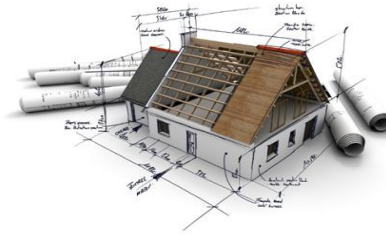


# WISDOMSHOUSE



## Wisdom's House Briefmail: When the government becomes "them." 2/4

This is the second of four "Briefmails" where I will connect the condition of our nation, and in many ways the church, with the wisdom of the age that is reflected in what we call socialism.

What have we become, America? How did we let our taxes get to this level? How is it that illegal immigrants have such a sense of defiance once they are here, but wouldn't get away with that in their own nation? (See Briefmail 1) It is vital to not oversimplify, but let's start with the root issue of dependence. We depend on a lot of things, and at some level government should be one of those things, but I think it is safe to say that we have developed an unhealthy dependence. This is a spiritual issue. God wants us to know Him as provider and protector, and has given us bodies, minds, and souls to work hard as we discover His faithfulness to make provision for us. While it seems good at first, any other 'provider' will soon become much more than 'provider' alone; and soon we begin to depend on it more and more. This is more or less when we begin to see the government as "them", not "of, by, and for we the people."

**"This is what George Washington meant when he said, "Government, like fire, is either a useful servant, or a tyrannical master." He understood the balance and the battle for the role of provider. It is the battle between the wisdom of the age, the root of ideas like socialism, and heaven's wisdom. Keep in mind, it is Godlessness that is at the root, not a political idea. Godless capitalists give Godless socialists their best argument.**

If we are to accurately assess our condition as a nation, we must take a collective look in the mirror, because it is true, E pluribus unum - Out of Many, One. While there are places in the world where America is not popular, we are still seen by many, if not most, as nation where freedom, prosperity, and generosity abound; yet things seem to be changing quickly. I have a question for us, "Are we arrogant and overfed?" I could be talking about our collective weight issues, but I am not. I am talking about what happens to any individual who has an unhealthy exaltation of them self. As the individual goes, so goes the nation. Our prosperity has caused our perception of right and wrong to change. We don't see the way we used to when wrong was wrong and right was right, regarding both moral and economic standards. There was another people with similar issues . . . ***'Now this was the sin of your sister Sodom: She and her daughters were arrogant, overfed and unconcerned; they did not help the poor and needy.'* - Ezekiel 16:49**

We have come to a place in America where we have slowly slipped into arrogance and self-centeredness - loving pleasure more than God. This is default mode for human beings, nothing new. The root issue is spiritual and can be traced back to the wisdom of the age offered Eve in the Garden of Eden. It is reflected in our approach to many things including government, but more importantly it is reflected in our approach to church.

To be continued.

These "Briefmails" will be posted as they are published at [www.wisdomshouse.org](http://www.wisdomshouse.org)