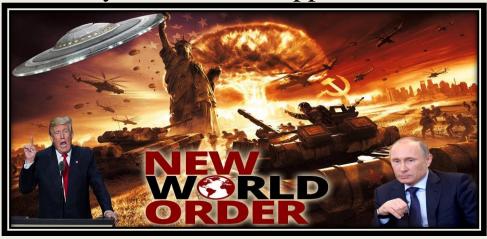
Fed Capitulation, Socialism & New World Order Realities

Posted February 24th, 2019 By www.chuckcoppes.com



"Markets remain entirely dependent on running to their central bank daddies for help every time they get in trouble. This is the expectation central banks have set and this is the role they continue to play. Markets are spoiled trust fund kids."
Sven Henrich, Senior Technical Analysis, Capital Traders, Ltd.
"The seeds of the next major financial crisis (or the one after that), may well be found in today's sovereign debt levels,"
Seth Klarman, Baupost Group Hedge Fund (February 13, 2019)
"The impracticability of Socialism is the result of intellectual, not moral, incapacity...Even angels, if they were endowed only with human reason, could not form a socialistic community.
Ludwig von Mises, Magnum Opus Human Action, (1881 - 1973)
"Wherever the standard of freedom and independence has been, there will her heart, her benedictions will be. But [the US] does not go abroad, in search of monsters to destroy."
President John Quincy Adams, Speech in 1821, (1767 - 1848)
"Government is not reason; it is not eloquent; it is force. Like fire, it is a

dangerous servant and a fearful master."

- General George Washington & First American President (1732 - 1799)

Greetings to All,

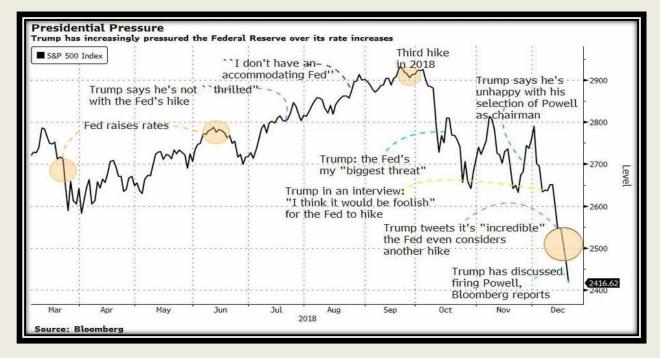
According to historians, **Washington's** birthday was celebrated on **February 22nd**, but later changed in **1968** to the **3rd** Monday of **February**, which now includes **Lincoln**. I mostly remember this unique man from the **above quote**, and I will comment on this later in this newsletter and my next newsletter in **March**. Government is a "necessary evil" said **Thomas Paine**. In this edition, I want to address the failures of **central planning and collectivism in general**, and provide some perspective on where things are likely going in **2019**. As you will see, we are in changing times and the **US** is increasingly being isolated as an imperial power in the **New World Order**, and this has everything to do with the collapse of the **US dollar** and a failed central bank policy since **2008**. So, let's get started.

Fed Capitulation & Global Recession Fears

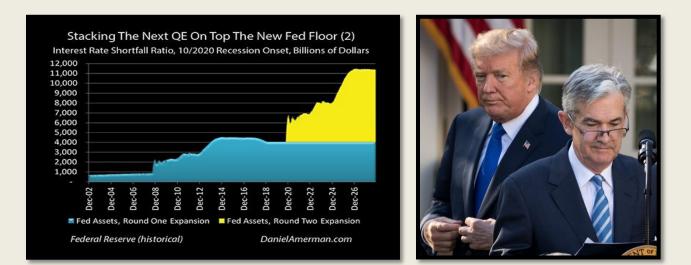




<u>According to a recent Gallup Poll</u>, 69% of Americans say they will be *better off financially* in twelve months. The last time people were this optimistic was just before the **Dot.Com Bubble** in 1999, and business cycles have a way of repeating. A similar poll by **Bankrate** found that more than 50% *do not* expect their financial situation to improve at all. <u>So which is it</u>? Probably the latter, and the **Fed** has the nearly impossible task of micromanaging (rigging) the economy so that everyone is happy. After announcing that the **Fed** would raise interest rates 3-4 times in 2019, the **Fed** has sharply reversed course and hit the "pause button" after the **December** market swoon. This *capitulation* to **Wall Street** only proves that **the market tail** is wagging the **trained puppy dog** at the **Fed**! Even more telling are the repeated threats (tweets) by **Trump** to **Chairman Powell** to keep interest rates in the basement:



On February 4th, Powell and Trump had an "informal" dinner, and the "independent" Fed caved in and has now *lost all credibility*. A global recession is looming and markets are desperate to keep the party going. They are acting like "spoiled trust fund kids" as <u>Sven Henrich</u> says! Speaking at the World Economic Forum last month, Ray Dalio (largest hedge fund) said the Fed is trapped, and another writer said the Fed is the "market's bitch." Is this any way to run a \$16 trillion dollar economy and issue the reserve currency of the world? Most certainly not, and we are all going to pay.



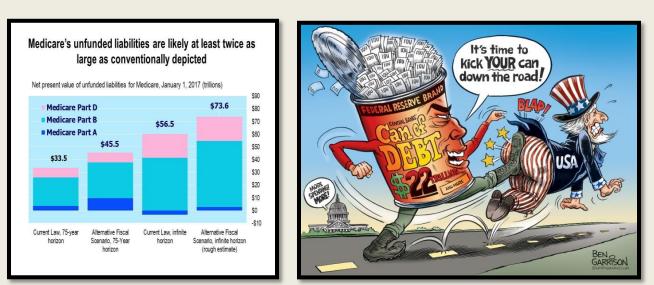
"<u>The age of permanent intervention began in 2008</u>. The correction of 2018 just made central bankers finally admit it as they failed to stay non accommodative for not even 3 months before caving. 10 years after the financial crisis we are staring at a global economic slowdown with central banks never having normalized and, as a result, having a lot less ammunition at their disposal to react. <u>The global economy is riddled with the highest debt</u> <u>loads ever, while the few have become richer than ever</u>. <u>Think people are angry now?</u> <u>Watch the next recession</u>."

<u>In the above rant by Sven Henrich, he is pointing out the very obvious</u>. Nothing has been fixed since **2008**, and we have only kicked the fiscal can down the road and the **Fed** is now in a box.

