

Greetings from Tyler,

It has been an eventful week. There was another attempt to [murder innocent bystanders in Times Square](#), this time by [a terrorist who was recently naturalized as a citizen](#). It's apparent that all the bowing and apologizing for America's role in the world has done nothing to appease religiously motivated terrorists. The mayor of New York City went on national television to speculate that someone opposing national healthcare may have been to blame, before the Islamic radical was identified and apprehended.

Since September 11, 2001, we'd had no terrorist attacks on American soil, until this past year. Since then we've seen four, the only successful attack being the [shooting rampage at Ft. Hood by an Islamic Major in the U.S. Army](#).

We've also seen the flames of racial hatreds fanned by false interpretations of the [law just passed in Arizona](#). It is apparent that some in positions of leadership will stoop to anything, including turning Americans of various racial backgrounds against one another at a time when all of us need to come together to preserve order and liberty in the United States.

We all got quite a start yesterday when news came down the wire that the [stock market was crashing](#). Against the backdrop of [riots in Greece](#) and grave doubts about the stability of the euro, you must have wondered if this was the big one, and the world's financial system was spinning out of control. As everyone knows by now, [the market recovered much of the loss by the close](#), and the wild fluctuation has been blamed on an electronic accident. But even before the accident, and after, significant losses were sustained on news that markets around the world are nervous about Greece, other socialist utopian nations and the peril that now faces the entire eurozone, as it's known.

[The Greeks had achieved the ultimate socialist nanny state](#). High wages guaranteed by unions, free healthcare, early retirement, the works! Now they're watching the streets erupt in rioting, vital services interrupted by strikes and the threat of a complete breakdown of order.

In addition to all that, now we learn that [Britain has spent itself into a fix that rivals the mess in Greece](#). How is it that governments believe they can dole out money they don't have without consequence? It defies basic logic, unless there is some underlying premise behind the practice.

That same behavior has been pursued with a vengeance here in the United States under the pretense of "[leveling the playing field](#)" and working toward "[social justice](#)." Whatever the motive, the end result is ruin. We didn't have to wait on the current debacle in Greece to know the outcome of any government that seeks to take ownership of everything in order to equitably provide. Recent history provides all the proof anyone could need.

But even our nation's founders recognized the folly of such policies and went to great lengths to prohibit the practice under our Constitution. Unfortunately, those who took the oath to uphold it and faithfully execute our laws (based originally on God's Laws) have appealed to class envy, greed and racial suspicions to circumvent the clear language of our founders and create a public demand for the redistribution of wealth.

If you want to see the future of the formerly "free world," just look at what's going on in Greece; street fires, vandalism, attacks on banks with people killed, and pitched battles with riot police. Socialist utopia is a recipe for economic disaster and an ultimate breakdown of society. Given so much proof of that fact, can the radical agenda being forced on America be any accident?

We had a [terrific meeting with the group in Sacramento last Sabbath](#) which included several visitors. Everything was near perfect from the weather outside in that gorgeous part of the country to the warm and hospitable reception we enjoyed from everyone. Mr. John Mitchell, his family and supporters have arranged a beautiful environment for Sabbath observance and we sure appreciated the opportunity to be there and enjoy it with them.

My Mom and I stopped for a brief visit with (Aunt) Dottie and (Uncle) Vern Mattson outside [Phoenix](#) on our way home. Dottie is my Dad's only surviving sibling and her husband Vern is a dear man who shares all the family history. You may recall some of my Dad's references to them over the years. Both are well up in age now, and we'd sure appreciate your prayers for them.

The telecast this week brought 456 requests for material on the mainstream teaching regarding "heaven," and the doctrine of the "Rapture," with two hundred four first time contacts.

Word is that none of [our members in and around Nashville were flooded out of their homes](#) during the record rainfall this week. That doesn't mean they didn't suffer considerable inconvenience, including being stranded in some cases. But we can be thankful that they avoided the worst of it.

Thank you all for your considerable efforts in the field. We appreciate all that you do to promote a great environment for Sabbath observance, and the promulgation of the truth.

Have a good one,

Mark Armstrong