter who says it. And, they did not even make a law, it came by declarative FIAT from these rogues.

Exactly who made the decisions that restrictions were <u>required</u> to be imposed and how was that constitutional? And, who decided when <u>reasonable restrictions</u> should be imposed and how was that constitutional? There was no law, there was no trial. More important – **who will make those decisions next time**. Make no mistake, we are ensuring that there will be a "next time." But next time, the constitution will not even be a consideration. **That ship will have already sailed** – because of our silence this time.

For any leader, politician, pastor or person of position to resist those who claim this moral high ground is suicide. Because of the ignorance and timidity of the American people, they dare not. **That is why those of us who hold no position need to be speaking.**

The **First Amendment** to the constitution says:

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of **religion**, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the **freedom of speech**, or of the **press**; or the right of the people peaceably to **assemble**, and to **petition** the Government for a redress of grievances.

Yup, the first amendment be damned - all five BOLDS have been deleted. Unless you have been hiding under a rock, you know this has happened all over America.

But do Christians even care about the Constitution or the First Amendment? After all, isn't that just more politics? Isn't the Bible our only guide? We need to understand all the Bible teaches and most of the teaching relating to submitting to governmental rule is shallow. I shall address this argument in the second part of the article. There are important theological issues you ought to know.

So, who made the decisions mentioned above relating to the constitution and this alleged emergency? With all due respect to our medical communities, we have

given them way too much power in this debacle. But that's not on doctors, that's not even on Mayors and Governors. That is on *We the People* – we are ultimately responsible for this government. **Is anybody asking, what worldview is guiding this?**

Breathtaking Socialism - in One Fell Swoop:

We have been concerned that Marxist-Socialism would come in as "creeping socialism." You know, from the Woodrow Wilson to FDR to Barack Obama to AOC and Bernie Sanders creep we have all tried to resist? But no! **Socialism didn't creep in, it dropped on us like rock** falling from the sky - as the only cure for a virus. It has been embraced as our savior without a whimper. Truth, values, constitutions and economics were swept aside for the sake of security. Health has suddenly become our ruler and savior.

The security vs. liberty debate is not new nor is the timidity of the masses. Those who opted to fight King George of England were not a vast majority. Those willing to fight to defeat slavery were not a strong majority – even in the north. Even after France and much of Europe were in Nazi control and England was in trouble, America's entry into WW II was very unpopular – until Dec. 7th. My point? **Defending liberty at the expense of security has always been the task of principled statesmen, not the faint-hearted masses.**

Socialism was forced upon us - as if by some sovereign fiat - in a matter of hours! We have been **told** where we could eat. We have been **told** where, when and how we could worship. We have been **told** when and how we can work. We have been **told** what we could do with family. We have been **told** we could not travel and the list goes on... and on. Go back and read the First Amendment, liberties be damned, only security mattered.

There is an interesting parallel in I Samuel 8:11 where the children of Israel demanded a King to rule over them. Samuel said "And this will be the manner of the King who will reign over you. Read it and count the times it says "and the King shall TAKE." Your sons... the best of your fields... a tenth of your production... your servants.

The depth to which this socialism has penetrated in a matter of weeks is breathtaking. We don't have to pay our rent; we don't have to pay our taxes until

later. We don't have to work – and if the AOC's of this world get their way, we never will have to. The government – that mysterious Bald Eagle in the sky – will pay for it ALL - even though we know she is bankrupt. A Millennial's current share of the national debt is in the neighborhood of \$70K; this COVID issue will push it to around \$80K. Tell them these bailouts don't matter! Shame on my generation and the Gen X'ers who tolerate these irresponsible actions!

Farmers are about to euthanize thousands of pigs they can't sell, ranchers are stuck with fat cattle they can't market, lettuce and other produce producers are dumping produce they have no market for, unemployment roles are soaring, millions of businesses will be lost, hundreds of ministries will go under, children have effectively lost a third of their school year and those who protest are scorned. **Is anybody asking, how did we get to this point?**

Conditioned for the COVID Response: The Feminization of America.

