

**The Cascade Commentary**  
**An Occasional Paper**

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**Cascade Knowledge**  
**Resources**

**Part Two**

**Wealth, Wisdom and a**  
**Common Sense Legacy**

**An Essay Exposing**  
**the Deliberately Orchestrated**  
**Social, Cultural and Economic Decline**  
**in the United States of America**

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## **Dedication**

This work is dedicated to our wise and responsible adult children:

**Daniel George Meyers**  
**Steven Kent Meyers**  
**Jennifer Lynette Meyers Rice**

## **Purpose**

This document is written to inform and motivate our 13 grandchildren (ages 28 to 11) about political and economic waves of change in the USA. This is part of our Family Heritage as an enduring legacy of progressive and continuing lifelong learning – learning to think for ourselves.

## **Appreciation**

A special recognition of gratitude is given to my endearing and enduring wife, Janet. Since 1956 she has partnered with me in the grace of life, international work, study and continuing pursuit of faith, truth and historical, cultural and economic understanding.

Together we have walked the ivy-clad walkways of academia and down hallways of Scripture-engraved words of wisdom, generously giving of our time and strength to the military, our family and the communities where we have lived and served in the U.S. and abroad. Janet is truly a full partner in this venture.

## **Warning**

By reading this paper, regardless of your race, political views or economic status you will be informed in a factual manner of realities taking place in the USA today. All is true, but you may not want to believe that these things are real. You may want to think that they will not affect you.

Once you have read this, please continue to seek, read, evaluate and pray for discernment. Study both sides of the political divide and then decide for yourself. Do not be taken captive by the liberal, state-controlled media that is creating a mindless population of lemmings blindly running for the raging sea!

Don't let the liberal media decide for you! Think for yourself and find truth. "You shall know the truth and the truth will set you free."

## **Disclaimer**

There are numerous references cited in this document. Those comments not credited to others are a result of reviewing information on Wikipedia, primarily. All Scriptures are from the New King James Version of the Bible. The remarks made are the opinions and results of the research of the author and no other person or organization has contributed to it unless specifically noted.

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other politicians, local public school teachers and administrators and other people of honor and influence.

### **About the Author**

Dr. Meyers and his wife, Janet, have been married for 54 years and have three married children and 13 grandchildren. Their home state is Oregon and they have maintained a home in Jacksonville, Florida, since 1993.

Dr. George Meyers, with a wealth of international experience as an agricultural and community transformation advisor, has traveled in 62 countries for over 35 years. He was raised on an Oregon dairy farm and completed Bachelors and Masters degrees in Animal Science at Oregon State University where he also served on the faculty for five years. He holds the Ph.D. degree in Business Administration.

Dr. Meyers served from 1954 to 1990 in the Army National Guard and U.S. Army Reserve, attaining the rank of Lieutenant Colonel of Infantry. He is a graduate of several military schools including the War College. He and Janet have successfully formed and managed several small companies, primarily real estate related. Their latest venture is as Independent Business Owners with the Qivana Corporation, an international company of top shelf nutrition products and a weight management system.

As an active businessman and advisor for the work of the Great Commission on a global scale, Dr. Meyers has written books and manuscripts on family finance and international transformation disciplines.

## Executive Summary

**Wealth, Wisdom and a Common Sense Legacy** combines wise sayings from the Holy Bible and common economic sense to build and protect wealth in today's turbulent environment.

We are observing the deliberate destruction of American prestige, culture and capital through a Socialist-leaning economic-political philosophy based on failed European economic strategies.

It is an overview of how America, once the bulwark of financial strength, is depleting its capital at rocket speed into the reality of being already the biggest debtor nation – with no improvement in sight.

The high price of dependency is explained throughout with the reasons for its destructive development explained. To correct this a “born again” individualism is required.

The national debt is discussed with tables showing its growth and how this will lead to the demise of the U.S. and Western world economies if the course is not changed. These projections show that the U.S. National Debt will consume 100 percent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) as early as 2012 and certainly by 2015. By 2020, the US. could be locked into a perpetual cost of 100 percent of GDP to finance the Federal government alone – plus another 20 percent cost for state, county and local governments.

