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“The Right...Perspective”

**by
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So much in the news and so little space to cover it all!!! Let's take a look at current events and our perspective on what's really happening out there.

First in line... I suppose... is the terrible 7+ magnitude earthquake in China and the devastation it caused in human lives lost and suffering throughout the land. Current estimates project the death toll to be greater than 50,000 with thousands more still missing, many of them school children crushed under tons of the rubble of crumbling walls and ceilings.

We read about the tragedy and shake our head in wonder that so many people could die today in modern earthquake savvy societies. However, we forget that China, although a very savvy society when it comes to earthquakes, has not taken the steps necessary to mandate proper building codes and minimum construction standards. When I first heard of this earthquake my mind envisioned grass huts or rural farm residences totally void of any modern building specifications. In reality, based on television coverage of the communities affected, the areas most hit were heavy populated, modern, urban, and/or suburban neighborhoods and homes much like you would see in main street USA.

To keep everything in perspective we must remember the numbers of China's recent recalls of products shipped to American consumers that were deemed deadly to Americans, because of the levels of lead paint. China has had a long history of not caring about individual rights and chooses not to control factory emissions of deadly toxins and containments. If China has no interest in the health of her own citizens what makes us believe that she cares a hoot or a holler about red-blooded American children or their parents? They could care less. Many reports suggest that shoddy construction was the main contributor to the massive death toll. Some large buildings that were demolished were reported to have no steel support beams in the structures at all, including children's schools.

Hopefully, this needless loss of innocent life will galvanize our will to stop dealing with a country that could care less about the sanctity of human life. Our love for the dollar should, at some point in the near future, take second place to our love for mankind and its perpetuity, leading to a reduction in buying inferior foreign goods.

A nationwide average gasoline price of \$3.83 (\$3.93 in WV) is doing everything to the American public but keeping them off the road. Congressmen in our nation's capitol have chosen not to take an aggressive step toward reducing our dependence on foreign oil other than gather the heads of our country's oil companies and talk about how much each CEO earns each year. Individuals who run these companies deserve making the amount they earn because they do their job well... it is not their fault that gas prices have risen to the ceiling.

The real fault lies with those in Congress who for years have lobbied to prevent our nation from drilling into the rich oil reserves which lie beneath the surface of our country and a few miles off-shore... all for the sake of "protecting the pristine-ness of our environment." Our economy is endangered and our citizen's daily lifestyles are threatened, not because successful oil companies make a profit but because the ecological do-gooders stand in the way of the drilling for oil and the building of additional oil refineries which are necessary to convert the raw crude into usable products. Let's get these people in front of Congress and the world and demand they get into a "re-education program" on what the true wealth of our country is.

In other matters, let me say I hope that Sen. Ted Kennedy will be able to successfully battle against the cancerous tumor that is attacking his brain and that his family will have peace during the coming trial. Doctors do not give him a great chance in overcoming the tumor... so let's continue to pray for his comfort and mental agility for his remaining time with us.

Have a great week folks.

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