This rock that has fallen from the sky has been largely accomplished by one of the <u>Marxist-Socialist</u> 5.) effort's in the last century – the universal <u>feminization of</u> <u>American culture</u>. Almost two years ago, I was challenged to research the history and workings of the feminist movement. The <u>Socialist roots</u> were not hard to trace. Research and you discover that Marxism and radical Feminism are joined at the hip.

When I saw what was happening with the COVED issue, I realized that the deliberate workings of these Socialist thinkers over the last century had **conditioned us for this take over**. The reality is that this feminist indoctrination has robbed us of the influence of manhood. We joke about the Millennials being snowflakes, the reality is that the vast majority of Americans are. Most are blind to it, and that is my entire point.

If you're interested in my journey, take a few *days* and read - <u>Sexual Suicide</u>, <u>Domestic Tranquility</u>, <u>The Flip Side of Feminism</u>, and <u>The New Politics of Sex: The</u> <u>Sexual Revolution, Civil Liberties, and the Growth of Governmental Power</u>. If you take that journey, you will be stunned at the affect and control feminism has gained in America in the last century and all by design. For a little background - if you're not familiar with the <u>45 Goals of the Communist Party</u> - take a couple of minutes and review them. You will find how Marxists and their willing accomplices, radical Feminists planned to use homosexuality, the breakup of the family, social justice, porn and many other things to separate us. The seeming warp speed adaptations of Christians to abortion, same-sex marriage etc. was not rapid at all. This has been brewing for a long time.

My conclusion is that the radical Marxist based Feminist movement of the last century conditioned us – in part - to this unparalleled COVID take over. Young women have my sympathy, this analysis of Feminism seems like a conspiracy theory – who is responsible? Look no further than your mothers and grandmothers who tolerated this evil – mostly out of ignorance and apathy.

We need conservative women to humble themselves, *do their homework* and be the leaders of **a resistance movement against radical feminism.** Men are handicapped by the stupidity of the public; women's voices must do this.

But again, I ask, how did we get here - what happened to the salt and light factor?

Fissures in the Foundations of Evangelicalism:

In the Sermon on the Mount Jesus charges the church "You are the salt [flavoring agent] of the earth... the [guiding] light of the world... that must not be hidden.".

Is all of this exposing a growing separation or fissures in foundations of orthodox Christianity? After all, we are supposed to provide the direction for culture. Why is it that things that years ago we would have agreed upon, have now become points of the division? Some of these disagreements seem to have arisen suddenly, like that falling rock I mentioned? But no, this also has been a long time coming. What set us up for abortion, the perversion of marriage, cohabitation... to come in like a flood?

In the second session of the <u>Truth Project</u>, Dr. R.C. Sproul said:

"We are currently witnessing the most anti-intellectual period in the church in all of history."

This has contributed to a lack of understanding of some of the threats to the church. The low biblical IQ of the average Christian has contributed to unbiblical responses to social issues like same-sex marriage, so- called social justice, and those promoting socialism within the church. A respected friend recently said in a

book positive about the growth of the church. "Most of the sermons we hear today are self-help theory dressed up with Bible verses."

The majority of the main line churches and liberal Catholics embraced Marxism (socialism, social justice, <u>Liberation Theology</u> – call it what you will) nearly a century ago. When they abandoned miracles (i.e. the resurrection, the virgin birth, creation) they had to have a message to replace it. Social Justice has become their rallying cry – their new gospel which amounts to Marxism Lite.

In the last decades, what we broadly call evangelicalism has been moving in that direction also. Books have been written about how radical Marxists like Jim Wallace (author of <u>Sojourner Magazine</u>) and Emerging Church leaders like Brian McLaren have dramatically influenced churches like Willow Creek who in turn at one point influenced 13,000 churches. These men were outspoken advocates of Christians moving away from conservativism toward Progressive thought including Liberation Theology and even <u>Black Liberation Theology</u>.