"So even as the warning signals flash that another cycle of recession could occur in the next 1-2 years, history shows us that the Fed has put itself in a much worse 'box' than it was in the last time around, with only has about 1/3 of the "power" needed to exit recession in the way and within the time period that most investors take for granted these days..... The saddest part in all this is that the financial crisis gave a loud enough warning and a call to action. We, as a global society, wasted the opportunity for meaningful structural reform, **instead we doubled down on the system that was already in place.** <u>And now we're left hoping, hoping that</u> <u>the Powell put will be as good as the Yellen put and the Bernanke put before that</u>. Cause the central bank put is all that's standing between markets and <u>the great unwind</u>."

This quote, and the above chart, is from CPA Daniel Amerman, a respected analyst who predicts that the central planners will have to resort to more easy credit (QE4). As you can see above, the Fed has \$4 trillion on its balance sheet, and Amerman predicts another \$8 trillion by 2026! I am pretty sure that the "great unwind" will be much sooner than that, and there will be no meaningful structural reform until there is a financial reckoning day. As noted by one writer, there was no mention of our unsustainable sovereign debt in the annual State of the Union Address on February 5th. Instead of addressing serious matters, we get political theater and applause. Here is his conclusion:

"Nowhere within the 82 minute State of the Union Address was there a single word of the country's burgeoning \$1 trillion budget deficit. Nowhere was there a word of the great \$22 trillion national debt default that's bearing down upon us like a savage hurricane along the Gulf Coast. Nowhere was there mention of the \$122 trillion in unfunded liabilities, which includes the sacred cows of Social Security and Medicare..... <u>The real State of the Union – the one</u> <u>President Trump omitted from his address – is a state of impending doom brought on by 50</u> years of relentless debt accumulation...This is a story too grim to mention."



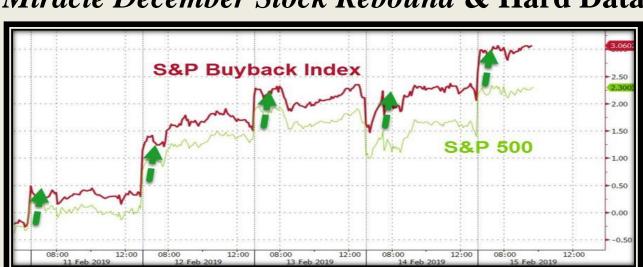
"The seeds of the next major financial crisis (or the one after that), may well be found in today's sovereign debt levels," - Seth Klarman, Baupost Group Hedge Fund

Maddening as hell isn't it? No mention of our **new national debt record**, insolvent entitlement programs and impending doom. As **my buddy Ben has depicted above**, all the promises that the government has made to *millions* is about to kick us all in the you-know-what! As many of you know (and I mention in most of my interviews), the frightening **demographics of the babyboomers** is what inspired me to write my book. The first cohort of babyboomers started retiring a couple of years ago at the staggering pace of *10,000 each day*, and this will continue for the next *18 years!* The sacred cows of **Social Security** and **Medicare** are heading for the fiscal/actuarial slaughterhouse. In reference to these **two** sacred cows, *Forbes Magazine* has entitled an article, "*Two Inescapable Reasons America's Entitlements Crisis is Way Worse Than Advertised.*" As I cover in <u>my book</u>, unfunded liabilities for the **Medicare** is **80%**, compared to **20%** for **Social Security**. Why is this? Obviously people like nearly free stuff and the babyboomers are not exactly the *healthiest* generation in history. *Forbes* included this chart above to prove that the **Medicare** (unfunded) liabilities are *twice as large* as advertised! And in a *spectacular demonstration* of ideological idiocy, fiscal insanity and demagoguery nearly *ALL* of the **Democratic Party** candidates are all calling for *FREE MEDICARE FOR ALL*!

Folks, it does not get any more suicidal than this. Everything I outlined in my book is coming to pass, and I will mention this in my conclusion. You can read the full *Forbes* article at **THIS LINK**. It should be clear to logical, sane and reasonable people that we *cannot* "Make America Great Again" at this juncture in monetary history. In just this past week, the **US** national debt has now *exceeded* **\$22 trillion**, and the *only countries* with a higher **Debt to GDP** are Japan, Greece, Italy and Portugal. William Gale, co-director of the **Tax Policy Center** and a Senior Fellow at the Brookings Institution concluded that "Our long-term prognosis is *significantly worse* than most of the European countries." I will comment more on the **geopolitical and macroeconomic implications** of this statement later.

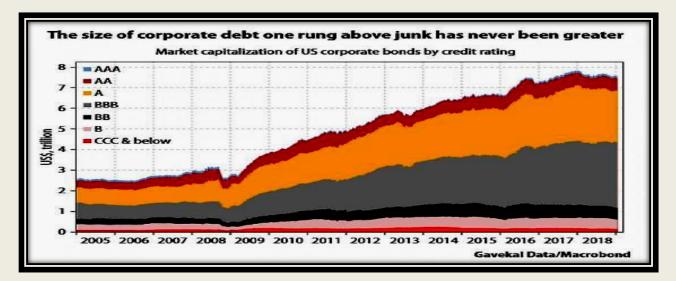
State of the Union Address: The US Will Not be a Socialist Country

As we suffered through the annual scripted speech on the **5th**, I was particularly amused when **POTUS** assured that the **US** will never become a **Socialist** nation (stand and applause). <u>Really</u>? We have the largest **Welfare State** in the world! As **Pat Buchanan** said **20** years ago, <u>we are not on the road to</u> <u>Socialism, we are there</u>! What we have today is **Cultural Marxism**. This week on **FOX**, a regular contributor said that most Americans reject **Socialism**. <u>Really</u>? A poll taken last year, among all age groups, agreed that *this statement* was in the **US Constitution**: "From each according to his ability, to each according to his needs." This is **direct quote** from the *Communist Manifesto* by **Karl Marx**!



Miracle December Stock Rebound & Hard Data

There is an old saying that figures don't lie, but liars figure. This is no more true than the rigged casino in **NY** known as the **Wall Street** stock market indexes. And here is the **hard data** for the broad **S&P 500** companies that have been driving the stock market since **2008**. As we know, the stock market had a tantrum in **December**, and the **Fed** capitulated. In the past eight weeks the **Dow** and other indexes have made a *complete miracle recovery* courtesy of the **Fed** being their puppy dog, and also the dynamics of **stock buybacks**. Now, I have explained this too much in recent mailings, so let me cut to the chase. **The above chart** reveals the *real driver* of the **Wall Street casino** for just four days in February. See the connection? If not, **the chart below** should concern every retail investor in the **US**. The casino operators on **Wall Street** have been playing fast and loose with your retirement funds. I take no joy in presenting this hard data below, because it is leading to a humanitarian crisis of **Biblical** proportions. What we see below is nearly *\$8 trillion* in corporate debt (bonds), with *more than half* being **junk bonds** with a high yield - higher the yield the higher the risk, right? You bet.

