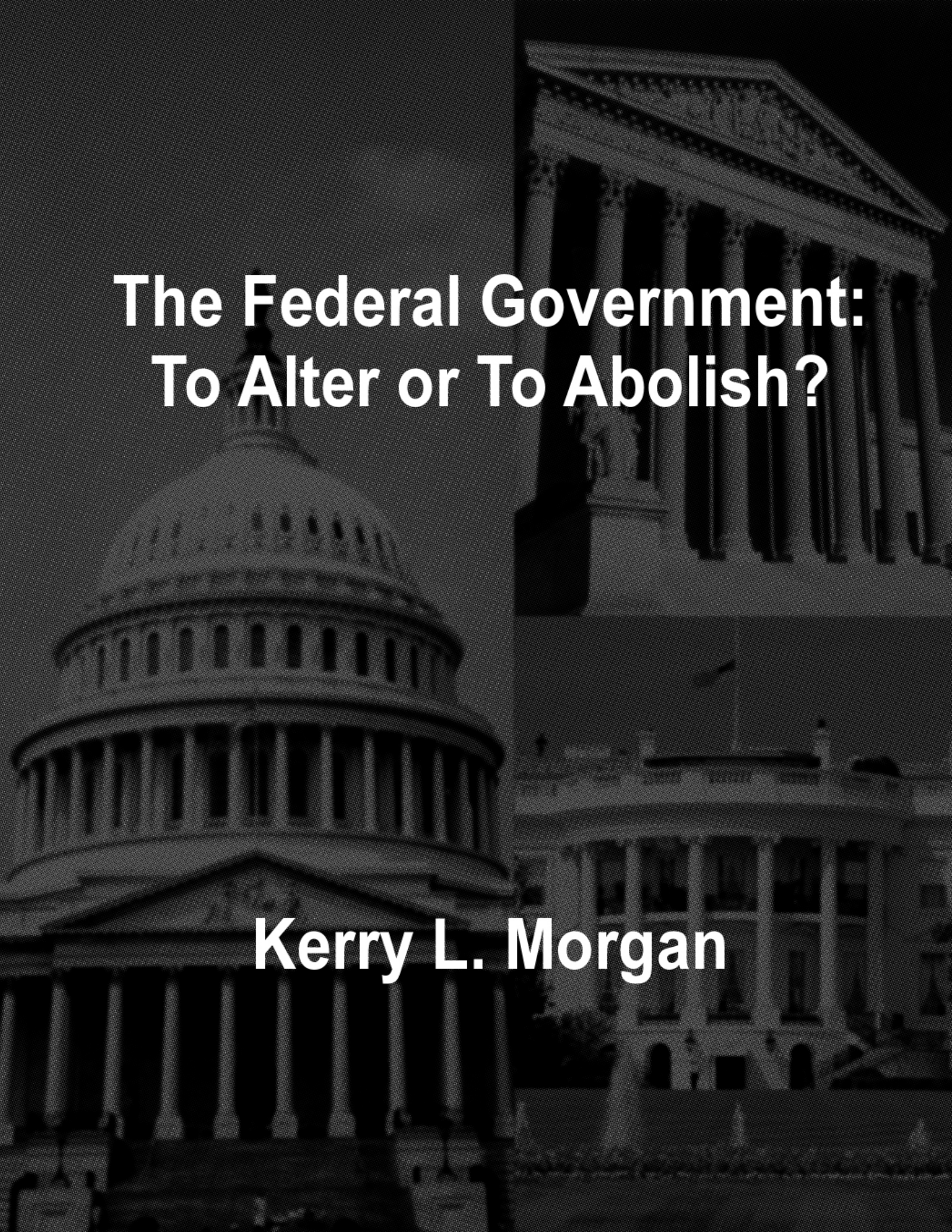

The Federal Government: To Alter or To Abolish?

Kerry L. Morgan

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PART 1:

What Can We Do Now That Our Freedom is Taken?

INTRODUCTION

Ask yourself "What can we do now that our freedom is taken?" "Taken?" you say, "by whom?" Friend, it has been taken by the federal government of the United States. That government was created by the People to guarantee our freedom. It was created to be our servant. That government is now our master. It only exists because the People created it. It will cease to exist only if the People abolish it by law. Its abolition is necessary if we are to be free once again.

Perhaps you have not noticed the federal government is now our master and we its servant? How could you have missed it? It does what it wants, when it wants, how it wants at home and abroad. It tramples down our freedoms in the name of "national security." It lies. It spies. It deceives. It makes a mockery of law. It bullies, threatens and then makes war upon the nations. The Constitution's limitations mean nothing to it. The Declaration of Independence means nothing either. The federal government has already criminalized the enjoyment of many of our God-given unalienable rights. It fears neither God, nor the People. How foolish it is. How dangerous it has become. It is now the greatest threat to recovery of our freedom, and the opportunity for our children to live in a free society. It is out of control. It has turned the sword upon us, our rights, our property, our money and wealth, and upon the nations of the earth. It is wise in doing evil.

How can this be? We have been told that far right wing extremist ideas are a threat to democracy at home. We are lectured that conservative political activism is a threat. We face an ongoing purge of average Americans that value freedom. They have lost jobs and been put on government lists. We are browbeaten by the media that freedom of speech is too dangerous to allow. We are bullied to believe that our safety requires Americans must be censored, shamed and prosecuted for expressing thoughts about freedom, about truth, about public health, and about God Almighty and His law.

Now only have we been indoctrinated about threats within, but also threats abroad have been used to curtail the exercise of our once great American liberties,. We are officially alerted at various diverting intervals, that this or that nation of the earth is about to threaten us, or "could" threaten us, or may one day very soon have the technological ability to conceivably threaten us. We have been told that Russia controls our elections and is a permanent enemy. We are told China has infiltrated our ranks and that war with other nations is needed to protect us.

But are these the real danger? What simpletons we Americans have become. The federal military, industrial and state security cartel have been unleashed to search for "monsters to destroy" both here and abroad. They are aided by the media, funded through the massive federal budget and are accountable to no one. This establishment controls the levers of federal power. Politicians who do not understand this, no longer remain in office. This establishment spreads fear at home and war

abroad. Their covert programs of terror, regime change and great patriotic wars are profitable. They make war upon the nations of the earth, rather than holding "forth to them the hand of honest friendship, of equal freedom, of generous reciprocity [and] the language of equal liberty, of equal justice, and of equal rights."[1]

The Bible refers to the One who shall come one day with a sharp sword, striking down the nations, and ruling them with a rod of iron. It says "He will tread the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God the Almighty." (Revelation 19:15-16). But that One, despite the weary droning of public officials and talk show hosts about the current military and moral superiority of the United States, is not the federal establishment, the President of the United States, or the government's covert organs. If the federal government still exists on that day, it too will be struck down with that sword and then ruled by that rod. But that is a topic for another time. Let us now examine how the federal government has become so skilled and wise in doing evil.

A. THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IS THE GREATEST THREAT TO RECOVERY OF OUR FREEDOM

The government's "watch list" of threats to our freedom and "our way of life" is almost endless. On that list are Russia, Iran, North Korea, Syria and any other nation of the earth yet to be invaded. No county left behind. It's the new cold war started by the United States and justified by arrogance and hubris, not actual threats to American soil. Also on that list are other dangerous elements: any person that has used the internet or a cellular telephone, visited a doctor or dentist, or received a governmental benefit. We must be watched and monitored. But the true culprit, however, is missing from that "watch list." The federal government and its minion agencies have become the greatest threat to peace abroad and freedom at home.

Oh, but it can't happen here? "Our own government would never oppress us. That is what happened in the Soviet Union" you say. Yes, it is what happened there. For instance, if you lived in the Soviet Union and in 1934 you stood up and declared that "the greatest threat to peace abroad and freedom at home is the Soviet government," you would have been found guilty under Article 58-7 of the Soviet Penal code. That "law" criminalized "Undermining of state industry, transport, monetary circulation or credit system, as well as of cooperative societies and organizations, with counter-revolutionary purpose (as defined by 58-1) by means of the corresponding usage of the state institutions, as well as by opposing their normal functioning." You would be a "wrecker." Your freedom of speech and the press is wrecking and undermining the "normal functioning" of the Soviet government. You would have been on the watch list, then prosecuted and sent to the Gulag for at least 10 years (if you lived that long).

At least here in America, you are only "on the watch list" but not prosecuted, for the time being. Some things are different. The penal statute number has changed. It's written in English, not Russian. It's not Article 56, it's 18 U.S.C. § 2385. It's not wrecking and undermining which

1. July 4, 1821, Speech of Secretary of State John Quincy Adams.

triggers prosecution, prison and death. The American crime, comrade, is advising others of the desirability of destroying the government of the United States by force or violence. Advocating the assassination of any officer of the government also triggers prosecution. You can go to jail for that. But when the federal government does the same thing in regard to foreign nations it is called protecting "national security." It's just fine and dandy for the United States government to openly and covertly abet, advocate and carry out by force and violence, the obstruction or overthrow of any other civil government in the world which it declares is necessary in the interest of American "national security."

The Presidents have even claimed the right to assassinate foreigners as well as American citizens without the bothersome need for Constitutionally guaranteed due process or a trial.[2] The Sixth Amendment is dead when the Executive branch says so. In fact, when officials of the government in Washington, D.C. advocate such lawless violence, it is often packaged as a campaign promise, not a federal crime. Federal public candidates and officials hope to be elected or reelected precisely because they promise to destabilize or destroy other governments in the name of "national security" or, through plausibly deniable operatives, undermine or assassinate their leaders. If you or I even peep about our federal government or officials in that way, however, it is a 20 year felony. The campaign message is clear: "Contribute money to me and elect me to undermine foreign governments and kill their leaders, but I will imprison you if you even talk that way about me or this government." Our lives are fragile under this government. Do not be so gullible to believe that a man or government who enjoys great and *de-facto* unlimited civil power will not also use it, simply because he speaks English, rather than Russian.

B. LAW, NOT VIOLENCE LEADS TO RECOVERY OF FREEDOM

Yet, we should not turn to or advocate force or violence as a means to alter or abolish the government of the United States or any State. We reject destroying the government. We reject assassination. There is a remedy more effective and longer lasting than replicating the violence and murder practiced by Washington. The remedy is found in the law itself. Reliance on the law is the means by which our freedoms will be recovered. The law provides us with the right to alter or abolish the federal government. This is our right under the Laws of Nature. It is our right and duty under the Declaration of Independence. It is also an additional right under Article V of the United States Constitution. If any judge, public official or appointee of the United States says otherwise – that the People do not have a God-given right to alter or abolish the federal government or the government of any State – then that public servant is unfit to hold office, a danger to the rule of law and an enemy of our God-given rights. Their names should be added to our "watch list" and their opposition to freedom noted. The opportunity to seek private sector employment if qualified, without a government pension or benefits, is their just reward.

Looking more closely, therefore, it must be observed that the United States government will

2. See the United States Department of Justice Memorandum: *Lawfulness of a Lethal Operation Directed Against a U.S. Citizen Who Is a Senior Operational Leader of Al-Qa'ida or An Associated Force.*

continue to be the greatest threat to recovering our freedom because it ignores the limitations imposed upon it by law itself. In the American experience, this law includes "the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God" as recognized and incorporated into the Declaration of Independence. It also includes the law of the land – the United States Constitution *as written*. Our national government is limited by these laws. Yet, its Congressional laws, Executive orders and judicial decisions cast these foundations aside and have taken away our rights and freedoms. The collective action of the federal government has immorally suppressed these foundations, while commanding our perfect obedience to its unlimited will. What sort of citizen can enjoy freedom under a government without limitations? Only a slave or a *zek*? Don't be naive. Slavery comes in many forms. When judging itself, the federal government pardons every evil, but when judging the People or the nations, it is eager to use the sharp edge of its bloody sword.

The immediate threat, however, is not to be found in foreign nations. Russia is no threat to America. They are an important trading partner. We have been politically manipulated and lied to about foreign terror and terrorists. Yes, there is real evil in the world, but Washington D.C. is part of this evil too. The federal government was not created by the People to stamp out every evil domestically, or by intervention, bribes and war, oversee, manage or crush evil abroad. Cadres of armed federal agents and officials at home are the immediate danger. Federal and State task forces have joined hands. These blue shirt bureaucrats have mandated mask or facial coverings be worn, ordered lockdowns, prosecuted Americans whose only crime was wanting to work, bribed us with stimulus checks and unemployment benefits, destroyed our economy, threatened us with experimental vaccinations, and bankrupted the middle class, They have also invaded our airports, bus stations, highways, borders and passport offices. They search our luggage, steal our valuables and electronically scan our bodies. They put their hands in our pants, throw away our water bottles and demand to know where we are going. We wait in line like cattle going to the slaughter house. They display their firearms. We display our feet without shoes and are stripped of all means of self-defense. They say "Papers, please Comrade" and we produce our government issued identification. How can we recover our privacy and freedom to travel if we cannot first see it has been taken away?

The Republican and Democratic national leadership are also domestic threats to recovery of our freedom. They are committed to wholesale lying about federal evildoing. We have been lied to about "national security" by the White House for decades. Spy drones may be deployed above our homes. Our personal and medical records have been hacked, our telephone calls illegally monitored and our email read by federally employed stalkers. Each record, document and call has been recorded and stored. It can be accessed by these federal "peeping toms" when the time comes for our investigation, indictment, prosecution and imprisonment if we get out of line. We are living in a federal surveillance society that sees every purchase made with credit cards on the internet. The Fourth and Fifth Amendments lie in tatters. Neither Republicans nor Democrats will put a stop to it. A vote for either is throwing your vote away. Why keep throwing your vote away again and again?

Our federal overseers have also manipulated this country's economy resulting in harmful business cycles of weak expansions and sharp contractions, of boom and bust, of bubbles and an ongoing "Great Recession." How can we recover our freedom against this rigged game? We are

only beginning to understand just how deep the deceit really goes and its terrible domestic and world wide consequences.[3] The Federal Reserve's reliance on monetization and artificially low interest rates to spur economic growth and reduce structural unemployment has lulled investors into business projects they cannot complete and which are unsustainable in the long run. It has tricked consumers to borrow and spend well beyond their means to reasonably repay. The omnipresent quantitative easing and other schemes orchestrated by the Federal Reserve have enriched the largest Banks and their Wall Street cronies. If reserves are released for real consumer and business use, the effect must accelerate the current inflation rate of the dollar and drive up prices, thereby making it harder for you and me just to survive. This country cannot live on borrowed fiat money forever. Savings and real free markets as the means of economic growth and are within our hand, if we can just stop spending that which we do not have. The federal government and the federal reserve are among the greatest threats, not our saviors.

Washington lawmakers also love price controls, price ceilings and price floors such as minimum wage. Washington claims it is willing to "tweak" the system of confiscatory taxation, but yet over 2000 federal subsidy programs remain in place and continue to grow. They manipulate the price of gold and silver. The housing bubble, dot-com bubble, education bubble and every other bubble have the federal hand of disaster behind them.

The federal government also directly owns and controls one-third of the land in this country. It is not enough. They also want to control the use of all land though environmental regulations and the Department of the Interior.

Being without any practical or theoretical restraint, and being in full control of the reins of force, coercion and violence, the United States government has become a law unto itself. It now uses the law, lawlessly. Law is no longer a limit on its power. It is not a shield in the hands of the People to protect us from our own government. Law has been perverted into a federal prosecutorial sword and turned upon each of us by our public servants who are now our self-proclaimed federal masters. We rejoice when the Supreme Court issues an occasional opinion in defense of our judicially modified rights against federal or state usurpation, but an occasional opinion is evidence of a failed system of checks and balances and even the form of government itself, not a basis for its unaltered continuation.

C. THE CHOICE: TO ALTER OR TO ABOLISH THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT?

What are we going to do about this government? More talk radio? More donations to the party or our favorite special interest group? We could always vote for "change" or demand more bread and circuses. What about state nullification? What about a violent revolution? Maybe you have a Daisy Red Ryder BB gun? We can even call the President nasty names or a "Royal Brute" as did Thomas Paine of King George III, but will that limit federal power? Will this beat back our federal

3. Paul Craig Roberts, *Market Manipulations Become More Extreme, More Desperate*, February 7, 2014. See http://www.paulcraigroberts.org/

masters enough so that we can recover the freedom to fully exercise all our rights?

Here is what needs to be done to restore what has been taken. We must believe that the People are still capable of governing themselves, but are not permitted to do so under our current form of federal control. Of course this is a lie if the people refuse to first fear God. If there is no fear of God, then there is no incentive to exercise our liberties with self-restraint. We must then do two things at the same time. First, we must warn the government of the United States to cease both its infidelity to law and the abridgment of our rights. This warning comes in the form of directing our State governments to impose additional Constitutional restraints on the federal government. It requires actually honoring and enforcing the rights that are already there. It requires adding additional God given unalienable rights, not their fake substitutes, to the Bill of Rights.[4] It requires denying the Supreme Court the power to diminish those rights by the compelling state interest test. When the Constitution says "Congress shall make no law . . ." it means "Congress" and it means "no law." "Make no law" is the judicial standard of review, not fundamental rights and compelling state interest. When the Second Amendment says "the right of the people to keep and bears arms shall not be infringed," the phrase "shall not be infringed" is the judicial standard of review, not some Court manufactured "middle-tier" analysis. This approach assumes there is still a place for a limited federal government in our system. It assumes the federal government can be reformed.

Yet, what if they refuse to take correction? What if the federal establishment has made their faces harder than rock and they refuse to repent of their evil suppression of our rights, our freedoms and our liberties? What if it turns out that the federal establishment is an unrepentant well-fed, lusty stallion, neighing for our life, liberty and property? What if it is stubborn and rebellious and refuses to fear God, or says it is god? What if wicked men and women are found among its critical "leaders" and they lurk about lying in wait to sieze what last bits of freedom we have? It may be discovered that they have become great and rich because they know no bounds in their deeds of evil, refuse to judge with justice, or defend the rights of the needy. What if it is concluded that they rule at their direction and the people love to have it so?

In such a case, we must also undertake serious consideration of a second option. We must also realize that the federal government itself may already be too lawless to reform. It may already be too ruthless to be told by the States to restrain itself. It may not even be able to free itself from its dependence on the Federal Reserve to keep buying debt. It may not be able to free itself from other economic and military masters. Beyond this, Congress generally, and the President in particular, may not be able to advance Constitutional restraint, especially in foreign policy even if they had a moment of lucidity and wanted to do so. Every President since Dwight D. Eisenhower has learned, at some point in his Presidency, to fear being undermined, politically exposed, entrapped or even

4. The proposed Parental Rights Amendment is an example of a fake substitute which would Constitutionally diminish the rights of parents guaranteed by the Laws of Nature. It also would constitutionalize a balancing test which has no basis in any other current amendment's text. It is a prime example of capitulation to the doctrine of judicial supremacy and shortsighted leadership in the area of rights. See http://www.parentalrights.org/

assassinated by shadowy figures in the Pentagon and Central Intelligence Agency (CIA).[5] While our Presidents have been men with great power, they have lacked the power to reign in their economic masters or the military-industrial Godfather. That is why we must consider the idea that recovery of our freedoms can only be accomplished by abolishing our federal Washington D.C. government, thereby dispersing the now centralized power of bailed out bankers and subsidized arms dealers. Let these factions then try to bribe 50 state governments instead of one government in Washington.

A lawless government, a government that will not or cannot heed current or proposed Constitutional limitations, deserves only to be abolished. It must be abolished for freedom to recover and flourish. It must be abolished if Americans are to escape the federal reserve and the federal police state and their war against our lives, rights, money and property. It must be abolished to stop Washington's world-wide global hegemony advanced by threats of thermonuclear war.

From the vantage point of freedom, we must ask ourselves if we even want the federal government any more? Its future is up to us, the People, isn't it? Forget for a moment all that has been said about the federal government as an army of criminals run by overgrown plunderers. Forget its immorality, suppression of liberties and worldwide war-making. Ask yourself: "Is there a better arrangement than what we now have?" You cannot answer that question unless you have considered the options offered in the Declaration of Independence. If our federal government will not honor the Constitution, why should we keep either? Perhaps both have outlived their usefulness? Washington seems destined for obscurity in the long run anyway. There are better options.

One option is to do nothing and just wait for the collapse. If we do nothing, at some point the federal government will collapse under its own weight of debt. If we do nothing, it will continue to fall in its international status. It will continue dragging with it our nation to a second or third world status. Its efforts to control the economy and manipulation of the dollar will fail in the long run. The dollar's continued loss of purchasing power and international use as the standard of exchange is inevitable. The States will limp along as dependent servants, eventually yielding all of their critical authority to either federal carrots or sticks. All might be a wreck and ruin before we can start to recover freedom again. No nation can escape contractions of the business cycle if its economy is built on artificially low interest rates, credit and a government monopoly on the printing press. Fiat currency will always inflate. But if we simply sit by and think we can wait it out, then consider the larger picture of what will happen in the meantime. The federal government will by then have ruined the financial lives of many millions of people. It will have violated and killed many more millions of human lives. It will have inflicted immeasurable misery upon the peoples and nations of the earth. Americans will be treated here by our own government, as our government now treats others in their own country. Why suffer that which is to come if it is within our hand now to avoid that result?

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5. See James W. Douglas, JFK and the Unspeakable: Why He Died and Why It Matters. (2010).

Yet, perhaps you think "God is in control. God is judging this country. God will take care of me and my family." Do you really think that it is because of your own goodness that we continue to possess this land and its benefits? Do you think that since we were a Christian Nation that God's hand is still bound to bless us? Wake up. God blessed Egypt when Joseph ran the Country, but after that, a generation that did not know Joseph arose and enslaved Israel. Do you think America is more special to God than Israel was while in Egypt? God is certainly in control and He will do what He wants, when He wants. But blessing you regardless of your indifference is not in His plan. Face it, no American is the equal of Noah, Job or Daniel. They alone might escape even God's judgment upon a nation, but not you or your family.[6]

D. THE PATH: A CONVENTION OF STATES, OR A CONGRESS OF STATES?

How can the People recover freedom? We need a forum to either alter or abolish the government of the United States and to scatter the centralized banking and corporate militarists that have used our taxes to promote world wide depression and war. We need a Congress of States. What is a Congress of States? A Congress of States is first of all a congress; that is to say, a meeting or assembly of certain persons. Who are these persons? They are delegates representing the various state governments. The state legislatures choose delegates. These delegates then assemble together as a Congress. A Congress of States has nothing to do with the Congress of the United States. A Congress of States is created by the States themselves. It is created by their authority as sovereign states acting on behalf of the People of that State.

A Congress of States may be called into existence pursuant to Article V of the Constitution which requires the federal Congress to call for a convention when at least two-thirds of the States so apply. In such a case the assembly would technically be a Convention of States. Any proposed amendments to the Constitution emanating therefrom would be subject to the Constitutional procedures and authority concerning adoption of amendments, *i.e.*, they must be ratified by the legislatures of three fourths of the several states, or by conventions in three fourths thereof. Some say an Article V Convention can only alter, but not abolish the federal government. Maybe, maybe not. Any State call should leave the door open. But an Article V convention is not the only option. It is not even the best option.

A true Congress of States may be called into existence directly by the act of any number of participating state legislatures independent of the Constitution and without regard for a two-thirds requirement. If the Constitutional call for a Convention falls short of a two-thirds requirement, a Congress of States may nevertheless be formed and proceed accordingly. The authority of the Congress of States and its delegates is to advise and recommend to their respective States, a plan or plans to promote liberty and recover freedom through altering or abolishing the federal government.

