

The Pursuit of Happiness

Freedom and the Human Spirit



"I pray there are enough people living in this country who understand the value of liberty, that we may yet save it"

By *Brent Emory.. Johnson*

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About the Book

We cannot be truly happy without being free to determine how we live.

Whether it concerns education, economics, work or play, it is inherent to human nature that each of us be free to forge our own individual paths to achievement, success, and enlightenment. Those who lack this basic freedom can never achieve real happiness.

America has become unfree; this once Land of the Free and Home of the Brave has evolved into a society where every facet of life is controlled and regulated by the government; where people are imprisoned for their political or religious beliefs; where the purpose of education is to teach loyalty and obedience to the State.

If God looked right at you and commanded that you be happy, what would you do? Would you continue to tolerate the injustice and lack of liberty existing in today's America?

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Also by Brent Johnson

*The American Sovereign:
How to Live Free from Government Regulation*

The Quiet Voice of God
Spiritual insights from America's foremost freedom fighter

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American Independence

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Dedication

This book is dedicated to all true American Patriots, those for whom no modern convenience, personal benefit, or government assistance is worth accepting if it means waiving the rights with which their Creator has endowed them. You hold within your character America's last and greatest hope to restore the principles that made her - under God - the greatest country on the face of the earth.

Give us Liberty or give us Death!

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Preface

“We hold these truths to be self evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.”

Declaration of Independence. 1776

In my first book, *The American Sovereign: How to Live Free from Government Regulation* (© 1998, Truth and Freedom Publishing), I showed how the organic law of the united States of America has been corrupted in order to bring the American People, originally intended to be the masters of their government, into a state of abject servitude to that same government. My intention was to provide the reader with a clear understanding of American organic law, how it has been illegally revised and corrupted, and what people can do to protect their lives, liberties and property rights in the midst of such unprincipled, illicit government activities.

This current book explores the more spiritual and perhaps esoteric aspects of freedom.

Freedom is not for everyone. Along with freedom come significant and numerous responsibilities to protect, preserve and if necessary, defend that freedom from attacks or encroachment. While all people might cry out for liberty, only a certain type of individual, with a character dedicated to truth and justice, has the ability to actually live free.

A truly free person does not look to the government for a security blanket (i.e. welfare, food stamps, Medicare, unemployment insurance, social security, etc.), because accepting government benefits requires that you give up your rights to be free. This book is not for those who prefer benefits to liberty.

Aha! You see? Already, some of you are about to put this book down and go on to other things. These are the people who are unwilling to even attempt to live without government benefits and privileges. They are most certainly entitled to make that choice. However, such a choice does have consequences.

For example, did you know that a recipient of any government benefit has waived his God-given rights to life,

liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness? He or she has actually and voluntarily become property of the government that issued the benefit! That is why statutory courts regularly disregard the Constitution; because the person appearing in court has already waived his or her rights, along with their accompanying constitutional protections and guarantees. Simply stated, the Constitution does not apply to these matters.

One thing I hope to accomplish with this book is to raise your awareness in the hope that you will be inspired to take direct action of some sort the next time you are faced with, exposed to, or maybe just hear about incidents in which the government acts outside of its legitimate, lawful function.

I cannot say what action will be appropriate. You will need to determine that for yourself.

However, I can say that you are reading this book for a reason. You are part of a rapidly growing global population of people who are willing to take The Red Pill (*The Matrix*), see the honest and unvarnished truth, and prepare for the worst of it.

I do not know exactly what part you are to play in this unfolding history, but you do have a purpose in this struggle.

Our free Republic is for those courageous, patriotic people who are committed to the fundamental principles on which the Union of several states, the Republic of the united States of America, was founded. It is for those people who have the character – and wish to nurture and grow it – to take responsibility for their own lives, whether from successes or failures; to not blame or credit others for their miseries or achievements. It is for those who are dedicated to truth, freedom, justice and the Rule of Law. It is wholly inappropriate to all others.

If you KNEW... really KNEW... with every fiber of your being... that you were a sovereign, royalty, a king or a queen... would you behave any differently when dealing with your public servants?

Brent Johnson, The Voice of Freedom

Introduction

“Each of us has a natural right - from God - to defend his person, his liberty, and his property. These are the three basic requirements of life, and the preservation of any one of them is completely dependent upon the preservation of the other two... If every person has a right to defend his person, his liberty, and his property, then it follows that a group of men have the right to organize and support a common force to protect these rights. Thus, the principle of collective rights is based on individual rights. Since an individual cannot lawfully use force against the person, liberty, or property of another individual, then the common force cannot lawfully be used to destroy the person, liberty, or property of individuals or groups.

Fredric Bastiat, The Law, 1850

This book is about the Pursuit of Happiness. Its primary objective is to help bring you to an understanding of what true happiness is, and what you need to do in order to find it. The path to happiness is inextricably tied to a clear understanding of truth.

