Trump 2.0: Causes for Great Concern!, Part 2



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[Not a contribution to "Is Liberalism Dead? (In All Forms)" obviously. Lord permitting, Part 5 will appear soon.]

Part 1, Part 2,

"For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of the age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places." —Ephesians 6:12

Trojan Horse for Technocratic Post-Liberalism?

Allowing Elon Musk to run amuck.

Returning to His Muskiness: as noted in Part 1, he's a technocrat. Technocrats believe in governance by scientific/technological "experts" using "scientific management," and that common people aren't smart enough to direct their own paths in life.

One of their adages is "Move fast and break things."

Silicon Valley is a hotbed of technocracy: Thiel, Mark

Zuckerberg, Sheryl Sandberg, Marc Andreessen (author of a tract called "The Techno-Optimist Manifesto"), Sam Altman of OpenAI, just about everyone in the top echelons at Google; the list goes on and on. One of their thought leaders gets billed as a "computer philosopher," Curtis Yarvin.

Musk exemplifies — wearing a black instead of red hat, in Gothic lettering — not MAGA but "Dark MAGA" which despite the term has nothing to do with Making America Great Again. There's not enough space to explore the Dark Enlightenment properly here as such a discussion would take us too far afield. Suffice it to say, these people do not just believe that liberal democracy is finished, they want to replace it with a marriage of unified technocracy and neoliberal privatization, in which the CEO would be the equivalent of a monarch. Sounds very much like the technofeudalism I'll be discussing next week.

They would privatize federal agencies such as Social Security and probably run them for profit just as healthcare in the U.S. is run exclusively for profit.

Consider Social Security. Around 73 million Americans receive social security benefits. The average payout is around \$1,800/mo. The agency handles around 9.5 million new claims per year. Under DOGE direction it has now cut thousands of jobs, conducted a restructuring which will make it harder to apply for benefits. This in addition to struggling with a notoriously difficult-to-navigate website which recently crashed four times in a 10-day period due to server overload. The agency is closing regional offices in compliance with DOGE demands even while new rules require recipients to show up in person to verify their identities to make changes to their accounts. There are elderly recipients who would find such visits very difficult to make.

DOGE, let us remember, is not even a *real* government agency. Trump and Musk created it unilaterally. It nominally answers

to Trump but has been run entirely by His Muskiness.

What he and his Gen Z proteges are doing could very easily interfere with existing benefits for millions of people who depend on them for basic necessities.

These people either know Hegelian dialectic as well as any Marxist or are following it organically: crisis-reaction-response. Create a crisis, allow the crisis to provoke a reaction, and those move in with the solution that was wanted all along.

For Social Security to fall into chaos would therefore constitute a *crisis*, one of such magnitude that by itself it could destroy this administration's credibility and capacity to govern further.

For protests that could easily turn violent would be the reaction — as millions of ordinary Americans would suddenly be unable to pay their bills.

The *response*: His Muskiness privatizes the system and runs it for profit, which means that we could expect Social Security, or what remains of it, to look like a health insurance corporation, with no more accountability to beneficiaries. This would accord with neoliberal thinking that government screws up everything it touches, but what is privatized turns to gold!

I suppose it does if you're a billionaire oligarch.

Candidate Trump promised not to touch Social Security, Medicare, or Medicaid!

I know, I know: fraud. There probably is some. The agency is far from perfect. It *does* need substantial reform, because otherwise it *will* face insolvency in the near future, or so we are repeatedly told (how long in the future appears to depend on whom you ask; if there are roughly 73 million Social

Security recipients, roughly 185 million people are paying into it.).

The DOGE team has made the implausible claim that millions of dead people were receiving benefits: including "nearly 1.5 million 150-year-olds" and some "over the age of 200"!

The Social Security Administration is 90 years old this year. Such a person would have had to have been over 100 when the system was set up. This doesn't make sense. Use logic, people. Allegations of Social Security fraud are very unlike those of voter fraud. Voter fraud might be made possible by not requiring ID to vote. A Social Security account begins with your ID; your Social Security number is, after all, for all practical purposes, a national ID number.

Trump's Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick — a former Wall Street CEO and yet another billionaire technocrat — said in a recent podcast that those who call Social Security and complain when their monthly benefits don't show up on time are the ones most likely to be "fraudsters"!