An assembly of States is nothing new. It is as old as the Republic and is not Constitutionally dependent. *The Annapolis Convention of 1786* is an example of the idea that the States may come

6. See Ezekiel 14:12-20.

together without the permission or approval of the United States. The Annapolis Convention was a meeting of twelve delegates from five states including New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Delaware, and Virginia. The Convention was styled as a "Meeting of Commissioners to Remedy Defects of the Federal Government." These defects involved barriers to trade and commerce between the states under the Articles of Confederation. Its goal was to consider alteration of the form and laws of the federal government. After meeting, this Convention laid the groundwork for a subsequent Convention in Philadelphia in 1787. It was at the latter Convention that the Articles of Confederation were abolished or abandoned, and which then proposed the Constitution of 1787. So a Congress of States is nothing really new.[7]

E. THE FOUNDATIONS: RECOVER LAW FIRST, THEN UNALIENABLE RIGHTS

What will the delegates do when they come together? To have any hope of real success, such delegates must recall to memory the legal foundations of this country, indeed of all nations. It must take to heart that God is the first Author of our freedoms and that as such, civil governments lack any authority to impair those freedoms. It must be sobered by the cold and hard truth that God did not establish the federal government of the United States. That government does not enjoy any divine right or the imprimatur of God's continued approval. It was made by men. It can be unmade by men. A Congress of States must affirm the principles of the laws of nature and of nature's God, and its incorporation into our systems of government through the Declaration of Independence. It must recognize and fully appreciate that the duties we owe to our Creator are none other than those unalienable rights to be exercised free from interference by private persons, the states and federal government, religious bodies, corporations, banks, police and the military. It must call to memory that the manner of discharging those God-given duties, expressed as unalienable rights and often guaranteed as state and federal Constitutionally enumerated rights, are based on each person's reason and conviction and are not therefore, lawfully subject to any government interference, mandate, coercion, subsidy, carrot or stick, force or violence.

A Congress of States must also articulate with clarity the economic freedoms and unalienable rights to which we are all equally entitled. It must be so clear that even the Supreme Court can understand, if such a Court is retained, that unalienable rights are not subject to any balancing against state, federal or international interests. There can be no talk of balancing unalienable rights against compelling governmental interests or application of a least restrictive means analysis. These tests were judicial creations from the start and never had any Constitutional mooring. It will reaffirm that the legal basis for our rights, liberties and freedoms is grounded in the duties we owe to our Creator and to our neighbors, all made in His image. It will not establish any religion. It will not repudiate the Law of Nature governing civil governments, but will question if our federal government is needed or wanted here at all. It will not cast aside our nation, just our nation's current federal form of government.

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7. http://www.let.rug.nl/usa/documents/1786-1800/the-annapolis-convention-1786.php

F. WE *ARE* COMING

The analysis presented in this series of Articles assists in this substantive work. It points an indicting finger at the overgrown plundering of the United States government. It compiles a bill of particulars against the federal government, enumerating its lawlessness, self-glorification and needless wars which have little, in fact, to do with protecting us. They have little to do with national security. In fact, these wars prosecuted in the name of protecting freedom at home have only resulted in the loss of freedom at home and the bankruptcy of this country. They have much to do with justifying unrestrained human greed and violence on a grand worldwide scale. We need a Congress of States that will chronicle federal lawlessness and Constitutional usurpations. We need a Congress of States that will submit to each State its findings and recommendations concerning how to recover our freedom, how to revive economic liberty and how to restore our unalienable rights–those freedoms, liberties and rights now taken and crushed by the federal surveillance state[8]. We need a Congress of States to shine the spotlight of reproach on the United States government.

Paul Revere once famously warned Americas that "The British are coming." His warning sparked a defensive revolution in which Americans eventually won greater freedom as Americans than they enjoyed as Englishmen. Americans rescued self government from the lawless hand of the British civil government under a King – a man who preferred to rule by his own will and not by the Colonial Charters or consistently under the laws of nature.

The current situation is like this though not in every respect. The British are not coming. Its successor, the federal government has come instead. It is here. It is everywhere. It rules and enslaves by its will, not by the law. The remedy is this: The British are not coming. We are. Now is the time for the People to come forward. We must come organizationally through our own States first, then State by State. We are coming together through a Congress of our States. We are not coming together to leave the Union. We are not coming for secession so that those who remain can wage war upon those who leave. We are not coming to vindicate "states' rights." The States themselves must eventually be limited or abolished if they will not secure our rights. We are not coming for assassination or war. We are not content to nullify this law or that law leaving the machinery of federal oppression intact and untouched. We are coming for a work more profound than simply avoiding the immediate reach of federal lawlessness.

Nor are we coming to merely insist upon our Constitutional rights as Americans. At one time we insisted on our rights as Englishman before the Revolution. Then we insisted upon enjoying our constitutional rights as Americans. Now we are coming to insist upon our unalienable rights as human beings made by the Creator of the Universe.

We are coming in a Congress of States with a warning: we are coming to warn the federal government that it is merely a government of Constitutionally limited and very well defined powers.

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8. Mark R. Levin's, *The Liberty Amendments: Restoring the American Republic* (2013) is an example of this type of approach. The Convention of States project called under Article V is also so oriented, though details are scarce. http://conventionofstates.com/

It is nothing more. When we are done, it shall be a great deal less. The Constitution chained it, but not enough. The Declaration defined and limited its purpose – the security of God-given individual rights. From these limitations and purpose, it has no authority to depart. Its present delusion rationalizing the perversion of that document by chanting "national security" is a lie. Indeed, a lying spirit is in the mouth of those who proclaim an expansive federal power.

We are also coming to consider if we can no longer trust the federal government, or even want to keep it with its present "limited Constitutional" powers. Limited government has failed in the long run. It could be revived but let us not be naive in weighing our options. We must affirm and impose additional and more severe limitations on the federal government. We must turn its foreign policy from one of worldwide empire and violence, to a policy of non-interference with honest commerce with all nations. We are here to abolish agencies, the Code of Federal Regulations, and executive orders. We are coming to tell federal bureaucrats and civil service to find private sector jobs. We are coming to tell Congress that its commerce clause jurisdiction, its regulation of employment, the environment, firearms, tobacco, alcohol, food, drugs and a myriad of other things is finished. We are coming to tell the Court that its opinions are not the Supreme law and that it enjoys no jurisdiction to enact laws or create rights through its judicial decisions. We are here to tell its judges, magistrates and prosecutors to find alternative employment. We are coming to abolish the federal police and surveillance forces whom violate our privacy without conscience.

The Constitution was a work of the People. The People chose to determine if they even wanted a federal government in the first place. But they are not bound to continue with it. They are not even bound to improve it. If they desire to further limit federal power beyond its current Constitutional limits or abolish it altogether, what is that to their federal servants? The servant's duty is to obey, not unionize and lobby, not bully and tax, and not to investigate, indict and incarcerate the People. We are coming to tell the federal government as currently constituted, that its days are numbered and that additional restraints, checks and limits beyond even the present Constitution are needed and will be imposed by the States. If those additional measures are ineffectual to ensure our rights, or a Congress of States believes those remedies will be too little, too late, or will be ineffective no matter the course, then we are coming to tell the federal government that its usefulness has passed. We shall be governed by law through our States alone who must also better secure, protect and defend our unalienable rights on an equal basis. We will then deal with our State governments on the same terms if they do not see the light. Nothing less will do.

Who is the "We"? The "we" is every American who loves their God-given freedoms and Constitutional rights.

PART 2:

What Foundation Will Support Recovery of Our Freedom?

INTRODUCTION

Before we can implement any change, we must first understand where we have come from. In "What Can We Do Now that Our Freedom is Taken?," we introduced the idea that the federal government has taken our freedom and remains the greatest threat to its recovery. Also discussed was the need to rely on law rather than violence, in addressing this threat. A Congress of States was proposed as a means to reduce the federal government's power so that it would be explicitly barred from crushing our unalienable rights. Also considered was the idea that it may be desirable or necessary to simply abolish the federal government in order to preserve the American People and the nation.

Attention is now turned to foundational matters. Who may be counted on to lead us toward recovery of freedom? What law justifies the alteration or abolition of the federal government? Is God for us or against us in this undertaking? Does He care? We will also discuss how far from freedom and how deep into federal servitude we already are as a People. A clearly identified foundation will be presented. It is the only one that will support the recovery of freedom. All others are shifting sand. The truth will be harsh. You may not believe it, at least not yet.

A. THE FOUNDATION: THE LAWS OF NATURE AND OF NATURE'S GOD

How can the People get started with a Congress of States? Like most things in life, we have to first figure out if God is relevant to this undertaking, or can we alter or abolish the federal government without Him? It is best to get this question settled up front. Some people think they have God and government pretty much figured out. He is either everything or He is nothing. Or perhaps it is a little of both. For the believer we need to clarify how God is actually *not* involved. The believer needs to understand what God is not doing. For those who do not believe, we need to clarify how God is actually involved. We need to see what He expects in connection with the establishment and abolition of civil governments. This may appear counter intuitive, but think about it. The believer may seek a role for God that is greater than God has set for Himself in matters of civil government. The non-believer may seek a role for God than is less than God has set for Himself. Perhaps we can bring all of us together on this subject somewhere in the middle? We are not here to discuss if reliance upon Him is inspirational or personally edifying. We are not here to vindicate God or set up His Kingdom. We are not here because of eschatology. We are not here to convert the unbeliever or prove God exists. We are rather set upon discussing what God says about civil government and in particular, its purpose, creation and abolition.

Some will say that God is not needed for such a purpose–that freedom does not need God to exist or be recovered. This is nonsense. Others say that His involvement can only be divisive or even dangerous. Some will babble about the separation of Church and State because they have nothing else to offer. Some will say "God bless America" and think that merely chanting this,

begins and ends the discussion. Some will say since government is from God, we are opposing God if we try to alter or abolish the federal government. More nonsense. Others will say God is not responsible for either bad government or evil leaders. In point of fact, some will even take exception with Thomas Jefferson when he asked in his 1782 *Notes on Virginia*, "Can the liberties of a nation be thought secure when we have removed their only firm basis, a conviction in the minds of the people that these liberties are of the gift of God?"

If we are to be open to real freedom, could we start with first being open to the real God? Indeed, why not? The Declaration of Independence started there. That was a good start. It was not a myth. Do you think we could lay a better foundation without Him? The Declaration grounded the nature of civil power itself on the "laws of nature and of nature's God." That is what it says. It further says this law affirms that every person is legally entitled to enjoy those rights which God has given to each of us. We must apply that truth to all of us this time around. Here is what it says the laws of nature and its God guarantees to each person:

> We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.--That to secure these rights, 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, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness.

Here is what a Congress of States is all about–how to secure our unalienable rights. What are those unalienable rights? How have our state governments performed in securing those rights? Not well. How about our federal government? Worse. So right away, we are at a fork in the road. We can continue to recognize this law and its command that civil government only exists to secure, not subvert, those God-given rights. Or we can reject God's relevance and that law as a source of both our rights and limitations on civil government's authority and power. We can became a different nation–one without the laws of nature and of nature's God. The history of nations is littered with many examples.

A Congress of States, however, should not play any part in becoming a new nation with a different foundation. That would be a step backward into the abyss. No, we must maintain our identity as a People, as a Nation. It is not the American People or Nation that came into existence in 1774 with the first Continental Congress or as late as 1776 by the Declaration of Independence which is to altered or abolished. What is to be altered or abolished is the federal government that came into effect on March 4, 1789. The Declaration tells us that men can "institute" civil government. So too, men can just as well "un-institute" it by acting as a free people "with that freedom of language and sentiment which becomes a free people claiming their rights, as derived

from the laws of nature, and not as the gift of their chief magistrate."[9]

So do we need God? Yes, for without Him we have no real or sustained rights. Without Him, we have only what we have now – the myth of freedom. The myth tells us we are free, but the freedom we actually enjoy is the skeletal remains of our federal constitutional rights after being cannibalized by the Supreme Court, ignored by Congress and suppressed by the President. Without Him our rights are merely dependent on the state or are a contrivance of our own will. Is dedication to the Declaration of Independence necessary for freedom? Dedication to its principles – the principles we have already adopted as a people and as a nation are necessary. Nothing better exists to serve as a foundation upon which the hope of being and remaining a free people has the potential to be realized in this life.

But is the God we need, one who involves Himself beyond these principles? Is He the God of a State established church? Is He the God that gives to men, the authority to use force and violence to compel belief, to compel education, to compel obedience to Him? Indeed, must delegates to a Congress of Sates be believers in God? No, not even God commands that result. Thus, neither may men. But they must be believers in the law and the rule of law. One must accept as the Declaration accepts, that God is the source of our rights, even if by this acceptance one can only muster the faith to believe it as a convenient political rule of action, rather than what it really is – a universal truth empowering every man and woman from the creation of the world to govern themselves, restrain their vices, and love their neighbor as themself. They must be believers in the principles previously and unanimously agreed to by the States in the Declaration–States which they now represent as delegates. If a proposed delegate does not accept or believe in law, unalienable rights or government by consent, they should not be delegates. That is the belief required.

B. FEW WILL LEAD. MOST WILL OPPOSE

Who will lead the way? Any volunteers? The problem is that Americans do not think very much about God and civil government in such basic terms. The problem is that Republicans and Democrats do not think about God and government in such basic terms. The problem is that Libertarians do not think about God and government in such basic terms. The problems is that hardly anybody thinks about God and civil government in the way the Founders and Framers thought about Him and stated it.

Even American Jews and Christians, both Catholic and Protestant, who affirm a close relationship with God, do not think broadly about God and civil government. Apart from religious and ecclesiastical propositions, they tend to only think about God and a narrow political agenda which, not surprisingly, mirrors the platform of their favorite political party. They argue that when it comes to politics, the Creator of the Universe, Divine Providence, the Lawgiver and Supreme Judge of the world is actually only concerned about a narrow political agenda and not too much more. God's purported usefulness here is to justify the exercise of national unlimited civil power

9. Thomas Jefferson, Rights of British America, 1774. See http://avalon.law.yale.edu/18th_century/jeffsumm.asp

as expressing His will. Many believe that since God holds the right political views, He can also be counted on to bless the unrestrained federal agenda, surveillance society and police state.

But will God magically free us from this idolatry? Not if these matters are never discussed in our religious assemblies. If you raised them, would you be regarded as speaking in a strange tongue and probably spouting arguments that are theologically wrong, divisive and even dangerous? Most Jews and Christian have never heard their rabbi, priest or pastor sermonize about such things. We conclude wrongly, therefore, that they must be relatively unimportant or unworthy of God's real interest. Perhaps finances and tithing, or the color of the carpet in "God's House" are more important matters to discuss and divide over.

If religious leaders are ill-suited to lead, how about political conservatives? How about the Republicans? Republicans see a use for God. He can be used to justify a lot of political shenanigans and make the people feel good about war. But that doesn't mean the Republicans respect God as their Lord in all things political, legal or constitutional. God is simply useful. They think and talk about God mostly for His usefulness in turning out the vote at election time. He is also a handy way to end a speech. God, as in "God bless America," can also be counted upon to justify America's patriotic wars of aggression and our insane and belligerent nationalistic foreign policy. He can be called upon to persuade youth to enter the armed forces as an act of divine patriotism. Any talk about government by consent, unalienable rights or abolishing the government would be divisive, making it hard to win elections with appeals to the political center. The whole goal is to get into power at the next election and defeat the Democrats, not to get people thinking that the last time Republicans held power, the Attorney General undermined our freedoms or President George W. Bush made war upon the nations, after talking to God.

Well then, the Democrats will pave the way, right? Not exactly. Democrats follow the same spiel as Republicans about God, but substitute their own creeds of social justice and love your neighbor through forced redistribution of income. These are what God brings to their political table. Thus, when the political ends require it, God is a useful means to justify government use of the bayonet to "help" people financially love their neighbor. The Democrats have a use for God. They use God to joy ride over the top of our unalienable rights. To the hard core Democrat insider, the Declaration of Independence might even be an unconstitutional establishment of religion in violation of the First Amendment with its talk of a Creator.

What about the Libertarians and God? Beltway libertarians don't think much of the Declaration of Independence as a statement of universal truth so God does not come up even indirectly. Most libertarians don't think too much about God. They rightly do not want God-based agendas employed against freedom. As a matter of fact, they do not want anybody's agenda used against freedom. They do not see that God is of much use in defending personal liberty since those who claim to speak for God, with God, and about God (those we have just discussed from the political right and left) seem to favor a God who loves the State more than personal liberty. There are exceptions among libertarians, but enough to take the lead?

Of course, there are many types of Republicans, Democrats, and Libertarians. What we have

stated here are generalizations. There are always individuals who swim against the current in their own parties. We are not discounting these. We are searching instead for an entity or organization or group that may take the lead in a Congress of States. If none exist we need individuals that will lead. It is folly to believe that the Republican Party or the Democratic Party will make a Congress of States their priority. It is they who will oppose it.

Yet, if we are to make the needed change, if we are to recover freedom, someone will have to lead the way. Libertarians are the only ones to have a present working sense that there is and ought to be real limits on the state's power, or that there should be no state at all. By and large, neither Jews nor Christians have this sense though they should since they claim to be on intimate terms with the Almighty. True, they could let their God be *the* God, but this would require alteration of their voting patterns. It would require their political advocacy and fund-raising machines to stop serving as an electoral call-girl for their political party. It would also require their rabbis, priests and pastors to start preaching the whole of the Scriptures. This is sure to result in a loss of tithes and offerings, and precipitate a drop in Sabbath attendance. Rest assured that their personal ministry, emoluments and tax-exempt status will not be sacrificed for your freedom.

Republicans do not embody any sense of limited civil jurisdiction because it runs contrary to ruling the world through a nationalistic foreign policy and perpetual foreign wars. Democrats cannot easily conceive of the idea that civil power is limited because it would deny to them the power to take my neighbor's property and give it to their constituents and a little back to me. They could no longer lie to me that I got more than was taken from me.

Scanning the cultural horizon, the revival of freedom is not going to come from any one sector. It will not come from academia. The modern American University administrator is neither trained nor devoted to the love of either truth or personal liberty. Seeking tenure runs against it. Having tenure eliminates the need for it. The university is essentially a socialist tenured system of employment coupled with a state monopoly on certified knowledge, not truth. The University is a creature of the state. Even most "private" universities are dependent for survival on government loans passing first through its students hands then into the University. Such loans are government subsidies. As with all government subsidies, the result is to drive up the price of a college education. The secondary effects are also well known–students are condemned to a lifetime of debt owed to the government. The university's declarations about freedom of inquiry and academic freedom are largely nonsense. The average American University is an enterprise herding students into a lifetime of crushing debt. There are exceptions, but they are anomalies.

How about American lawyers? Lets us be neither naive or blind. The state bar associations of American lawyers are themselves coercive membership societies. They cannot financially survive on the overrated value of their own ideas or lofty aims purportedly taken in the public's interest absent coercion in assessing and collecting dues. Such organizations neither exist nor subsist based on volition. They acquire their bread by the sweat of another lawyer's brow in the form of compulsory dues, not by voluntary appeals concerning the merits of their goals. We cannot expect the governing body of such organizations to recognize freedom or openly advocate for a limited civil government–a government that might limit their own ability to freely shove their hand

into the wallet of every lawyer practicing law in that state. State Supreme Courts could put an end to this sham, but they refuse to see it for what it is–compelling a man to contribute sums of money for the propagation of ideas he disbelieves, or depriving a man of the comfortable liberty of freely contributing sums of money to those persons or bar organization he would make his own. "How many times can a man turn his head and pretend that he just doesn't see?" State Supreme Courts may be meticulous devotees of the Court's Rules of Procedure, but here they have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice, mercy and good faith. These they ought to have done, without neglecting the others. (Matthew 23:23.)

Nor does liberty currently appear as an interest of big business. It should be, but it is not. They prefer to use the civil government to punish or handicap their smaller or foreign competitors through lobbying for laws and regulations which they already meet or can easily meet, knowing that their competitors will have a more difficult time of it, rather than competing in the open market. Protectionism, subsidy, and regulation are a "god-send." Economists with their training about markets and secondary effects can better illuminate the negative economic consequences to business and corporations who seek such market-distorting policies.

Nor are our public sector police, fire, clerical or educational unions friends of freedom. Their lifeblood is built on expanding the reach and power of civil government and governmental control of public services, education and schools at all levels. Expansion is the means by which the number of public sector jobs is increased. Increasing jobs in the public sector is not a means to primarily serve the public. It is a means to build the power of AFSCME, POAM, IAFF, the NEA and others. The public is reduced to the status of a "serf" living on their own rented land. As serfs we have but one purpose--promptly and obediently pay property taxes and fees to the local municipality, school district, County, and state who in turn pay it over to bargaining union members in the form of increased wages, benefits and obscene pensions. It is paid over as per a collective bargaining agreement without regard to any ability of the people to actually pay or demonstrate the quality, need or even the desire for the service provided. If the local property tax rate is insufficient, a court enforced judgment levy will make up the difference, though it further impoverishes the people in the community.

In this regard, your local police force, firefighters, clerical workers, and of course public school teachers, are not inclined to applaud freedom or support talk of limiting the civil government. See the new City Hall, new court house, schools and athletic facilities, and new police vehicles? These land "Barons" live well on our money forcible taken from us. They live better than we do. They are going to line up against freedom and lobby you for more government in the form of a modern militarized police force and surveillance society to "keep you safe." If you increase the next millage you are a fool. It should be cut in half if you hope to recover just a little freedom. The wise better understand this early on.

So who is going to lead the call for a Congress of States? The future of freedom is not in the hands of any one organization, group or movement. It is in the hands of liberty minded persons of good will. This situation appears bleak because such persons probably hold no real political power. Not to worry. This just means that their opportunity to be tempted by power has not yet come. The

involvement of such persons and their thinking about the Declaration of Independence and God will be critical. They have the edge. The idea that government is and ought to be limited or abolished is part of their thinking. It is not consistently part of any one sector. But liberty oriented persons must recapture and articulate the true meaning of God and civil government and then help the rest to see it.

They must articulate the meaning of the Declaration of Independence–that God is the author of our rights; that we enjoy those rights in equal measure with our neighbor; that the only purpose of civil government--if we choose to institute it in the first place--is to secure, not balance or subvert those God given rights. In fact, the state's only compelling interest is the security of our rights. Every other claim the state makes about its compelling interest is a sham. Those purported interest are the smooth words of a tyrant seeking to reduce or eliminate our rights in whole or part. Those who lead must also acknowledge that our rights are broad and include personal and economic liberties; and that everyone should have access to the security of those rights and redress against those who would interfere with their free exercise. It's a tough job, but someone has to do it. H.L. Mencken encourages us along the way.

> The most dangerous man to any government is the man who is able to think things out for himself, without regard to the prevailing superstitions and taboos. Almost inevitably he comes to the conclusion that the government he lives under is dishonest, insane and intolerable, and so, if he is romantic, he tries to change it. And even if he is not romantic personally, he is very apt to spread discontent among those who are.

C. A FOUNDATION IN LAW

A Congress of States, led by liberty-minded delegates, must show us how to rebuild our state governments on the foundation of the Declaration's law and principles. It must also articulate how to restrain or abolish the federal government. It will need to articulate why we no longer even want or need a federal government, that in fact, the federal government has simply outlived its usefulness. But a Congress of States cannot do that if we cannot even recall the foundation of freedom, or the purpose and preexisting limits on civil jurisdiction.

The founders said there is no law of the land, no real rights of anyone, and no limits on a civil government, without a law which pre-exists that government. They said that pre-existing law comes from God. But rather than have everyone weigh in on just what God or that law said or requires, the founders collected and stated its key particulars for us. First, they said God by creation gives every person certain rights. These rights cannot be alienated by any other person or by any church or by any school, hospital, police, agency, regulator, court, legislature, President or civil government. Second, they said all are equally human beings and have the same unalienable rights owing to their humanity. Third, they said that the People have a right to found, form, alter and abolish any civil government they desire. It is the right of the people to alter or abolish their civil government anytime they please. But it is their duty to do so, every time their civil government takes away or renders insecure the freedom to exercise our unalienable rights. Fourth, they said we also have the right from God to life, liberty and to pursue and obtain happiness and safety. This

means we have the right to enter into contracts, to freely associate only with those whom we desire, and to exercise the full bundle of our individual economic rights including dominion over our personal and real property (but not over other persons). Fifth, they said civil government's only reason to exist was to secure these rights. If it failed to do so, get rid of it.