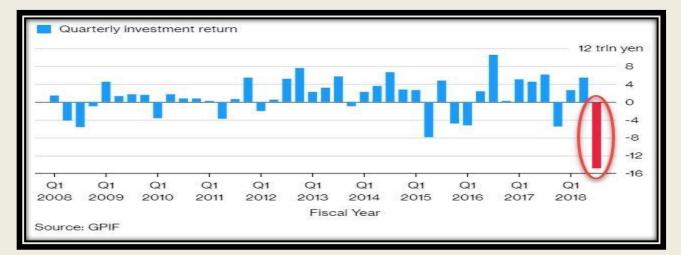


Report after report is warning that the \$4 trillion junk bond market is going to collapse. What does this mean? It means **three things**; the wealth effect will implode, zombie corporations will go bust, and losses will be in the trillions with **institutional pension funds** suffering the most. Oh my.

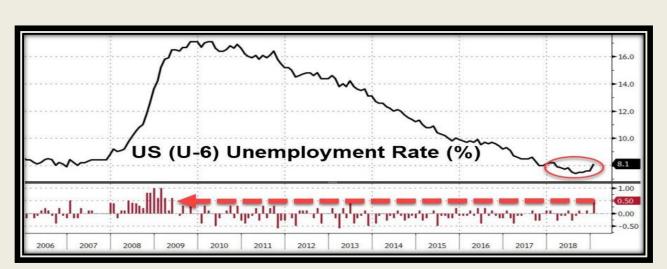
US Public Pensions & Stock/Bond Exposure!



Here is a problem that hardly anyone is talking about. Back when the 10-Year Treasury was yielding 7-8%, this is where pension funds conservatively parked their portfolio. Those days are long gone, and now funds are chasing yield in the stock market bubble along with high yield corporate bonds (BB and less) with yields around 6%, and even riskier alternatives! The exposure to stocks is bad enough, but junk bonds are infamous for defaulting "and you risk the chance that you will never get your money back," as one writer says. Pension funds (and retail investors) don't seem to realize that stock buy backs are being done on margin (with Wall Street firms). When stocks decline the firm sells more of their stocks, and this cascades. Corporations issuing junk bonds will default. This is the counterparty risk for pensions. Stock buy backs caused the 1929 Crash and was *outlawed* in 1934. In 1982, the SEC allowed this practice that is now out of hand. Japan's Government Pension Investment Fund is the *largest* in the world. This fund lost 10% in December, or 14.8 trillion yen! Chart below:



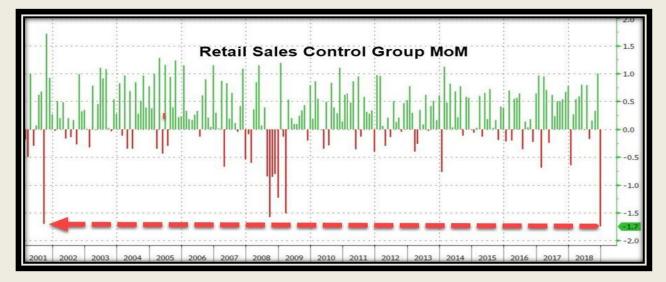
<u>This is a stunning loss</u>. <u>This is a preview of things to come in the US</u>, and this is also why the Fed, Plunge Protection Team, algos, quants and every other rigging scheme is desperate to keep the **stock indexes** in nosebleed territory. As I have said repeatedly, the **stock market** is a *FALSE METRIC* for the economy. And the more **Trump** brags about the stock market the more it will hurt him. You can read more on the **pension risk** at <u>THIS LINK</u>. I also want to finish out here with **some more hard data** concerning the false narrative that we are in a *robust economic recovery* in the **US**, or globally.



"We're the hottest economy in the world. Trillions of dollars are flowing here and building new plants and equipment. Almost every other data point suggests, that the economy is very strong." - Larry Kudlow, White House Economic Advisor & Ministry of Propaganda

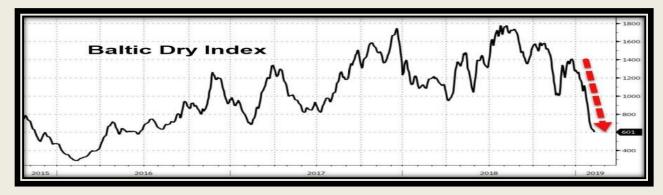
<u>As you know by now, I am a political atheist</u>. *I hate both parties*, and my only fidelity is to the US Constitution, Austrian economics, Libertarian ideals and my Lord. As I said, liars are always *figuring* ways to fudge and cook the books; but actual data and *figures* revealed in hard data and charts do not lie. According to the BLS (BS) and THIS LINK, December job growth was 312k, but now we learn it is was actually 222k. In January, the BLS boasted of 304k, but as I noted in my last newsletter, all of that job growth was in the struggling 55-65 age demographic - *none for the younger generation*.

Larry Kudlow wants us to believe that the US has the *hottest economy in the world*. The latest **BLS/BS** report reveals that the broad U-6 (official) unemployment figures have spiked back to 2009 *crisis levels* (see above chart). Those red arrows are only *exceeded* by the red arrows in this chart below. And what do we see here? December/Christmas is a bell-weather economic indicator. This Merry Season was *the worst* in....<u>18 years</u>. Yep. And now <u>some</u> are calling it a *retail apocalypse* in the US. And <u>THIS</u> recent article says there is *no light at the end of the tunnel*. Just look at this.



THIS does not *comport* with the false narrative that we are in a robust economic recovery. But! We are now entering a very *tedious and exhausting* presidential election season (already!?), so we can expect that *all economic data will be distorted to the extreme*, and I will be sorting out the *lies* for you.

I want to conclude this section with a few more charts and hard data that is also concerning. In macroeconomic circles there is an arcane index that as known as the **Baltic Dry Index** (**BDI**). What is this metric? The **BDI** was established back in **1823** in **London**, and it basically establishes the freight cost of shipping goods and commodities by **sea freighters**. For this reason, it is an "efficient economic indicator" of *future economic growth* as noted in the **above link**. What we **see below** is the <u>current</u> **BDI**, and this index has dropped 60% since mid **2018**! Does this look robust to you? Shocking.