Predictions of the General Accounting Office (GAO) are reviewed and the GAO figures are discussed showing the terrifying prognostications of the destruction that is systematically being carried out by the Obama Administration.

The rising specter of inflation is discussed as well as the risk and consequences of default on debt owned by Japan, China and others.

Hot spots of Fundamentalist Islam are seen as potential ongoing problems including the **Islamic** strategy to put the U.S. under Sharia law.

The success of the Grameen (Village) bank system is introduced as a recent trend for economic participation and individual financial responsibility. The **practice of thrift and wealth creation** is the way out of poverty – **not wealth redistribution!**

Respect for private property is the bedrock for long-term fiscal discipline, multiplying wealth and asset protection.

If generous living is not practiced by the poor, they will always be poor.

The effect of the Fiat money system of the Federal Reserve is discussed. The cycle of civilizations and philosophies of Toynbee and others are discussed, shedding light on where the U.S. is in the downward cycle, how we got to this place and the way out.

The paper concludes with some remarks about finding our way back to responsible financial management at the Federal level. We must wrestle the destructive power from the Socialist liberal ruling majority that is controlling our government today.

This is a wakeup call meant to shock the readers out of apathy into understanding and taking aggressive action.

***“It is better to have a little, honestly earned than to have a large income, dishonestly gained.”*** Proverbs 16:8

The Lord wants weights and measures to be honest and every sale to be fair.

***“It is better – much better – to have wisdom and knowledge than gold and silver.”*** Proverbs 16:16

A king will remain in power as long as his rule is: **honest, just and fair.**

Thirty wise sayings are found in Proverbs – Chapters 22, 23, 24 and 25.

Winston Churchill and others have said: **“Socialism works until you run out of someone else’s money.”**

Dr. Nasir Siddiki in his “Wisdom Series” teaches biblical business principles including God’s instruction to simply be: right, just and fair.

Lana Turner stated, “A successful man is one that can make more money than a wife can spend. A successful woman is one who can find such a man!”

**This is Part Two of a Two-Part Series. For Part One, go [here](#).**

## **The Common Sense Legacy**

There is a desire by many to leave a legacy of “**common sense**” as a memorial for friends and families to rally around in generations yet unborn. To leave a lasting imprint, your thoughts must be written down. If they are not published as a book, at least recorded in some manuscripts or even posted on a website that can be somewhat permanent, they will disappear like the dew in the morning sun.

One day the host of papers that we have written will be discarded in the dustbin, seen as information from some ancient bygone, insignificant era – until they are really needed when current events become just like we predicted it would be.

Tracking the past 100 years is a way of determining the effectiveness of political, economic and spiritual leaders.

My greatgrandfather emigrated from Germany to Wisconsin and on to Nebraska. That era goes back more than 150 years. He and my grandfather were of the homestead times and they were both skilled carpenters. Many homes and farmsteads were being built in small towns as new emerging agriculture and small town economies were taking root.

The Industrial Revolution moved westward as the railroad opened access and trade into and out of the formerly very remote, inaccessible areas.

At the turn of the century (1900), day worker wages were about one to three dollars a day; but a dollar was real money. There was no IRS, Federal Reserve or other “creative governmentally conceived system of legalized theft of capital.

Only later during the Wilson and Franklin Delano Roosevelt administrations following the Russian Bolshevik Revolution did Socialistic/Communist thought have importance and acceptance.

WW I cost Europe extreme amounts of capital. In the U.S. the unscathed economy emerged strong and was well set for the roaring inflationary decade of the 1920s, even surpassing the gay (jubilant) 1890s economy. That bubble burst in 1929 when the U.S. economy went into the pit until it was catapulted out as a result of the economic stimulation effects of WW II.

Even this Second World War did not physically arrive on American soil. Europe and others suffered great destruction of infrastructure and national morale, but America was poised for the grand, stable and memorable decade of the 1950s – the Korean Conflict notwithstanding. This was surely a golden decade, but the post WW II period gave way to the liberal 1960s.