Are these five points bad things? Are they too hard to accept because the founders attributed these propositions to God or His law? Can we simply accept what they said and move forward? Can we avoid arguing about this or that religious doctrine which have no relevance to our rights or the duty and limit on civil authority? Can we avoid religious bigotry? A Congress of States ought not concern itself with which religion is the true one, or which church doctrines are true and which are false. It is enough to reaffirm the foundations of, and the sole reason for any civil government's existence, if we so choose to bring it into existence. A Congress of States must affirm this foundation in the law of God. It must reject the myth that human freedom can be grounded on any other foundation.

PART 3:

God is no Caesar, Caesar is no God

INTRODUCTION

Can we really recover freedom? As noted in a prior Essay "What Can We Do Now that Our Freedom is Taken?" we introduced the idea that the federal government has taken our freedom and remains the greatest threat to its recovery. Also discussed was the need to rely on law rather than violence in addressing this threat. A Congress of States was proposed as a means to reduce the federal government's power so that it would be explicitly barred from crushing our unalienable rights. Also considered was the idea that it may be more desirable or even necessary to simply abolish the federal government in order to preserve the American People and the nation.

Attention was then turned to the foundation of recovery in "What Foundation will Support Recovery of our Freedom?" We discussed the need to take the Declaration of Independence at face value and reject the myth that freedom can be reclaimed on any other foundation than the laws of nature and nature's God as reflected in the Declaration of Independence. We considered that there are very few people who can lead the recovery of our freedom. Few will be concentrated in any one party, place or institution, and many will oppose a Congress of States from ignorance or self-interest or worse. Few in fact, may be counted on to lead us toward recovery of freedom. We also saw how the framers' relied on law as the basis for civil government's limited purpose in securing our unalienable rights. We concluded with recognition that a Congress of States must affirm the foundation in the law. It must reject the myth that human freedom can be grounded on any other foundation.

We now turn to an explicit discussion about God and civil government. We will clear up confusion and misinformation. We will see that God empowers a People to establish their own form of civil government by their free consent if they so desire. Uncovering false assumptions about what God actually says about Caesar, and what civil government "should do," will be unpleasant for most. Doctrine, history and "I never heard that before" are strong winds and blow hard against the truth. Yet, we have no choice but to press on. The insanity and irrationality of our present destructive view that God is pleased with the power of the federal government in Washington, D.C., or would be if the other party was elected, must be rejected if we are to get out of this situation alive. We must see that the Law of Nature itself limits the jurisdiction that people can extend to civil government.

A. WHAT GOVERNING AUTHORITIES DOES GOD ACTUALLY ESTABLISH?

It is important to understand what God has and has not established. What has He actually established? First, He established one kind of authority –mankind. He gave man--male and female--governing authority over the earth, but not over other persons. Man has no implied authority over another man. No man has a right to govern another without his free consent. Mankind is capable of self government without any civil government ever coming into existence.

Second, God established the authority of a Husband and Wife. How? By defining marriage and then empowering a man and woman to mutually consent to be husband and wife in marriage. He, therefore, established the authority of the family and charged it with continually governing their part of the earth in connection with their own labor, property and land. God also added duties pertaining to bearing, rearing and the education of children to the family's charge. The family does not need any civil government to fulfill its purposes. God made it self sufficient. This is a hard fact to accept in a day and age where the government claims to help build strong families and politicians solicit votes on that basis. But the government does no such thing as build strong families and the sooner we see this, the better off we will be.

So these are clearly the authorities that exist: man–male and female--, husbands and wives, and fathers and mothers. They govern themselves, their families, their household and rear their own children. Civil government is not necessary to their existence or purpose. What other authorities has God instituted? For Christians, Jesus established his church of which he is the head. (Colossians 1:18.) It is a voluntary society based on faith, reason and persuasion with its own internal structure lacking the power of external force or coercion. (I Corinthians 12:28.)

How about civil government? Did God establish civil government? The answer is "No." God did not establish civil government. What God did instead was divide the people into language groups. Division into language groups was God's means to effect two objects. First, He divided people into language groups to induced mankind to inhabit the whole earth, not just one place. Second, he confused the language so that mankind would search for God Himself. The natural and predictable result of being separated by language and fanning out over the face of the entire group was the creation of nations. The manmade creation of a civil government specific to each of those nations thereafter was likewise a consequence of being separated by language and spreading out over the face of the earth.

But the fact that nations and eventually civil governments arose either by consent or by force of men, from the original act of God confusing human language, is not to say God created civil governments. God created languages and as a result humanity scatted into language groups, each occupying different geographical regions. These regions developed borders and assumed the particulars of nationality built on their unique language and fraternal identity. "From one man he made every nation of the human race to inhabit the entire earth, determining their set times and the fixed limits of the places where they would live, so that they would search for God and perhaps grope around for him and find him, though he is not far from each one of us." (Acts 17:26-27.) He did this by confusing our language at Babel. (Genesis 11:1-9). This passage makes no reference to civil government. Countries and nations are the byproduct of language division, not the purpose. The object was to disperse the people over the face of the earth so that they could exercise their rights in connection with family, land and property. God asked the people to do this earlier in Genesis 9, but they refused. So now He employed a new means to effect His purpose of scattering the People across the globe. The new means he employed was to confuse their language. He did not do this to create nations, per se, but rather to effect his command that the people exercise dominion through their families.

B. WHO ARE THE "WRONGDOERS" REFERENCED IN ROMANS 13?

Despite this history, we have not been careful in how we talk about God and government. We must be very clear and concise. We must avoid anarchy, tyranny and idolatry. The book of *Romans*, Chapter 13, affirms that there are multiple authorities established by God. Do not lose sight of this. We have just examined two such authorities by nature–mankind and the family. These authorities have specific purposes and are not dependent even on the existence of civil government to empower them or fulfill their purposes. These authorities existed before any civil government was even contemplated. Man and woman existed before civil government was conceived. Marriage and family existed before any civil government was conceived. Our thinking has been blind to this reality.

Only in this context is civil government even discussed. It is not discussed as "divine right" emanating directly from God to that ruler. While God created Man and established marriage and the family, there is no comparable creation of civil government by God Himself. Civil government only exist by the consent of the people or by the declaration of a despot backed by the sword and violence. It does not exist because God said "Let there be civil government." He never said this. The sooner our thinking recognizes this situation, the better off we will be.

Some argue that the inherent authority of civil rulers is to punish murders. (Genesis 9:4-6). But when God extended such a power to mankind, there were no civil governments in existence. Some argue that God established a civil government in ancient Israel. They ignore the fact that its origins were by consent of the people and later that He objected to their demand for a King. (Exodus 19:7-9, I Samuel 8).

The author of *Romans* observes this situation as a reality, not as a never-before-announced doctrinal statement. We like he, can also deduce it from the Creation account as we have. We need not take his word for it. We like he, can see the reality is that mankind and marriage preceded civil government. We like he, can see God created the former and that the latter simply came into being by the will of men after God confused the languages. It is self-evident from creation and Babel itself.

From this foundation, our author observes that there are wrongdoers which are held in check by civil rulers. Who are these wrongdoers or more properly, "Who are these wrongdoers in the context of the preexisting authority of men and women and marriage and family?" They are not just any wrongdoers, but specific wrongdoers –those who would subvert the authorities God has already established. It bears repeating that those authorities are man, male and female, husband and wife and mother and father (marriage and family). If any person interferes with these authorities, that person is a wrongdoer. He does wrong by interfering with what God has established. Civil rulers may enjoin or punish any person who interfere with the authority and task which God has placed in the hand of every man and woman to exercise authority over the earth, over their land and their property, and of husbands and wives in respect to their authority as a family in terms of their labor, land, estates, marriage and children including the education and upbringing thereof. The implications of this are far reaching, more than we can immediately address here. In short, the

legitimate purpose of civil government when established by people, is to secure the rights of individuals, and of the family to exercise those rights without interference, regulation, or control by others, *and certainly not by the civil government itself*.

Unfortunately, we have this *Romans* 13 idea all turned around. We have been wrongly taught that God has authorized Caesar to play mini-God. We have been taught that these verses justify every civil ruler's authority to punish anyone and everyone in connection with an undefined and unlimited number of civil and criminal offenses. We have been taught that the President down to the dog catcher is God's divine representative. We have been taught this idolatry in our churches. But accepting that whatever the state says is a crime and can be punished, is the wrong way to think about it.

The problem is that the civil government, state governments and the federal government have criminalized and will punish, control, regulate and interfere with a man or woman when they try to exercise their own authority – authority they enjoy as members of the human race and not as gifts from any civil government. These civil governments also pass laws that interfere and punish the exercise of that authority which God has given to husbands and wives and fathers and mothers in the context of marriage and family. This is a complete perversion. It is a construction that emasculates the clear and obvious authority of human beings and families.

Simply put, the wrongdoer is the one who interferes with you and me when we undertake those responsibilities we all enjoy as members of the human race and as families summarily stated in Genesis 1:28: "God blessed them and said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply! Fill the earth and subdue it! Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and every creature that moves on the ground.'" The civil ruler's limited authority to punish wrongdoers exist only where the people consent to extend that authority. If that limited power is simply assumed by a despot or oligarch, the resulting use of that limited power may be the same, though the basis upon which such a despot comes to power is lawless. If a civil official enjoys the authority to punish those who interfere with our responsibilities either by our consent or without our consent by usurpation, the end result in protecting our freedom is the same. But the lawful approach is no civil official ever act by his or her own claim to rule.

Caesar's power, where given by the people, is limited to punish those who interfere either by interference, regulation, subsidy, taxation or legal prohibition, with the individual authority of each man and woman over their property. It is limited to punish those who interfere with our authority to enter into and enforce contracts and join or associate with others including the pursuit of voluntary societies and commercial and business relations by consent (to name a few). It is limited to the punishment of those who interfere with husbands and wives and fathers and mothers in connection with the exercise of their authority concerning their land, labor, children (including their education and upbringing) and their estates. Unfortunately, the reality is that Caesar is not the protector of there responsibilities. Caesar is instead, the greatest transgressor of these responsibilities through codes, property regulations, compulsory education and zoning laws (to name a few).

Civil government never made a man, husband or father, wife or mother by legislative declaration. These all preceded it in time and history and are superior to civil government in the exercise of their respective authority in all respects. Without this understanding, personal freedom is impossible and Caesar must play God.

C. A DUTY TO GOD IS AN UNALIENABLE RIGHT TO BE FREE FROM THE INTERFERENCE OF OTHERS WHO ARE, IN TURN, "WRONGDOERS" TO BE RESTRAINED BY CIVIL GOVERNMENT

With this contextual understanding concerning the limited derivative authority of civil rulers to punish wrongdoers, limited to those persons who impair the preexisting responsibilities and obligations of men and women and of their obligations in marriage and family, how do we arrive at a discussion of unalienable rights? What is the bridge between the authority to punish wrongdoers and unalienable rights? It is straightforward and logical. It begins with understanding of *responsibilities*. It progresses from responsibilities to a *duty* to God. It then moves from the duty we owe to God, as a *right* against wrongdoers in connection with their interference with those duties.

In other words, the responsibilities God entrusts to every man and women by His creation of mankind, and then to husbands and wives, fathers and mothers by His creation of marriage and family, are likewise duties which each owe back to God. God said that mankind should exercise authority over the land. This responsibility in turn is a duty mankind individually owes to God. When a man or women exercises that duty, they should not be interfered with by other person or government. Thus, we say that human beings have a right from God to perform that duty. It is an unalienable right because it cannot be impaired by any person and certainly not by the civil ruler who enjoys no authority or immunity to act as a wrongdoer itself.

When we refer to unalienable rights, we mean that human beings by virtue of their being created in the image of God and by virtue of them being asked by God to undertake certain universal responsibilities, have an unalienable right to be free from the interference, regulation of control of other persons (and governments) in the exercise of those preexisting responsibilities and duties to God ,who requested them in the first place. Those who interfere with the exercise of those duties are the wrongdoers identified in Romans 13 and whom civil government, if instituted by a specific people living within a predefine geographical boundary, may be entrusted to secure the free exercise thereof.

It is wholly unsatisfactory to talk about such "duties" without also acknowledging their correlative, "rights." There is no "duty" that does not necessarily or logically imply a corresponding "right." Thus, a God-given responsibility entrusted to human beings, and other responsibilities entrusted to married persons and to families by God, duties which preexist even the existence of civil government in time and in history from Creation, is a "duty" imposed by God. As such that human being has a "right" as against all others to exercise that duty free from interference, regulation and control. If that "duty"is unalienable, in the sense of being absolute so that the individual on whom God imposes it cannot free himself from it, then that duties corresponding right must also be likewise "unalienable." As such, the person to whom it attaches cannot be lawfully deprived of it

by any other and clearly not by any government.

D. WHAT CIVIL GOVERNMENT DOES GOD ACTUALLY ESTABLISH AND HOW ARE THEY ACTUALLY ESTABLISHED?

Turning from responsibility, duty and unalienable right and the wrongdoer being the one who impairs their exercise, God then leaves their security to the people themselves. He does not say "I decree a civil government to secure your rights." If a particular people during specific "periods" of time and within their "boundaries," as per Acts 17, voluntarily choose both the need and desire for any particular civil government, they may organize it. God did not say that the national government of the United States is entitled to exist or exercise any power it desires. Nor did He say that this government may enjoy any power the People see fit to Constitutionally extend to it, as if the People *en mass* could lawfully strip human beings and families of those responsibilities God originally decreed.. How absurd. The People have no authority even by their consent to create a tyrannical government, or declare anyone a wrongdoer, or collectively abridge the rights of their neighbor. See also U.S. Const, Art. 1, sec. 9, cls. 3. In short, God did not declare: "Let the United Stated federal government come into existence" and poof, it appeared.

When it is said that "God establishes civil authority," it does not mean civil officials are therefore unlimited in their power. We do not mean that civil authority can be made unlimited in power even by the People. We do not mean that any form of government subsequently established has a perpetual existence. We do not mean it enjoys continued existence by God's will. Nor do we mean that the People must obey a tyrannical government, or a government which claims unlimited power, or a government whose acts are not constitutionally authorized, or a government whose acts serve any purpose beyond the equal security of our unalienable rights.

Instead, even when it is loosely said that "God establishes civil authority" this means only that He empowers a People to organize a civil government if they so choose, by their consent for the purpose of better securing our unalienable rights than might be accomplished without civil government. He empowers a People to apply to that civil government so organized, the purpose of securing their pre-existing rights. That civil government will have but one purpose. Its organizational form serves that purpose. That purpose is to secure our rights. Our rights are secured by punishment of murder and by proportionate punitive responses according to the law of *lex talionis.*[10] When the civil government no longer serves that purpose, or fails to serve that purpose, or undermines that purpose, or turns against that purpose, that government has outlived its usefulness. We do not need it. We are better off without it. Let a Congress of States propose its abolition if this is the case.

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10. *Lex Talionis* is the law of proportionate punishment equivalent to the offense. It is based on the the principle of retributive justice found in the Mosaic law of an "eye for eye, tooth for tooth" etc in Exodus 21:23–25. This law, however, was a limit on the maximum punishment that could be inflicted without engaging in retaliation or revenge (which are reserved alone to God). It set the ceiling, not the floor. Is set the maximum punishment, not the minimum.

Of course, as a practical matter, it is the prosecutor and police we must watch and of whom me must be careful. It is the jailhouse, machine gun and bayonet which are arrayed against us. If the state thinks there is no God to hold it accountable, then the danger is further compounded. If to them there is no God, then their will is god. If they think they act for God or do his will in prosecuting or enforcing the lawless use of law, then their will "on His behalf" is still supreme. Either way, they are the threat to recovery of our freedom, not God. If we fail to include God in the equation, then what are we left with? We are left with our current federal government. We are left with the police state, the surveillance society, confiscatory taxation, and economic slavery. We are left with Democrats and Republicans, banksters and the military.

God is much more reasonable than any of these when it comes to the exercise of power and the security of rights. He believes in self-government, volition and even love of one's neighbor. In this respect, God is no Caesar. The untethered state believes in control, force and violence. In this respect, Caesar is no god.

E. WHAT ARE THE UNALIENABLE RIGHTS TO BE SECURED?

What are the unalienable rights to be secured by a limited civil government? The particulars will be examined later on. For now, we must understand how to recognize an unalienable right. Such rights consist of those obligations which God requires of us in connection with him, our neighbor, our family, our religion, our labor and our property. No man or set of men, may interfere in our exercise of those obligations. George Mason drafted the *Virginia Declaration of Rights* in 1776 which declared: "That all men are by nature equally free and independent and have certain inherent rights, of which, when they enter into a state of society, they cannot, by any compact, deprive or divest their posterity; namely, the enjoyment of life and liberty, with the means of acquiring and possessing property, and pursuing and obtaining happiness and safety." The Virginia Declaration also affirmed that "all power is vested in, and consequently derived from, the people; that magistrates are their trustees and servants and at all times amenable to them." In other words, God does not make civil governments, only the people do.

It is difficult today to conceive of the federal government as our "trustees and servants." Yet this thinking must be recovered if freedom is to be recovered. We must also recover the most basic unalienable right–the right to alter or abolish any civil government.

> "[t]hat government is, or ought to be, instituted for the common benefit, protection, and security of the people, nation, or community; of all the various modes and forms of government, that is best which is capable of producing the greatest degree of happiness and safety and is most effectually secured against the danger of mal-administration. And that, when any government shall be found inadequate or contrary to these purposes, a majority of the community has an indubitable, inalienable, and indefeasible right to reform, alter, or abolish it, in such manner as shall be judged most conducive to the public

weal.[11]

In other words, our benefit, protection and security may be ensured by civil government. The means by which our security is exercised is diverse. It may include admonishment. It may be accomplished by injunction. Fines may serve the end of non-interference. Civil proceedings and the awarding of money damages in a court of law may be employed where make-whole remedies are appropriate for past deprivations. Deprivation of a wrongdoer's liberty may sometimes be necessary to achieve non-interference or even deprivation of life where the life of another by murder has occurred.

We are not born, by either nature or God, for slavery. We have rights. Slaves do not. As Thomas Jefferson has observed, the "mass of mankind has not been born with saddles on their backs, nor a favored few booted and spurred, ready to ride them legitimately, by the grace of God." God cannot mean that we were born for civil slavery. He means that the legitimate delegated power of any civil government is limited to the power to enjoin interference with the exercise of our rights or award damages or punishment in a legal proceeding after the fact of deprivation or interference is duly established and the matter fully heard. Civil government may be instituted to punish murders. It is not instituted to plan, institutionalize and itself commit murder or genocide on a national or worldwide scale.

In each case the law of *lex talionis* serves as a rule of limitation on punishment, not as a rule of minimum mandatory punishment. It is the brutal ceiling, not the floor. It is the maximum, not the minimum. The law of proportionate remedies cannot justify revenge, cruel or unusual punishment or exemplary pains and penalties. It cannot justify rendition, beatings, deprivations, water boarding or torture. It does not sanction mutilation, amputation, electrocution or drugging. It does not permit the image of God to be degraded in any human being. It keeps men out of the business of revenge. (Deuteronomy 25:3.)

If the object of civil governmental action is anything other than to secure our right to continue to govern ourselves, our property and our households free from external interference from another, then that object is neither necessary nor proper. God intends that the legitimate power of any civil government is that it may not interfere with the rights enjoyed by every man and woman-- to life, to marriage, to govern his or her property, to enter contracts, enforce them, to freely associate or refrain from associations including in employment, education, commercial relations and housing, and to punish those who interfere with these rights, including the restraint and punishment of those who would interfere, regulate or control the education of our own children. The government itself, however, is the greatest abuser of a child's mind since it seeks to compel by force of law, the attendance and education of the mind, which is voluntary by nature.

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11. The Virginia Declaration of Rights, June 12, 1776. http://lonang.com/library/organic/1776-vdr/
Thomas Paine articulated a more limited view by asserting that: "Natural rights are those which appertain to man in right of his existence. Of this kind are all the intellectual rights, or rights of the mind, and also all those rights of acting as an individual for his own comfort and happiness, which are not injurious to the natural rights of others" Thomas Paine, Rights of Man, 1791. http://www.constitution.org/tp/rightsman1.htm

F. ALIENATION, NOT SECURITY OF OUR RIGHTS IS NOW OUR INSANE FEDERAL POLICY

Consider how the last few Presidents who are but men, talk about their power as "Commander in Chief." Consider how they twaddle on about "national security." Consider their fascist declarations on Russia, Iraq, Afghanistan, Iran and Syria and the so-called "war on terror." President Barack Obama has even threatened Russia single-handedly reigniting the cold war. He has criticized Russian President Vladimir Putin over the free referendum of the people in the Crimean region of Ukraine. Congress beats the drums of war. What fools we have as leaders. They say that American spying on Germany's government is needed, then lecture Russia on restraint. Washington, has an array of missiles surrounding Iran. It has missiles in Taiwan aimed at China. It has missiles on the border of Russia. It broke its treaties with Russia and used NATO countries to put missiles in Russia's backyard. These are the declarations and warmongering acts of insane men. It has spread false reports about Russia and the Ukraine. What sane person would claim the moral obligation to influence or control all the nations of this world by force, bribes, world bank loans, false flag operations, assassinations, missile deployments and ultimately war – thermonuclear war?

Only Russia, China, North Korea and possibly Iran remain free to criticize the United States. Only Russia and China have the wherewithal to block the United States' worldwide aggression. The other great countries of the last century, the United Kingdom, France and Germany have passed their heyday and now become pawns of Washington. The United States is focused on the remaining "threats." Russia and China are not threats to the United States' security. They are only threats to the United States' vision of worldwide global hegemony. Thank God for them. Placement of anti-ballistic missiles in Europe and now in the Asian realm by the United States serves as a means to impair or degrade the ability of those nations to restrain Washington's demand that the nations of the earth conform their behavior to Washington's will.

This makes Washington the one true government of worldwide terror. Think of Washington like a gang leader and its little puppet countries around the world as part of the gang. Let's say a country wants to get out of the gang. Can it afford to lose American aid? What to do about the American military bases in that country? How can it rid itself of CIA operatives in that country? How can it default on all those international monetary fund loans it could not afford in the first place? Can it afford to have its trade embargoed by the U.S. Navy? The price of "freedom from the gang" is very high and very few countries have ever left the gang for very long. Washington's foreign policy amounts to this: "No nation left uninvaded."

God does not endorse this type of evil. When American presidential speeches call for more control worldwide, God does not say "God bless America " and neither should we. God does not authorize governmental officials to adopt a national policy of worldwide perpetual war with its interlocking military treaties, supported by defense contracts, inflationary measures and confiscatory taxation. (Deuteronomy 17:14-17.) He did not intend that civil government be authorized to interfere with any person in connection with the use of their land, impair their contracts, spy on their associates, destroy their money or usurp the education of their children. God

did not author the United States Code or the Code of Federal Regulations. His glory is not synonymous with the Federal Civil Service, Homeland Security or the TSA. God does not take joy in the federal power to tax or penalize the freedom associated with contractual choices for health insurance, or the Administration's assertion that it has the right to murder by drones, anywhere and at any time, anyone whom it secretly or openly decides is an imminent or possible threat. Judicial decisions which affirm tyranny as "Constitutional," do not place the Supreme Court upon God's footstool, but do make us the laughingstock of the world.

