

Please join us for complimentary luncheon and discussion about current economic problems and solutions by

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Christianity: the problem is sin, the solution is salvation.

Islam: the problem is pride, the solution is submission.

Confucianism: the problem is chaos, the solution is social order.

Buddhism: the problem is suffering, the solution is awakening.

Judaism: the problem is exile, the solution to return to God. (1)

Not a bad summary! Who would have ever thought that religion would play an important role in investing? I have been reporting on media bias, politics and now how religion plays a more important role in investment analysis than the fundamentals of economics. The cost of defending ourselves against the aggressive religion Islam is incomprehensible. Think about the cost to taxpayers for airport security alone. Now add homeland security and the military and you can measure dollars in the trillions. Dollars that come from your bank accounts! Does that mean investors should analyze religion along with current news events? *Absolutely!* There are more Christians on our planet than any other religion, but Christianity promotes religious tolerance, brotherly love, family love, world peace and respect for others as part of our religious teachings. Christians' try to convert others to Jesus through Evangelism, gentle persuasion and with examples of love, goodness and righteousness. Islam, the most aggressive religion teaches the opposite. Islam converts infidels by coercion, intimidation, death or by forcing one to submit to a loss of personal freedom. Complete submission!

"It is commonplace to think of religions as unchanging dogmas demanding unqualified assent" (1)

Well, that's understandable, but why does it have to impact my retirement plan? Money spent to protect all Americans to practice freedom of religion is acceptable, but spend tax dollars to protect our lives from Islam?

"So oft in theologic wars, The disputants, I ween, Rail on in utter ignorance, Of what each other mean, And prate about an elephant, Not one of them has seen." (2)

I'm not a religious philosopher. I am an investment advisor trying to understand how I might advise people on protecting their financial future against religious dogma. I guess it will take more than tithing. In my opinion Christians fight fair, Muslims do not. Christians offer prayers with food and medicine to poor countries; Muslims bring guns, bombs, suicide bombers and chaos. Are you aware what Muslims are doing to many poor countries? Muslims torture, rape, and kill innocent people as in Afghanistan, the Sudan, Yemen, and Somalia. Muslims control too many oil reserves and those assets are sold to subsidize the forceful conversion of the rest of the world to Islam. The wars against terrorism are a huge expense and those wars involve more than just the world's demand for oil. There is the cost of protecting our lives. We have already witnessed several failed attempts to kill us on our own soil. *And it wasn't Homeland Security that saved us; it was Muslim incompetence.*

There are supposedly Muslims that call themselves "good Muslims" and not terrorists, but their religion promotes and financially supports terrorism and many Muslims are in fear of rising up against their extremists. I don't see how it is possible to practice Islam and not believe in the Koran. Muslims who claim to support world peace and tolerance of other religions and disclaim opposing other religions must not believe in the Koran. The Koran does not adhere to brotherly love or world peace unless everybody converts to Islam. Of course, all women lose all human rights and that is seldom discussed by human rights organizations. In my opinion, *the Koran has to be rewritten to include some love and righteousness.*



"It's true—we totally have the best religion!"

Today Islam is the fastest growing religion and it has the greatest influence in the world today. It is a negative influence from my point of view. Indonesia has three times more Muslims than Saudi Arabia, Iraq and Afghanistan combined. 80% of all Muslims are Sunni. The 20% Shia are in 100% of Iran and 65% of Iraq. These two factions cannot agree whose founder succeeded Mohammad and they will kill each other over this uncivilized argument. President Obama came to the US on a college scholarship after being raised and schooled in Indonesia as a Muslim. There is a controversy over his claiming Indonesian citizenship to get the US scholarship. Hello news media! Why not investigate? **Go figure!**

Today, in America, we are debating how to remove God and religion from our primary education systems. This is crazy. Why not teach a broadminded course in "Comparative Religion" in all high schools instead of banning God from the classrooms. I blame the Democrats and secularists for this trend. Today, immigration, Terrorism, and the economy are the biggest issues! The oil spill is right up there, but a distraction to the more serious problems that are a matter of life or death.

Let's celebrate this 4th of July 2010 by first acknowledging our National debt on this 4th at \$13.13 trillion and growing by the minute. I hope you are not superstitious. Shall we celebrate that our income taxes will rise next year even for those retirees on social security? Yes, you will have to pay taxes even in those low tax brackets because the Bush tax breaks expire. And, we can celebrate that capital gains taxes will increase as well as short-term capital gains taxes. There will be a series of value added taxes for future generations, which is a sales tax on special items. The first value added tax is on tanning booths. (Isn't this a discriminatory tax against light skinned people?) That will raise \$2 billion in revenues over the next ten years, but will permanently increase unemployment until the booth people find new jobs. Watch for State taxes to rise as will taxes on gasoline. New taxes are being proposed on "unhealthy" things like candy and sweets that might cause diabetes. *I dream of chocolate ice cream with chunks of peanut butter. Sadly my dreams will be taxed.*