In what parallel world is *that* an evidence-based or even a logical claim?!

When I see names and details, specific allegations against whoever is receiving this money, arrests made, convictions, I'll take more seriously the claim that millions of "fraudsters," presumably descendant of long-dead beneficiaries, are receiving Social Security benefits.

The best thing that could happen, in my humble opinion, is an end to the unholy alliance between Trump and His Muskiness. It might be useful to remember that His Muskiness and other billionaires will never need Social Security. Millions upon millions of Americans or ordinary means do rely on it for basic necessities of life, whether anyone likes this or not.

Donald Trump and Zionism.

Finally, we come to the most dangerous question this article asks:

Does Trump serve Israel / Zionism?

I'd hoped I'd never have to ask this. I've tried to avoid it. But further avoidance is now impossible.

A lot of leftists and liberals claim that Trump serves Putin. This is as stupid today as it was back in the days of the Russia-collusion hoax (which Jeffrey Goldberg included in the Signal-gate screw-up had a hand in spreading).

But maybe all the Putin-fearmongering is a purposeful distraction from what's *really* going on. It wouldn't be the first time.

A case can be made, based especially given the administration's firebreathing hostility to campus protests against Israeli actions in Gaza, that Trump serves Israel and promotes Zionism, everything else being window-dressing (including America First! and Making America Great Again!).

Consider how deferential he was to Israel's president Benjamin Netanyahu during the latter's recent visit — to the point of holding his chair like a common servant.

Zionism begins with the idea that the beginning of the End Times would be marked by the restoration of Biblical Israel in the Middle East, and that today's Israel is the recreation of the Biblical Israel. I've never seen the slightest evidence for the latter of these. Zionism also maintains that those skeptical of this are *by definition* antisemitic. Zionists believe we entered the End Times when Israel was created in the 1940s. They drew strength from the Nazi Holocaust and the persecution of Jews more broadly.

Thus a war against "antisemitism" that has violated free speech rights and rights to due process, as I observed in Part

1. The climate of fear is probably more palpable today than it was when the wokesters were fully in charge! Arguably this is worse than wokeness! Because Zionism has more money and power back of it than wokery had.

Nearly all the above-named technocrats of the Silicon Valley billionaire class are Jewish, after all. AIPAC and the ADL (the latter created in 1913, interestingly the same year the Federal Reserve was set up) have long been two of the most powerful organizations in the country. If a politician gets on AIPAC's wrong side, then come next election the organization will fund a "more reasonable" opposition candidate.

Worse is how the lion's share of the Evangelical Christian community has been pulled into Zionism, including seminaries, via dispensational theology furthering the idea that God is about to whisk believers off the world in the "rapture."

The only marginally visible exception to this who comes to mind is Chuck Baldwin, who has been warning for years about Zionist infiltration of Christian institutions.

This is all *deeply* troubling since I'd like to think I can identify with the Evangelical community. But as long as *this* is going on, I can't!

What I voted for was securing America's national borders, which included deporting as many illegal immigrants as possible who entered the U.S. under Joe Biden's and Kamala Harris's watch.

I did not vote to deport anyone who is in the U.S. legally, with a green card or one of several legitimate visas such as the H-1B visa that allowed Elon Musk (born in South Africa) to enter, live, and start businesses in the U.S. Nor detain on spurious grounds those trying to enter the country legally.

I voted for an American, not Israel. I did not vote for Zionism. I most definitely did not vote to continue the

present Israeli policy in Gaza. My understanding is that the reason the Houthis of Yemen began attacking ships was because the Israelis made a cease fire agreement with Hamas and then broke it.

How long will it be before *U.S. citizens* find themselves detained and charged with the "hate speech" crime of "antisemitism" because they criticize the Israeli onslaught in Gaza, especially if they call it what it is: mass murder, which has included very young *children* who have been deliberately targeted, their brains blown out, by IDS agents who afterwards laughed about it. Does anyone honestly think Palestinian *children* are working for Hamas?

These people are clearly psychopaths.

Possibly worse!

I've found myself wondering if something demonic is involved here. I've never taken very seriously claims about "International Jewry." Even if there is such a network, I don't think it is autonomous. If it exists, it answers to those higher "principalities and powers" in accordance with Ephesians 6:12 quoted above and which I've put into a frame of reference here (see also here).