Don't let the talk of insane politicians confuse you. "The beginning of his words are foolishness, and the end of his talk is evil madness." (Ecclesiastes 10:13.) They talk about God as in "God Bless America." But their "God bless America" translates into "God bless this lawless law I just sponsored or proposed." Or, "God bless this governmental program which destroys the rights You gave to each person." Or, "God bless Presidential murder by drone, the death of due process, and covert foreign assassinations" for the sake of national security. God has no particular interest in blessing any program or any civil government for that matter, especially one which rejects His law and the rights which we are given based upon that law. He wants civil governments to acknowledge those preexisting rules which universally define its authority and limit its civil jurisdiction. God wants us to realize that no civil government has the authority to trample down those unalienable rights which He gave to us.

But even God's patience is not unlimited. He grows weary of us using His name in vain to build the money-printing, covetous debt state, the warfare, welfare state and the digital surveillance state. He appreciates a government of good and limited laws. He opposes a government which is nothing more that the collective will of lying, partisan sycophants. Any civil government that acts contrary thereto, cannot be a government under law – "the laws of nature and of nature's God" as referenced in our Declaration of Independence. A government that claims its jurisdiction is broad enough to override our unalienable rights, is unworthy of being a civil government at all. That pretender of a civil government should be warned of its lawlessness, and if that warning fails to set things right, it should be abolished.

What are we saying? God is no Caesar. Man was not created by God for slavery. Man was created by God for freedom. But Caesar is no God either. Civil governments do not lawfully operate when they enslave us with fiat currency and debt, when they spy on us, when they lawlessly search our homes for drugs and firearms, when they impair our economic rights, and usurp the education of our children. These are the mechanisms of modern slavery. They are what we oppose. They are what God opposes. God shows mercy. The Divine Right of Caesar knows no such grace. Rendition, torture and death are the stock and trade of Caesar. Caesar loves war. The way of Kings is war. (1 Samuel 8:10-22; 2 Samuel 24:14.) A Congress of States must see that the stakes are high and that war upon the nations must invariably lead to civil war and crushing debt at home. A Congress of States must reassert the foundation upon which our rights can be recovered. It must see clearly that God is no Caesar and Caesar is not even close to God.

PART 4:

Every Evil Under the Sun

INTRODUCTION

Do not think that freedom can be recovered just because we understand its foundation in law. We must also understand something about the evil in our own selves. As noted in a prior Essay "What Can We Do Now that Our Freedom is Taken?" we introduced the idea that the federal government has taken our freedom and remains the greatest threat to its recovery. Also discussed was the need to rely on law rather than violence in addressing this threat. A Congress of States was proposed as a means to reduce the federal government's power so that it would be explicitly barred from crushing our unalienable rights. Also considered was the idea that it may be desirable or necessary to simply abolish the federal government in order to preserve the American People and the nation.

Attention was then turned to the foundation of recovery in "What Foundation will Support Recovery of our Freedom?" We discussed the need to take the Declaration of Independence at face value and reject the myth that freedom can be reclaimed on any other foundation than the laws of nature and nature's God as reflected in the Declaration of Independence. We considered that there are very few people who can lead the recovery of our freedom. Few will be concentrated in any one party, place or institution, and many will oppose a Congress of States from ignorance or self-interest or worse. Few in fact, may be counted on to lead us toward recovery of freedom. We also saw how the framers' relied on law as the basis for civil government's limited purpose in securing our unalienable rights.

In "God is no Caesar, Caesar is no God," we discussed God and civil government. It was concluded that God empowers a People to establish their own form of civil government by their free consent. We uncovered false assumptions about God and civil government. We saw that God establishes no civil government. No civil official rules directly from God. God makes people. God created language groups. People create civil governments. People choose civil leaders. We need not obey lawless men. We discussed the federal government's current lawlessness in broad strokes and concluded by alluding to the insanity and irrationality of our present federal regime. Indeed, God is much more reasonable than our government when it comes to the exercise of power and the security of rights. He believes in self-government, voluntary choice and even love of one's neighbor. In this respect, God is no Caesar. The untethered state believes in control, force and violence. In this respect, Caesar is no god.

We now turn to a deeper examination of some of the principal evils we and our federal government undertakes without any shame, even in the bright noon sun. It will be unpleasant. We will see that evil comes from within us and that we both enjoy and permit the evil. We vote for the lesser of two evils. Elections are won or lost based on the promises candidates make to do evil if elected–covet and steal our neighbors taxes and property and give it to us. The Constitution's limits are turned into evil regulation of our liberty. The President makes war upon the nations which is

a great and terrible evil. And we, we the People, covet the spoils of the evildoer. The situation is bleak: "Again I saw all the oppressions that are done under the sun. And behold, the tears of the oppressed, and they had no one to comfort them! On the side of their oppressors there was power, and there was no one to comfort them."[12]

A. A HOUSE OF LIARS AND DEN OF THIEVES

Our Representatives in Congress should be the ones taking the lead in securing our freedoms by limiting federal power to its Constitutional boundaries. Our Senators are supposed to be the watchdogs on federal power from the States' point of view. Serving and representing the people and states means confining federal power to its strict Constitutional limitations. Why have our federal Senators not seen the danger? It is their natural duty. Yet, we find exactly the opposite among our Senators. They lead the charge for empire, for war, for world wide hegemony. They sponsor new laws of oppression. They have become power mad. They do not restrain evil. They are evildoers as they pass laws which alienate the unalienable rights for the people.

The task of restoring freedom can only be accomplished by men and women who practice Constitutional restraint. Yet, political parties have made the election of such persons a practical impossibility. The party serves as the gatekeeper to public office. The ballot is a rigged game that statutorily favors the Republican and Democrat parties, not so much even individual candidates. These parties keep out persons who might publically favor real Constitutional and legal restraint. These parties open the electoral door to those who pay little attention to the limited and enumerated powers of Congress in Article 1, Section 8. It favors the reelection of those with a proven track record of unlimited federal power, of tyranny and taxation. Congressional representatives routinely vote to approve bills which exceed the Constitution's limited grant of powers to Congress in Article 1, section 8. Their appropriation and spending bills make no real effort to fall within the objects of legislation Constitutionally granted. They do not act as Representatives. Whom do they actually represent when they pass a law that has no Constitutional authority? The answer is their party, special interests and their own reelection. They are no longer Representatives bound by law in any real sense. Congress has become a televised House of Liars. Its Committees function as a well-financed Den of Thieves.

Even these chilling Titles of Profligacy, however, do not really concern them. They know that the more they promise to exceed their Constitutionally limited authority, the more opportunity they have to put their hand into the federal treasury and provide their constituents a portion of that lucre, if the People will just vote for them in the next election. We are lectured: "It's the economy, stupid" meaning that the economy should be subject to unlimited federal regulation and redistribution. Constitutional limits are also inconvenient because they interfere with re-election. The Constitution is a barrier to the political party philosophy of winning elections based on offering bribes to the voters in the form of entitlements–bribes which were first extracted by force from the voters themselves.

12. Ecclesiastes 4:1.

Applying "public choice analysis," the lie is perfected with the candidate's assurance that the voter will receive more of the bribe in *promised* future entitlements, than he or she has already paid in past imposed taxes. We could call this the "gullible promise effect" because the voter is casting his or her vote merely on the basis of a future promise, not an actual benefit already received. The voter is gullible. Office seekers also encourage "rent seeking"–actions by individuals and groups to use the process to redistribute wealth to themselves. Candidates also promise voters clearly defined current benefits to be paid for with hard to identify future costs. Economists refer to this as the "shortsightedness effect." Voters are convinced that they are paying little from their own pocket and will receive much from their neighbors' pocket. Are we so blinded to not see that we are voting for those who promise to covet our neighbors property? How can we claim to be moral when we cast such a vote? Does Exodus 20's universal recognition that coveting and theft are wrong, mean nothing?

Oh no, your candidate did not win, and he was the lesser of two evils! Foolish voter. Your vote has encouraged him and his party to increase the amount of the coveting bribe to be offered to you next time. This is how the cycle of nationalized covetousness and theft is played out. This is how our elected officials perfect lying and empower coveting in our hearts. We must recognize they are lying and stop listening to the financially sweet words of these office-seeking thieves. We must recognize within ourselves, that while we secretly enjoy our neighbor's wealth and do not mind that it was taken by force, that self restrain is the better choice.

The People can change this if they want. If they can resist bribery and stop yielding to the sin of coveting their neighbor's tax payments, there may be hope. Yes, it is a sin. It is a sin institutionalized on a vast and grand federal scale. It is a sin which we should confess at least on the Sabbath, but too often our religious assemblies are blinded to this sin. Have you ever heard a sermon or teaching concerning this massive sin? Perhaps our assemblies, ministries and programs themselves are built on coveting the parishioner's wallet too? Even the exceptional cleric must first look over his shoulder with one eye at his Board's response to such a message, and look forward with the other eye to alternative employment options.

We can choose to act morally strong enough to recognize and resist the evil of coveting our neighbor's tax payment. But will we? The people must also find the moral clarity and inward strength to perceive, resist and confront the lying spirit that fills the mouths, speeches and franked correspondences of our elected officials. When they promise, if elected, to enact a law taking from some and giving to you, they lie about their oath to uphold the Constitution. When they claim such laws are deemed "Constitutional" by the Supreme Court, they lie about the actual words and meaning of that document. They are assuring you that a document which on its face narrowly limits their power, instead actually empowers them to legislatively enact whatsoever they desire, is in the "national interest" or is arguably needed because of "national security."

When they say "I know God" but do not keep his commandments–"You shall not covet"or "You shall not bear false witness" –then they lie. The truth is not in them. 1 John 2:4. These are obvious Biblical standards, but for us as Americans, they are also standards embedded in the Law of Nature. How long will we continue as simpletons and refuse to see this evil in its full insanity?

Unfortunately, the simple believe everything, but the prudent voter gives thought to his choices.

The task is certainly to oppose the evildoers in the federal government. But it is not so simple. It requires more than opposing external evils. We must also oppose participating in the evil within ourselves. As Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn recognized: "You can resolve to live your life with integrity. Let your credo be this: Let the lie come into the world, let it even triumph. But not through me." He also understood the human condition.

> Gradually it was disclosed to me that the line separating good and evil passes not through states, nor between classes, nor between political parties either -- but right through every human heart -- and through all human hearts. This line shifts. Inside us, it oscillates with the years. And even within hearts overwhelmed by evil, one small bridgehead of good is retained. And even in the best of all hearts, there remains . . . an un-uprooted small corner of evil. . . . It is impossible to expel evil from the world in its entirety, but it is possible to constrict it within each person.[13]

The federal government can neither be limited nor abolished unless and until the people first stop coveting their neighbor's money, property and taxes. It cannot be altered or abolished unless the people first turn away from the lying spirit of our federal officials and their parrots in the media. We must tell the candidates that no vote for them will be forthcoming if they intend to pass bills which exceed their limited Constitutional authority. We must tell our elected representatives especially those whom we prefer or adore, that no vote for them will be forthcoming unless they repeal in the current legislative session, laws which exceed their limited Constitutional authority. This is what needs to be done.

But what keeps the People from doing so? The simple answer is the true answer: we like getting money from the government that we did not earn. We enjoy listening to liars as it clears our conscience to receive the bribe. But there is a harder response required of us beyond knowing that we must stop our coveting and close our ears to liars. That harder response requires something we are unwilling to do but which we must do to survive. We are kept in our place because we have idolized our political party and are unwilling to stop bowing down to it.

B. THE IDOLATRY OF POLITICAL PARTY

The voter must decide. The People must decide. Is it the Law of Nature or my political party whom I shall serve? I serve my political party when I vote for the lesser of two evils. I serve my party when I vote for my party candidate who promises to exceed the Constitutional limits of his or her office to a lesser degree that the candidate from the other party. See clearly here. I am voting for lawlessness. I am voting to put my lawless favorite in office because the other party's lawless candidate is worse, more evil. What a shortsighted thing to do, voting for my own slavery because I fear the slavery promised by the other party. We are taking about Republicans and Democrats.

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13. Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn, The Gulag Archipelago: 1918-1956 (1973).

We are talking about the parties whose candidates have promised to violate the Constitution for our "benefit" in order to obtain our vote. Will a Congress of States change this? No. It cannot change human vice. It cannot change the desire of men to covet their neighbor's property and effectuate the transfer of that property into our own pocketbook through our choice of candidates. It cannot change the fear which we experience when we vote for our candidate, not because he is good, but because we fear the other candidate is more evil.

It comes down to seeing that we must choose between law or party. We must choose between the liberty and rights which the law offers us, or the continued lawlessness and slavery offered to us by our Republican and Democrat committed family, friends and neighbors. A Congress of States may not be effective unless and until the People are ready to choose law over party. We are not talking about abolishing political parties, but rather of reinvigorating their submission to the law and Constitution.

We must also address idolatry. What is meant by this? Some choose the Elephant god. Some choose the Donkey god. Democrats today say the donkey is smart and brave, while Republicans say the elephant is strong and dignified. These images are the substance of cartoons. Yet, the goals for which they stand are lawlessness. Our commitment to them is idolatry. They are lawless because they are built on coveting and lying. They are idols because they are elevated above the Law of Nature and the Constitutional limits on federal power. Whether we worship at the shrine of the donkey or elephant, our commitment to perpetuating federal covetousness and unshakable belief in the words of liars are preferred above the rule of law itself. Bluntly, it is idolatry to place the will of the party above the rule of law laid down by the Creator. It is idolatry to place coveting and lying political platforms, agendas and candidates ahead of the Constitutional limits imposed on the federal government. It is idolatry to vote for "the party" no matter what. Idolatry is a hard master. If we can also see a bit further, it is idolatry to adore the Constitution when it no longer serves its limiting purpose.

In the 2012 election, candidates from several other political parties appeared on virtually every ballot. In that election alone, five other political parties had access to at least 270 electoral votes. These included the Libertarian, Constitution, Green, Americans Elect and Justice Parties. Twelve additional parties had ballot access to less than 270 electoral votes. Unless and until voters seriously look at *all the candidates* and what they promise regarding adherence to the few Constitutional powers extended to the federal office they seek, the People will simply affirm their short-sighted preference for party over law, for slavery over freedom, for coveting their neighbor's property over their own labor, and for liars and thieves over honest government.

The fruit of the "lesser of two evils" voting doctrine is the handmaiden of tyrants. It is the lying doctrine of both the Republican and Democrat parties. It has brought us to where we are today that we must suffer every evil under the sun for the sake of the party. The law means nothing. Party affiliation means everything. God fitted man for liberty but my vote will fit man for additional federal slavery. God fitted man with certain rights which cannot be overridden or alienated. But my vote for a candidate, because he or she is a Republican or Democrat will aid the Den of Thieves in their legislative and executive branch theft. Such a vote declares that I choose party and its

promise of lawlessness over law itself.

The law is clear: do not covet your neighbor's property, do not steal your neighbor's property, do not bear false witness, and do not practice idolatry. These are the clear commands of the Law of Nature recognized since the beginning, binding over the globe at all times and in all nations. The Constitution is also clear. Congress only has those few powers granted and none others. None. It has no power to covet or steal. It has no authority to steal or lie for the "good of the people" or for "National Security." Nor do the People have the right to covet or steal, nor the right to lie or idolize political organizations through the organs of the state. Yet, we vote for candidates who promise to covet and steal our neighbor's property for us without regard to the Law. A candidate or party that promises federal benefits and entitlements is making a promise to covet and steal for you if you will but elect or reelect him or her. H.L. Mencken's insightful words come to mind:

> The state or, to make matters more concrete, the government — consists of a gang of men exactly like you and me. They have, taking one with another, no special talent for the business of government; they have only a talent for getting and holding office. Their principal device to that end is to search out groups who pant and pine for something they can't get, and to promise to give it to them. Nine times out of ten that promise is worth nothing. The tenth time it is made good by looting 'A' to satisfy 'B'. In other words, government is a broker in pillage, and every election is a sort of advanced auction on stolen goods.[14]

The Constitution does not extend Congress a power to pillage. It does not extend the federal government power to either tax or spend on entitlement programs. Medicare, Medicaid, and Social Security—along with other entitlements such as food stamps, unemployment, and housing assistance— made up 62 percent of all federal spending as of 2013. These programs use civil force and coercion, not private volition to achieve their "compassionate" ends. That is what places them outside the jurisdiction of the civil power. Helping others with their medical care, retirement, housing and unemployment is an act of love. Love determines if, when, how much, to what degree and how often it is expressed, if expressed at all. Coercion on the other hand, dictates each of these criteria and sets aside human choice. The means of expressing love and compassion are based on voluntary action motived by the human heart. These programs attempt to achieve the ends of compassion but wrongfully use force and coercion to reach that goal. Of course, in the end even government programs do not achieve their goals. They breed resentment for not getting more. Whoever is wicked covets the spoil of evildoers. (Proverbs 12:12.)

C. WHAT'S LOVE GOT TO DO WITH IT?

We are commanded to love God and our neighbor as ourselves. This is the command of the law of God. If we fail to keep this command, then we fail to love, but there is no civil punishment for such failures in this world. These are duties we owe to God, not Caesar. If your neighbor is

14. Henry Louis Mencken, A Carnival of Buncombe, Baltimore, MD: Johns Hopkins Press, Pg. 325 (1956).

unemployed, it falls to you his neighbor, friends and family to assist him or her as each is persuaded in their heart. If you must retire, then it is you who must provide for it and if not, then you must look to the compassion of family and friends to help you along the way. Equity dictates that those who were previously compelled to "contribute" to Social Security and Medicare programs should still enjoy the promised benefits thereof, but equity also dictates that no man or employer should be compelled any longer to continue "contributing" anything to these programs. To do otherwise simply deprives him of that income which he could otherwise divert to his own purposes as he would determine. Like it or not, there is no Constitutional basis for these programs which take money from some and give it to others. Like it or not, the federal government cannot even afford these programs. Like it or not, these programs will fail of their own accord. The laws of economics dictate that result.

Perhaps the People simply do not see it this clearly. Then someone else must first take up the challenge to help the People see clearly. We must recognize the problem with our own rote left/right partisan thinking that has gotten us into this mess. A Congress of States in convention could start the job of clarity. It could restate the Constitution's limits in plain English. It could sharpen the choice between freedom and slavery. It could spell out how the federal government, Congress, the President and our courts have abused that document, removed its chains and placed those legislative, administrative and regulatory shackles on our arms, legs and tongues. To do so, however, delegates to a Congress of States would have to rise above party. There are such persons who can do so, who can affirm law over party. But they are not likely anyone we voted for in the last election. Even if they are, they must at least understand that civil force and coercion are unlawful means to effect love for our neighbor.

Ultimately we must reject the idea that all problems are federal ones, all remedies are federal ones, and that our freedoms are all federally granted or dependant for their existence on the federal government. We must recall that men and women, marriage and family existed before any civil government and that the authority exercised by each in terms of self-government and matters pertaining to marriage and the family need no governmental authorization, regulation or funding. See God is no Caesar, Caesar is no God. We must reject the idea that the federal government is a safety net or is in the business of compassion. What divination has it conjured that we believe its lies so strongly? What an unshakable belief in need for our slavery this requires. Indeed, accepting the federal government on a scale ranging from savior at one end to the mere extension of my political party on the other can never lead to freedom.

While Republicans and Democrats talk about God and love and compassion, neither has lifted their finger to oppose the power of the federal government when it regulates and then curtails our unalienable rights and freedoms. In fact, security of our unalienable rights are completely incompatible with our current scheme of federal jurisdiction and power. Republicans and Democrats have actively amassed civil power in the federal government. Their willing, compliant and subsidized recipients in our state and local governments also help the federal bureaucrats strip away our unalienable and civil rights. They too are willing to receive stolen goods which in turn they lavish upon their local constituents and spend upon their local improvement projects in hopes that it will prove to the voters that they should be reelected. The Republicans claim: "If elected,

I will not steal as much as my opponent, in the other party." The Democrats claim: "If elected I will steal more than the other party because I am more compassionate." Yet, it's all theft at the end of the day. It is false compassion run amuck.

The continued existence of our federal government cannot be assumed and ought not be assured. It cannot be assumed if God, who gave those rights, is now being told by the federal government that His gift is void. It ought not be assured because the recipient of those rights, the American People, are being told that they may no longer enjoy them. Our governments, and in particular our federal government, must be measured in both the scale which weighs Nations according to their conformity to preexisting universal law, as well as the scale of law we call the law of the land, or the United States Constitution. Weighing it merely in the scale of partisan or bi-partisan party politics is no scale at all. It is a false weight and measure.

D. NO CONSTITUTION CAN PROTECT US FROM HUMAN VICE

Apart from overcoming the human vices of lying, theft, and party idols, the People must also recognize that the Constitutional framers hoped that the People and their elected officials would also overcome the lust for power and respect the limitations Constitutionally- imposed upon their offices and power. The framers built a series of checks and balances into the Constitution that made it difficult for any one faction to seize control of the federal government. But not even these checks were sufficient to prevent the eventual collusion of the branches of government themselves with each other. The framers recognized that men were not angels. Perhaps they failed to sufficiently plan to keep elected men on the short leash with a strong chain.

Yet, the framers designed a limited national government in 1787 after a fight over retention of the Articles of Confederation. Perhaps the wiser course would have been to retain and revise the Articles, though human nature suggests that it too would have been deformed over time. In any event, the Constitution was established for this purpose: that federal power ought to be limited to a narrow field of jurisdiction, first according to the laws of the Creator, and second it ought to be strictly confined to the limited objects stated in the Constitution and none other. The chief purpose of such limited jurisdiction was this: that the national government so created should first, secure those few God-given and other rights, which were then enumerated, by way of exercising only those few express powers in Article 1, section 8, and second, in observing the limitations in section 9 and later in the Bill of Rights. This arrangement would leave to the States the bulk of the power and the duty to secure all such other rights, natural and civil, whether enumerated or yet to be enumerated in various State constitutions.

Having created a limited national government and defined its object and means within the boundaries of a written Constitution, the framers were careful to then define, limit and coordinate the powers of its three branches. Perhaps they were not careful enough. Or perhaps they relied on the hoped-for selflessness of those who followed and were elected, to observe the limitations the Constitution put in place. The Constitution itself created those limits. It created a Congress, the President and the Supreme Court. It extended those branches specific jurisdiction with very limited necessary and proper authority to implement that jurisdiction, and always with the goal of securing,

rather than abridging, the rights of the People.

Yet, we have seen Congress swindle Americans into believing its power does not come from the Constitution, but rather is grounded it its own political will to do "the right thing" or "give the voters what they want." In maintaining this charade, Congress has lawlessly taken power not given, and trampled down the God-given rights of the People. It has also gobbled up a jurisdiction which, by its nature, does not belong to any civil government. Congress has exercised power which is not even civil in nature, but rather falls within the exclusive province of ecclesiastical assemblies, voluntary associations, families, and individuals.[15]

It has also exercised a jurisdiction of compulsion over the minds and education of the People, which not even the Creator claims to impose, nor which He has shared with any man or set of men. Let us not forget what kind of power we are dealing with for purposes of comparison. When God stretches out His right hand, the earth opens and swallows people. When men stretch out their right hand, they often get a muscle cramp. Even the suggestion that political insiders could sit at God's right hand is met with the blunt rebuttal: "You do not know what you are asking." (Mark 10:38). So let us have no talk of this or that civil government as God's agent on earth.