Much more could be said but after following these issues for several years, I can confidently say that there is – at a minimum – a residue of socialist thinking within evangelicalism. Some of these churches slipped into error and now more resemble the mainline churches referenced above than orthodox evangelicalism. Sadly, this socialism within evangelicalism is on the rise.

As the majority of evangelicalism refused to speak and teach about social issues like abortion, same-sex marriage, cohabitation, homosexuality etc. they set a direction. Now, they have embraced safety over liberty. I predict that this will widen the gap within evangelicalism rapidly. This COVID issue could become the spring board to a serious schism.

Fissures in the Foundations of Catholicism:

Not being Catholic myself, I want to recommend some resources (from Catholic friends) that you should we aware of. <u>Remnant News</u> and TV has been speaking out for years – since 1967. They are now blowing the whistle on the perfect storm component of this virus. Yes, there is also an orthodox conservative Catholic group that is condemning and <u>calling out Pope Francis</u> as a Marxist and a Globalist - pushing the unifications of religions and a New World Order. This man came out of the South American Liberation Theology movement and has pushed

Marxist thought within the church. Some God-fearing Catholics are practicing a bit of civil disobedience and choosing Jesus first.

Michael Matt with Remnant News has been an outspoken Catholic exposing what he believes the COVID-19 issue to be – a perfect storm to break the back of the United States. These spokesmen are exposing a Catholic NY governor who is proabortion while they are supporting President Trump. They also expose Dr. Fauci, his links to Bill Gates and other liberal Globalists and abortionists. How I wish there was a Protestant group that was this outspoken - with good information.

But is all this constitution talk, isn't this just politics? Again, I ask, how did we get to the point of believing that the church and government were unrelated?

The Constitution, the Bible, and the Colonies: Understanding their Theological Roots.

In the classic <u>A Christian Manifesto</u>, Francis Schaeffer says this about where America is:

We have gotten here because we **do not live a comprehensive worldview**. We see things in bits and pieces instead of totals. We have believed a sacred-secular split thus the split between cultural-political issues and spirituality. We see the Constitution in a materialistic-spiritual split. The founders would not have separated these things. **6**.)

Schaeffer's reference to the sacred-secular split relates to the split many Christians see between politics (or government) and faith. While not exclusively orthodox Christians, the Founders writings in the constitution have a theological basis.

What was the history of this constitution and in particular, what was their theological basis? When Patrick Henry invoked what became the moto of the Revolutionary War "Give me liberty or give me death." Was he just some rebel who started an insurrection? What did these words mean in their day?

Henry goes on to say:

"What is it that gentlemen wish?" [Henry] taunted as he slumped into an attitude of helplessness, head bowed and wrists crossed as if manacled. "Is life so dear, or peace so sweet, as to be purchased at the price of chains

and slavery? Forbid it, Almighty God! . . . But as for me—give me liberty, or give me death!"

Were these the works and actions of a group of half-baked rebel rousers? What was their understanding of liberty in Christian terms? Why would the Pilgrims – who testified that they came to America to *further the Kingdom of God* – why would they sojourn in Europe and then move to America for the cause of liberty? Even after the death of nearly half their number the first winter, they held steadfast to liberty over safety. Was this just some misguided cult?

In Scotland and England there had been a long struggle relative to the rule of the King. This was a continuation of the Reformation and not one that would offend informed Catholics today. There were things that needed to be reformed.

There was an entire theological basis that was captured in Samuel Rutherford's <u>book Lex, Rex, or The Law and the Prince; a Dispute for the Just Prerogative of</u> <u>King and People</u> **7.)** was theological. In simplistic terms, its theses were that the King is in covenant with the people to rule justly. *Lex Rex* is interpreted the Law (of King Jesus) is King. But when this was reversed (Rex Lex) King becomes the fountain of law. If the King began to rule unjustly, the people were **duty bound to resist.**