The Truth Shall Set You Free

If you are not committed to truth, then you will find everything else you read in this book to be relatively meaningless, because you cannot ever be free unless and until you look squarely in the face of reality and see your political, social, and general environments as they really are; not as you want them to be. If you are unwilling to shed your ignorance in favor of the truth, then this book is not for you.

However, beware! Once you let go of your ignorance you can never get it back. There will probably be times in your life when you wish you could reclaim your blissful ignorance, but this can never be. If you are unprepared to embark on a genuine adventure into truth, justice, freedom, and happiness, then put this book down now and go do something else.

If you are still reading, I thank and honor you for your display of high character and integrity. It is this kind of character that cannot be taught. You must want to dig deep down inside yourself, find the seeds of character that have always been there, and then nurture and feed those seeds so

that they grow. Your personal character is a direct tribute to and reflection of who you really are.

The first truth that I want you to understand is that the Republic of the united States of America was founded to encourage and support each individual Citizen's respective Pursuit of Happiness.

At the time of the American Revolutionary War, most of the people throughout the world lived in societies where the well accepted credo was that of a two-class system; the aristocracy and the commoners. If you, like most people, were a commoner, then you could not own property, participate in your government, or ever hope to be anything more than a servant of the aristocrats.

The state of servitude runs contrary to spiritual growth. As a result, people who are told that they will never be able to make decisions for themselves tend not to be happy. America was designed to offer the commoners of the world the opportunity to pursue that which they most desired, disregarding convention and social mores of the day in the process.

This newfound philosophy appealed to the individualistic, adventurous, free-spirited people of the world, who emigrated to America so that they could pursue their aspirations, and thereby travel the path to true spiritual happiness.

Yet their salvation has become their nemesis. The road to freedom and happiness has become an avenue of torture, oppression and servitude.

America was established as a constitutional republic, in which the people were the *rulers* and all government officials were public *servants*. In other words, the ordinary citizen is a member of the American nobility, while the President of the United States is no more than a servant.

However today, our elected representatives have conspired to make themselves our rulers, our masters, despite the fact that they have never been lawfully authorized or empowered to do so. This is why so many Americans are miserable and unfulfilled.

It's not the problems at work or school, a lack of money, or any of the endless reasons most people give for their unhappiness and discontent. It is simply that they think of themselves as servants not masters, and you cannot find true happiness if you are not free.

The best definition of freedom that I have ever read is, "Freedom means never having to ask those people whom you have allowed to run your government for you, for permission to do anything." (*Uncommon Sense: The Real American Manifesto*)

However, if you ask most Americans today to define freedom, you will likely be told something like, "I'm free because I can get into my car and go where I want." Actually, that is not true, because you must be carrying your travel papers (driver license and vehicle registration), or you may be stopped, arrested, and have your vehicle impounded. Nevertheless, that is what most people think of as freedom.

Yet, freedom is more than just being able to do what you want. It is a way of life, a state of being. Freedom is as much a spiritual condition as a physical one. Freedom is a

gift from God, and if you want to truly live free, you must learn to regard it that way.

The Chaos of Freedom

Recently, I had a conversation with an old friend. This very intelligent and thoughtful man said that if the people of the united States of America were allowed to live free from government regulation, then there would be total chaos. People would be harming each other all the time.

My friend then proceeded to defend the status quo as providing a better life for Americans than the kind of freedom that I am suggesting.

His comments had a profound impact on me, because I suspect that most Americans today would agree with him. He competently raised valid issues that deserve to be addressed.

Are we better off when government regulates our behavior?

Chaos and order rest at opposite extremes of the same scale. Neither extreme is desirable. For example, if you want

order, then tie everybody up, chain their arms and legs, and stick gags in their mouths. You now have an orderly and peaceful society, but is it a desirable one?

Absolute freedom is equally undesirable. In such a society, anyone could commit any crime against anyone else without consequences, including murder, rape and pillage. Such a society is clearly not what our Founding Fathers sought, nor do I think it conducive to happiness.

A genuinely free society is one in which the opposing forces of chaos and order are kept in balance. I believe the best balance tends more toward freedom and chaos than government control and order.

It is true that a society without government controls would encounter situations where people committed crimes against each other, however, if governments dealt with these crimes properly and according to the Rule of Law, then their judicial branches would provide real deterrents that would ultimately produce less crime.

In other words, a free society would necessarily go through chaotic growing pains. The question is whether they would be worth it.

In order to answer this last question, we must place our societal options in proper perspective. There are only two basic types of societies: those in which the government rules the people and those in which the people rule the government. One or the other must be in control.

A socialist government certainly provides for the general population, but the quality of the services and care provided tends to be poor. Socialism is more popular than rugged individualism, because the State takes care of the people.

However, it is a basic tenet of all socialist systems that the government has virtually unlimited powers to control and regulate individual rights in favor of those of the collective. Whatever benefits socialism provides, the State always rules over the people. The State represents the ultimate authority.

I believe that we cannot be truly happy if the State determines how we will live. Happiness requires each