Presidential power is likewise grown to imperial and tyrannical proportions. As the Constitutionally limited power of Congress has expanded at the expense of the law of the land and the rights of the People, so too the scope of the President's power has expanded to justify the lawless use of federal law. The President, no matter the political party he calls home, ceaselessly labors to expand the lawless pursuit of power which was never granted to any executive official. He also pretends that his power over the military forces of this country, somehow imbues him with a divine mandate to do whatsoever he desires in regard to foreign nations and foreign policy. It seems the American People may even approve of war-making as the hallmark of good government. The People refuse to obey the voice of the framers. To the Constitution's limits on a standing Army and Navy they say "No." They want a federal war machine that is greater than all the other nations, and a President who may rule us, go out before us and command our battles and invasions from the White House "situation" room. (1 Samuel 8:19.)

Adherence to the restraints on the use of that power laid down by our founders by this maxim: "peace, commerce, and honest friendship with all nations, entangling alliances with none," is no part of any recent President's foreign policy creed. Entangling alliances are now built on force, violence, and political extortion. These are the only rule of our Presidents. The list of grievances against the King of England cited in our Declaration of Independence, grievances defining the King's abridgment of our God-given rights and the liberties which we enjoyed as Englishmen and under our Charters are small potatoes when compared to the lawless escapades of our modern presidential monarchs. George W. Bush had his secret CIA kill list. Barack Obama has his not-so-secret list too, with the names of American citizens upon it. No need for a trial or a determination of guilt.

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15. See Andrew P. Napolitano, The Constitution in Exile: How the Federal Government has Seized Power by Rewriting the Supreme Law of the Land (2007).

Premeditated murder will do just fine. Indeed, the exercise of tyrannical power is not susceptible to a partisan analysis. "National security," as invoked by both parties, is the most invoked Presidential con of all time justifying every federal evil under the sun.

Neither has the United States Supreme Court restrained an unconstitutional Congressional or the lawless Presidential expansion of "limited" Constitutional power. The Court has neglected the law of the land to such a degree that the Court no longer restrains even itself. Its opinions encroach upon the powers reserved to the States and the People. The United States Supreme Court is also meticulously oblivious to its Constitutional duty to secure the enumerated natural and civil rights of the people from Congressional alienation, balancing and manipulation. Instead, it has at times created, sanctioned and blessed these transgressions. It has not only refused to restrain the Congress and President to that small sphere of limited and well defined Constitutional power extended to those branches, but has itself usurped the mantle of Constitutional government.

For over fifty years, the Court has claimed its opinions, not the literal text of the Constitution, are the supreme law of the land. See *Cooper v. Aaron*, 358 U.S. 1 (1958). It has opined that the other branches must bow down to its dictates concerning the Constitution's purported meaning no matter what the text may say or the meaning of those who drafted it or first ratified it. It has crowned itself the living Constitution and made itself the creator of the rights of the People. The "rights" to abortion and sodomy are just the tip of the iceberg.[16] It judges not by the rule of law, but by its own extra-constitutional balancing test – fundamental rights deserve strict scrutiny and a least-restrictive means test, non-fundamental ones deserve intermediate scrutiny or a rational basis review. The Court has just made up these "standards." The individual Right to Keep and Bear Arms must limp along with whatever standard a lower court chooses.

Commerce is what the Court says it is. The Acts of Congress regulating every manner of commerce are even judicially presumed Constitutional! The power to tax now includes the power to punish failure to act including the failure to purchase government approved, regulated and controlled heath insurance. The power to spend has become unlimited. The federal police power exists and may be expanded, though Constitutionally unwritten. These are "standards" the Court has concocted and by which it controls our national destiny and enslaves us.[17] Like a cage full of birds, our federal courts are full of Constitutional deceit. Our federal Justices have become great and rich. They know no bounds in deeds of Constitutional evil. They judge not with justice the cause of Constitutional rights or limited power, and they do not defend the rights of those oppressed by our federal regulatory and prosecutorial agencies. Our federal Judges instead have lunch with regulators and prosecutors.

16. See *Roe v. Wade*, 410 U.S. 113 (1973) and *Lawrence v. Texas*, 539 U.S. 558 (2003).

17. Robert A. Levy & William Mellor, The Dirty Dozen: How Twelve Supreme Court Cases Radically Expanded Government and Eroded Freedom, (2008).

E. RESTRAINING OUR NATIONAL VICES

Thus, a national vice vexes us: Congress has elevated its will to become the rule of law. Multiple Presidents have elevated their will to become the law of all nations. The Court has elevated its will to become the law of the land. "The spirit of lawlessness is in their mouth, the deeds of usurpation in their right hand." (Psalm 144:8.) Yet, we say: "God bless America." Even Balaam's donkey recognized threats to human life better than we do.

The result of this self glorified and often televised lawlessness, as we have said, is that the government of the United States is now the greatest threat to the security of our God-given unalienable rights, and of the reserved power of the States and the People. It is the greatest destructive force to the security of those rights and power because it is no longer restrained or limited by the law of the land, the rule of law or by the law of God Almighty. How wise can that be? For the practical atheist, how practical can that be?

But what are we to do about this lawlessness of Congress, the President and the Court? What about reform? What about electing good people? Maybe we need a new party or a federal Commission to study the problem? How about doing nothing and hope all will be well under Pharaoh's hand? Besides, you never heard any of this at school or in your religious assembly. It can't be too important can it? Look at the freedoms we do have. We have cable TV. We have pornography. We have mail order prescription drugs and medical marijuana. We have 24 hour sports. We have beer. We have background checks. We have our monthly government entitlement check. We have federally guaranteed mortgaged homes and government controlled schools. What more do we need? Do we need freedom? Do we need liberty? Do we really want this slavery? I say to my soul, "Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry." Yet, this will not do. A Congress of States must show the way.

PART 5:

Incomplete Remedies: Voting, Secession, Nullification and Armed Revolution

INTRODUCTION

Even if we want freedom, understand its foundation in law, and recognize that God wants us to enjoy our rights despite our own desire to covet our neighbor's property through civil government, we may still err in fashioning solutions. As noted in a prior Essay "What Can We Do Now that Our Freedom is Taken?" we introduced the idea that the federal government has taken our freedom and has become the greatest threat to its recovery. Also discussed was the need to rely on law rather than violence, in addressing this threat. A Congress of States was proposed as a means to reduce the federal government's power so that it would be explicitly barred from crushing our unalienable rights. Also considered was the idea that it may be desirable or necessary to simply abolish the federal government in order to preserve the American People and the nation.

Attention was then turned to the foundations of recovery in "What Foundation will Support Recovery of our Freedom?" We considered that there are very few who can be counted on to lead the recovery of freedom who are concentrated in any one party, place or institution, and that there are many who will oppose a Congress of States. We saw that the principles of Declaration of Independence and its reliance on the laws of nature and of nature's God are the best foundation to support the recovery of our freedoms and God-given unalienable rights. We noted that the right to alter or abolish any civil government was a critical unalienable right.

In "God is no Caesar, Caesar is no God," we discussed God and civil government more abstractly. It was concluded that God empowers a People to establish their own form of civil government by their free consent. We uncovered false assumptions about God and civil government. We discussed the federal governments current lawlessness in broad strokes and concluded by alluding to the insanity and irrationality of our present federal regime. Indeed, God is much more reasonable than our government when it comes to the exercise of power and the security of rights. God believes that each person is capable of self government, volition, and even love of one's neighbor. In this respect God is no Caesar. The untethered state believes in control, force and violence. In this respect Caesar is no god.

Following up with "Every Evil Under the Sun," we undertook a deeper examination of Congress and its failure to resist theft of our wealth. We discussed how office seekers manipulate us to get our vote by appealing to our own human vices. Chief among these vices are coveting, theft and the idol of political party. Each election calls upon us to present our offerings to our party. We offer our vote. Our elected officials offer us our neighbor's money. Elections tempt us to covet our neighbor's property through governmental programs and elections. We saw how political parties have become idols which we choose based on their promises to steal from our neighbors and make war upon our foreign neighbors. We were challenged to set these common evils aside and

voluntarily choose freedom, yet recognize that fighting the evil within each of us is harder than resisting the federal government itself. The real battle to recover freedoms must start within ourselves. A Congress of States cannot solve the problem of human vice, but it must be aware that appeals to our weakness keep us from moving toward freedom.

We now turn to an examination of some crucial remedies which a Congress of States will certainly take up and consider. These are good remedies but may not be sufficient remedies or even well thought out remedies. A Congress of States must evaluate them but not choose them in lieu of the more complete remedies of either Constitutional amendments or abolition of the federal government. We are talking about the problems associated with "solutions" such as enhanced party participation, voting, secession and nullification. These are not wrong in and of themselves. They are certainly legal and Constitutional options. But they are not the best we can do. In the end, they will be insufficient if only abolition will do to recover freedom. Yet, as solutions they must be considered though for the reasons discussed here, they may not suffice.

A. MORE PARTY PARTICIPATION AND VOTING?

What ought we to do in the face of federal tyranny indoctrinated into our souls by our system of government controlled education and by our favorite political party? Yes, our school and party have brought us this tyranny. What party are we talking about? We are talking about your favorite political party. Surely you can't mean the Republican Party! They are the ones that are going to save us. Nor can you mean the Democratic Party. They are the ones spending us into prosperity. Friend, how naive can we be about parties and what parties are doing to "save us" and "help us?"

The ugly truth about these parties is this: we uncritically accept the flag waving claims of our party because we are inflamed by the outrageous conduct of the other party. Every presidential election deals us this set of trick cards. You don't really like your candidate but the other candidate is evil. Your candidate is not very good, but the other candidate is worse. This is all moronic prattle. You're talking like a parrot. What's wrong with you? You are addicted to your party. It has closed your eyes to reality. Don't you see that your Pavlovian focus on demonizing the other party is just a stalling tactic – one designed to let the federal expansion continue. All the while you're thinking: "My party won, we are safe." But the federal government keeps growing and growing. It acquires more power and you lose more rights. And here you are thinking you have won. Those are the thoughts of a well heeled slave, not a free man.

We must see that no matter who wins, the Republican and Democrat are united on this one point – that the size and power of the federal government has, must and should continue to expand. The left and the right are not opposed to each other on this point. The left and the right support the state and its expansion.[18] The left and the right *are* the state. If you vote for the Republican or you vote for the Democrat because they are the only game in town and you ignore all the other candidates, you are voting for the state. You are voting for unlimited government. You are voting

18. Llewellyn H. Rockwell, Jr., The Left, The Right and the State (2009).

against your own rights which God Himself placed in your hand. You are voting for a Congressional representative that spits on the Constitution. You are voting for a President who thinks he's above the law. You are voting for men and women who will continue to appoint judges who claim to be the living embodiment of the law.

At the end of the day, you are voting for your enslavement. You don't mind being a slave to the state if it is brought about by your party. You just don't want to be a slave if the other party requires it. This thinking makes no sense.

Can you actually hold fire to your chest and not be burned? God said you have certain rights from Him but the candidate you just voted for says you don't have those rights. God says parents have an obligation and right to direct the education and upbringing of their own children, but the candidate you're voting for says you better not try it without their permission, approval, oversight, and control. God says your property is your property, but your party favorite – the good guy – says that your property will remain zoned, taxed and regulated. Yet, you assure yourself that the election of your candidate next time will improve things. This is just the blind leading the blind. How many have stumbled into that ditch after you? Can't you see that your devotion to the party voting machine has made us all the slaves of our D.C. masters? Partisan politics are not the cure. Today's partisan politics are the disease of the body politic. More cheerleading for your party is not the answer.

B. WHAT ABOUT SECESSION?

What about secession? Should the States secede from the Union? The Declaration refers to "the Right of the People to alter or to abolish" a government. Altering the federal government is different from leaving it. Abolishing the federal government is certainly different than running away from it. The Revolution left the English government in place on the other side of the ocean but sought to dispossess it on this side. Frankly, if 10 or even 20 states, geographically connected seceded, do you actually think the federal government would just let them go their merry way? That is not what King George did. That is not what Abraham Lincoln did. The conduct of the federal government during the Civil War should have taught us all that no nationalistic government is inclined to let States secede without an armed struggle. If we are eventually compelled to "institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as seem most likely to secure our safety and our rights," it will not be by secession. Even if those 20 states do manage to secede, they must at least consider what form of confederation will serve their common interest in defense from federal aggression.

Now hold on a minute. What are we saying about the Southern Confederacy and the Civil War or "war of northern aggression?" Are we saying the Confederate States had no right to secede from the Union? Are we saying secession is not the answer? Perhaps you can't get involved in a Congress of States unless it is for secession, or comes down on secession on the "right side." Perhaps a Congress of States is just some Yankee plot? Or perhaps you can't get involved for the opposite reason? Perhaps a Congress of States is some kind of states rights scam that will be used to eventually oppress the rights and equality of American citizens and let the states run hog wild crushing the freedoms of the people, women and of racial minorities?

Calm down. We are saying that all those discussions and arguments whatever their merit, simply do not avail us here. What of secession? That is not what is being proposed. We have not come this far to run away from the United States federal government–a government we made by law and we can just as well unmake by law. We have not come this far to secede from the federal government, leaving our nation half slave to it and half free from it. We have not come this far to invite war against a State, or States or to merely separate ourselves. There may be a certain amount of naivete in thinking a Congress of States can organize and recommend back to the States that they abolish the federal government without an armed federal response of some kind. But that is the only realistic option.

If we entertain the idea that a State has a right to secede, fair enough. But ought we not also evaluate how it may end? What State can withstand the modern equivalent of the Northern Army? It matters not if a Republican or Democrat President is in Office. Both parties agree that the Union must be kept intact at all costs. That means killing the people involved in secession. Both parties love war and war making. Both parties see war as glorious and thereby would make it easier for soldiers to feel good about killing Americans, State by seceding State in order to save "America." The U.S. military power will be directed against any such State or States. Eighteen-Sixty style Southern secession set forth a federal responsive blueprint. Military rule. Martial law. Financial assets frozen. Imprisonment without trial. Suspension of rights. No *habeas corpus*. Federally sanctioned murder. Just look at how Japanese Americans were treated after Pearl Harbor or how Arab-Americans in this Country were treated after 911 and you can begin to get a flavor of the modern lash. The Siege of Petersburg took nine months. Today it would take 90 minutes. Think about it–a federal war against the State of Montana for instance, with unmanned drones in the air and FEMA camps on the ground. It would end quickly and badly.

A Congress of States can show us the way to take back what is rightfully ours and to take it back branch by branch, department by department and agency by agency. We the People, by and through the States we created, then created the federal government. We created it by law and we may alter or abolish it by law, by and through our state representative assemblies in a Congress of States. Yes, we may abolish a government by the use of law. We may abolish this government by the law. We may abolish the United States government by the rule of law. The British aren't coming – The People must come, State by State, line upon line, precept upon precept. (Isaiah 28:10.)

America is bigger than any form of government. Our nation is not synonymous with the federal government. Our nation is not our flag. Our nation is not our Great Seal or "in God we trust" on the debased coinage. Whether or not we have a President will not change the fact that our nation will continue because the American People will continue. Whether or not we have a Congress will not change the fact that our nation will continue because the American People will continue. Whether or not we have a Supreme Court will not change the fact that the American People will always resist being ruled by judges who are unaccountable to the written rule of law. We formally became a People in 1776 and had no national government. We can be a nation in 2014 and beyond, without a national government, especially if that government will not yield and submit to the Law of Nature and the law of the land.

C. WHAT ABOUT NULLIFICATION?

Many States have adopted declarations of sovereignty reclaiming their Tenth Amendment recognized and reserved powers. These declarations, however, are relatively weak and somewhat misguided. Why? Because they merely affirm a State's sovereignty under the Tenth Amendment over all powers not enumerated and granted to the federal government. They do little more. So what if a State affirms its sovereignty? What if it nullifies this or that federal law? What is it actually going *to do*?

For instance, the federal government has entered into the field of domestic law enforcement. The vast bulk of the criminal law, however, has always been a state function. Are the states prepared to further resolve that they will not permit the prosecution of their citizens in a federal court for so called "federal crimes" that have no Constitutional basis?

Or consider this. Why not have the state legislatures resolve to require every federal official authorized to carry a firearm in the course of their federal employment within that state, submit to an extensive state background check? Why not make those background checks include a state criminal prohibition against carrying a firearm if the agent's federal agency, Bureau or Department has a policy, practice or regulation that is inconsistent with any state policy, practice or regulation? Why permit armed men to openly operate in a state, enforcing a federal policy, practice, regulation or law which is inconsistent with state policy, practice, regulation or law?

Why not adopt a state law requiring all federal employees and officials operating within that State to first register with the State as foreign agents? Why not pass a law authorizing the state police to arrest and take into custody any federal agent whose official conduct contravenes a list of state defined federal unconstitutional acts as defined in state law? This is nullification with teeth. You say the federal courts will declare those state laws preempted or unconstitutional. The Courts do not enforce their own orders. They must rely on the executive branch to do so. We are right back where we started. Will a state then pass a law making it a state crime for a federal executive official to enforce an unconstitutional law or unconstitutional federal court order in that state against a state citizen or state official? Not likely.

What we have been sold by nullificationist, is *bravado* nullification. Bravado nullification is what state officials do prior to reelection. It is reelection talk. Even if the true nullification advocate believes it to be more, the sponsors of these state resolutions do not appear to have comprehended the details of what they are resolving. Any state nullification law worthy of Thomas Jefferson[19] must include measures of its own for providing that no unconstitutional acts shall be exercised

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19. "That the co-States, recurring to their natural right in cases not made federal, will concur in declaring these acts void, and of no force, and will each take measures of its own for providing that neither these acts, nor any others of the General Government not plainly and intentionally authorized by the Constitution, shalt be exercised within their respective territories." Thomas Jefferson, The Kentucky Resolutions of 1798. http://lonang.com/library/reference/1798-knt/

within their respective state boundaries.

This line in the sand must inevitably lead to the Governor and State Police on the one hand refusing to release a federal employee from a county jail or state prison after conviction in a state court for violating a state law which nullified a federal law sought to be enforced by the federal employee. On the other hand, the President and national guard, having obtained a writ of *habeas corpus* from a federal court, will stand outside the state jail or prison and demand the release of the federal employee on the basis that the state nullification law is unconstitutional. When these two forces are actually in place, then you will know that any specific nullification act is real. Unless the standoff de-escalates by withdrawal of federal troops, the President will move to arrest the Governor instead. Then you will finally know that a Congress of States must recommend abolishing the federal government. Then the state Governors and legislatures will finally know that unless they take action, their fate is to live out their days in a federal penitentiary.

We are not generally proposing that states nullify individual laws passed by Congress as a long term solution. That is a popular trend now , but a short term stop gap measure at best. Nullification can buy time for a Congress of States and the States to act. Dr. Tomas E. Woods, Jr., has presented the best case for nullification.[20] His approach may be worth implementing in the short run, but it cannot be the central or primary focus of a Congress of States. At best it is only a stepping stone to force the issues to the forefront, but the state nullifiers will have to put some teeth in their resolutions. As previously alluded to, nullification's "teeth" means state laws must result in the state prosecution of federal agents in state courts who act unconstitutionally as defined by state law in that state's jurisdiction. Otherwise, nullification measures lack an essential element–they fail to actually do anything except thump the state government's chest.

If federal law mandates or prohibits an act, and the state says that law does not apply here, at some point the federal government will prosecute those state officials who obstruct federal law. They may not wait for the state to prosecute a federal employee and try to jail break him or her after the trial. Federal Marshals will first come with federal subpoenas for records and document to identify the nullification co-conspirators. Does your state have a law prohibiting the enforcement of federal subpoenas to investigate nullification measures? Does your executive have a privileged plan to nullify those subpoenas or their enforcement? If not, your are just playing games. Maybe your private organization is just raising funds for its own glory?

After that, the federal government will come and arrest the Governor, or the State Attorney General, or the County Sheriff or Prosecutor, or the local Police Chief or Prosecutor etc., for violating a federal law. What plan is in place? Is there a state law covering this matter? Perhaps your legislature is too busy debating revised occupational licensing requirement for barbers to deal with nullification? While your state legislature fiddles, Rome burns. The federal government will incarcerate state executive branch officials for violating federal law. Is your State willing to bust these officials out of federal lockup? Is your Lieutenant Governor (what's his or her name,

20. Thomas E. Woods, Jr., Nullification: How to Resist Federal Tyranny in the 21st Century (2010).

anyway?) ready to send in the State Police to obtain their release, with pistols drawn against federal machine guns pointing back?

Is your State Governor willing to call up the President with his one phone call from federal lockup and say:

> Mr. President, you are holding in federal custody myself, and/or a state official charged with violating a federal law which my state has nullified. I would appreciate you ordering the U.S. Marshals to release us and tell your federal Prosecutors and U.S. Attorney General to withdraw the charges. I'd hate to send over my State Police and obtain release by force. What will it be?

If we have such a Governor, let him or her stand up and be counted. Perhaps the Governor could time his or her call to the State Police when they return from a joint State-Federal task force training exercise against terrorism? He could say "Go over to federal lockup and use whatever force it takes against those federal officers you just trained with and ate lunch with and shared family photos with, to get me and our people free." Let us dwell no more with *bravado* nullification. Besides nullification does not get to the real problem which is this: the federal government is out of control.

D. START WITH THE LAND

Consider federal control of land. The federal government owns about 30% of the land in the United States. This was not the way it was supposed to work out under the principles of the Northwest Ordinance of 1787, Article 1, section 8, or Article IV, sections 3 and 4 of the U.S. Constitution. The deal was that as States came into the Union, the States would retain sovereignty over their land according to Article I, section 8.[21] The top 10 list of States with the highest percentage of federally owned land looks like this: Nevada 84.5%, Alaska 69.1%, Utah 57.4%, Oregon 53.1%, Idaho 50.2%, Arizona 48.1%, California 45.3%, Wyoming 42.3%, New Mexico 41.8% and Colorado 36.6%. This is not land all devoted to military forts, dockyards and arsenals. Can it be said that 85% of Nevada is a dockyard -- in Nevada?

Are these States going to resolve to not only kick the federal government out of their States, but also resolve to escort the agents of the United States Department of Interior off the premises? Will a State resolve that agents of the Bureau of Land Management, the Forest Service, the Fish and Wildlife Service, the National Park Service, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Army Corps of Engineers, and the Bureau of Reclamation, please leave? Or perhaps arrest federal agents and put them in a state jail when they interfere with the state in the exercise of jurisdiction over its own

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21. In connection with land, the Constitution provided that Congress may only:
exercise exclusive legislation in all cases whatsoever, over such District (not exceeding ten miles square) as may, by cession of particular states, and the acceptance of Congress, become the seat of the government of the United States, and to exercise like authority over all places purchased by the consent of the legislature of the state in which the same shall be, for the erection of forts, magazines, arsenals, dockyards, and other needful buildings.

recovered land? Is a state willing to refuse the U.S. Marshall access to the state jail when he comes to free the agent with his federal writ of *habeas corpus*? No, because the Tenth Amendment resolutions are toothless tigers. They are little more than partisan dope for the masses which the party can parade before an election to show how tough they really are. Political addicts, however, have to start somewhere on the road to recovery.

The 2014 armed standoff between Cliven Bundy and the United States Bureau of Land Management is a perfect opportunity for a demonstration of state nullification by Nevada. While the federal agency agreed to release around 400 head of cattle it had seized from rancher Bundy, it still insisted that Bundy owed roughly $1 million to the government because, for the last two decades, he failed to pay a fee for letting his cattle graze on federal land. Bundy claims that he owes the agency nothing because of prior agreements in-place for years. Thoughtful observers recognize that the conflict is far from over. The most likely response will involve a wide reaching hybrid operation with the Sheriff's Office or Nevada State authorities and federal officials.[22] It is hard to conceive of Nevada as standing up for anything when it is working with the federal government's agents hand in glove to further entrench federal control of "federal" land in Nevada. If nullification cannot be made to work here, then its all just talk.

