

Chronicles of Diversity



A Winter Metis Bridge

Metis Economics: People

12 January 2005; Volume 7, Issue 3

Over the next year I shall visit with, "A Year with C.S. Lewis, Daily Readings from His Classic Works." From these short vignettes, even this early in the year, one cannot but be awed by his depth of understanding of the nature of God and the nature of man.

This depth springs from a man who had one of the best educations the world can offer. Together with the works of his friend J. R. R. Tolkien we clearly see that education, that might be a hindrance to finding God's glory in many people, is used by others that God calls to give us humble insights into the ways of man and God's glory.

In the world we find people with very similar backgrounds making their life's work in very different ways, but still using their gifts to describe the ways and enterprises of man. In the case of Lewis and Tolkien, we find gifts of popular writing, in Adam Smith and Maynard Keynes we find technical and mathematical modeling of wealth and business.

Economics has many similarities to weather forecasting. Here in Seattle, today the weather forecast is for many days of rain. The economic forecast, is if the rain continues much longer, floods will have their effect on the local economy, causing possible economic devastation in certain areas, which may effect the local business climate for many years into the future.

Both weather forecasting and economics use mathematical models in conjunction with current information to try to predict what the future holds, with some varying degrees of accuracy. This accuracy, of course, is determined by the cooperation of God, or Mother Nature, or the Winds of Economic Enterprise.

But, we must not forget that weather forecasts and economics only hope to forecast reality, they do not create or change reality. By design they say that the future will be like the past, except for these assumptions. They therefore, cannot accurately predict extremes that either kill or save.

©2005; non-commercial education & forwarding encouraged, all other rights reserved

Jerry Bannon

Wonder Springs

7950 Seward Park Avenue South

Seattle, Washington USA 98118

phone: 206.660.0697

email: bannon@createleaders.org or chronicles@createleaders.org

Please forward prayer requests to: prayer@createleaders.org

Washington State Charity Number: 7529

Visit our web site at: www.createleaders.org

To subscribe to these free weekly messages please send us an email

Today, we consider this need to account for nature, a hindrance to our march for urban economic peace and harmony, but early western economics were based on rural roots. Physiocrats were early economists who disdained urban culture for the natural styles of rural living. This, of course, was when agriculture was the dominant economic system, before the industrial revolution. In fact, the term “laissez faire,” which basically means “leave me alone,” began as an economic seedling in this era.

In our Post-Industrial age, we find Metis again as a process by which many seek their roots in the ground of the good earth. We know that the things of our economy can give us an abundance of stuff, but many are beginning to question the premise, does that stuff really matter, or answer the questions, “Why am I here?” and “What am I to do?” In the face of these realities, stuff doesn’t seem to be the fabric by which to construct clothes to cover our nakedness.

Last week we said, our Metis economics will include three distinct components, people, land, and water. As we continue, we will deal with each of these individually, at least to some degree, before we try to synthesize some Metis union. It is our goal that Natural Law and Common Grace will find their union with the specific revelation of Biblical Law and Grace. This will be the massive literary summit we will try to scale these next few weeks.

Before we journey into metis country however, we should set up a paradigm for property and ownership. Metis land is not owned in common by some Egalitarian Cosmos Karma, nor is it owned in perpetuity by your title deed. Metis land is ultimately owned by God, but he gives leasehold property rights to those who show stewardship and manage the resources wisely.

Therefore, the devastation of the commons, as each individual, or group tries to take advantage of others, will not succeed. In fact, the commons as generally described in utopian bliss does not exist, but neither to I have the right to do with mine, anything I want, as long as it pleases me.

When I started “Chronicles of Diversity” many years ago, I began with a premise that post modern culture does not work very well because we tend to isolate people to themselves, consequently they have no community roots, and therefore we have no community. Community building is something we actively needed to learn to do, as the learned people we desire to be, for constructing the community we desired to see and enjoy.

What I have learned recently, is mankind naturally functions in community, however our so called cultural leadership works diligently to usurp that community and force individuals into the egalitarian commons and slavery. Once there, you are beholden to the leadership thereof for direction.

“Yes, wise master, whatever you say.” Even if you know in the core of your being that they are wrong, you sacrifice for the common good. They are in charge because of their politics, not leadership. Since, most of the time we do not perceive that our real survival depends upon these corrupt power seekers, most people follow to get along, even if this might eventually lead to holocaust.

We know that scientifically, with desire a normal person can lead effectively three to seven people, with the average person with some training capable of leading about five. Let’s see, we now have the basis for the family, but also the basis for community enterprise. All you have to do is to change the goal of leadership, but not the principles. Families become clans, tribes, and nations on the basis of five people. Mom and Pop companies become corporate enterprises on that human potential, and yes armies fight and win wars, likewise on the principle of one leading five.

Now, to be effective in all these efforts of mankind, commonly we also learn that we must be part of a whole greater than five. There just is not a big enough pool of talent, gifts, experience, or training with these small groups to effectively face the challenges of a big and nasty world. The American Dream of the rugged individualist making their way in this world solely by their own strength and wit, is but a naïve dream at best.

However, if you combine three to seven of these groups, depending upon the leaderships skills of the lieutenant, manager, or chief you have a self sufficient group that can pretty much be self sustaining when facing natural, economic, or community threats. To put this into some context, while still only leading directly three to seven people, this leader can effectively minister to between ten and fifty individuals.

Move these numbers into the world of education and you have the principles of class size. Put these numbers in the context of the Bible and you have the building blocks of Old Testament tribal numerology of tens, fifties, hundreds, thousands. People work most effectively under natural law and common grace and the specific revelation of the Bible by the same Metis rules used by all successful leaders.