By 1960 and on, the liberal philosophy so destructive to the European monarchies spread throughout and from American universities like a metastasizing cancer, yet seemingly without cure and becoming more severe with each passing decade!

Arriving at the New Millennium in the year 2000, general economic philosophy was the struggle between Keynesianism from Lord John Maynard Keynes and the Free Market as promoted by Ludwig von Mises of the Austrian School of Economics, Milton Friedman and other supply side protagonists. President Ronald Reagan was among them with his much scathed, but valid Reaganomics.

The presidencies of Carter, Kennedy, Johnson and Clinton and now Obama gave the liberal top an additional spin as the rate of dependency on government gained speed, intensified and by 2009 essentially took the once proud nation into a tailspin from which an entire generation will suffer.

During that era – 1960 and onward for 50 years – there were some Republican, somewhat conservative governmental administrations. The presidency of Mr. Ronald Reagan stands out as the eight-year period of sound economic principles. Since then even the Republicans weakened to popular demands of more and more governmental sugar to sweeten the sweetheart deals breeding dependency. The growing, liberalizing, economically unskilled and unaware populace fell prey to the majority voting more and more dependency.

**The liberal, dependent, non-taxpaying majority voting block promotes and votes for more and more social welfare programs for themselves, to be paid for by those that are still willing to work.**

By 2007, the Republican administration of George W. Bush was putting economic policies in place even quite in line with liberal Democratic Party philosophical ideals – thus the realization that there simply was not enough difference in the policies of the two dominant political parties. The ultra-conservatives were accused of being cruel, uncaring and mean-spirited.

### **Growth in National Debt**

The Federal government is in the unique position of being able to simply raise the ceiling on the National Debt if they spend more by government than the revenue collected in tax from the taxpayers.

That debt, once manageable, began to spin out of control and beyond the ability for U.S. investors to meet the needs of the U.S. Government Treasuries Sales. On May 26, 2010, this debt rose to over \$13 trillion U.S. dollars. Only about one-third of the Treasury bonds were being purchased by investors. In order to finance the debt, the Federal created money to loan to the U.S. government to buy its own debt.

**Table 1. Growth of National Debt** (next page)

**Table 1. Growth of National Debt**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Approximate Debt Level</b>
1791	Revolutionary War	\$75 million
1835		-0-
1865	Civil War	\$2.7 billion with a B
1922	WW I	\$22 billion
1930	Beginning of Depression	
	FDR New Deal	\$16 billion
1950	Depression, Reconstruction and WW II	\$260 billion
1980	Korean Conflict, Great Society deals, Vietnam War	\$909 billion
1992		\$3 trillion with a T
2000		\$3.4 trillion
2001		\$5.6 trillion
2008		\$10.7 trillion
2010 (May 26)		\$13 trillion

If one is not alarmed by the statistics of the growing debt of Table 1, then consider other effects. Unfunded entitlements have continued to grow since FDR's New Deal and the Social Security System Trust Fund. Today these total 30 to 60 trillion dollars – who really knows – probably at least \$40 trillion unfunded.

The Social Security Fund was never wisely nor honestly invested, but became a Congressional and Presidential slush fund. Rest assured, you would not want this den of thieves as trustees of your family's legacy trust fund! They take money, spend it on all kinds of Federal programs, mostly Social Welfare) and **leave an IOU in the fund**. That means they owe you – the real money your parents paid into the fund! This is a pure case of untrustworthy stewards of the national treasures.

On February 10, 2010, the Congress voted to raise the debt ceiling to \$14.3 trillion U.S. dollars. The Obama administration forecast a national debt of \$16.3 trillion by 2012, more than 100% of Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

They further predict budget national debt of 20 trillion by 2015 with the Government spending 100% of GDP from then on as far as they can see into the future! And the administration goes on creating new programs just as if there was plenty of money to pay for them.