Even worse is the most recent data in 2019! According to THIS LINK and chart below, the BDI has dropped an *amazing* 50% since January, but....the rigged stock market casino still stays on course.



As I said earlier, stock indices are rigged to the upside in a deliberate effort to deceive retail investors and keep the illusion going. But the **BDI** is telling a different story, and just this morning the **New Orders Index** has crashed all the way back to the **Lehman** crisis in **2008**, as seen below. This does not look like the hottest economy in the world, and keep in mind that a looming **Depression** is coming at the same time that the **Democrats/Socialists** want to *increase taxes, spending, debt and misery* for all of us. This is an issue that we shall now address and the implications this will have in the future.



Democratic Socialists: Same as the Old Socialists



"There is a religious war going on in our country for the soul of America. It is a cultural war, as critical to the kind of nation we will one day be as was the Cold War itself." - Pat Buchanan, 1992

This past mid-term election gave us a preview of things to come in 2020. Not the least of which was the arrival of **Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez**, a **NY** bartender who landed a gig in the **US House of Reps** with salary and perks of \$175k. She represents a new generation that **Pat Buchanan** warned about in his famous speech at the **1992 GOP Convention** - see <u>VIDEO HERE</u>. **Ms Cortez** was only two years old, but the **postmodern culture wars** have evolved into the **Marxist** politics of greed and envy and class warfare. In a <u>recent interview</u> **Doug Casey** was asked about her campaign for free stuff for everyone. **He said**, " The problem isn't just that she got elected on this platform in a benighted – but increasingly typical – district. The problem is that most young people in the U.S. have her beliefs and values. The free market, individualism, personal liberty, personal responsibility, hard work, free speech – the values of western civilization – are being washed away, everywhere." **Casey** concludes that **Socialism is evil**, because "it is basically about the *forceful* control of other people's lives and property." And this is precisely why **Washington** said that government force needs to be limited.





As I said earlier, Americans have embraced a sort of Cultural Marxism. Half of the population lives in a household getting direct benefits, 60% receive more benfits than they pay in taxes and so on. As seen above, everyone likes free stuff, but this only *empowers* the State. As Frederic Bastiat said, "The State is the great fiction by which everyone tries to live at the expense of everybody else." The so-called Democratic Socialists are still the same old Socialists, and even more radical than the worst Democrats in Congress (like Pelosi and her ilk). It is all rainbows, butterflies and unicorns.



<u>Wasting no time, the NY Rep has introduced a New Green Deal</u>, and above is an outline of this utopian environmental platform, "which is obviously absurd to all but the most economically clueless persons," <u>wrote</u> Mish Shedlock in his review. I will comment more on this green deal, but if this sounds familiar, FDR issued his famous Second Bill of Rights speech during the State of the Union address 75 years ago. Here is a list from <u>Wikipedia</u>, and the original 2-minute video <u>CLIP HERE</u>.

FDR: The Second Bill of Rights, January 11, 1944

- The <u>right to a useful and remunerative job</u> in the industries or shops or farms or mines of the nation;
- The right to <u>earn enough</u> to provide adequate food and clothing and recreation;
- The right of every farmer to raise and sell his products at a return which will give him and his family a decent living;
- The right of every businessman, large and small, to trade in an atmosphere of freedom from <u>unfair competition</u> and domination by <u>monopolies</u> at home or abroad;
- The <u>right of every family to a decent home;</u>
- The <u>right to adequate medical care</u> and the opportunity to achieve and enjoy good health;
- The right to adequate protection from the economic fears of <u>old age, sickness, accident, and</u> <u>unemployment;</u>
- The <u>right to a good education</u>.

<u>This is a complete mockery of the (ten) Bill of Rights ratified on December 15, 1791</u>. The first ten Amendments to the **US Constitution** stressed what the federal government <u>COULD NOT DO</u>!

In his classic book *The Fatal Conceit: The Errors of Socialism*, Friedrich Hayek exposes the errors of collectivism, central planning and social engineering. It is a *conceited notion* because these social engineers (psychopaths) think they are better, smarter and more capable than the rest of humanity. In another classic, *The Law* by Frederic Bastiat, he makes this sarcastic observation:

"If the natural tendencies of mankind are <u>so bad</u> that it is not safe to permit people to be free, how is it that the tendencies of these organizers <u>are always good</u>? Do not the legislators and their appointed agents also belong to the human race? <u>Or do they believe that</u> <u>they themselves are made of a finer clay than the rest of mankind?"</u>

Bastiat often refers to "legal plunder" in his book. This is all Socialism/Communism really is. To fund all of their grandiose social-economic-environmental government programs they must covet and steal their neighbor's goods. Bastiat defines legal plunder this way, "See if the law takes from some persons what belongs to them and gives it to other persons to whom it does not belong. See if the law benefits one citizen at the expense of another by doing what the citizen himself cannot do without committing a crime." As noted, collectivism is about the *forceful control* of other people's lives, property and wealth. And this is evil. Bastiat even traces this "insuppressible instinct" back to original sin in the Garden of Eden (Gen. 3:16). People are selfish and lazy and "wish to live and prosper at the expense of others." And this is the political platform of the **Democratic Party** and all of their fellow travelers. Bastiat provides one more definition of legal plunder. "Legal plunder has two roots: One of them is in human greed; the other is in false philanthropy." Ah yes, false philanthropy to cover their own evil motives. Liberals want to appear as more caring and compassionate people. I always think of this verse, "But the compassion of the wicked is *cruel*" (Pro. 12:10). It is cruel because it keeps people dependent on the government and discourages personal responsibility, hard work and individualism. Socialism is an idealistic ideology that can only gain support in a market economy. It *cannot produce a market economy* as **Ben Shapiro** clearly lays out in this fantastic broadside:

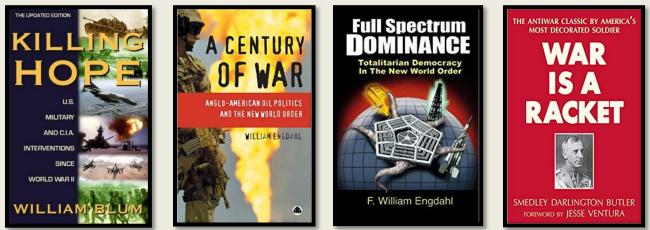
Ben Shapiro Speech: Socialism is Theft (17 Minutes)

Yes, only in the **US** could you have trophy snowflakes with their designer jeans, iPhones, new cars and gadgets endorsing an old Soviet-style Communist like **Bernie Sanders**! Supporting what **Shapiro** said was a recent <u>3-minute clip</u> by **Campus Reform** at the "Venezuela Freedom Rally" in **DC** in which they declared that "Bernie Sanders is your enemy!" And the impoverished and starving people living in the murder capital of the world (with no toilet paper) *really KNOW what they are talking about!*

"<u>The impracticability of Socialism</u> is the result of intellectual, not moral, incapacity. Socialism could not achieve its end, because a socialist economy could not calculate value. **Even angels, if** they were endowed only with human reason, <u>could not form a socialistic community</u>."