This book from 1644 was widely read amongst the colonies and was largely responsible for the Revolutionary War. These Christians understood that **"certain inalienable rights"** (in the second paragraph of <u>The Declaration of Independence</u>) were *endowed by their Creator*. Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of happiness – there is that word again, liberty, what did it mean? Schaeffer contends that "Without that base, everything in the Declaration of Independence is unadulterated non-sense." **8.**)

The war for independence was driven by a group known as the <u>Black Robe</u> <u>Regiment</u> - a group you should understand if you want understand the Christian mindset of 1776. The Black Robbed Regiment was the name that the British placed on the courageous and patriotic **American clergy** during the Founding Era. Significantly, the British blamed the Black Robbed Regiment for American Independence, and rightfully so, for modern historians have documented that: "There is not a right asserted in the Declaration of Independence which had not been discussed by the New England clergy before 1763."

The rights listed in the Declaration of Independence were nothing more than a listing of sermon topics that had been preached from the pulpit in the two decades leading up to the American Revolution. It was not just the British who saw the American pulpit as largely responsible for American independence and government, our own leaders agreed. John Adams rejoiced that "the pulpits have thundered" and specifically identified several ministers as being among the "characters the most conspicuous, the most ardent, and influential" in the "awakening and a revival of American principles and feelings" that led to American independence.

Now, **go back** and read what Schaeffer said about ... *split between cultural-political issues and spirituality.* Our worldview is incomplete because it leaves out the sphere of government. These Colonial pastors did not see this separation. The constitution was – to a significant degree – their theology. So much that they led the men of their flocks into the war for independence, many sacrificing their lives.

The ministers of the Revolution were, like their Puritan predecessors, bold and fearless in the cause of their country. No class of men contributed more to carry forward the Revolution and to achieve our independence than did the ministers. . . . [B]y their prayers, patriotic sermons, and services [they] rendered the highest assistance to the civil government, the army, and the country. [8] B. F. Morris, HISTORIAN, 1864

This perspective is – for the most part lost – in our present leadership and is part of the reason we so quickly abandoned liberty for security in the COVID debate.

Schaeffer points out that "Secularism militates against liberty and personal freedom generally for two reasons. First, it does not recognize a higher law; second, *secularism* tends towards *pragmatic* public policy of the moment."

This is exactly where those who are arguing for a shutdown and ignoring freedoms fall. They have - many unwittingly - adopted the secular thinking where governing is concerned in their separation of the sacred and the secular. Interestingly, as this pandemic has advanced, a lot of their pragmatism has turned

out to be - at best - neutral to the medical issue and devastating to freedoms – i.e. commerce and religion.

When Government Goes Rogue: What is the Place of The Doctrine of Interposition and Civil Disobedience?

If there is no final place for civil disobedience, then the government has been made autonomous, [answering only to itself] *and as such, it has been put in the place of God.* **10.**]

In a letter by John Eidsmoe Esq, a distinguished constitutional scholar, <u>Don't</u> <u>Quarantine the Constitution</u> he reminds us of the erosion of liberties in times of crisis:

"But even in times of crisis -- perhaps especially in times of crisis -- we must also vigilantly guard our God-given civil liberties. History shows that the erosion of liberty is usually gradual rather than sudden. This erosion commonly begins when governments claim emergency powers in the face of crisis -- epidemic, war, unrest, or natural disaster. But after the crisis has passed, the emergency powers often remain, and even when the emergency powers are terminated, the precedent for implementing them remains.

In his treatise <u>The Doctrine of Interposition in Christian Theology</u> John discusses a right interpretation of Romans 13 pointing out that obedience has limits.

All sovereign governmental authority rests with God. He delegates a portion of that authority to human rulers, but that authority is always limited in nature and scope. (See p. 3)

Eidsmoe defines interposition this way:

Medieval theologians advanced the doctrine, and theologians and statesmen of the Reformation period considered it as well. Concisely stated, it is the doctrine that lesser magistrates (lower-ranking or local government officials) have a duty to interpose or place themselves between the people they represent and the higher magistrate (the king, president or federal government) when the higher magistrate departs from the law of God and violates the God-given rights of the people, and require the higher magistrate to either conform to the laws of God and the rights of the people. Should the king refuse to do so, interposition means the lower magistrates have the right and duty to depose him and replace him with another ruler. (P. 5)

Noah Webster's 1828 American Dictionary of the English Language defines a **tyrant** as "A monarch or other ruler or master who uses power to **oppress** his subjects; a person who exercises unlawful authority, or lawful authority in an unlawful manner."