So why weren't you taught this from the first grade all the way through your Postdoctoral research? The simple answer is others wanted you to be under their power, and we are too stupid to see it, even when we rant and rave at SuperBowl XXXIX. The SuperBowl champion will basically be two clans of thirty (offense and defense), ten plus one members of each clan on the field for either side at one time, and lead by a team of about ten coaches. The only real individuals on either the winning or the losing team will be the place kickers and the punters. But why stop at just football, all team sports are built on these groups of leadership.

So can you change modern society to look like a sports team, or a real community? Not without some sort of leadership, that is aware of common principles of leadership fundamentals. Only one organization is theoretically aware of the principles of specific revelation and that is the church. But just as the church is the most segregated place in the country on Sunday mornings, it is also at that time the most anti-leadership. To put it bluntly, you can preach to hundreds, even thousands, but you can only minister to about thirty, and lead only five. Ergo, preaching pays the bills. Or that is what we have been taught to believe. Or that is what we have assumed in our ignorance.

That's true even if the Pastor himself, once he gets home, turns on the TV to see if the Seahawks are back to their old possum tricks, (playing dead at home and getting killed on the road.) That also reminds me of the Christian man who drowned in a flood waiting for the Lord to provide an escape. When he got to heaven, the man ask God why he wasn't rescued, to which the Lord replied, "I sent two boats and a helicopter, what did you expect?"

Like it or not, revivalism replaced the Pastor/Minister with the Preacher/Entertainer. Few, if any, evangelical churches in America have even questioned, "God, what way of escape from this mediocrity should we follow?" What do you mean you gave us football, basketball and baseball, we don't understand, when we grow up we are all supposed to be spectators, not participants." This commons mediocrity, also gives many pastors a free ride as far as leadership responsibility.

"So who told you to grow up. Buy some Nikes, if they don't fit your feet, some other brand, get out of the stands of life, and just do it. Life is a game for you, because even if you think you lose, ultimately and eternally you win. So build that team, don't be such a wussie!"

There is nothing wrong with preaching to the hundreds and thousands, that is part of the specific revelation of the Old Testament tribes. The problem is that there is no organization of tens leading to self sustaining fifties. If that can't take place during an hour or two on Sunday Morning, the practice of being the church must take place on the practice fields outside the cloister. However, the answer must get beyond the family (small groups) into the self sustaining teams, platoons, or clans.

We are finished this week with picking on the church (of course, only for purposes of illustration). But it amazes me how few other enterprises understand the common basis of leadership either. They just seem to want to walk out on the commons of lost and desperate individualism, stand on a soap box, begin preaching some egalitarian pabulum, and evolutionarily expect to change the world, for just a small donation.

For many years I have wanted to develop a retreat center, actually a better term would be a boot camp, to train a bunch of wussies some leadership discipline needed to survive in the wilderness beyond the closest Starbucks. Contrary to most contemporary teaching this is not an individual accomplishment in the heroic vision quest of the Native - American Dream. To paraphrase the title of a book from the Senator from New York state: It takes a village for you to become the unique free personality you were created to be. But this village is based on personal community responsibility, team work, and opportunity, not utopian equality through servitude.

So if you would like to help, by the time we run out of water (probably two weeks hence) we should be ready to begin somewhere. Pack your bags, buy your ticket, and get ready to board. Wonder Springs, from living in the reality of the present impossibility. Therefore, I am not looking for thou-

sands of small donations to my political cause, but a few people with commitment who seek to change the world.

Other articles in this Phylogenesis Series:

Liquidity with purpose; PDF link: <http://www.wondersprings.com/2004pdffiles/liquidty9-29-4.pdf>

Bottled Liquidity; PDF link: <http://www.wondersprings.com/2004pdffiles/bottleliquid10-6-4.pdf>

Fakin it; PDF link: <http://www.wondersprings.com/2004pdffiles/fakinit10-13-4.pdf>

Natural Energetics; PDF link: <http://www.wondersprings.com/2004pdffiles/natureenergy10-20-4.pdf>

Political Energetics; PDF link: <http://www.wondersprings.com/2004pdffiles/poleenergy10-27-4.pdf>

Reasoned Phylongeny; PDF link: <http://www.wondersprings.com/2004pdffiles/reasonphylodg11-3-4.pdf>

Sasquatches & Polar Bears; PDF link: <http://www.wondersprings.com/2004pdffiles/sasbears11-10-4.pdf>

51-48 gas; PDF link: <http://www.wondersprings.com/2004pdffiles/51-48gas11-17-4.pdf>

Show me; PDF link: <http://www.wondersprings.com/2004pdffiles/showme11-24-4.pdf>

A cheap plot; PDF link: <http://www.wondersprings.com/2004pdffiles/acheapplot12-1-4.pdf>

Cheesy Cows; PDF link: <http://www.wondersprings.com/2004pdffiles/chessycows12-8-4.pdf>

Raurbs versus Apgars; PDF link: <http://www.wondersprings.com/2004pdffiles/raurbsapgars12-15-4.pdf>

Metis; PDF link: <http://www.wondersprings.com/2005pdffiles/metis12-29-4.pdf>

The Complete (Natural) Metis; PDF link: <http://www.wondersprings.com/2005pdffiles/completemetis1-5-5.pdf>

Metis Economics; PDF link: <http://www.wondersprings.com/2005pdffiles/metisecon1-12-5.pdf>