The above quote is from Ludwig von Mises, the founder of the Austrian School of Economics when Nazism and Fascism were all the rage in Europe. Do we never learn? Socialists can never deliver on their promises because they use coercion and destroy true market incentives. The New Green Deal is estimated to cost \$7 trillion dollars, and this is on top of Democrats calling for even more free stuff. Pat Wood is the author of Technocracy Rising (and wrote the Foreward to my book), and says that this New Green Deal is "100 percent Sustainable Development, aka Technocracy. If Technocracy gains hold, it will be the end of America and the beginning of a total Scientific Dictatorship." You know, those social engineers who are made of finer clay than the rest of humanity. More on this in a future newsletter, and I conclude this section with a summary that we have an institutionalized warfare and welfare state that is being funded by unsustainable debt and spending. The central planners are using false metrics and accounting gimmicks to convince us that the US will always remain as the only superpower in the world, but our full spectrum dominance is being seriously challenged.

The US Decline & New World Order Realities!



"Wherever the standard of freedom and independence has been, there will her heart, her benedictions will be. But [the US] does not go abroad, in search of monsters to destroy." - President John Quincy Adams, Speech in 1821

As I cover in my book, and past newsletters, the future of our country is directly linked to the future of the US dollar as the reserve currency of the world. You cannot separate the two and policy makers are well aware of our US dollar imperialism since WWII. F. William Engdahl has done terrific research on this geopolitical/macroeconomic dynamic at THIS LINK. He proves how our military interventions in the Middle East are about oil, money and hegemony. The "war of terror" is an abstraction, a cover. Politicians like to exalt the **US** as an *exceptional country*, the book *Killing* Hope (above) tells a different story. "If you flip over the rock of American foreign policy of the past century," the author writes, "this is what crawls out; invasions, bombings, over throwing government, occupations, suppressing movements for social change, assassinating political leaders. perverting elections, manipulating labor unions, manufacturing news, death squads, torture, biological warfare, depleted uranium, drug/sex trafficking, mercenaries ... It's not a pretty picture." This book documents 56 countries we have meddled in since WWII (mostly CIA operations), and the media is pointing at *Russia - what a joke!* In **1961, President Eisenhower** warned about "misplaced power" in the military-industrial complex on national TV. This has gone unheeded and has morphed into an enormous military-industrial-security complex now known as the **Deep State**. **President Adams** once said that American doesn't go abroad in search of monsters to destroy; but this has become our official foreign policy today! Both China and Russia have called for a multi-polar world (not a uni-polar world led by the US). A New World Order reality is underway that will create new political paradigms that are being studied by senior foreign policy think tanks and analysts. As I researched this topic I came across this perspective from a senior European diplomat. Here is a key quote:

"Imagine an international crisis in which Russia and China suddenly emerge as a single bloc. The impact would be considerable, and to some extent unpredictable: Psychologically, in the mind of the West, it would combine the fear associated with **Russia** with the apparent invulnerability of **China.** Ultimately, this would be enough to curtail Washington-NATO hegemony, as the US would feel under attack; Europe, intimidated and unsettled. <u>This entirely</u> <u>new world would also introduce fractures among European allies, as the old</u> <u>Continent would also face the threat of a split between Western Europe and the</u> <u>nations of Central and Eastern Europe, which could turn their focus east under the</u> <u>influence of a cash-happy China ready to invest in the region.</u>" <u>Several things are being said here</u>. The international crisis that I see coming is a fiscal/monetary meltdown that will necessarily require a debt restructuring and monetary reset. An effort is underway to reduce the role of the US dollar and roll out the SDR as a new settlement currency through the IMF. China has finally become a member of the SDR basket currency in 2016, and has been creating closer ties with Russia on many fronts in Eurasia. The EU is already pivoting to Eurasia with energy deals and increased trade. In this scenario the US is becoming increasingly isolated. One writer says "a new geopolitical and economic era is at hand, and the US is being left behind at the station."

CAN AMERICA AND CHINA ESCAPE THUCYDIDES'S TRAP?

What we are witnessing in the **post-WWII** era is the emergence of a new a new power with China, and the US is feeling threatened. The term **Thucydide's Trap** was coined by **Allison Graham** at Harvard and refers to the **Greek historian** who recounted how the rise of **Athens** in the **5th** century posed a threat to **Sparta**, and eventually war. In **Graham's** book he cites **16** historical examples, with **12** resulting in war. America has become an imperial power, and "...all empires become arrogant. It is their nature," said **Edward Rutherfurd**. But the American Empire has also become vulnerable.

In addition to **trade wars** there is an ongoing dispute with **China** over our support of **Taiwan** and the Chinese military buildup in the **Spratly Islands**. The new Senate Armed Services Chairman, **Senator James Inhofe** has <u>warned</u> about this confrontation in the Pacific. **Lt. Gen. Ben Hodges** <u>predicts</u> that "all-out war with the US and China is highly likely within the next 15 years." It has been said that if goods and services don't cross borders then armies will...or nukes! **Russia** has long had the ability to strike our strategic military targets in the **US**. **Below is a map** and there is more at <u>THIS LINK</u>.