Looking at Tenth Amendment resolutions also reveals very little about the fact that the Amendment reserves power to the People, not merely the States. Much is made of the reserved power of the States. Virtually none is made of the reserved power of the People. Too little is said about the unalienable rights which God has given to every man. Furthermore, nothing is resolved about the purpose of civil government, whether state or federal, being to secure those rights. In fact, the problem with modern secession talk and Tenth Amendment lingo is that it is inordinately focused on State power. Even then, that focus is on the mandates of the federal government that are "unfunded." One would think that if the federal government merely increased the bribe it offered to the states, that these resolutions would simply go away. (See Senate Concurrent Resolution 4, As Adopted by the Michigan Senate, September 17, 2009).

Friend, we ought not be particularly interested in building up State power. The Tenth Amendment refers to the powers reserved to the States, but it also refers to the powers reserved to the People. Little is said of the power reserved to the People in the Tenth Amendment movement literature. Much is said of the power reserved to the States. In fact, an emphasis on the Tenth Amendment alone will lead to secession talk quite naturally, but that is not the goal.

E. THE RIGHTS OF THE PEOPLE ARE FIRST, NOT STATE POWER

Go back to first principles. The focus of any civil government is not first on its own power. The focus of government ought to be on its purpose. What is the purpose? What power will secure

22. David Hathaway, What's Next for the Bundys? http://www.lewrockwell.com/2014/04/david-hathaway/whats-next-for-the-bundys/

that purpose? The Ninth Amendment reminds us of this purpose–the security of rights, rights reserved to the People. It says nothing about the States. It says nothing about States' rights. Curious how this is rarely mentioned in secessionist literature, or at least not seriously examined. Yet, the States' Constitutions contain many of these rights in their respective "Bill of Rights," and are the place where such rights ought to be further enumerated and then protected from State usurpation. Now how are these rights actually holding up against *State* aggression? Think about that if you favor State secession as the goal. We will be fighting the federal government in a defensive war on the one side and our overreaching state governments on the other side. This is not a solution.

A delineation of the rights reserved to the People is the place to begin the task of cutting the federal leviathan down to size or eliminating it altogether, not only a discussion of the power of the States. Only after our unalienable rights are front and center, ought the focus be on what power has been usurped from the People and, oh yes, also from and by the States. All in all, we must admit that the current emphasis on the Tenth Amendment pays little attention to unalienable rights. We must also discuss income taxation, property rights, the redistribution of our wealth, the war on drugs, tobacco and civil liberties, freedom of association and travel, the right to own and use guns and weapons, foreign policy, fiat money, militarism and global empire.

The Declaration of Independence does not get caught flatfooted in this debate. It plainly states that we are endowed by our Creator:

> with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. — That to secure these rights, 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, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness.

Thus, the first point for any Congress of States is to enumerate the Peoples' unalienable God-given rights and then determine how the state and federal governments have injured, impaired or even destroyed them. If we only talk about the Tenth Amendment then we will never hold our State governments to the Declaration's standards. If we only talk of secession, then at the end of the day, we will have exchanged a single federal master for 50 State masters.

State power/State rights and secession are not the answer. The States too must respect the unalienable rights of their own citizens from State encroachment. Current emphasis on the Tenth Amendment and secession has not and does not accomplish this end. It could in the future but it does not now. But this is not to say there is no place for the States. Indeed, the States are a critical element of the solution. They have a role and are the key. They can defend their reserved powers as long as they first defend what is more important–the unalienable rights and reserved power of the People. Like the Barons at the meadow near Runnymede who made King John sign the *Magna Carta* in 1215, so too the States are poised to warn the federal government to either return to a

government of limited and enumerated power or be abolished by law.

F. WHAT ABOUT ARMED REVOLUTION?

What about armed revolution? Is there a time for armed revolution–for the forcible alteration or abolition of the Constitutionally created government of the United States? Is now that time? Consider two factors. The first is the law itself. Prior to any Revolution, whether accomplished by force or by law or both, the Declaration acknowledges the wisdom of the People witnessing a long train of abuses and usurpations of power, as a predicate to a defensive revolution. Are we there yet? Have we seen enough abuses and usurpations? We have. It states:

> Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all experience hath shewn that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object evinces a design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future security.

But before a lawful revolution can occur, we must first identify and articulate in a Congress of States, each particular abuse and usurpation to which we object. This list and analysis will prove to the American People and also demonstrate to the world that the United States's pursuit of these despotic objects has already or will invariably place us under the yoke of absolute federal despotism. A review of the federal (and State) government's impairment of unalienable rights is a very good start for such a list or bill of particulars. But it is a list that ought to be analyzed and compiled by delegates appointed by the States for that purpose. A review of the present situation does not indicate that any such bill of particulars has been carefully set forth by the States acting in concert on behalf of the People.

Once the abuses and usurpations are chronicled, then the question will be are we to alter or abolish the federal government by law or by force of arms. This Article advocates for abolition by law and not by armed force. The reason to avoid offensive armed revolution is practical. Consider the weapons in the federal government's hands and its proclivity to use them against ordinary people. The federal government has and will use force and violence against its own people especially when threatened or when it thinks it may be attacked. This should be obvious. Even the suggestion of individual discontent with the government raises its suspicion.

The history of FBI infiltration into any group or organization that merely suggests a possible call to arms ought to be enough to avoid this option simply out of raw fear. For instance its COINTELPRO operation (an acronym for Counter Intelligence Program) was a series of covert and illegal projects conducted by the United States Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) aimed at investigating and disrupting dissident political organizations within the United States. The FBI's motivation is always the predictable refuge of those who seek to wrap their lawlessness in the flag: "protecting national security, preventing violence, and maintaining the existing social and political

order." It is no different today with the government claiming terrorist cells are lurking in every American city. Some maintain that the 2013 Boston Marathon bombing was a dry run for the imposition of martial law on a large geographical area.

Perhaps you disapprove of organizations which the FBI has actually infiltrated, disrupted, marginalized, and/or subverted. Many of these were communist and socialist organizations. Or perhaps the women's rights movement; or perhaps the reports of people suspected of building a "coalition of militant black nationalist groups" scared you into accepting a police state. Perhaps you even regard non-violent civil rights movement organizers such as Martin Luther King, Jr., the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the Congress of Racial Equality, and other civil rights groups, as dangerous and well worthy of the FBI's efforts to "expose, disrupt, misdirect, discredit, or otherwise neutralize."[23]

Don't be shortsighted and fail to see what is happening. The problem is, that the government is out of control. The problem is, you are probably already on a government watch list of some sort yourself. The Missouri Information Analysis Center specifically described supporters of presidential candidates Ron Paul, Chuck Baldwin, and Bob Barr as "militia" influenced terrorists and instructed the Missouri police to be on the lookout for supporters who displayed bumper stickers and other paraphernalia associated with the Constitutional, Campaign for Liberty, and Libertarian parties. How many other States have the same document yet undiscovered or released to the public? The Phoenix Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Joint Terrorism Task Force during the Clinton Administration designated defenders of the Constitution as "right-wing extremists."

Moreover, a report from the Department of Homeland Security, titled "Right-wing Extremism: Current Economic and Political Climate Fueling Resurgence in Radicalization and Recruitment," released by DHS' Office of Intelligence and Analysis, stated that acts of violence could come from unnamed "right-wing extremists" concerned about illegal immigration, abortion, increasing federal power and restrictions on firearms, and singled out returning war veterans as susceptible to recruitment. That probably includes you!

The fact of the matter is this: the federal government is steps ahead of you in thinking through an armed revolution. It isn't going to wait for you to step onto the street with arms in hand if you have already announced your intentions on the internet. It will marginalize or destroy you long before that point. It will certainly audit, investigate, slander and indict you along the way if you do anything serious before things reach a boiling point.

The military has more machine guns, mortars and armored vehicles than you do. So does your State Police, County Sheriff and local law enforcement department. It also has destructive devices, helicopters and drones that can be dispatched to spy on you, your family and neighbors next door, and if necessary fire upon you. True, the federal government can kill you or me right now if it wants. It can send in the tanks and gas you to death and then incinerate every member of your local

23. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/COINTELPRO

church to cover its crime. It can gun you down on your front porch holding your baby in your arms. But it still desires to maintain the appearance of a lawful regime.

The courts are still open, even if justice for unalienable rights is not usually found there. The average Federal District Court judge will parrot his clerk's Supreme Court research reflecting the predictable gibberish that Congressional power is not really limited to those few objects in Article 1, Section 8, and that the Ninth and Tenth Amendments really do not mean the People have either power or rights reserved to them against federal encroachment. Neither Federal District Court or Court of Appeal judges are appointed because of their knowledge of the Constitution or the unalienable rights of human beings made in the image of their Creator. Most think the Declaration of Independence has no legal implication or impact. They may have religious training and even be members of your religious assembly, church or synagogue, but they don't know squat about what God thinks or says concerning the rights which each of us possess–rights which the Declaration pre-supposes are "self-evident." Our legal training has made us blind to these matters. The blind cannot lead the blind.

When Congress passes a law crushing an unalienable right, the Courts won't evaluate the law strictly to see if it is specifically enumerated and authorized under Article I, Section 8. They will grant Congress a wide berth in that department affirming virtually every exercise of its purported Article I power without so much as a blink of the eye. But if you claim that you have a right reserved to you specifically enumerated in Article 1, section 9, or the Bill of Rights, they will eye that intensely. First, they will apply a multi-tiered judicially created analysis to see if that right is fundamental or not. Second, they will decide if the government has a compelling reason or not to crush that right, and if so, third, determine if the government has chosen the least restrictive means to crush that right. They say it is just fine and dandy to crush your clear and unambiguously stated Constitutional rights for compelling reasons.

The only exception to this later rule seems to be the unwritten and suddenly discovered "constitutional rights" the Court wants to fabricate as a matter of its political will, such as abortion or sodomy or gay marriage. If you think your favorite District Court judge has a different view of judicial review, Congressional power, the commerce clause or federalism, then ask him or her to spell it out for you at the next Federalist Society Meeting highlighting the "rule of law." Tell them you would like to read their best written opinion on the subject. "What is the cite your Honor?" You will either be ignored or lectured about Superintending Control or *stare decisis.* "I was just following orders" summarizes these arguments. You are asked to believe that these judicially created doctrines trump their oath of office and are superior to the written law of the land! Says who? A judge's office, the very existence of which is wholly dependent on the Constitution itself, says he or she is bound by judicial opinions that contradict it.

So the courts are still open and elections are still held, even if we elect the same people over and over. The internet is still operational, though monitored, copied and hacked by the NSA and others. The media are still in the propaganda business and making money. For now, it's a standoff called *status quo*–which is another way of saying the federal government will continue to increase its power and we will continue to be stripped of our few remaining rights.

If you are thinking of armed revolution, consider something other than rising up with shotguns and AR-15's in hand. Or, if the national government has its way, consider something other than rising up with registered pellet and paintball guns remaining in your lawful possession, against federal flash bangs, tear gas and black hooded SWAT teams with automatic weapons. Consider a Congress of States.

PART 6:

What Unalienable Rights Did God Give to Every Human Being?

INTRODUCTION

For the sixth Essay in this series of Essays on a Congress of States we finally get to an analysis of unalienable rights themselves. Recall that in the first Essay "What Can We Do Now that Our Freedom is Taken?" we introduced the idea that the federal government has taken our freedom and has become the greatest threat to its recovery. Also discussed was the need to rely on law, rather than violence, in addressing this threat. A Congress of States was proposed as a means to reduce the federal government's power so that it would be explicitly barred from crushing our unalienable rights. Also considered was the idea that it may be desirable or necessary to simply abolish the federal government in order to preserve the American People and the nation.

Attention was then turned to the foundations of recovery in "What Foundation will Support Recovery of our Freedom?" We considered that there are very few who can be counted on to lead the recovery of freedom who are concentrated in any one party, place or institution, and that there are many who will oppose a Congress of States. We saw that the principles of Declaration of Independence and its reliance on the laws of nature and of nature's God are the best foundation to support the recovery of our freedoms and God-given unalienable rights. We noted that the right to alter or abolish any civil government was a critical unalienable right.

In the third Essay "God is no Caesar, Caesar is no God," we discussed God and civil government more abstractly. It was concluded that God empowers a People to establish their own form of civil government by their free consent. We uncovered false assumptions about God and civil government. We discussed the federal government's current lawlessness in broad strokes and concluded by alluding to the insanity and irrationality of our present federal regime. Indeed, God is much more reasonable than our government when it comes to the exercise of power and the security of rights. God believes that each person is capable of self government, volition, and even love of one's neighbor. In this respect God is no Caesar. The untethered state believes in control, force and violence. In this respect Caesar is no god.

Following up with "Every Evil Under the Sun," we undertook a deeper examination of Congress and its failure to resist theft of our wealth. We discussed how office seekers manipulate

us to get our vote by appealing to our own human vices. Chief among these vices are coveting, theft and the idol of political party. Each election calls upon us to present our offerings to our party. We offer our vote. Our elected officials offer us our neighbor's money. Elections tempt us to covet our neighbor's property through governmental programs and elections. We saw how political parties have become idols which we choose based on their promises to steal from our neighbors and make war upon our foreign neighbors. We were challenged to set these common evils aside and voluntarily choose freedom, yet recognize that fighting the evil within each of us is harder than resisting the federal government itself. The real battle to recover freedoms must start within ourselves. A Congress of States cannot solve the problem of human vice, but it must be aware that appeals to our weakness keep us from moving toward freedom.

The fifth Essay was titled "Incomplete Remedies: Voting, Secession, Nullification and Armed Revolution." We examined alternatives to abolition of the federal government which a Congress of States may consider. We examined the absurd claim that more political party participation will elect better persons that will solve the problem. We also examined secession and Nullification and considered some of the problems in their implementation and effect, even if successful. These may be good short terms remedies but they are not good long terms solutions. We also noted that the correct and primary emphasis must be on the unalienable rights of the people and not on the reserved powers of the States. Finally, we noted that armed revolution against the United States was undesirable as the abolition of the federal government can be better accomplished by law.

We have discussed the idea that a Congress of States is needed to reacquire our freedoms and our unalienable rights. We now turn to a discussion of just what are these rights which are so important? What unalienable rights are we talking about? We have been brainwashed about rights. There are civil rights. There are Constitutional rights. There are fundamental rights. There are human rights. There are natural rights. There are statutory rights. There are States Rights. But a discussion of the core and central purpose of any civil government we choose to establish is a waste of time and effort and can only bring us to servitude, if we do not first articulate and define those rights which are by their nature unalienable, to be equally enjoyed and freely exercised by no one's permission or leave.

A. UNALIENABLE RIGHTS IN THE DECLARATION'S TEXT

We have noted that all persons are equally human beings and have the same unalienable rights owing to their humanity. These rights include the right from God to found, form, alter and abolish any civil government. They include the rights to life, liberty and to pursue and obtain happiness and safety, to enter into contracts, to freely associate only with those whom we desire, and to exercise the full bundle of our individual economic rights including dominion over our personal and real property, but not other persons. Basically certain rights are unalienable because they are directly given by God. Every human being may exercise any unalienable right on an equal and absolute basis, free from the prohibition, interference or regulation of others, especially and including civil government.

The framers understood that the principles of the Declaration not only empowered them to

define the narrow purpose of civil government, but also to recognize that the People may create or establish one or more civil governments by their own consent. They understood that the civil governments they would establish had a definite purpose - the equal security of God-given rights. It seems fairly clear, therefore, that they accepted the idea that God gave rights to people and that people could know these rights with some degree of sophistication. The framers would not have gone to the trouble of creating a new government dedicated to securing the unalienable rights of the people, if they really believed that it was impossible for the people to know what those rights were or if the people could not understand where those rights came from.

In determining the extent the framers' mirrored the laws of Creation in both the Declaration and then subsequently in the Constitution, we may expectantly look to the actual text of those documents. An examination of the Declaration and federal Constitution's text reveals that in its most basic sense the Constitution was designed to carry into effect the principles of the Declaration.

The Declaration articulated five derivative principles of the laws of nature and of nature's God. They are, first, that people are all created by God, and that by virtue of this circumstance are therefore entitled to be treated equally before the law. Second, all people are endowed by God with certain unalienable rights. Third, the people are also endowed with the right to govern themselves according to their written consent. Fourth, the people retain the right to alter or abolish any form of government as an exercise of self-government. Fifth, the people are free to organize the civil government's powers in such a way as to secure their happiness.

The Declaration of Independence therefore declares that all men[24] are "endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness . . . ." Unalienable (or inalienable) means indefeasible, undeniable or inherent. Unalienable rights are incapable of being impaired, set aside, abolished, regulated, lost or sold. Unalienable rights are retained despite government decrees to the contrary because civil government does not grant them in the first case. Moreover, no future generation may be disenfranchised of any unalienable right by the present generation. The identification of unalienable rights is also common in many state constitutions.

The Declaration tells us why these permanent characteristics attach to unalienable rights. It recognizes that unalienable rights are defined by God, not by the civil government. Federal courts do not have any general jurisdiction to define or construe the "laws of nature" and thus the substance of un-enumerated unalienable rights. Federal courts only have jurisdiction to construe those rights which are constitutionally enumerated (including offenses against the law of nations) and are properly before the courts in an Article III case or controversy, or come within the court's jurisdiction as a result of being enumerated in a treaty, or as otherwise defined in Article III. Federal courts, do not have jurisdiction to, *sua sponte*, discover and declare any other rights. That power is rather, reserved to the states or the people as recognized in the Tenth amendment. It is the legislature or the people *qua* people which are empowered to discover and secure by law the many

24. The reference to "men" is a reference to human beings, not a designation or restriction of gender.

rights that God has given. *Jus dicere, et non jus dare*.[25]

Civil recognition of the idea that unalienable rights come from God is a fundamental element of the laws of nature. Whether it is also is a tenet of religion is quite beside the framer's legal concern. In the legal sense, therefore, the law of unalienable rights is not a religious establishment, but is rather a legal convention from eternity. *Lex est ab æterno.*[26]

The legal definition of "unalienable," and "rights" are worth reviewing. By definition, unalienable means incapable of transfer. In other words an unalienable right cannot be given away. More importantly, however, that which is unalienable cannot be taken away, especially by a civil government.

The idea of rights as unalienable, indefeasible, indubitable or inherent was part and parcel of the framers' worldview. Though these different words may not have precisely the same meaning, they carry the same essence - that people have certain rights from their Creator which civil government is not authorized to deny or disparage. The idea of unalienability is easier to grasp than the idea of rights. This condition is owing to the deterioration of the definition of rights. The definition of rights has been alloyed through impure construction. Unalienability on the other hand, has simply been ignored and thus has not suffered definitional corrosion of its meaning. To the modern jurist, a right is considered as such simply because it is asserted as a right. For instance, Black's Law Dictionary declares that a right is "a power, privilege, faculty, or demand, inherent in one person and incident upon another."

It is noted that "the primal rights pertaining to men are enjoyed by human beings purely as such, being grounded in personality, and existing antecedently to their recognition by positive law." What nonsense. The source of rights identified here is the "primal" aspect of man *qua* man. This approach reflects a humanistic jurisprudence and is an absolute *non sequitur* from the laws of nature and of nature's God. The humanistic approach is the antithesis of the Declaration's observation that people are "endowed" with unalienable rights by their Creator.

Compare the humanist view with Noah Webster's 1828 dictionary definition. Webster did not declare that rights are primal or grounded in personality. He declared that a right is "conformity to the will of God, or to his law, the perfect standard of truth and justice. In the literal sense, right is a straight line of conduct, and wrong a crooked one. Right therefore is rectitude or straightness, and perfect rectitude is found only in an infinite being and his will." Webster defines a right as conformity to the law of God–to rectitude. Humanist jurisprudence founded upon evolution and mere positivism, however, discards the need for rectitude. It envision a system of justice animated by a jurisprudence in which rights may be wrongs.

The Declaration defines other unalienable rights besides life, liberty and the pursuit of

25. The province of a court or judge is to declare the law, not to make it.

26. Law is from everlasting.

happiness.[27] It discusses the right of the people to select the form of government that will serve them and protect their rights. It explains that "Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed." President George Washington declared that, "The basis of our political systems is the right of the people to make and to alter their constitutions of government."[28] Abraham Lincoln described the idea in nautical terms declaring government by consent "the leading principle--the sheet anchor of American republicanism."[29]

Since the people have an unalienable right to institute or choose their own form of government and define its powers under law, the Declaration also recognized that the people have an unalienable right to alter or abolish that form of government under the law. The Declaration acknowledges the legal preconditions:

> That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles, and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness.

The phrase "destructive of these Ends" refers to destruction of the unalienable rights which civil government is originally instituted to preserve. It was the right to alter or abolish the form of government which the people exercised when independence was declared from Great Britain and the Revolutionary War was subsequently waged.[30]

Thus, the Declaration established a legal consensus on several principles derived from the laws of nature and of nature's God. The Declaration translated the common principles of equality and

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27. Neither the Declaration or any constitution could enumerate all the unalienable rights which God has given to human beings. Nor necessarily must they. These instruments, however, point to the source of rights–our Creator. Future generations can look to that source and adopt through constitutional or statutory mechanisms, the particular rights God has granted which that generation considers are most suitable for civil recognition and protection in assuring their own safety and happiness.

28. *Farewell Address of George Washington, September 17, 1796* in 1 Compilation of the Messages and Papers of the Presidents, 1789-1897 217 (J. Richardson ed. 1896) (hereinafter Messages and Papers).

29. 2 The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln 266 (R. Basler ed. 1953). President James Monroe acknowledged that "it comports with the nature and origin of our institutions, and will contribute much to preserve them, to apply to our constituents for an explicit grant of power. We may confidently rely that if it appears to their satisfaction that the power is necessary, it will always be granted." *First Annual Message of James Monroe, December 7, 1817* in 2 Messages and Papers, at 181. To presume otherwise would allow the civil government to self-expand and define its own powers resulting in a practical attack on the people's unalienable right of government by consent--a right the civil government was created to protect, not destroy.

30. President Lincoln recognized the right of revolution. He remarked that:
> This country, with its institutions, belongs to the people who inhabit it. Whenever they shall grow weary of the existing government, they can exercise their *constitutional* right of amending it, or their *revolutionary* right to dismember or overthrow it . . . Why should there not be a patient confidence in the ultimate justice of the people? Is there any better or equal hope in the world?

First Inaugural Address of Abraham Lincoln, March 4, 1861 in 6 Messages and Papers, at 10 (emphasis in original).

unalienable rights into positive law. Civil government was and is obliged to observe the rule of legal equality. It must recognize that all human beings enjoy certain unalienable rights from God--rights that are not created by the civil government, but which that government is nevertheless obligated to protect to the extent that the people articulate such rights in their constitutions or statutes.

B. UNALIENABLE RIGHTS IN THE CONSTITUTION'S TEXT

Turning from certain unalienable rights in the Declaration's text we find more listed in the Constitution. Unalienable rights animate both the text and the amendments to the national Constitution. Examples of enumerated unalienable rights are found in the text of Article I, Sections 9 and 10 and include prohibitions against Bills of Attainder and *ex post facto* laws. Such prohibitions are designed to secure the right to due process and freedom from the legislature exercising non-legislative power. Likewise the prohibition of laws impairing contractual obligations secures the right to contract and to have our contracts enforced absent force or fraud. In order to ensure the unalienable right of government by the consent of the people, the United States is barred from granting titles of nobility in Clause 8. Certain officeholders are also strictly regulated in receiving such titles or their advantages from any foreign power by that same Clause. Treasury appropriation can only be made pursuant to the consent of the people's representatives by laws according to Clause 7.

Congressional control of migration subsequent to 1808 found in Article I, Clause 1 was designed to eventually secure equality, the unalienable right of life, and due process against the countervailing interests of the slave trade. The *habeas corpus* provision of Clause 2 is also tied to these rights and due process requirements. And lastly, the rights incidental to equality are reflected in Clauses 4, 5 and 6 as they relate to proportionality of direct taxes, equal advantages of tax free exports, and the prohibition of preferences among ports from one state over those of another. Many of these rights and principles are also reflected in Article I, Section 10.