This country has never experienced such a high level of financially incompetent leaders in its entire history! They are taking us into the financial abyss of no return, and they seemingly do not care!

A good measure of how well our country's leaders have managed the nation's financial affairs is the National Debt as it relates to the GDP (total of all goods and services produced in one year in the U.S.) Reviewing the historical record is helpful.

**Table 2. National Debt as a Percentage of GDP**

<u>Year</u>	<u>Percent of GDP</u>
1779 – 1939	Not known
1940	44.2%
1950	80.2
1960	45.6
1970	28
1980	26.1
1990	42
2000	35.1
2001	33
2002	34.1
2003	35.1
2004	37.3
2005	37.5
2006	37.1
2007	36.9
2008	40.8
2009	54.6
2010 (Estimated)	67.1
2012 (Estimated)	69.5

The Congressional Business Office (CBO) statistics are a little different, but even more alarming.

**Table 3. CBO Table of Recent Figures of National Debt as a Percentage of GDP  
Estimated Debt**

2001	58%
2008	70
2012	100.6

The CBO is estimating that by the Fall of 2010 the U.S. Government will be spending more on its programs than the total productivity of capital, labor and services of about 350 million people. In addition, states, counties and municipalities must tax too.

**Today's Obama-led strategies will result  
in the Federal Government  
spending 100% of GDP annually  
beginning in 2015.**

Among the 50 states, California leads the way in patterning its spending policies after the Democratic Party led or influenced government system. Their tax and spend State government policies go back decades and now culminate in a \$26.3 billion budget shortfall for budget year 2009-2010 alone.

Unfortunately, the balance of sound government fiscal policies has not been argued strongly enough by Republican Party leaders. For decades this weakness intensified and now is showing evidence of how important a role it plays.

Yes, it is true that the Republicans that are charged by the conservative population have seriously failed to govern effectively with fiscal restraint. **Even among Republicans in Congress there needs to be a real thorough cleansing.**

#### **Who Owns the Debt?**

U.S. citizens hold about 35% of the Federal Treasuries (debt). In 2010, 65.8% of the debt was held by foreigners:

China	\$23.4%
Japan	20.5%

China and Japan combined are the largest debt holders with nearly 44% of the total. They are sort of friends of America yet, but if the U.S. defaults on paying the debt they will both want a big, tangible piece of the American pie (real estate or mineral rights).

**Within five years the American Dream  
may become the biggest financial nightmare  
in the history of the world!**

Because of accounting policies it is impossible to understand the true level of U.S. liabilities. Much debt results from the unfunded liabilities (off the books) mentioned previously. Certain items, such as "Obamacare" (Health Care for all) are nowhere on the CBO books, which is also true of many other "entitlement" programs.

#### **Predictions by the Government Accounting Office (GAO)**

The GAO has forecast debt accumulation out for some years. They show "unfunded" entitlements of \$41 trillion as of 2008.

**It would require a deposit of \$41 trillion  
in 2008 to fund unfunded social promises  
75 years into the future.**

The GAO states that the rate of governmental spending is not sustainable. They forecast budget shortfalls of \$1 trillion per year clearly out through 2019, and beyond unless massive changes take place.

**When Inflation Goes on the Rampage**

The question is not **if**, but **when** inflation will raise its ugly head. Many of us believe that eventually we must somehow return to the gold standard. One problem exists, however. There simply may not be enough gold in the world to make this work, but maybe there is no acceptable alternative!

For example: The U.S. Mint had in stock on December 17, 2009, 261.5 million troy ounces of gold, valued at 288.5 billion U.S. dollars. In all of human history through 2009 there has been 161,000 tons of gold mined. If this is valued at 1,000 USD per troy ounce, it has a total value of 5.2 trillion U.S. dollars.