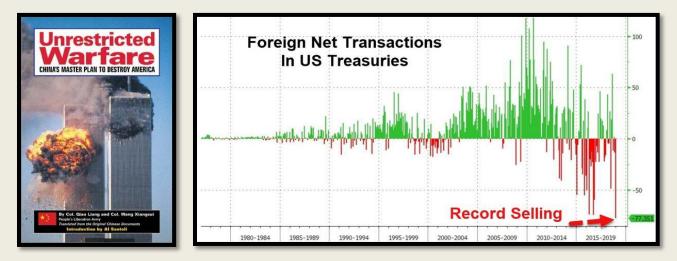


Is military conflict inevitable in our future? It would sure seems that way, and right now the crisis in Venezuela is pitting the US against both China and Russia. Caracas has \$5 billion Chinese loans and their collateral is Venezuela oil. Russia's Rosneft now own 49% of Citgo as part of a \$1.5 billion loan to Maduro. Russia also has access to Venezuela's gold mining and other commodities and so on. US National Security Advisor is neocon and war hawk John Bolton, and Trump just appointed Abrams as "Special Representative" for Venezuela - another neocon described as "the architect of the Iraq war." Elliott Abrams even *wrote against* Donald Trump and *supported* fellow neocon Marco Rubio in 2016! It is clear that John Bolton is arranging his own war hawks! So, is Venezuela going to be the next victim of our interventionist foreign policy and full spectrum dominance? If so we will find ourselves going up against Chinese and Russian interests, and we have been fully warned.

An existential threat to the US is an ElectroMagnetic Pulse (EMP). What is this? An EMP is a short electromagnetic burst that can take out electrical power grids and technical platforms. Bill Gertz is a respected analyst on asymmetrical warfare, and is not liked by the CIA, and even the state-run *Xinhua* news agency in 2006 identified him as the No. 1 "anti-China expert" in the world. Last month he wrote an article regarding Super-EMP bombs that China and Russia have developed and you can read the chilling account and charts at <u>THIS LINK</u>. This kind of warfare is *very unconventional*, and below is an 11-minute video of just how devastating this could be from a former CIA operations officer and part of the Congressional EMP Commission, Dr. Peter Pry with Brannon Howse.

Dr. Peter Pry: World War III Started in the Summer of 2018

In this clip he shares how artificial intelligence has been joined with super weapons and robotics. This is part of the New World Order realities that we are facing, but the feckless mockingbird media is too busy covering the phony Mueller investigation, hate crime hoaxes, endless sex scandals, the pseudo science of global warming, Oscar awards...and countless other petty tabloid diversions.



Here is another New World Order reality that will assuredly lead to a US decline. According to this chart and reports like <u>THIS ONE</u>, foreigners are dumping US bonds. This book was written by two Chinese generals about asymmetrical warfare to destroy the US. It is no secret that China has the largest tranche of US bonds and will likely dump these at some point. As I have covered already, the US is the largest debtor nation in the world, and this *unsustainable debt* is another reason that China is producing and buying all the gold it can get. More on this in a moment. One more topic I want to address before I provide a monthly metals update, is Stockman's new book on Donald Trump.



<u>As you can see, the title of his new book is *Peak Trump*</u>. What does this mean? It is *not a hit piece* against **The Donald. Stockman** is a political atheist like I am. We hate *both political parties*, but **Donald Trump** is simply *too late* to fix anything. As **Mish Shedlock** <u>says</u>, "Trump is a symptom of the problem. He wanted to drain the swamp but *failed* to do so. He never really had a good chance of doing that, but he *failed* to make the most of the chance he had." **He adds**, "We are where we are because of <u>decades of congressional</u> and <u>monetary mismanagement</u>." This book could have been entitled *Peak Clinton*. Below is a recent interview with **David Stockman** and highly recommended:

Greg Hunter with David Stockman: The Fed is the Enemy of MAGA

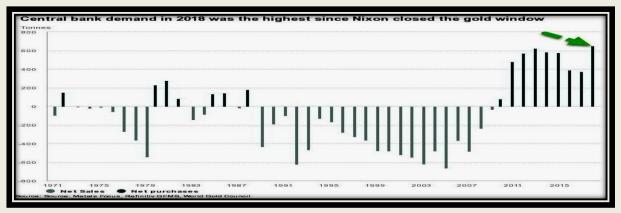
Stockman was the former budget director for Reagan in the 1980s. As an economist and fiscal conservative, he consistently lays into the **Fed**, as I have done in this newsletter (pages 1-4) and nearly every newsletter since **2012**. In this interview he likens the **Fed** to a **Fiscal Doomsday Machine**.

So, what do I think of Donald Trump? I am asked this all the time, so let me respond. In **2016**, I had the only **Trump/Pence** campaign sign firmly planted in my neighborhood. We wanted to disrupt the status quo. This is also why **Stockman** wrote his book entitled, *Trumped! A Nation on the Brink of Ruin...and How to Bring It Back.* But, **Trump** has let us down in many ways. Why is this? In my book, I refer to bored billionaires who have big egos and big ideas. As part of his celebrity persona, I think **Trump** thought it would be cool to be president, but lacks a constitutional/moral compass and a sense of history. As **Matthew Jamison** writes, "As a politician, apart from getting some groups whipped up and putting on one heck of a *tour de force* in modern American political campaigning, Trump has shown little real appetite or knowledge or skill for actually running a Government and a country with far too much of his time spent on twitter or watching the media." Trump has bad advisors around him like Bolton, Abrams, Powell, Kudlow, and the new Attorney General with more **CFR** members than **Obama!** And then there are the **two faces of Trump** a demonstrated in <u>THIS 3-Minute Clip</u>. I can't see **Dr. Ron Paul** doing this. And then there is the executive power afforded our modern presidency as noted by **Rob Montz** in <u>THIS INSGHTFUL CRITIQUE</u> of the **Executive Branch**:

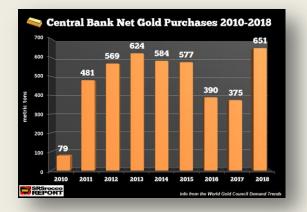
"<u>Given the evolution of the presidency, Donald Trump, the ubiquitous overlord of American politics,</u> is not a fluke, or some historic anomaly. **He's an inevitability**. A reality TV star with a genuine genius for driving the news cycle. A man with the power to shake the stock market with a tweet. **As Gene Healy, author of the The Cult of the Presidency, puts it** <u>Trump is the extreme</u> <u>energy drink version of what's been on tap for a long time.</u> <u>This isn't democracy; it's a</u> <u>soft monarchy. A single person dominating government — that's exactly what the</u> <u>founders designed against</u>." **Indeed, The Donald** is a *high energy drink*, and this lust for executive power was the gravest concern of our Founding Fathers. Montz concludes, "Fixing our politics requires draining the office of both its formal powers and *out-sized importance* in American life." This is not likely to happen because the electorate increasingly look to the *President* to be <u>The Great Fixer of All Things</u>. *The Washington Examiner* <u>published a list</u> of **Trump's** accomplishments in office, but these include inflating the stock market, consumer confidence indexes, bombing Syria, starting trade wars and other dubious claims. And as far as "The Wall" I will have an update in my **next newsletter**, and I will be referring to John Whitehead's recent article that is entitled, *Beware the Emergency State: Imperial, Unaccountable and Unconstitutional*. Using executive power - and emergencies - is *extremely dangerous* to the rule of law, due process, private property rights, liberty and so on. You can <u>CLICK HERE</u> to preview.