While for the most part unintended, I believe, what we have seen with the COVID issues puts many of our leaders squarely in the position here defined. Unless of course you don't believe that the loss of livelihood is **oppression**.

I recommend a close reading of Eidsmoe's treatise as it will give you a flavor for the development of Interposition which I see as little different than Schaeffer's treatise on civil disobedience. You will see the linage of the French Huguenot who used the pen name Junius Brutus, and whose 1579 treatise <u>Vindicae Contra</u> <u>Tyrannos A Defense of Liberty Against Tyrants</u> is one of the most comprehensive and persuasive justifications of interposition ever written. Samuel Rutherford, who argued in *Lex Rex* (1644) that the King of England was "subject to God's law. The arguments of John Knox, and the enforcement of the <u>Magna Charta</u> which argued for the same.

All of this points to the fact that liberty referenced in our constitution has a deep theological history. The Declaration of Independence is perhaps the most famous act of interposition in all history.

In this and the preceding segment I documented how our Founding Fathers justified disobedience to the King. The clergy was supportive and their ideas were incorporated into much of the verbiage of the American Constitution. Out of those convictions sprang the reality of the Interposition (or civil disobedience if you prefer) of the <u>Boston Tea Party</u> and the subsequent war for independence. **Security was not their focus, liberty was** and <u>tens of thousands</u> of men lost their lives to secure that liberty.

In that day, the book Lex Rex was a threat to rulers and was burned in England and Scotland because it undermined the 17th Century political government in Europe – **"the divine right of Kings."** This doctrine held that the king or state ruled as God's appointed regent and the king's word was law.

Unwittingly, this thinking has become the translation of Romans 13 by the majority of pastors in America. Thus, in this hour, we see a general approval that if the government says shut down all businesses, we must do it in compliance to Romans 13.

They miss what Rutherford and Reformers argued that the premise of civil government and therefore law, must be based on God's law. David Barton has reminded us that early on, before a law could be introduced for consideration by Congress, scriptural grounds had to be referenced. Was this moving in the direction of a theocracy? No, because the *"cultural consensus of the electorate"* recognized scripture as a moral base. While it is true that the cultural consensus has shifted, it's our own darn fault. Christian leaders must choose – will they side with secularists or will they make the case for the law of God?

Schaeffer asks the question what is the final relationship to the state on the part of anyone whose base is the existence of God? The Bible commands us to obey the state but not blindly. The civil government stands under the law of God. God has ordained the state as a delegated authority, it is not autonomous. When Christians were told to worship Caesar, they disobeyed the state in civil matters.

There is an order to this resistance so that it does not become chaos. Violence is not the goal – it all begins with protest which is the purpose in this writing. I will leave the explanation of that order for another time except to say that the Lesser Magistrates – Mayors, Legislators, etc. – are to confront the Supreme Magistrates – Governors, Presidents etc. with objections. Only when the Magistrates act in such a way that the governing structure of the country is being destroyed – that is, when he is attacking the fundamental structure of society – is he to be relieved of power and authority. **11**)

In this hour, the fundamental structure of our society is not the government, it is our people and their commerce. **And, that is exactly what our Magistrates have done**! They have set aside the voice of the people and their liberty. If this continues and they will not listen, then they must be resisted and or removed. At certain points there was not only the right, but the duty, to disobey the state. At almost every place where the Reformation had success there was some form of civil disobedience. **12**)

Speaking of civil disobedience is frightening but without this right to resist unlawful authority, other means become meaningless. Jonathan Blanchard and **Charles Finney** thought through and taught this in their day knowing that abolition of slavery might not be successful without it. Ultimately it was needed.

