A Word About Freedom

By David White

President Reagan once said, “Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. We didn't pass it to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected, and handed on for them to do the same, or one day we will spend our sunset years telling our children and our children's children what it was once like in the United States where men were free.”

Furthermore, the noted British philosopher Edmund Burke reminded us over 200 years ago that “those who don't know history are destined to repeat it.” If we are to pass the freedoms we've enjoyed as Americans to the next generation of children and grandchildren, who will only inherit the America we give them, we would be wise to heed the warnings given by Ronald Reagan, Edmund Burke, and countless others throughout history.

Freedom is not free. To sustain it, someone must be willing to pay the price for it—just like our fathers, grandfathers, and great grandfathers did for us, and like many of our sons, daughters, and neighbors are proudly willing to do today. Shockingly, while some cannot accept that socialism and its nearest kin, communism, is a present threat to America, others seem all too willing to sit by while the liberties and principles as defined in the Constitution are slowly being replaced with a political system most know little about. Let’s briefly examine this further.

Socialism, often packaged as having compassion, is when the government becomes the sole provider of everything needed to sustain life, from housing to food distribution to healthcare. The state (government) becomes the central planner, master, and owner of all property, industry, and capital (money). Then it attempts to equally redistribute the wealth, the health, and the goods and services it deems is just, equitable, and fair. When the state controls everything, it can then dictate where someone lives, work, how much money they make, and eventually whether they even live or die depending on their worth to the collective good.
Individualism surrenders to collectivism and according to history, tyranny follows.

Under socialism, class warfare is used to promote the equality of a “class-less” society. Yet history proves it never works the way it’s sold. The middle class is eventually eliminated with even greater disparity between the “haves and have nots.” While declaring to be the saviors of the middle class, socialism creates only two classes, the ruling class and the workers. Instead of a government of the people, by the people, and for the people, the system is turned around where the people are viewed as being of the government, by the government, and for the government.

While socialism always presents utopian ideals and promises of equality, justice, and fairness, the people always become the property of the state where those ideals are never realized. Hidden behind the promises, the people do not realize what has happened to them until it is too late for any resistance to matter. This has happened over and over throughout history—history that too many never take the time to read.

Winston Churchill, who to this day is resented and despised by socialist and communists alike, explained it well when he said, “Socialism is a philosophy of failure, the creed of ignorance, and the gospel of envy, its inherent virtue is the equal sharing of misery.”

Socialism is also the natural transition between capitalism and communism and one only has to look to history to see that this never ends well for the people who wanted to believe that government, and not God, was the answer to their every need.

George Washington warned that, “Government, like fire, is a good servant, but a fearful master.” This reinforces that government in itself is not evil, but the hearts of men are. This is why our founding fathers strongly believed that power corrupts but absolute power corrupts absolutely. Washington’s warning was prophetic as documented in the 1997 Harvard University published book titled, The Black Book of Communism: Crimes, Terror and Repression. The book details how an estimated 100 million people died under socialism and communism worldwide, 65 million died in China under the revolution and Great Leap Forward, 20 million died in the former Soviet Union along with 3 million in North Korea, Cambodia, and Vietnam. The numbers continue in Cuba, Eastern Europe, Latin America, and on and on.

An example in recent history reveals where in the Ukraine, which was part of the U.S.S.R. or the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics ruled by the communists, that an estimated 5 million people died between the years 1921-1923. Another 7 million died between the years of 1931-1933. The promise of utopia ended in some of history’s most unimaginable horror stories.

History records show forced socialist food policies and regulations led to a manmade famine that resulted in the senseless starvation of 4 to 5 million men, women, and children. One eyewitness described how the open spaces in the fields were littered with the bodies of starving farmers who had been combing the potato fields for even a
fragment of a potato. According to Robert Gellately in his book, Lenin, Stalin, and Hitler, the villagers asked the officials why they were searching their homes for food when none existed. They were told that the mere fact that they were alive proved there was food to be found. Yet even with the unnecessary deaths of so many, Stalin’s policy was to continue “forward” toward the goal of communism. Nothing would be allowed to stand in the way of the revolution. The end justified the means as it always does under socialism.

Multitudes of Americans from Billy Graham to John Hagee, to actors like Chuck Norris, to various leaders and others who have lived under the horrors of socialism and now live in the U.S., to our neighbors who know that somehow our nation has gotten off course are sounding the alarm to awaken, pay attention, do homework, read history, listen to what is being said and what not is being said, and most of all pray, speak up, and don’t sit this election out.

I am aware that the Bible describes how one day we will stand before God and give an account for every idle word ever spoken. By our words we will be justified and by our words we will be condemned. Yet the sin of remaining silent when we had the opportunity to warn people of an impending danger may be one of the worst sins of all.

America is either on the cliff of an unimaginable darkness or it is about to experience a spiritual, moral, and cultural awakening unparalleled in all of history.

One of America’s great Democratic Presidents once said, “Ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country.” This is the time for all Americans to ask themselves that question while we still have the opportunity to do so. We are the stewards of the freedoms passed on to us.

May God have mercy and again bless this great expression of individual freedom, whose rights do not come from government but from God, known as the United States of America!

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