An example of an enumerated unalienable right found in the First Amendment prohibits Congress, *inter alia*, from making any law prohibiting the free exercise of religion. This provision has its roots in Thomas Jefferson's "Virginia Bill for Establishing Religious Freedom,"[31] as well as the Declaration's unalienable right of liberty. One of the controlling premises of this statute, like that of the First Amendment, is that "Almighty God hath created the mind free." Jefferson asserted that freedom of the mind was "of the natural rights of mankind," and therefore beyond the scope of civil jurisdiction. Other freedoms, such as speech, press, assembly and petition, are also found in the First Amendment. These freedoms are also based in part on the fact that "Almighty God created the mind free."

In addition, the Second Amendment prohibits Congress from infringing upon the individual and collective right "to keep and bear arms" which is immediately derived from the unalienable right to life and that of self-government. The Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments assure that neither the

31. http://lonang.com/library/reference/bill-for-religious-freedom-1779/

Congress nor the States have power to deprive a person of "life, liberty or property, without due process of law." Not all constitutional provisions, however, deal with unalienable rights, such as the twenty dollar prerequisite to jury trials in the Seventh Amendment.

C. THE UNALIENABLE RIGHT OF PARENTS TO DIRECT THE EDUCATION OF THEIR CHILDREN

Because a man and woman voluntarily come together to produce children and have done so since the beginning, they enjoy the unalienable right to direct their own child's upbringing and education. Parents enjoy this right directly from God, not the civil government. The civil government must protect rather than usurp, the right of parents while they discharge their duty to direct the education and upbringing of their own children. It must protect parents from the interference, regulation and control of a busybody neighbor. It must protect parents from the interference, regulation and control from a local religious assembly or spiritual leader. It must protect parents from the interference, regulation and control of teacher unions and school boards. It must protect parents from the interference, regulation and control of State Boards and lawmakers who violate the right when they prescribe minimum curriculum, licensing of teachers, compulsory attendance and forced financial subsidies called taxes.

There is no place for governmental control of education where the unalienable right of a parent is secured. This means there is no place for public schools or governmental regulation of private or home schools. The government enjoys no such authority from God. It falls to parents to decide what their child is taught. Contrary to the State's minimum curriculum statutes, the state has no say in what a child is taught. The state has no special power to recognize truth which it may then legislatively force upon the people's children. The local school board has no such special power either. It does not take a village to raise a child. It takes parents who are free from Village regulation and control.

All things being equal, it falls to each parent to determine the truth to be taught to their own children, not to their neighbor's children or the community at large. A parent, or his or her freely selected agent or tutors should be free to teach their own children. Security of a parent's unalienable rights deprives the civil government of a say in the number of days or years a child is to be taught. It precludes the civil government from licensing parents to teach or interfering with the contractual retention of teachers who are retained by parent to teach on their behalf. It prevents the civil government from compelling my neighbor to pay a tax to subsidize the education of my children or from compelling me to subsidize the education of his children. The State governments are the chief abusers of this right. The federal government's tentacles, however, grow stronger every year in influencing and controlling the education of our children including their mandatory drugging and use as informants about their parents and sibling's views and actions.[32]

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32. For a detailed discussion about this right, see Kerry L. Morgan, Real Choice, Real Freedom in American Education, University Press of America (1997). See also http://www.amazon.com/Real-Choice-Freedom-American-Education/dp/076180854X

D. THE UNALIENABLE RIGHT TO LIFE: A VICTIM IN THE COURT'S WAR AGAINST THE RULE OF LAW AND CONSTITUTIONALLY LIMITED GOVERNMENT

What other rights are unalienable that deserve civil protection, yet are unprotected or impaired by the federal or state government? We have referred to the unalienable right to life. Let us now focus on it in greater detail and the practice of abortion. We have all heard of *Roe v. Wade* and the right to an abortion. But *Roe* isn't just about abortion only. *Roe* is also about *the law* of abortion and the power of the state government to protect unborn life from private destruction. The problem is that well-intentioned pro-life lawyers, legislators and laymen have principally thought about the substance of *Roe* as a medical challenge–a challenge whereby they must establish in subsequent legislation and litigation, that human life be conceived of in medical terms in order to warrant legal protection. While this is one aspect of the case, it is by no means the central or controlling one. The destruction of unborn life must be seen in context, to wit, a victim in the Court's war against the rule of law and Constitutionally limited government.

We must not fail to understand that the defense of law itself is a necessary predicate to the defense of life. In other words, we must reclaim the rule of law and defend it from lawless advocates and judges, before we can hope to defend human life. We have failed to understand that, fundamentally, *Roe* is more destructive to the rule of law itself, than even to the right to life. Unless and until the defense of law and the unalienable right to life arising therefrom are first made the centerpiece of the pro-life movement's legislative and litigation strategy, it will never secure the unalienable right to human life under law. Thus, when we talk about the right to life we must keep in mind that the federal judiciary's commitment to judicial supremacy at the expense of the rule of law is the core danger.[33]

In fact, the right to life is not the only unalienable right which you and I enjoy. The Future of Freedom Foundation (FFF) has done much to help open our eyes to other unalienable rights which we ought to be protected from our gun toting federal agency overlords.[34] To articulate each and every violation of our unalienable rights which the federal government has undertaken is beyond this Article. That is the task of a Congress of States. But FFF gives us a glimpse of just how bad things really are (FFF Daily, August and September 2009). Consider the following.

E. INCOME TAXATION TRAMPLES DOWN PROPERTY AND LABOR RIGHTS

For instance, it should be obvious that governmental power to levy a tax on income is the chief means by which the state and federal Leviathan are fed. Unfortunately, the Constitution authorizes

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33. For a further examination of this subject, see Kerry L. Morgan, First We Defend Law, Then We Defend Life:What the Pro-Life Movement Needs After Decades of Failure (2003) at http://lonang.com/commentaries/conlaw/due-process/first-defend-law-then-defend-life/

34. http://www.fff.org/aboutUs/index.asp The Future of Freedom Foundation is dedicated to advance freedom by providing an uncompromising moral and economic case for individual liberty, free markets, private property, and limited government.

the federal government to impose a direct tax on incomes. Fortunately, the law of God does not authorize this theft. It is God who causes a man to acquire wealth and Caesar has no right to take part or all of it for itself in the form of an income tax. We are not going to argue about what is a good tax and what is a bad tax from God's point of view. It is enough to say here that a tax on money you earn in exchange for your labor is nothing more than a tax on your labor itself. God commands human beings to labor for their existence. Genesis 2:15 & 3:23. The government has no authority to extract a tax on that labor or on income exchanged for that labor. Labor is a duty owed to God and not to Caesar. To the extent that Caesar demands or takes a percentage of a man's labor (as labor itself or in the form of a tax), it imposes a tax or burden on a man's obedience to God's command. The income tax says "It's OK to obey God, but you must pay Caesar first." The income tax represents Caesar's claim upon a person's labor superior to God's claim. When will pastors start to teach the full liberty of human beings?

The same holds true for taxes on capital gains and on a man's estate. *People have a right to keep everything they earn and do whatever they want with it.* It is that simple. It is that obvious. Only our D.C. masters want to make it more complicated. The same also applies to our state taxing officials when they levy a tax on income. Our State governments are not entitled to one ounce of credibility with regard to secession unless and until they recognize our God-given right to keep our property from the hands of the income tax man.

Now I know what you may be thinking. You are wondering how much more talk of God and law and the Bible is going to be thrown in here and there. Ask the founders and framers that question. They referred to the laws of nature and of nature's God. It was the foundation, not a reference here and there thrown in for good looks. You have to have a law above the state or the state is the law. Are you too open minded to understand this about human nature? Are you so educated that good evidence of God's view on the subject should be ignored? Yes, the Bible is evidence. Ignore theology, doctrine and religious disputes if you must, but not the evidence we have. Avoid arguments over myths and endless genealogies, and what you may eat or drink, or how to observe a religious festival or a Sabbath day if you can, but don't throw away the Bible as evidence. Colossians 2:16.

God has the guts to stand up to civil tyrants. He let Pharaoh of Egypt know the score and who served who, while His own People undermined Him saying Pharaoh's slavery wasn't such a bad life after all. Exodus 6: 1; Exodus 14:12. He let Pilate, Governor of Judea, know that he had no power except what God himself allowed, even while His own chief priests assured Pilate that "We have no King but Caesar." John 19:11& 15. We probably cannot expect the People to do any better today, but we have to try. God will do His part and so must we.

F. PROPERTY RIGHTS ARE KEY

The same holds true for freedom to enter into mutually beneficial exchanges with anyone anywhere in the world. *To the extent the government interferes with the ability to trade with others, it interferes with this freedom.* People own their own property. It is their property. God has caused them to have it whether by labor, contract, inheritance or by gift. My property does not belong to

you. My property does not belong to the United States. My property does not belong to the State in which I live. It belongs to me. I have a right to do what I want with it. I have a right to sell or trade it for other property with anyone in the world. No federal government, no state government, and no city government has any authority to say otherwise.

As FFF notes:

> Americans have the God-given unalienable rights to sustain and improve one's life through labor, the right to engage in economic enterprise free of government control or regulation, the right to enter into mutually beneficial exchanges with others, the right to accumulate unlimited amounts of wealth, and the right to do whatever one wants with his own money.

G. THEFT AND REDISTRIBUTION OF OUR STOLEN PROPERTY MUST END

We must also consider programs for the redistribution of stolen property, *i.e.*, our wealth, which governments have forced upon us under the term "welfare." FFF points out that any time people receive largess from the government, they receive it because it has been forcibly taken from another person. If the government gives you money, it must have forcibly taken it from me first. In order for you to be "blessed" with an entitlement or welfare from the government, the government must first steal it from me. The fact that you receive it and believe you and everyone else has a right to do so, is only to admit that "from the least of them even to the greatest of them, Everyone is given to covetousness." Jeremiah 6:13.

God prohibits both coveting and theft. Exodus 20:15 & 17. Yet, the federal government and state governments have established entire systems of taxation and redistribution to defeat this prohibition. The federal government enforces entitlement programs of redistribution called Social Security, Health Care, Medicare, Medicaid, farm subsidies, education grants, food stamps, small business loans, bailouts and stimulus plans for banks, businesses and bankrupt automobile companies. The federal government is well on the road to perfecting every form of theft known to man. Total regulation of food production and home gardening are next. Consider your own thoughts on this– do you feel the lure of coveting your neighbor's property through the entitlement programs in order to lighten your load?

The States are no better: public housing, food stamps and all kinds of state welfare programs such as unemployment compensation and workers compensation benefits. These are all built on the principle of theft, all justified on the theory of coveting, all implemented by force and coercion, and all the while parading as compassion. If you think secession and being ruled by your State is the answer, then you better look around and see how your beloved State is currently repressing your rights and stealing your property and justifying it all in the name of sovereignty. The federal government is giving even them a run for the money.

H. FREEDOM OF ASSOCIATION MEANS FREEDOM OF ASSOCIATION ANYWHERE

The federal government has promulgated economic regulations of every shape and size, all designed to do two things: raise revenue and impair our rights to associate with others. Regulations such as minimum wage, maximum hour laws, price controls, rent control, antitrust legislation, occupational licensing laws, non-discrimination law, product safety regulations and stock regulations, are all means to impair our ability and freedom to engage in economic relationships. We must know and understand how the federal government oppresses us through these legal mechanisms. The Code of Federal Regulation is its chief means to rule us all. It also distorts the free market. It cannot project all of the secondary consequence of these regulations even with the best Economists. Even if it could, the polices themselves are based on force and coercion in regulating private contractual relationships. This itself is wrong.

Once we understand this tyranny, we must then demand and warn the federal government to stop. But we must also go beyond that. We must also demand our State governments stop oppressing us in the same fashion, for all the States act as little mini-federal governments in the area of economic regulations. All the States boast of their great economic regulations and licensing of professions and occupations. The all boast they have created hundreds of meaningful jobs, when in reality they have precluded thousands of real jobs from being privately created. Plainly we are discussing something broader than just warning and possibly abolishing the federal government. We are discussing reacquiring our God-given rights and that is a greater adventure and purpose than mere secession or nullification will admit.

I. FREEDOM TO TRAVEL MEANS WITHOUT THE INS OR HOMELAND SECURITY

There are other areas where the federal government has oppressed us and destroyed our unalienable God-given rights. One cannot ignore the laws concerning immigration and emigration established by Congress and implemented by and through the State Department, the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service (USCIS) and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). The freedom to travel is a God-given unalienable right and no government may legitimately interfere with that right. The United States ought never ever require or permit internal passports or mandatory identification controlling the flow of people between states. Nor should any State. Likewise the ability of anyone to come into this country after a cursory health inspection, or to leave this country without restriction must be recovered. If we don't recover these rights, then the DHS will regulate, coordinate, and control all our travel. If Congress will not eliminate DHS and its functions, then the States in their own Congress of States should propose to eliminate Congress as an institution that has outlived its usefulness.

J. MACHINE GUNS AND EDGED WEAPONS TO OWN, USE AND ENJOY

The unalienable right to defend one's property, person and life by means suitable unto that end trumps federal and state gun control laws and regulations. Machine guns, assault rifles, shotguns and pistols are suitable means of defense. Belt fed, magazine fed and single shot weapons are a suitable means of defense. Weapons with long barrels or short barrels, noisy or suppressed, are

likewise suitable. Edged weapons of all types, long and short, folding and fixed, switched or manual, these too are suitable means to achieve the security of a person's unalienable right to defend his or her person, property, and family. Your local police department either owns or has access to all of these weapons for the purpose of protecting them from criminals. Why can't you? The federal government has all these and more. Why can't you? Is your life worth less than your public servant's life? Is your property worth less than federal property? Who is more important to your family–you or the local Mayor or Chief of Police? You are. Then why can't you protect yourself with the tools they have available to them?

God gave you and me life. He gives us our family and property. Do you need a Bible verse to figure that out? Or perhaps you are waiting for your party to tell you? Or possibly you are hoping that your religious leader will mention it one Sabbath? No government can lawfully say that we may not defend that which God has given. Yet, this is what many state governments have said. This is what the federal government has enacted. This is what politicians advocate. The federal government has gone crazy with gun control. The National Firearms Act of 1934 (NFA), the Gun Control Act of 1968, the ban on making machine guns after 1986, and the National Instant Criminal Background Check legislation are just a few lawless laws. Nothing in any Congressional commerce power justifies the impairment of your unalienable right to enjoy means suitable to the security of your person and property.

What is suitable is that which is a function of your will and wallet and not the agents of the BATFE. A Congress of States must get this unalienable right clear. It ought not accept any wiggle room for "reasonable regulations," *i.e.*, regulations that will eventually allow your right to defend your life or property to only be secured after you run away or by blowing a whistle or dialing 911. In the meantime we have to live under these lawless rules. So stock up on high capacity magazines and ammunition for your AR-15, or drums for your AK-47 style semi-automatic rifle. Buy yourself a federally registered and approved fully automatic machine gun or sub-gun from an authorized firearm's dealer if you can afford it. You probably can't. Learn the laws and consider purchasing a federally registered and tax-paid sound suppressor if your state allows it. The federal government "approval" or waiting period is only about seven to eight months after completion of federal forms.[35] This is what the federal government thinks is reasonable. Do not make any of these NFA firearms without approval. Don't be stupid. If you want to keep your freedom then you must start to act like you are free within the rules that exist. Guns are dangerous. Exactly. But the federal government is even more dangerous if you violate federal gun laws. How come your political party never told you about this unalienable right?

K. CIVIL LIBERTIES TO BEAT BACK FEDERAL LAWLESSNESS

The Constitution's Fourth, Fifth, Sixth and Eight Amendments are all intended to protect your

35. http://www.sturmgewehr.com Sturmgewehr is an excellent site for persons interested in acquiring by lawful transfer, National Firearms Act regulated firearms. See also the work done by Gun Owners of America. GOA is a non-profit lobbying organization formed in 1975 to preserve and defend the Second Amendment rights of gun owners. GOA sees firearms ownership as a freedom issue. http://gunowners.org/

person and property from being unlawfully searched, seized, indicted, charged, tried, imprisoned and destroyed by the federal government. FFF observes that our "American ancestors were certain that once they called the federal government into existence, federal officials would end up doing the same types of things that the Iranian government officials are doing to the Iranian people."[36]

Oppressive tactics include seizing, incarcerating and executing people for opposing the government and for "crimes" against the government. A Congress of States must understand the unconstitutional breadth of federal criminal law and its rank usurpation of state criminal code jurisdiction. It must identify how the rights and liberties even in our Constitution are being trampled down especially in the name of the war on terrorism and the war on tobacco and drugs. These wars are the pretext for the present war against civil liberties.

Perhaps you think that tobacco and drug use are wrong. Ah, so you have a conscience. You have an understanding of what is morally right and morally wrong. Good. Is it morally right to exercise power not given? If not, why have you never opposed the federal war on drugs? Is it morally right to incarcerate a man in a federal prison for the mere possession of a substance grown from the earth? No, there is no moral justification for it whatsoever.

L. THE WAR ON PRIVATE PROPERTY MUST BE RETHOUGHT

Think about this: is the mere possession or manufacture of alcohol wrong according to God? No. Genesis 14:18. Nor did Jesus seem to think so when he made about 180 gallons of exquisite wine without a government permit. John 2:9. Jesus made wine at a wedding. He did not, however, make the guests drunk even though he created the best wine of the evening. Despite this Biblical example, it was the Women's Christian Temperance Movement that mounted a successful crusade in the United States to make the manufacture, sale, or transportation of intoxicating liquors for beverage purposes unconstitutional. Was God in favor of extending a power to the government to compel this result? No.

Also known as *The Noble Experiment*, the sale, manufacture, and transportation of alcohol for general consumption was banned nationally as mandated in the Eighteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution (later repealed by the Twenty-First Amendment.) The WCTU was also in favor of banning tobacco. In 1919 the WCTU expressed to Congress their desire to see the total abolition of tobacco within five years. They were well ahead of Congress on this front. Of course, prohibition turned out to be a failure, just as the government's war on tobacco and drugs has been, though the latter are not waged at a Constitutional level.

Lest history repeat itself, we must ask if the possession of any plant or seed which a man may in fact possess, is contrary to God's law? Not really. As a matter of fact, God gave mankind every "seed-bearing plant on the face of the earth." Genesis 1:29. That includes tobacco, poppy, opium, marijuana and cocaine among others. Yet, the federal government says this authorization of God

36. http://www.fff.org/freedom/index.asp Freedom Daily, p. 3, September 2009.

is void in regard to specific drugs and substances. Your political party toots the same horn and then says "God bless America." The law of nature, however, does not empower the civil government to set aside the authorization of God in connection with possession, growth or use of seeds.

This is not to suggest that the use, refinement, smoking, injection or ingesting of them or their derivatives is helpful, healthy, wise or prudent. It is not. Nor is it to suggest that God wants us to "eat, drink and be merry for tomorrow we die." It is rather to say that besides being a failure, the federal government's war on the possession and distribution of drugs, and the taxation war and propaganda campaign against tobacco, is without any legal justification.

But this is elementary. The hard part to see is that in order for the government to wage its 50+ year wars against drugs and tobacco, it must also wage war against your unalienable right to be free from lawless searches of your person, property, car and house. It means that the government can seize your person, property, guns, car or truck, house, mobile home, bank account, and everything else you own in the war on drugs. It means realizing that the war against drugs and tobacco is actually a war against your private property and person. It's a war that might just land your children in jail. Then you might have second thoughts when little Johnny is in jail with "real criminals," who, as it turns out are there for drug possession too.

Oh, you know someone destroyed by drugs? You know someone killed by tobacco? Your friend is an alcoholic. Why let people have such substances when they end up destroying themselves and others? Possession leads to use, use to abuse, and for some abuse to addiction and addiction to death. One thing leads to another. Maybe God did not understand this when He gave man every seed and green plant? Maybe you can give Him a bit of guidance on human nature? I Kings 8:39. Congress does, why not you? Why not just take it up with God? That's the way He set it up, both before and after the fall of man. Genesis 9:3. If you have a complaint about it, take it up with Him. Don't make the rest of us slaves to your obsession with increasing the power of the government over something God said was none of its business. Maybe the addict, alcoholic or smoker actually needs your help, not the government's sword. But don't sacrifice our God-given and unalienable property rights for any more *Noble Experiments*. If the Congress of States neglects these wars, then it will have failed to halt one of the central means by which our unalienable rights are being destroyed.

M. FIAT "MONEY" IS THEFT

We are listing some basic unalienable rights upon which no government, state or federal, may trample or impair. The federal government is guilty of many offenses regarding the impairment of property rights, but none of these offenses against property is as little understood as the federal government's destruction of the dollar through the Federal Reserve and legal tender laws. The Constitution wisely required the federal government to only circulate gold or silver coin, and rejected paper money. But today the printing presses run day and night printing $100 dollar bills. The Federal Reserve also transfers electronic and digital money to its banks without the need to actually print it at all. The damaging effect of all this on the purchasing power of the cash in your wallet is not recognized until you visit the store and find that prices have risen. Congress then

makes us accept the inflated dollars in payment of all debts. If this is all new to you, then God help us. Better start reading. Ever hear of Ludwig von Mises? Von Mises was the leader of the Austrian School of economic thought. His contributions to economic theory include clarifications on the quantity theory of money as well as the integration of monetary theory with economic theory in general.

The Ludwig von Mises Institute is the undeniable leader in clear thinking about Federal Monetary System and federal economic policy.[37] You have heard of separation of church and state? Well how about the separation of money from the state? What has the state to do with our money, our property, our chosen mediums of exchange? The framers gave the federal government some very limited power in this area. The federal government has abused that power and grabbed even more. A Congress of States must enumerate the abuses, but more than this, propose a better monetary arrangement than the Constitution advances. If we have bars on our door to keep out burglars, but the federal government destroys the value of the cash in my pocket and bank account by creating money from whole cloth, and by financing wars of international aggression by credit expansion and generic foreign aid, then I am the poorer none the less. The critical purpose of a civil government is the security of my property, not its dissipation on socialistic schemes, war and empire.

N. MILITARISM AND EMPIRE MUST BE TAKEN AWAY FROM THE UNITED STATES

The Constitution does not provide for a standing military force. It does not permit conscription of our sons (or daughters). It permits treaties but the framers advised against entangling alliances, rather seeking to encourage commercial relations with other nations. Squaring these features with the federal government's current steamroller approach to foreign policy is impossible. According to the Defense Department, the Pentagon currently owns or rents over 700 overseas bases in about 130 countries and has another 6,000 bases in the United States and its territories. In 2008, Congress passed the National Defense Authorization Act of 2008, authorized $688.6 billion in funds related to national defense. As of February 28, 2009, 1,454,515 people were on active duty in the military with an additional 848,000 people in seven reserve components.[38]

In 1962 when the Soviet Union began to build missile bases in Cuba, America threatened to invade that country. America rightly considered this an act of aggression and feared a direct attack on our soil. Finally, a deal with the Soviets to dismantle the missiles in exchange for a no-invasion agreement was reached. One country and a few bases 70 miles offshore was considered a clear and present danger. What would you call one country and over 700 bases in foreign countries? Freedom? No, you would call it Militarism and Empire.

Yet, we still claim this worldwide military presence is really about freedom. But this presence is not the only tentacle to be altered or abolished. FFF writes that:

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37. http://mises.org/ The Ludwig von Mises Institute was founded in 1982 as the research and educational center of classical liberalism, libertarian political theory, and the Austrian School of economics.