**All of the gold mined in the history  
of the world through 2009 was less than  
one half of the U.S. National Debt.**

**Table 4. Forecasting the Future Cost of Lunch and the Need for Going Gold**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Cost</u>
1947	Cup of coffee	\$ .05
2007	“ “	2.00
2012 (Est.)	“ “	5.00
2010 (Est.)	“ “	10.00
1947	Lunch	.50
2007	“	19.00
2012 (Est.)	“	30.00
2020 (Est.)	“	100.00

**Today’s total world gold supply  
was only one half enough to pay off  
the U.S. National Debt in 2009.**

This shows that the dollar is greatly overvalued against gold. Had the dollar remained pegged to the value of gold it would have helped restrain the ability of Congress to self-destruct the nation financially.

### **Finding Our Way Back**

Finding our way back to financial sanity will be difficult, but it is not impossible. The greatest dangers we face were summarized earlier in our paper entitled:

#### ***The World of Risk: An Overview of Today's Global Hot Spots from a Historical Perspective***

Quoting from page 16 of that document is a Sample List of high risk potential events that may rob a company of its profit and continuing safe operations.

- Economic collapse.
- Reduced demand for products or services.
- Obsolescence of product or technology.
- Aggressive competition.
- Sudden technical advantage of a competitor.
- Warranty Crises – recalls.
- Change of consumer protection laws.
- Loss of CEO or other key staff.
- Lines of credit cancelled.
- Labor unrest or strikes.
- Insurance cancelled.
- Serious or crippling lawsuits.
- Moral or ethical failure of major leaders.
- Environmental issues.
- War, conflict or insurgency.
- Rumor control and public information releases.
- Confiscation or Nationalization of industry.
- Increasing cancer of Socialism.
- Hostage taking, kidnapping, piracy.
- Natural disasters – earthquakes, floods, drought, fires.
- Islamic Jihad.
- Gross mismanagement or fraud.
- Scarcity and increased cost of production inputs.
- Accidents, embezzlement, denial of visas.

Risk for non-profits is also discussed.

Managing for the future must also deal with a militant fundamentalist Muslim minority bent on forcing the whole world into compliance and life under Sharia law.

In a previous section we discussed briefly the danger of defaulting on our debts to China, Japan and others. This is serious, but nothing compared to potential **Hot Spots** right here at home.

### **National Food Security and Governmental Dependency**

About one-half of the American population in 2010 receives a check for participating in some type of Federally funded program.

In 1962 the Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SBT) was started and for many years after was known as Food Stamps. In 2008, this subsidy was reformed as Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT).

From its humble beginning in 1962 to help strengthen a small struggling sector, this program has grown to 39.68 million people receiving EBTs or Food Stamps in 2010.

One in 8 Americans is receiving EBT and one in 4 children in the nation are on this program. They receive, as of June 2009, an average of \$133.12 per person per month. Covered households average 2.3 persons per family. They receive EBT of \$317 average per household per month.

The EBT enrollment is increasing in 2010 at 20,000 persons per day. This shows that the American population, especially single parent households, is becoming less and less capable of feeding their own offspring.

Fifty-one percent of recipients are 17 years or younger. Sixty five percent of the enrolled children live in single parent homes.

It is alarming that one-fourth of American children are on the EBT Food Support Program. Maybe even more alarming is that over 12% of the national population – one out of 8 – are on food support!

**Table 5. Food Subsistence Totals by Race**

<u>Race</u>	<u>Percent of Total Program</u>
White (Caucasian)	41%
African American	36
Hispanic	18
Asian	3
Native American	2
Other	1

This table shows the percent by race in the program. There are many more people in the population that are white (Caucasian). There is a higher percentage of the total black population under the EBT than the percentage of all of the whites. Hispanics are the third group being drawn into this dependency.

As the conception rates in out-of-wedlock single parent households increase, welfare costs escalate. As divorce rates increase, the single women are frequently put into economic distress and they reach out for public assistance.

We have only touched on one of many support categories that the U.S. Government has formed to assist its citizens. Some of these programs are helpful, but nearly all breed dependency.

North American agriculture can produce enough food for one-half to one billion people, three times the current population. When market driven, the amount of food that can be produced is almost unimaginable! The supply of fresh water is the limiting factor.