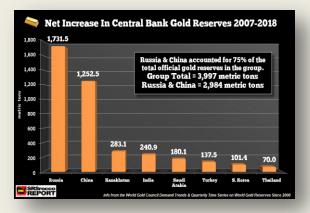
The Bible says we are to pray for "all who are in authority, in order that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness" (1 Tim. 2:1-4). **Trump's** heart is in the right place, and he has amazing stamina against all of his enemies. We need to pray for him and realize that he is promising more than he can deliver in these troubled times. Decades of **monetary mismanagement** assures that things will not be *tranquil* going forward, and that brings us to **metals** and some contingency planning.

Central Banks: Buying More Gold Since 1971!



<u>As you can see from above</u>, the central banksters bought more gold in 2018 than at any time since Nixon closed the gold window in 1971! That is 651.5 tons to be exact and this is a 74% increase from the previous year according to the World Gold Council. This is a big move. Not surprising, both China and Russia have accounted for 75% of the net increases in gold reserves since 2007, as seen below. But what accounts for this huge surge in buying? <u>It has to do with the Basel III Accord</u>.





<u>What is the Basel III Accord</u>? As I covered in my last newsletter (page 14-16), it is a recognition at the **BIS** in Basal, Switzerland that central banks and **Globally Systemic Important Banks** (GSIB) need to raise *physical gold* from a **Tier 3** asset to a **Tier 1** asset. Why are they doing this? This is an effort to recapitalize the banks when the next **Lehman** event occurs, and it is coming, and they know it. <u>Simple as that</u>. The hard deadline is **March 31, 2019**, and I again refer you to **this interview**:

King World News: Andrew Maguire on Basel III

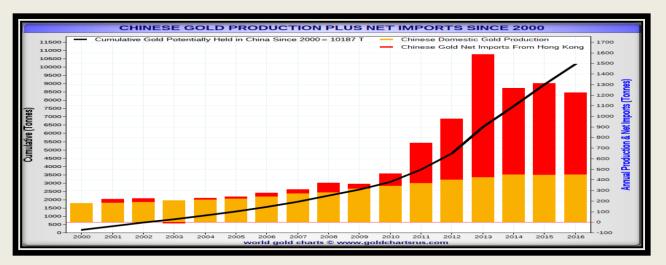
You can listen at **9-minutes** to better understand the implications of this banking mandate, and why this is going to impact the price of **gold and silver** to the upside. **The following** is also recommended:

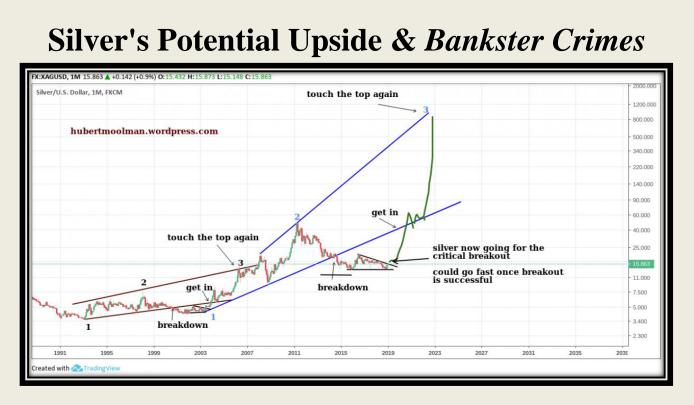
Craig Hemke: Bear Market for Gold/Silver is Over

You can listen at the **41-minute mark** for a clear explanation of the **Basel III Accord**. This is rather big news, and if you have been *longsuffering* as I have for lo...these past several years, the wait is over. As you know, price discovery for **silver and gold** is in the fraudulent paper futures market like the **LBMA** and **Comex** (Crimex), and this is all *paper derivatives* against very little physical metal. This new accord is intended to *re-monetize* gold and silver for the first time since the **Jamaica Accord of 1978!** This is a **game changer** according The **BMG Group** out of Canada. Here is a key quote:

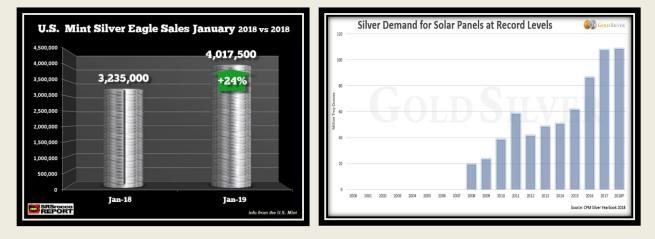
"<u>Gold derivatives are not monetary gold, and cannot serve the role prescribed by the</u> <u>Basel III framework</u>. Central banks and large institutions will increasingly turn to monetary gold in the coming months and years. They will seek to add the quality that only monetary gold provides. Capital flows into monetary gold will reflect the need for an asset that is liquid, tested and trusted. Gold's re-monetization is now officially a matter of global monetary policy.... <u>This significant development remains relatively unknown – for now</u>."

As noted, this development remains relatively unknown to the masses, but we can expect **silver and gold prices to increase** accordingly for months, if not years. **Read** the full story <u>HERE</u>. As we know, the Chinese produce and import most of the gold today **as seen below**. We also know that the banksters have been suppressing the fake price of the metals, and the Chinese have had a hand in this also. As <u>this report</u> from **Hong Kong** relates, the Chinese have considerably more gold than they are telling people, and they are doing this because if they "were to buy too much gold, gold prices would surge," said **Yi Gang**, governor of the **People's Bank of China**, "a scenario that would hurt Chinese consumers." In other words, our **gold** is a state secret and we want to keep buying it on the cheap. And this is exactly what people should be doing today, and this most certainly includes *SILVER*.





<u>Silver analyst Herbert Moolman has provided this chart</u>. Based on the current silver/gold ratio of 83:1 we are facing a major break out for silver (30:1 or 15:1 is normal). His <u>research</u> is based on silver being both a monetary and industrial metal, and this causes more scarcity than gold. In a <u>recent article</u> by Adam Hamilton, he provides further data to support the potential for silver, and basically concludes that there is "a super super-bullish omen for silver." We can all see it coming.