And, you can pretty much count on increased taxes on investments! I'm talking retirement plan taxes and I will explain further. After all is said and done on this wonderful 4th of July, we can celebrate the fact that Democrats and Obama have increased the size of our government by 25%. (Not the military) We celebrate the increase in government jobs and ignore the millions of jobs lost in the private sector. Those new bureaucrats are enjoying better wages than the private sector (on average), and have much to do about invading your privacy, especially your financial privacy. Apparently, there are just too many people that have earned too much money for Democrats to understand. The theory is that we have a zero sum economy and when you earn more money than your share, you are taking money away from someone else less successful than you. This form of stupid economics is being promoted with the socialist ideas by Democrats. **Investor beware! Did you have a happy fourth?**

“Liberalism is about feelings. Conservatism is about reason. Unfortunately, feelings usually trump reason.” (5)

Perhaps you should feel guilty this 4th of July because ten to twenty million Hispanics are being denied immediate citizenship. ***Is this about feelings and not reason?*** We have invited the poor, the hungry, and the homeless to our shores, but now Republicans will be blamed for trying to turn them away because they are poor and needy and we can't afford them. The more competent immigrants must wait in line for years even though they may join the “evil” ranks of those who pay more taxes. Should we celebrate a new fairness policy this 4th that subsidizes the least competent or least skilled workers and taxes the successful to bring them down to a fairness level deemed “the sharing of America’s assets and production?” **The immigration problem has everything to do with crime and illegal drugs, not feelings. Believe that!**

Are these immigrants the same Mexicans that are taught in school that the United States stole California, Arizona, New Mexico and Texas from Mexico and they deserve to reclaim it? Are these the same Mexican immigrants that refuse to learn English and wave Mexican flags on the 4th of July? Are these the same Mexicans that allowed Nazi and Soviet spies safe harbor in Mexico during WW2 and the cold war? Are these the same Mexicans that danced in their streets when we were attacked on 9-11? Are these the same poor misunderstood illegal immigrants that increase the crime, illegal drug selling and kidnapping of US citizens in Arizona? ***Is the news media favoring illegal immigrants, if so why? Who addresses these issues?***

I will summarize the outrageous Obama tax policies, and yes, this is my opinion; the Democrats will spend us into debt as fast as they can before they lose control of Congress. They will claim the continued debt spending will stimulate the economy and to deny these benefits will be cruel and un-American. We must subsidize the poor so they will vote for Democrats. Democrats hope to allow more poor Latino immigrants naturalization to get those votes. Then the Democrats will be forced to raise taxes to cover their outrageous spending and when the Republicans, who now represent the majority, will be denigrated and cursed for obstructing the tax increases. That leaves Republicans in the unenviable position of “damned if you do and damned if you don’t.” The higher taxes will cause more unemployment and lower the GDP, ruin your financial futures, but ever so conveniently with media cooperation, they will blame the Republicans for obstructing the tax increases.

“In other words, Democrats have rigged the rules so that merely stopping a tax increase will be scored to increase the deficit. These are the same Democrats who haven’t “paid for” trillions of dollars of spending in the past four years, but watch them soon denounce Republicans as fiscally irresponsible merely for trying to stop a tax increase.” (3).

Please note that the Wall Street Journal comment I just quoted (3) also acknowledges the fact that the major spending blamed on the Bush administration commenced with the Democrats taking control of Congress prior to Obama’s election. (2007) **The Democrats are very clever using media bias to demonize their opponents rather than criticize a specific policy.** Democrat bloggers always call Republicans names rather than discuss issues. Republicans do not get to see new Congressional acts. Therefore they object to them and are labeled obstructionists. Not renewing the Bush tax cuts may be inconsequential considering that there will also be major tax increases on capital gains, dividends and income tax rates anyway. ***This affects your retirement plans big time.*** Please note that retirement income will be paid after tax increases including taxes on lower brackets. That is a fact and will be buried by the news media. ***I just don’t understand why the media is so biased towards socialism.*** Don’t journalists live in the same world as the rest of us? I guess they just aren’t paid enough so they must aspire to be investigative journalists and get publicity and big bucks for exposing scandal or political corruption. It must frustrate the news media that both Bush Presidential families were scandal free. There was no adultery or corruption leaving the media to only ridicule their intelligence. **Where is the news media now exposing scandals?** Even the new scandalous Bank bailout bill, the 2319 page bill finalized at 3:00 am in the dark of night by Barney Frank and Senator Dodd, which no opposition is allowed to read, is written on the absurd claim that any such money, however raised, will somehow be reserved for bank failures. Obama promises not to spend that money. Hmmm.