**The real issue is not the ability to produce enough food, but the cost of buying the EBT food for the growing, non-working hordes of North American city dwellers.**

#### **The Question is – Have We Gone Too Far?**

The Government's own CBO says that the Obama administration's expansion of unfunded programs is "unsustainable." Yes, we have definitely gone too far in our Federal Public Assistance Programs. And we haven't even mentioned the programs benefitting illegal aliens. Truly California is a disaster even as Arizona is seeking real solutions to this problem.

#### **A Radical View**

It would be more economical to subsidize intact families – rewarding them for their contribution to the economy and not adding to the National Debt!

**Whatever is subsidized,  
you get more of!**

#### **Room for Creative Thinking – Not Necessarily a Recommendation**

The present system rewards negative behavior and results. We have it all backwards. Since we know that we get more of what we subsidize, let's subsidize only virtuous behavior that builds strong, healthy families, achieves high financial sufficiency and a strong nation.

What if the Government put \$1,000 in a restricted access retirement account for every grade in school that a student passes with a B grade or higher?

**If academic achievement were subsidized,  
we would get more students with  
higher grades and higher scores  
on the achievement tests.**

We could also subsidize good health practices through a Family Medical Account of let's say \$5,000 per year. Each family would pay their own expenses for major medical and bank the balance in their own Family Health Care Bank (not under governmental control).

We could even subsidize success of marriage. For example:

1 year	\$ 500 per year
2 years	750
3-10 years	1,000
16-20 years	1,200
20-49	2,000
50 plus	3,000

Since successful marriages are the best way to reduce out-of-wedlock births and lower social welfare costs, subsidized marriages would yield more successful families not dependent on welfare.

**Or better yet, why don't we return to  
personal responsibility and get out of the  
subsidy business completely!**

### **Meyers on Education**

My wife, Janet and I were educated in small (one or two room) country schools directly under control of a school board of local farmers. This system was destroyed by the controversial State and Federally-promoted school consolidation program of the 1940s and 1950s. The quality of practical, useful and appropriate education has progressively declined over the past 70 years in America as more and more money is spent to achieve fewer and fewer positive results.

We have seen all of this happen as control was moved from our childhood communities of Fernwood School (rural Newberg, Oregon) or Mills School (rural Woodford, Wisconsin). My Dad, with an 8<sup>th</sup> grade level of formal education, was the Fernwood school board chairman for many years and was more effective in levels of results than school board directors of today with doctor degrees in Education.

We recognize the sacrifice of those teaching our youth in public school today and compliment them for doing as well as they are in such a failed system. If they were given ownership and genuine authority in the system, the achievement would explode.

## **Public Schools Need a Major Overhaul**

We could form a program of prioritization of elementary and secondary public education that could work. It would be driven by private enterprise. It would be a local government – private business partnership. It, by necessity, will need to be rid of the corruptive influence of the Federal and State Governments.

The market product would be (and is) the demand for functional, thinking and literate high school graduates to be prepared to work in the marketplace. The market will determine the value based on skill sets.

Education styles and methods would be flexible, but continually driven at all levels by the market end product demand of employability. There would be clear and open choice for parents to select schools for their children.

In the classroom it is clearly possible to have elementary class size of about 100 students per room. In this room would be one **industry certified teacher** and one helper for about every 30 students. The education model is very learner-centered and there is virtually no classroom lecture.

The principle of media-driven master trainers would be employed. This allows each student to advance and be evaluated at their own learning pace. They would not be hindered from entering a college-level integrated system routinely reached by high achievers by 12-14 years of age. These advances are common today in homeschool, marketplace driven learning systems.

There should be a clear cost-sharing system of parents and public funding would be by vouchers. Only through competition in the marketplace can public education be vitalized.

**An enemy of success in public education  
is the corrupt  
National Education Association (NEA).**

The second greatest hindrance to successful public education is government financing. **There simply has been too much money available to educators** to force effective learner-centered systems on a large scale basis nationally. The education system is basically very archaic and still based largely on the least effective means of learning – the lecture method of teaching!