<u>US Mint sales of silver spiked in January as seen above</u>. Industrial demand for silver continues to increase in applications like solar and other electrical uses. But the single most *bullish factor* for silver is the exposure of a bankster conspiracy to both *suppress* the fraudulent price of silver and also benefit from the *potential upside* by holding **physical silver**. If you are a regular subscriber, you know that we are talking about JP Morgan Chase and their monopoly of **naked shorts** and manipulation in the paper futures market (Comex/Crimex). This has been going on since Bear Stearns collapsed in March of 2008, and JP Morgan Chase assumed their commercial silver short positions in New York. I won't go into detail here, but only to say that the jig is up, and the Department of Justice (DOJ) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) are finally getting involved in this matter.



<u>So, here is the latest</u>. The relentless research and charges by silver expert analyst Ted Butler are finally coming to the surface in the silver market. Ted Butler has almost singlehandedly exposed the *criminality* in the silver market because of JP Morgan. <u>READ THIS</u> from early January. A JPM silver trader was criminally charged for manipulating silver in November of 2018. This is now leading to a wider investigation. In <u>this article</u>, Jim Cook expects a "silver explosion" and says this:

"The fact that JPMorgan and its manipulative short selling are under investigation by the Justice Department is likely to be the game changer for silver. The entire world of finance appears to be ignoring this incredible news. Give full credit to **Mr. Butler** for unearthing this crime and repeatedly bringing it to the attention of the authorities. Further news on this subject is likely to light a fire under the silver market. <u>Mr. Butler suggests we are on the eve of</u> <u>something so earth shaking in silver it can propel it upward twenty times or more.</u> <u>The facts don't lie. Think deeply about what everybody is missing. When investment</u> <u>buying of silver begins in earnest Mr. Butler suggests the market will be wild,</u> <u>disorderly and expensive. You want to have silver put aside by then."</u>

Did you get that? The potential for silver upside is **20-fold**. The **above article** was in response to **Ted Butler's** earlier article **and written in late January**. Keeping the chronology of this silver story, by **February 5th**, Congressman **Alex Mooney** (R-WV) wrote <u>a stinging letter</u> to the **CFTC** regulators in **NY**, and points out that the crimes committed by this **JPM** trader were from **2009 to 2015**, and this was the same time that the **CFTC** held a (sham) investigation of the **silver market** from **2008 to 2013**, and ultimately said they found NO criminal manipulation *after five years*. **Rep. Mooney** (money), said this: "Why did the commission *fail* to find the wrongdoing the **Justice Department** has confirmed and continues to investigate? Also, will **the commission** now be re-opening its investigation into **silver** market manipulation and opening an investigation into **gold** market manipulation? **If not, why not**?"

Amen, and here is THE LINK for Rep. Mooney. I am writing him this week, and I encourage you to do the same. If you have silver, or you are new to the potential of investing in the silver market, don't let this information discourage you. We are on the cusp of a huge event. I will conclude with a couple more links. In a recent interview (2/13) with Ted Butler he was asked about this ongoing case that implicates JPM, and says that JPM is going to back off, but" they have accumulated 800 million ounces of physical silver. They know silver's potential. That fact will prove to a lot of investors just how bullish the future is for the price of silver." In a more recent comment (2/14), Butler responds to JPM saying that they are just "hedging" the silver market. "JPMorgan was the biggest COMEX short seller long before it started to accumulate physical silver at the depressed prices it had caused to be depressed in the first place, so for it to claim it is now legitimately hedging when it adds to short positions is bogus." Indeed it is. I will be reporting on this each month, but a good website for silver news is www.silverseek.com, and also try to listen to the above interviews on silver.

Summary & Conclusion. As we know, **silver and gold** have been monkey-hammered since **2011**, but this is not a normal market driven phenomenon any more than stocks trading at **P/E** ratios higher than **1929**. The coming **Basel III Accord** is certain to cause some *genuine price discovery* in these distorted markets. The case for phony paper derivatives against physical metals cannot be supported in the **Basel III** framework, and the case for **silver** is particularly bullish as naked shorting is coming under stress. As **Warren Buffett** once said, "Only when the tide goes out do you discover who has been swimming naked." And a *20-fold* increase in **silver** would be **\$320/oz.** today. We saw this happen with rhodium back in **2007**, so don't think it can't happen. Just ask **Jamie Dimon.**

As I covered, the **Fed** is in a box, as well as all the **central banks**, and we can expect more loose fiscal policy and easy credit (QE4). The events I outlined in my book are coming to pass and this includes a monetary reset, tensions with China and Russia and prophetic themes regarding war in the Middle East, the rise of the EU and a cashless society. The Bible predicts that "perilous times will come in the last days" (2 Tim. 3:1), and this includes social unrest described by Mike Adams HERE. It is a good idea to be prepared the best that you can, and Chris Martenson has provided a checklist for you at THIS LINK. According to this study, 21% of American have saved *nothing* for retirement and many only have \$5,000 saved for retirement. TDAmeritrade says that 25% will never be able to retire, and this is coming as the inflated stock market and junk bonds are about to collapse. THIS latest report predicts a drop of **38%**, **50%** and even **61%** based on statistical data! These are certainly NOT normal times. And now we already have an election cycle underway and the *failed policies* of **Socialism** are all the rage. As Ludwig von Mises said, Socialism is so impractical that even angels could not form a Socialistic community! Even worse, the coming financial reckoning day is going to destroy so much of the "wealth effect" that James Howard Kunstler predicts, "the next time Socialism is enlisted as a tool for redistributing wealth, we will make the unhappy discovery that most of that wealth is gone." As Sven Henrich said earlier, if you think people are angry now, watch the next recession!

In conclusion, we do pray for our **imperfect leader** for wisdom and direction. "The Most High is ruler of the realm of mankind, and He bestows it on whom He wishes" (Dan. 4:17). **Donald Trump** is our President according to divine providence. But some glorious day, the **Lord** will come as the Ruler of mankind "and His dominion will be from sea to sea" (Zech. 9:10). "At that time He will be great to the ends of the earth" (Micah 5:4). This is the *benevolent* **New World Order** that I am looking for, and the <u>GOOD NEWS</u> that I share in my book and websites. Make your reservations now!

Until Next Time, Your Messenger from Pinetop 🏙

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