Summation.

I'd worked under the assumption that putting an end to the four-year dumpster fire of "Sleepy" Joe Biden and DEI candidate Kamala Harris whose loss last November would enable us to turn a corner.

We've turned a corner all right, but not the corner we needed to turn!

I did not vote for a technocracy ready to institute the North American Union I thought we exposed and stopped back in the days of Bush the Younger (technocrats would call it the *North*

American Technate)!

Don't look to the Democrats, who remain clueless since they can't give up the things that cost them last November's election: lying about the *real* economy, hiding Joe Biden's cognitive decline for almost four years, continued attachment to identity politics, and their irrational obsession with "transgenders."

At the moment I see nothing ahead but trouble!

Do I want to continue chronicling it?

That will depend on the response (if there is one) to this article, which I'm aware could get me into trouble. (I live overseas. Will my passport be flagged the next time I try to enter the U.S.? My wife is a foreign national with a foreign passport and a visa waiver. Will she be detained and taken who knows where???)

Part of me wants to retire from all this and be done with it!

Another part of me can't take his eyes off the ongoing debacle! We'll see.

So I'll end this by asking again, What would really Make America Great Again? How do we put America First?

I've addressed the former previously. (Did anyone read it?)

Restore a Christian worldview. Separate it clearly and specifically from Zionism, which is fundamentally a secularist, materialist movement outside of actual Judaism (not to mention Christianity).

Further the moral idea that all human persons have intrinsic value because they were created in God's image (Gen. 1:26-27). See what happens....

Restore Constitutionally limited government which, as founding

father John Adams observed, "was made only for a moral and religious people."

Recognize the spirit of community that built the country into a desirable place to be.

Do not institute economics-*über-alles* ideologies such as neoliberalism which instead of recognizing intrinsic value, throw human beings to the wolves when they cease to make money.

Instead, teach financial literacy, so people can manage their money instead of being managed by money. Teach them the difference between needs and wants, and how expert marketers routinely blur the two to get sales. Teach them what's been done to the currency, the reason why a decent apartment that rented for perhaps \$100/mo. or less back in the 1970s now rents for over \$1,500/mo.

Do not discriminate against people on the basis of race or class or sex or class or physical appearance. We're all human, and we're all doing the best that we can.

In foreign policy, stop fighting Israel's wars, proxy wars against Russia, and otherwise interfering in the affairs of other nations. Recognize that others are in a better position to resolve their own problems than we are, because of differences in history, tradition, and culture.

Don't be a global bully. Instead, be an example. America had a chance to do this after the collapse of the Soviet Union. We couldn't have blown it more spectacularly!

All of these things would Make America Great Again!

Above all, don't allow the country to fall the rest of the way into the hands of unaccountable money-hungry, power-hungry technocrats: arch-materialists all.

Sadly, though, with Ron Paul long retired and turning 90 this

year, at this moment I don't see a single person on the horizon who both commands sufficient influence and has the money to further these goals nationally.

Which means we have no choice except to further them locally, in our own lives.

Marcus Aurelius, Stoic philosopher, from his *Meditations*: "You have power over your mind — not outside events. Realize this, and you will find strength."

Part 1, Part 2,

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Steven Yates is a (recovering) ex-academic with a PhD in Philosophy. He taught for more than 15 years total at several universities in the Southeastern U.S. He authored three books, more than 20 articles, numerous book reviews, and review essays in academic journals and anthologies. Refused tenure and unable to obtain full-time academic employment (and with an increasing number of very fundamental philosophical essays refused publication in journals), he turned to alternative platforms and hereticl notions, including about academia itself.

In 2012 he moved to Chile. He married a Chilean national in 2014. Among his discoveries in South America: the problems of the U.S. are problems everywhere, because human nature is the

same everywhere. The problems are problems of Western civilization as a whole.

As to whether he'll stay in Chile ... stay tuned!

He has a Patreon.com page. Donate <u>here</u> and become a Patron if you benefit from his work and believe it merits being sustained financially.

Steven Yates's book Four Cardinal Errors: Reasons for the Decline of the American Republic (2011) can be ordered here.

His philosophical work What Should Philosophy Do? A Theory (2021) can be obtained here or here.

His paranormal horror novel *The Shadow Over Sarnath* (2023) can be gotten <u>here</u>.

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