Marketplace driven education could cut elementary and secondary education costs in half. Sports programs and many other school competitive events belong in the City Parks and Recreation Departments. Students should ride public transportation to and from school wherever it is available. Let the market decide.

**There simply is too much money available for  
governmentally managed schools to be truly  
effective in training students.**



### **A Call to Common Sense**

Based on the wisdom of our Founding Fathers and the Word of God (the Holy Bible), we can revitalize the power of the individuals of this Republic! Let's all study the U.S. Declaration of Independence, the Bill of Rights and the U.S. Constitution. Let's become personally capable of intelligently voting only for the candidates that clearly espouse these values.

We must study and learn the intent of the Founding Fathers by studying the Federalist Papers. We all must become **Constitutionalists** at heart, living under the Lordship of Jesus Christ and being aggressively active in our declaration to support and defend the principles so clearly laid down in wisdom by this nation's godly founders.

**Today's common sense people are knowledgeable of the intent of the Founding Fathers and are well read in the important documents they signed.**

### **The Common Sense Legacy that we can Live With**

Real change for real people on the success track means doing all they can to resist being "helped" by most of the destructive programs of the U.S. Government.

Let's return to charity that does not destroy dignity and that builds strength without dependency. **Now that is change that we can believe in!**

**Finding our way back will not be easy.  
And maybe it can happen only through a total  
collapse of the unsustainable, governmentally  
funded cradle to grave programs.**

Let us all participate in every way possible to return to the intent of the Founding Fathers and to advocate for sanity in government, rights to the states and responsibility in the American family – the bedrock of our society.

### **All is not Lost**

There are certain governmentally sponsored programs that are operating successfully. The National Parks are an asset to our country; but the use of National Forests is very political with environmentalists having too much influence.

Our Postal System must be improved, even though the postal workers have served us very well. Let's privatize the whole industry!

The Agricultural Extension Service helped to integrate the agricultural research, university teaching and private industry to **build the most effective industry in the history of the world.**

**At issue – there is simply too much government interference in too many aspects of American life to permit continuing success and to promote a high quality of life.**

Simply remember that we get more of what we subsidize, which means we get too much of what we do not want.

**The government tries to do so much for so many that it destroys the personal initiative for all forever!**

So should we change the philosophy and switch to subsidizing only that which produces virtue? Probably not – the best plan is often simply to do nothing; but do not reward that which becomes so hurtful long-term.

**Almighty God – Please protect us from ourselves and our Federal Government that is destroying our future by so many programs that are supposed to help – but eventually destroy initiative and create dependency.**

## **A Call to Prayer for Our Nation**

Most Honorable Almighty God,

Please give us wisdom that will protect us from ourselves and our government which was founded on biblical principles that today is out of control and separating itself from the beliefs and faith of the Founding Fathers.

We have permitted the employment of unwise and often ungodly practices legislated by the philosophies of men in high political positions who lack spiritual foundations and virtuous stamina to defend the Constitution and Bill of Rights of this great republic. We have not protected life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

We recognize that there has been too much emphasis on democracy rather than the principles of maintaining our strong understanding of the original organization of our country as a Federal Republic. We have moved from the original intent of God granting individual responsibility and accountability.

Lord God Almighty, grant to us the fortitude to limit the further usurping of power of the central governmental system and its leaders that have drifted too far from the principle of limited government and carefully delegated power. They have applied power to themselves that was once designed to protect us from our own government.

Please give us the wisdom to enact limits as provided in the Constitution to aggressively limit the further growth of power to elected officials that are leading us down the pathway of assured destruction from their offices in our nation's capital.

May we each be responsible for our own family, participate in building strong communities, protect our states from the tyranny of our central government and empower us to again fortify our Federal Republic. It is that republic that grants primary power to the States of this honorable union where the rights of people, both born and unborn, are upheld.

May we the citizens of this republic employ all the wisdom given by the Holy Spirit that has established this Federal form of government. We call all citizens back to a living and abiding faith in the Creator God of our Founding Fathers and His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, to lead holy and righteous lives based on the Holy Scriptures.