38. http://siadapp.dmdc.osd.mil/personnel/MILITARY/rg0902.pdf

> Through the CIA and the Pentagon, the U.S. empire engages in all the things that our American ancestors found abhorrent: foreign interventions, foreign wars, entangling alliances, foreign aid, foreign meddling, assassinations, coups, torture, invasion, wars of aggression and brutal occupations. It's all done, of course, in the name of "freedom, " the bogus buzzword that has guided empires throughout history.[39]

A Congress of States must chart a better path than this. It must tell the federal government that our worldwide network of bases must be closed. Our troops must be brought home. Let the world solve its own problems by the use of its own military if necessary. We aren't solving their conflicts by being there. We are just delaying the inevitable internal conflicts that invariably arise when we leave. If we are invaded that is one thing, but 130 countries have not yet declared war on us to justify our military presence in those countries.

"The United States as the world knows will never start a war. We do not want a war. We do not now expect a war." said President John F. Kennedy. "This generation of Americas has already had enough, more than enough of war, of hate and oppression." Something must be done with the militarization of America as well. We do not need a standing army in the United States and we do not need the glorification of war. Lawrence W. Vance has warned us about this condition.[40] So too, Ron Paul has shown us what a foreign policy grounded in freedom really looks like.[41] Anyone involved with a Congress of States should be familiar with their works. If not, the unalienable rights of Americans to defend themselves will eventually be assaulted by foreign nations acting in retaliation against our interventionist and inter-meddling foreign policy.

A Congress of States must clearly articulate those rights which are unalienable. Many have been identified here. Other remain yet to be identified and discussed. It must identify the numerous ways in which those rights are impaired, regulated, encumbered or prohibited. It must identify the responsible federal agency or branch. It must decide if that agency or branch can be Constitutionally restrained in order to secure the right, of we would be better off if the States abolished the agency, branch or federal government itself in order that the right is truly secured. This is the challenge of a Congress of States.

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39. http://www.fff.org/freedom/index.asp Freedom Daily, p. 9, September 2009.

40. See Lawrence M. Vance, War, Empire and the Military: Essays on the Follies or War and U.S. Foreign Policy (2014). See also *The Christian's Golden Calf*, October 19, 2009. http://www.lewrockwell.com/vance/vance185.html#

41. See Ron Paul, A Foreign Policy of Freedom: Peace, Commerce, and Honest Friendship (2007). http://lewrockwell.com/paul/#

PART 7:
A Congress of States

INTRODUCTION

Given all that has been said so far about Freedom, this seventh Essay in a series of Essays on a Congress of States discusses the timing and purpose of a Congress of States itself. In the first Essay "What Can We Do Now that Our Freedom is Taken?" we introduced the idea that the federal government has taken our freedom and remains the greatest threat to its recovery. Also discussed was the need to rely on law rather than violence in addressing this threat. A Congress of States was proposed as a means to reduce the federal government's power so that it would be explicitly barred from crushing our unalienable rights. Also considered was the idea that it may be desirable or necessary to simply abolish the federal government in order to preserve the American People and the nation.

Attention was then turned to the foundations of recovery in "What Foundation will Support Recovery of our Freedom?" We considered that there are very few who can be counted on to lead the recovery of freedom who are concentrated in any one party, place or institution, and that there are many who will oppose a Congress of States. We saw that the principles of Declaration of Independence and its reliance on the laws of nature and of nature's God are the best foundation to support the recovery of our freedoms and God-given unalienable rights. We noted that the right to alter or abolish any civil government was a critical unalienable right.

In the third Essay "God is no Caesar, Caesar is no God," we discussed God and civil government more abstractly. It was concluded that God empowers a People to establish their own form of civil government by their free consent. We uncovered false assumptions about God and civil government. We discussed the federal governments current lawlessness in broad strokes and concluded by alluding to the insanity and irrationality of our present federal regime. Indeed, God is much more reasonable than our government when it comes to the exercise of power and the security of rights. He believes in self government, volition and even love of one's neighbor. In this respect God is no Caesar. The untethered state believes in control, force and violence. In this respect Caesar is no god.

Then in the fourth essay, "Every Evil Under the Sun," we undertook a deeper examination of Congress and its failure to resist theft of our wealth. We discussed how office seekers manipulate us to get our vote by appealing to our own human vices. Chief among these vices are coveting, theft and the idol of political party. Each election calls upon us to present our offerings to our party. We offer our vote. Our elected officials offer us our neighbor's money. Elections tempt us to covet our neighbor's property through governmental programs and elections. We saw how political parties have become idols which we choose based on their promises to steal from our neighbors and make war upon our foreign neighbors. We were challenged to set these common evils aside and voluntarily choose freedom, yet recognizing that fighting the evil within each of us is harder than resisting the federal government itself. The real battle to recover freedoms must start within our self.

A Congress of States cannot solve the problem of human vice, but it must be aware that appeals to our weakness keep us from moving toward freedom.

The fifth Essay was titled "Incomplete Remedies: Voting, Secession, Nullification and Armed Revolution." We examined alternatives to abolition of the federal government which a Congress of States may consider. We examined the absurd claim that more political party participation will elect better persons that will solve the problem. We also examined secession and Nullification and considered some of the problems in their implementation and effect, even if successful. These may be good short terms remedies but they are not good long terms solutions. We also noted that the correct and primary emphasis must be on the unalienable rights of the people and not on the reserved powers of the States. Finally, we noted that armed revolution against the United States was undesirable as the abolition of the federal government can be better accomplished by law.

The sixth Essay asked a more practical question: What Unalienable Rights Did God Give to Every Human Being? We discussed the idea that a Congress of States must identify our unalienable rights. A Congress of States must clearly articulate those rights which are unalienable. Many such rights were identified from the text of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution. Still others were identified that need to be protected from the federal and state governments. Other remain yet to be identified and discussed. A Congress of States must identify the numerous ways in which those rights are impaired, regulated, encumbered or prohibited. It must identify the responsible federal agency or branch. It must decide if that agency or branch can be Constitutionally restrained in order to secure the right, of we would be better off if the States abolished the agency, branch or federal government itself in order that the right is truly secured. This is the challenge of a Congress of States to which we now turn.

A. A CONGRESS OF STATES IS THE REMEDY

If we cherish the rule of law, that is to say, the laws of nature and of nature's God, there is something we can do. There is something the States can do. If we cherish the law recognized in the Declaration of Independence, we must be willing to actually acknowledge it and act as if it is real and applies today to our situation. We must also throw off our favorite political party and its charlatan leaders–yes, the party you voted for your whole life and keep sending money to because "the other party is evil" and had to be defeated or else life as we know it would end (among other lies you were told and want to still believe). We must throw off this nonsense because it fixes our mind on the other party, and not on the federal government itself. The party system is a problem, but it is not *the* fatal threat. Voting straight party comrade, is simply being the useful idiot of the federal behemoth.

Do you believe that the government of the United States is the single largest threat to our God-given unalienable rights? How about terrorists and foreign powers? Well it must be the Democrats then, they are destroying this country. Or the Republicans, they are killing us with lies, right? Well of course that is what is happening. The Democrats are spending us into oblivion too. They are destroying the dollar and our future. They are propping up the Federal Reserve and affirming its power to steal through inflation. Some understand this with perfect clarity. Where would we be

without them?[42] We would all be economically blind. But we are too busy to care about economics when baseball, hockey, football and basketball scores are thrown at us daily. Republicans too are destroying this country with lies – lies about terrorism and about the war on terrorism and about the war on drugs and about the war on just about anything else they don't like. But at the end of the day both Democrats and Republicans ever enlarge the power and reach of the federal government. Can you see that?

The United States government is the largest threat to our rights because it no longer recognizes the limitations imposed upon it by the law of the land – the Constitution. It no longer acknowledges the rule of law invoked in the Declaration of Independence. We must fix our minds on the legal ground, upon which our States and federal government are founded. If we cherish this law, then there is something we can do and we can do it through our current State governments. If we refuse this law, then go back to your party and drink up more partisan kool-aid. Keep it churning over and over, election after election until one day you figure out you only have one or two more elections left before you are dead and you have spent your days in vain pursuits and no longer have the physical stamina to keep up with your federally regulated and controlled life.

Yes, it is the State governments which are now beginning to awaken from their feudal federal stupor – a stupor which has kept them quiet in the face of federal lawlessness. The States are awakening from the political fog which acceptance of federal bribe money must naturally beget – money taken from their citizens by federal coercion and redistributed to their neighbor States, to foreign governments for war and regime change. Money taken from them and used to reduce the States themselves to mere administrative units of the United States–serfs on the federal estate. The States are beginning to open their eyes and see the evil of giving and taking Congressional bribes, a system in which they have been a willing recipient and by which their silence was bought. But federal bribe money is running out. The treasury is empty. The Federal Reserve is a fraud. The federal government is bankrupt. There is no more hush money to pay that has any value. There is bail out money everywhere, but it has lost its value.

Beginning to feel the omniscient eye of the federal bureaucracy and beginning to distrust the confident smile of their Congressional Representatives and Senators who have led them into the darkness of federal revenue sharing, the States have a power in their hand at this moment. That power is the power to interpose themselves between the federal government and the People.

But wait, are the States really up to this? Weren't the states the last hold out on slavery, discrimination and Jim Crow? Aren't the States the enforcers of tax schemes, economic regulation, occupational licensing, zoning, takings, police abuse, government education and environmental fascism to name just a few abuses? It may be argued that the States are just federal wannabes–mini-federal enclaves. How can the States do anything here? How can they claim any credibility to be trusted given their history in oppressing unalienable rights?

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42. http://www.lewrockwell.com/ This site is a repository for anti-state, anti-war and pro-market literature and ideas.

Well, true enough, the States are all this and more. But the ugly fact of the matter is that the States are still governments nonetheless. Frankly, we are out of choices. We have run out of options. Politics, political activity, reform, deregulation, bipartisanship, periodic elections, Supreme Court appointments, etc., are watchwords of business as usual. All such efforts will result in the same end – the power of the federal government will continue to expand and remain unchecked.

Working at the State level at least holds out the promise that change is a possibility and that interposition through a Congress of States, and thereafter, the alteration or abolition of the federal government, need not first come by the domestic sword, or by the inevitable and certain judgment of an all-powerful Creator who disposes of nations as he sees fit at a time of His choosing. Sure, God can destroy any nation he wants. When He comes to judge all nations and place them under his feet, there will be little flag waving. That day will certainly come, but He need not wait to the end in order to judge a lawless nation in the here and now.

God has an opinion on nations at any time in history, not just after we are all dead.

> If at any time I announce that a nation or kingdom is to be uprooted, torn down and destroyed, and if that nation I warned repents of its evil, then I will relent and not inflict on it the disaster I had planned. And if at another time I announce that a nation or kingdom is to be built up and planted, and if it does evil in my sight and does not obey me, then I will reconsider the good I had intended to do for it. Jeremiah 18:1-10.

The States can't repent of evil, but they can repeal laws that impair unalienable rights. They can meet in a Congress of States to chart out how the federal government has impaired our unalienable rights. But they must meet together outside of the control of the federal Congress. They must meet together in a Congress of States, at a time and place of their own choosing, of rules governing their own assembly, and of their own chosen representatives. They did so in 1774 and concerned themselves with how to make amends to the King of England and their English neighbors. They did so again in 1775 in a second Continental Congress, but this time they concerned themselves with the defense of their lives against English tyrants and the military occupation of their towns and homes. That pattern remains today. The federal government deserves a Congress of States to warn it, and if necessary, another to recommend its abolition to the State legislatures. That is the challenge of a Congress of States for this generation.

B. A CONGRESS OF STATES WITH ONE PURPOSE

Now is the time for a Congress of States. Not a "congress" of self-declared and self appointed patriots meeting together without sanction or authority of a State. It may come to that. But now is not that time. It is time for a Congress of States to come together for the purpose which the Declaration of Independence holds out as the right of every man–a right exercised in connection with the federal government, by and through the States. That right is the God-given right to alter or to abolish any form of Government including those that destroy the ability of the people to preserve their unalienable God-given rights.

We have said above that each State has such a power in their hands at this very moment. That power is the power to interpose itself between the federal government and the People. How is this done? It is done by saying to the federal government:

> The Declaration of Independence recognizes that all persons are provided pre-existing God-given unalienable rights. No government, either State or federal may declare that gift void. This State will not stand by and watch the unalienable rights of its People be degraded or eliminated by the federal government. This State will secure to the People their rights in its own State Constitution. This State will block federal aggression against such rights in this State.
>
> This State also affirms a power in its legislative hand to interpose itself between the federal government and itself, and to reacquire from the United States those powers reserved to the States and to the People under the Tenth Amendment. This State will participate in a Congress of States and receive for public comment and legislative action a bill of particulars concerning federal impairment of those rights and of this State's reserved power. This State will then decide a proper course of conduct in either altering or abolishing the federal government.

This is the charge. This is what gets the ball rolling. These are the follow up marching orders for a Congress of States: 1) Identify the God-given unalienable rights of the People; 2) Identify and/or embed them in the States' laws or Constitutions; 3) Defend them from federal degradation, bureaucratic regulation, judicial mal-construction, Presidential modification, and Congressional erosion; 4) Identify the powers reserved to the States and the People which the United States has usurped; and 5) report back to the State legislature with recommendations for action.

Our authority is strong. The laws of nature and of nations are the foundation. The Declaration of Independence is a lamp for our collective feet.[43] It is the charge of a Congress of States to determine how far our national government has become destructive of the unalienable rights of the People, rights which it was actually instituted to secure. The Congress of States should enumerate

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43. The Declaration states in part:
> We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. —— That to secure these rights, 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, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all experience hath shewn that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object evinces a design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future security. —— Such has been the patient sufferance of these Colonies; and such is now the necessity which constrains them to alter their former Systems of Government.

the lawless acts of the United States government, of its Congress, of its President and of its Supreme Court which have harmed these unalienable rights. It should also enumerate those powers usurped by the United States-- powers properly reserved to the States and to the People as affirmed in the Tenth Amendment. It should also do the same in connection with those powers the States have usurped from the People and the rights which state governments are impairing.

The Congress of States is not a revolutionary body or assembly. It will consider the lawless and unconstitutional deeds of Congress, the President and federal judiciary and of the States. It will enumerate these usurpations as they affect our unalienable rights and write them down in a public document. We have attempted to articulate some of those unalienable rights in the laws of nature and laws of God, the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution and still others that need articulation and expression. We have explored rights pertaining to property and income, rights pertaining to trade, rights pertaining to the use of property, freedom from federal theft and coveting, freedom from economic regulations, occupational licensing, and freedom to immigrate and emigrate at will, the redistribution of our wealth, the war on drugs, tobacco and civil liberties, freedom of association and travel, the right to own and use guns and weapons, parent controlled education, foreign policy, fiat money, militarism and global empire. There are others also that need to be identified and which need to be understood as to how they are either secured or destroyed by federal law or policy.

The Congress of States will meet, draft and produce this bill of particulars in much the same way as earlier Continental Congresses did. When they meet, the fruit of their discussion ultimately should lead to a bill of grievances. This bill will go back to the State legislatures. After deliberation, they will present it to the national government with this message:

> The States on behalf of the People place the Federal government on notice: your authority is being further restricted. Either respect these God-given rights and reserved powers of the States or be abolished by law.

Once this bill of particulars is known and presented, the only question remaining will be this: Will the United States regard the olive branch of the Congress of States? Will it secure these rights by either leaving the People alone and by retaining only those few limited and Constitutionally defined powers? Or will the United States reject the olive branch of the Congress of States and continue to tighten its lawless and unconstitutional noose around the necks of the American people who desire to be free? If the United States begins to prosecute delegates to the Congress of States under 18 U.S.C. § 2385 *et. seq.*, even though nothing is said here or there advocating the use of force or violence to either alter or abolish the government of the United States, we will have our true answer.[44]

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44. The law states:
> Whoever organizes or helps or attempts to organize any society, group, or assembly of persons who teach, advocate, or encourage the overthrow or destruction of any such government by force or violence; or becomes or is a member of, or affiliates with, any such society, group, or assembly of persons, knowing the purposes thereof—Shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than twenty years, or both, and

When the Congress of the States is completed, it will produce a Declaration-like list of grievances. These grievances will not be the petty grievances which mark current modern political and partisan politics. They will not be grievances whining about the lack of federal bribes now being offered. They will be grievances that state how the federal government, Congress, the President and his executive department minions, and the federal Courts offend these principles of law–1) that the unalienable rights of the people are to be secured and protected by civil government, and 2) that the reserved power of the States and People is not to be exercised by the United States.

The goal is that the federal government of the United States is to be handed a *fait accompli*: "Protect these unalienable rights and refrain from exercising these undelegated powers of your own accord, or be abolished by law." The Congress of States represents the United States government's last chance to voluntarily reform itself. The State legislatures may not be so forgiving. They may not offer an olive branch, but rather concentrate on working out the particulars of how our nation can move ahead *without* its current national government.

C. WHAT CAN I DO NOW?

Now it is time for the People to tell their States legislatures to move forward with State resolutions calling for a Congress of States according to the purpose and goal stated herein. This task must begin with you. It must begin with you demanding your State legislative representative and senator adopt a resolution calling for a Congress of States. A model State resolution follows below. You are encouraged to copy it, e-mail it or hand it to your State representative for him or her to introduce in his or her respective legislative body at the State level. The resolution addresses more of the particulars and envisions the States working collaboratively toward this common goal without federal oversight, intervention or interference.

We would be naive to assume that the United States through its Federal Bureau of Investigation or other *apparatchik* (*i.e.,* a full time functionary of the federal government) will resist opening a file on this activity. It has done so against others in the history of this country. It will probably be headed by a member of your faith community committed to law and order. He will think he is doing his duty for America and apple pie. German Christians thought that way too about National Socialism. The names of legislative sponsors as well as the names of those who simply call for liberty, may be noted in a record kept in the bowels of the federal police state bureaucracy. If you fear that and as a result do nothing, then a slave you are and will be. For all others, for the free men and women among us, this is the challenge before us. We must begin to treat the United States in the way we began to treat the government of England. It is not our master, and we are not its servant. The men and woman chosen as Congress of States Delegates must understand this. Remember: the British aren't coming, We are – We the People, State by State, armed with the rule of law.

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shall be ineligible for employment by the United States or any department or agency thereof, for the five years next following his conviction.

D. A MODEL STATE RESOLUTION

State Rep. _____ offered the following concurrent resolution:

Concurrent Resolution No. ___ concerning a Congress of States.

A concurrent resolution appointing delegates to a Congress of States, the sole purpose of which is to meet, debate and draft a petition for a redress of grievances sufficient by its terms to caution the United States government to halt its alienation of the God-given rights of the People and to withdraw its usurpation of those powers reserved to the States and the People; or as the case may be to propose abolition of that government in whole or part.

Whereas the law of God in Revelation and Nature are the only basis upon which a civil society ought to be established, and

Whereas, in 1776, American States in convention of the People declared their independence from Great Britain on the basis of that law, and

Whereas, the principles of self-government, equality, unalienable rights and government by consent recognized in the Declaration of Independence are among the immutable principles of that law, and

Whereas, the People of the American States subsequently fashioned State Constitutions to govern themselves pursuant to that law and its several principles, and to secure the unalienable rights of its People, and

Whereas, this State is one of the American States and like its sister States, is and ought to be, subject to that law, and bound by said like principles, and

Whereas, the People of the American States in convention subsequently established a national government, defining its limited and well defined power in a national Constitution, and charged it with the security of the People's unalienable rights; and

Whereas the limited and defined Article I power of the Congress of said national government, has repeatedly failed and refused to confine its lawmaking within the limits of that narrow power so given, and has trampled down the unalienable rights of the People, and

Whereas the limited and defined Article II power of the President so established has likewise been unlawfully expanded and unconstitutionally exceeded, and has also narrowed and limited the unalienable rights of the People, and

Whereas the limited and defined Article III power of the Supreme Court to certain cases and controversies has been lawlessly expanded into the Legislative sphere, by making rules of general applicability purporting to bind the People under the pretext of its opinions and decisions, and has further unlawfully usurped that power exclusively given unto the Executive, and as a consequence

thereof has voided many of the unalienable rights of the People, and

Whereas, that limited Tribunal has further set itself up as the sole authority to declare the meaning of the Constitution, purporting to bind the other branches and States thereto, and has also substituted its mal-constructions of that instrument for the actual document's text and meaning, and

Whereas this train of abuses and usurpations by the national government against the unalienable rights of the people and reserved powers of the states necessitates a warning, and if that fails, its alteration or abolition, as is the natural right of the People of this State,

Now Therefore, the People of the State of _____ by and through their representatives in this State assembled (and the Senate concurring), do resolve and declare as follows:

That this body hereby appoints three to five delegates who are residents of this State, no more than one to be of the same political party or presently elected or appointed to any office;

That an appropriation shall be made from the Treasury by subsequent Public Act to cover the reasonable expenses so incurred to attend to the work of a Congress of States;

That said delegates honestly subscribe to the particulars of this resolution, and are capable of articulating and implementing its principles;

That said delegates affirm that the Declaration of Independence guarantees to all persons their preexisting God-given unalienable rights and no government, either state or federal may declare that guarantee void;

That said delegates affirm the principle that a State ought not stand by and watch the unalienable rights of its People be modified, balanced, or rendered insecure by the federal government;

That said delegates affirm the principle that this state ought to secure to the People their God-given rights against federal aggression in this State;

That said delegates affirm that any federal action which deprives, interferes, regulates or controls those rights is contrary to the ends of civil government;

That said delegates shall convene with such other delegates and alternates as selected or chosen by other States or the People thereof, or before August 2016 if possible, to a location in the Republic of Texas, or at a place and time of their collective majority agreement.

That they do publicly meet, debate and draft a petition for a redress of grievances sufficient by its terms to warn the United States to stop its alienation of the God-given rights of the People and to withdraw its usurpation of those powers reserved to the States and the People.

That in so doing, they articulate the unalienable rights of the people, describe the laws, orders or

opinions of the United States which trample those rights down, or render them less than perfectly secure, and also enumerate the particular abuses of the national government which contravene the Constitution as written and which render insecure the reserved powers of the States and People.

That said delegates do report back to this body at such time as they deem prudent, the petition so drafted, at which time this body shall consider it, and proceed to decide what warning it may send to the national government concerning its aggression against such rights and powers.

That this state affirms a power in its legislative hand to interpose itself between the federal government and the People and to warn the United States to halt its attack on the unalienable rights of the People; or if that course is deemed unavailing, then to adopt a resolution abolishing the federal government in whole or part as it shall then deem necessary or desirable.

That the Declaration of Independence and the Ninth Amendment guarantees to all persons their preexisting God-given unalienable rights and no government, either state or federal may declare that guarantee void.

That this State affirms a power in its legislative hand to interpose itself between the federal government and itself *qua* State, and to reacquire from the United States those powers reserved to the States and to the People under the Tenth Amendment.

That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Office of the President of the United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the members of this States' Congressional delegation, the Clerk of the several legislatures of these United States; and the Clerk of the Supreme Court of the United States and of this State.

Other publications by Kerry Lee Morgan:

A Constitutional Presidency

Brief and Manifesto Against A Mandatory State Bar (co-author)

The Constitution and Federal Jurisdiction in American Education

The Federal Government: To Alter or To Abolish?

First We Defend Law, Then We Defend Life: What the Pro-Life Movement Needs After Decades of Failure

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Judicial Supremacy: A Doctrine of, by, and for Tyrants

The Kingdom and Civil Government of God: Understanding our Place in the Kingdom of Heaven, in God's Civil Government during the History of the World, and in the Age to Come

The Laws of Nature & Nature's God: The True Foundation of American Law

Origin of Civil Government (Its True Human Origin, Limited Jurisdiction And Application To American Government)

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