In my opinion, the financial crisis we now face is a result of many factors. If I have to choose one economic disaster as most serious, I would point my finger at Barney Frank and Senator Dodd for forcing easy mortgage credit on the poor people who couldn’t afford the payments. That accounts for \$2.7 Trillion of taxpayer debt. (you and me, that’s our debt) The Bush administration was seriously demonized by Democrats for trying to regulate those loans. With media support **they accused Bush of favoring the wealthy, and demeaned him for not caring for the poor and the disadvantaged.**

The second biggest disaster was the sneaking through of the healthcare bill, another \$ trillion disaster. Unemployment began to climb when Obama first came on the scene when the private sector stopped hiring and the GDP began to decline. The stock market began to sell down as investors anticipated higher capital gains taxes. There were few buyers and now corporate America sits on huge cash holdings because they don’t know what to expect. Holding cash may mean survival for them. Many stocks will cease to pay dividends affecting many retirement plans. All these things are serious, in my opinion. Who disagrees with me? **Obama did not inherit a bad economy. That is a lie used as propaganda to excuse the tax and spend policies of Democrats. Democrats created the bad economy so they could rescue us using propaganda.**

The Democrats are secretly passing legislation that favors special interest groups while the media distracts us with world problems, like the wars and the oil spill. An unusual, but typical example is executive order 13502, which is a discriminatory policy eliminating non-union contractors from participating in Federal construction projects. There is a \$2 Billion “earmark” to fund the building of a coal burning electrical producing plant, a test plant to test the elimination of pollution. This is the largest earmark in US history. **It is being “let” to unions.** Are you aware that Congress is buying \$600 million worth of new automobiles for Federal employees? That will also flood the market with good used vehicles. I wonder why that is kept quiet? The Obama administration is also funding a mere \$10 million for urban canal inspections, which will create a whopping **ten** new Federal jobs. Isn’t that a \$ million per job? How about sneaking through the stimulus package another \$1.2 billion for creating youth activities to keep kids out of trouble? No mention of the new bureaucrat costs. How about another \$850 million for Amtrak, which has already cost billions because the government can’t manage any business? There exists the “Federal Acquisition Regulatory Council,” which administers an existing law that disallows the government to issue contracts to favored groups. The government must be neutral to award contracts to the most qualified bidders. But, Executive Order 13502 is called a “Project Labor Agreement” issued as an executive order by Obama, which is illegal and discriminatory, but secret. Using this illegal agreement, Obama has also authorized a new Homeland Security office building for \$448 million to **subsidize union labor** when the government already owns \$1.3 trillion worth of empty office buildings. Congress has blocked the sale or razing of these properties without explanation. These things are kept quiet. **Transparency?**

The purpose of executive order 13502 is to create construction jobs, but unions represent only 15% of the nation’s construction workers. More unemployment will be created for the majority 85% of construction bidders. If you don’t care about that spending, you should know that another \$248 million is set aside for new furniture for Homeland Security. Some of that expense is for computer upgrades. (4) I’m sorry, but I read the Congressional stuff regularly and it is tedious and boring, but I don’t have the manpower or time to keep up on these monstrous government programs leading us into bankruptcy. There are many more such examples. **Common sense must prevail in the November elections.**

Speaking of common sense, what can you do with your investments? Since the last Rand Report, I have learned of more investment contracts that are specifically designed to protect us against the Obama administration. These investment contracts are simple Trusts and can be creditor proof. You can literally and legally hide your capital in tax deferred Trusts and hope that when you need the money someone else will be running the government. I can’t get my mind off of these problems and I assure you I can offer you some constructive investment ideas. Remember, I have 52 years experience as an investment advisor. I am current with solutions. Call me! I do not charge hourly fees for my advice. I will interview you; you interview me and see if we have some common ground. Call and join us for a nice lunch at Naples’ best restaurant.

Americans strive, they don’t give up. Thomas Edison failed over 1000 times before he invented the light bulb. General Petraeus doesn’t give up. When Bush promoted General Petraeus the Democrats called him “General Betray Us” because he suggested the surge. Now Obama is a genius for asking the General to create another surge. Learn to recognize such propaganda. Think about the oil spill and know that China and Cuba are going to drill a deep unregulated oil well 60 miles off Key West. **What makes our economy so resilient and indestructible is entrepreneurship.** Think for yourself and work hard. Save some money for your future. Don’t rely on the government. What makes us great is American technology and rugged individualism guaranteed by freedom, life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. **God Bless America.**

Footnotes: (1) “God is Not One” Stephen Prothero, a book on Religious literacy. (2). “God Can Be Reached By Different Paths,” British poet, John Godfrey Saxe. (3). “The Obama Tax Trap,” WJSJ, 7-2-2010 (4) From a speech by Senator Dr. Tom Coburn, OK (R) to the Senate complaining about secret spending. You can google the speech; the media does not report on Republicans. (5). Quote, Jim Peck, Marquette University and Milwaukee TV show host and commentator, and an avid Rand Report reader.