We desire to participate in leading this great nation to new vistas through faith and deliberate action to restore the original foundations and revive our faith in the righteousness of the Constitution that formed us as a people in covenant together and submitted to the God of our forefathers.

To God be the glory, praise, power and dominion in all things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

George H. Meyers, Ph.D. June 5, 2010

## Summary

This essay is about identifying some of the causes of poverty. It touches on some of the ways to reduce systemic multi-generational dependency that locks generations of families into hopeless poverty.

We all have the responsibility and opportunity to help identify solutions for families who are in poverty. We can help them – one family at a time.

We must find a way to break the cycle of governmental income and health service dependency and cause a greater level of accountability for individuals to take responsibility for their own health and wellness and that of their families also.

Governmental Socialistic strategies of wealth redistribution and national health programs guarantee to leave everyone in their wake with more serious health challenges and broke besides!

Our once proud and powerful nation is systematically reduced to a weak, indebted Socialistic state – and it is happening at an alarming rate. We have allowed or chosen this pathway to misery and insignificance.

In the leadership vacuum created by the wealth consuming Socialists/liberals in the leaders of the U.S. and Europe, Islam finds a fertile breeding ground. Their goal is to impose Sharia law everywhere possible. As our country's leaders lack the will to resist through our growing pluralism and multiculturalism, this program will only grow.

Is there any way back to honor, self-sufficiency, fiscal responsibility and sovereignty? Yes, there is, but it can happen only through individual responsibility to enforce the intent of the Founding Fathers, the Constitution and the Bill of Rights.

Stop dependency on government. Promote individual responsibility, freedom and liberties so painfully won over 200 years ago.

We can and must protect property rights, promote economic opportunity, avoid confiscatory taxation and hold our government accountable. The smallest and weakest government is the best and safest government for our **republic**.

As corruption is identified, the citizenry must rise up to remove those that follow such practices. Regardless of political party affiliation, we can cleanse the leadership of the cancer that demoralizes and kills.

Nothing works as well as work itself, but now there are no jobs. Because of confiscatory tax policies at all levels, many businesses have moved abroad out of economic necessity. Massive change in attitude is required to bring these jobs back. We must clean up organized labor, one of the most corrupt institutions on the American scene!

If States are not vigilant, all will be as corrupt as Illinois and as broke as California, the epitome of the Welfare State.

There are wonderful examples of city governments that work, but we cannot all move to Montana or North Dakota. Those least connected to the nation's capital and its programs of poverty-expanding social welfare have the strongest economies. The more honest their State and Local governments, the best chance they have of success.

States such as Utah, Wyoming, Montana, Texas and Nevada have declared that they really don't need anything from Washington, D.C.

The book, ***When Dependency Destroys Dignity***, by Schwartz is an excellent portrayal of the destruction internationally of societies that become dependent.

We can do better! We must and will because there are multitudes of people who know how it once was and want it to become like that again. Yes, there is a way back from this financial insanity. Throw the leaders out of office, sweep clean and start over with greatly reduced terms of service for elected officials.

The Grameen Bank of Bangladesh is an example of how an initial \$27 investment to a poor woman grew a concept now containing 2,100 village banks where nearly all loans are paid off and on time.

This paper is a call for us to return to a fertile, **wealth**-building private enterprise footing, where divine **wisdom** prevails as we covenant together to leave to our descendants a God-honoring, enduring **common sense legacy**.

May the Lord of hope and grace restore our nation, restrain us and re-ignite us to again be the light of freedom and example of prosperity that all others will respect and desire to emulate.

## Questions for Discussion

1. What can be done to turn the decline in jobs around and lead people again toward self-sufficiency?
2. Can the course of history be changed or are we doomed to a continual economic, social and cultural decline.
3. Since the U.S. Government is trying to “help” the whole world, will it take us all into the pit?
4. Will the U.S. become a Third World nation by 2020 or 2030?
5. What are three things that you can and will do personally to save our nation from disaster?
6. What does an enduring common sense legacy mean to you?