What has this got to do with COVID-19 you say? History is my answer. Once we lose liberty, tyranny will not be far behind. Joel Belz was right, wake up America, the Socialists told us years ago they would use climate change to break the back of our economy. But who needs it if they can destroy us by invoking security as more important than liberty? Again I refer you to the words of the <u>Declaration of Independence</u>, second paragraph.

Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed, --**That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it...**

That statement applies just as much today as it did against the King of England. The Founding Fathers realized that there was a bottom line and to them that bottom line was not *pragmatism* – as we have seen our leaders cry out for safety over liberty – but *principle*. **13**)

Finally concerning resistance, consider opportunity – timing if you will. In Germany, the majority of the church watched in silence as Hitler's tyranny developed for years. Pure cowardice – but familiar in our day! Finally, turning the tide was almost impossible. Late attempts to assassinate him even by people like Bonhoeffer were unsuccessful. If you follow the details of those multiple attempts, they are eerie – almost like this was the judgement of God on Germany.

I am not suggesting this type of full-blown civil disobedience yet. I am suggesting that we still have a window of opportunity and the earlier there is resistance, the less harsh it will have to be.

Conclusion: Destruction Deserves Harsh Judgement:

The response of most leaders to the COVID-19 issue has been safety over liberty. They have denied Americans a voice and acted in unconstitutional FIAT to lock us down. This is destroying our commerce in ways that may not recover. They are furthering the welfare culture. With no reasonable consideration of alternatives, they have made a mockery of every principle the Founders stood for. They have acted as "bastards" which my 1828 Webster Dictionary defines as **born illegitimately**. If that word offends your sensibilities, tell your story to the 20% of America that are now out of work or to the millions of business people who will lose the business that may be multi-generational.

I am bold to call these leaders unprincipled, rogues who have acted outside of their authority and in ignorance of either history, theology, or the welfare of the generations to come. So, - again - you decide! But remember this – you are deciding for the future generations and that is a BIG responsibility. If you think this will end with COVID, you're a tuned out. There will be another crisis.

While I would not suggest this now, I would remind you that the purpose of the Second Amendment is self-defense.

In *Federalist* No. 28, Alexander Hamilton affirmed the importance of the "original right of self-defense which is paramount to all positive forms of government" and conceded that, in extreme circumstances, it may even be asserted legitimately "against the usurpations of the national rulers."

Translation? The original intent was to arm the citizenry against the dangers of their government going rogue. That is why Socialists have always first endeavored to disarm the public.

I believe this COVID issue could have been handled well as others countries have without this shutdown. I believe our resolve should be NEVER, NEVER, AGAIN

Endnotes:

- 1. No Path to Normalcy, Joel Belz, WORLD Magazine, April 22, 2020 https://world.wng.org/2020/04/no_path_to_normalcy
- 2. COVIC-19 Deaths in 2020 vs. Flu Deaths, Larry Seekins, May 4, 2020 <u>1bigskyworldview.org/content/docs/Library/Covid-19 vs. Flu Issue.pdf</u>
- 3. Judge Andrew Napolitano: Coronavirus fear lets government assault our freedom in violation of Constitution

https://www.foxnews.com/opinion/judge-andrew-napolitano-libertycoronavirus

- 4. Attorney General Bill Bar, <u>"Constitution Isn't Suspended' for COVID-19"</u> The Daily Signal, April 18, 2020
- 5. These four LINKS can be found at bigskyworldview.org under Resources/Library
- 6. Francis Schaeffer, A Christian Manifesto, 1981 p.10
- 7. Samuel Rutherford, 1641 *Lex, Rex, or The Law and the Prince; a Dispute for the Just Prerogative of King and People*
- 8. Francis Schaeffer, A Christian Manifesto, 1981 p.33
- 9. Ibid. p.130
- 10. lbid. p. 89
- 11.Ibid. p.101
- 12. Ibid. p. 93
- 13.lbid. p. 130