

TOTALITARIAN AMERICA

SURVIVING MARTIAL LAW 2017



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Totalitarian America: Surviving Martial Law 2017

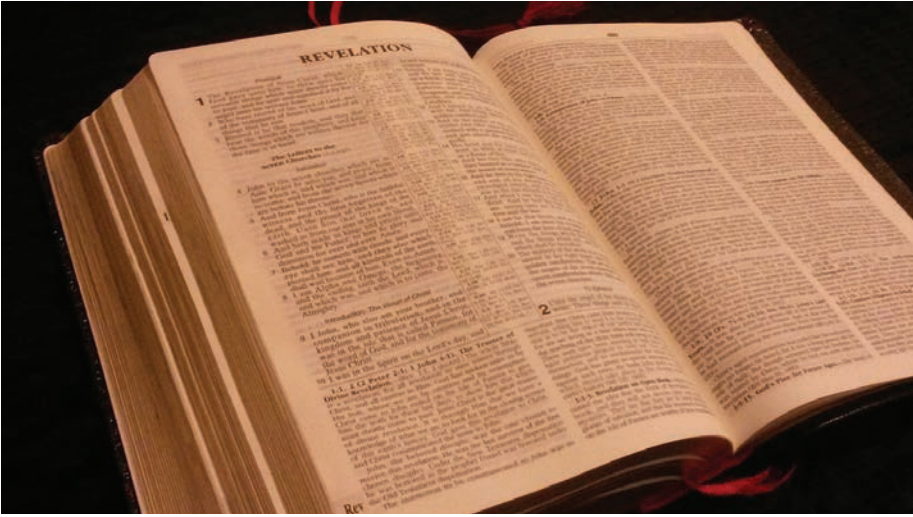
There are hundreds of people who have predicted the end of the world as we know it over the years.

Christians have been warned by the Bible to ignore many of these predictions. The predictions are typically viewed as tools of the devil and not to be believed. They are tests of faith.

Sometimes, the predictions are so far-fetched and unbelievable, we don't think twice about them. They aren't even worth looking into because the Bible has already warned us of those that would attempt to predict the exact time and place for the end of the world as we know it. Those people are not to be believed.

We ignore the doomsday predictions and continue on with our lives. However, there are the predictions that have a little more validity and spark our interest. The predictions that really grab our attention or they should, are those that were predicted and actually came to fruition. The predictions don't declare the end of the world, they predict signs that the end of the world is near. THAT is what we have to pay attention to.

Before you automatically scoff at the idea of someone being able to accurately predict the future or declare it as the Devil's work, think about prophecy. Prophecy is the foundation of many religions and is a



huge part of the Bible itself, especially in Revelation.

There are plenty of prophets from all walks of life and various religions that have been able to give us an idea of what we can expect in the future. The Bible is one of the books most Christians rely on to give them an idea about the future. Human nature drives us to try and predict what may happen in order to prepare for some event. Think about how much we depend on weather forecasts, TV guides, early polling results and so on. We NEED to have an idea of what is coming our way.

The Urantia Book is another book filled with predictions and prophecies that we can rely on and reference. It is very similar to the Bible, but written in more modern times, with language that is a bit easier to understand. Part of the problem many people have with the Bible is it can be a bit difficult to decipher. There is definitely some loss in translation and then you have to try to make sense of the symbolism. It can be a little overwhelming and some people have chalked it all up to fantasy or being completely taken out of context.

The Urantia Book is written in plain English. Events that have been happening in the past 100 years or so have often been outlined long before they ever happened, in the Urantia Book. It isn't just world events that have been predicted. Advances in science were also predicted with the majority

of them have already come true. These accurate predictions lend credibility to the book.

It is important we have some idea of what is coming. It isn't practicing witchcraft or relying on a fortune teller. Every single day you rely on predictions about the weather, about what your schedule at work will be like and what days the kids will be out of school. Knowing what is coming helps us plan and prepare. It gives us purpose. It gives us a feeling of security.

We know that the world has been crumbling into moral decay. Many nations have risen and fallen over the centuries, but there tends to be one common thread between them all. The fallen nations have turned their backs on God. The goal to create a secular society gets taken too far and the nation turns into an immoral, cold place that is dangerous physically and spiritually.

Poor decisions are made in the name of greed and power and the good people of the nation will suffer the consequences. The United States is headed for destruction via an economic collapse. That has nothing to do with any religion. That is a fact and economists and experts have been predicting it will happen for years. We are on the brink of that collapse.

The following excerpt is from the Urantia papers (2081):

Secularism did break the bonds of church control, and now in turn it threatens to establish a new and godless type of mastery over the hearts and minds of modern man. The tyrannical and dictatorial political state is the direct offspring of scientific materialism and philosophic secularism. Secularism no sooner frees man from the domination of the institutionalized church than it sells him into slavish bondage to the totalitarian state.

It is no secret that society has taken a huge turn for the worse. Look at our world today compared to what it was 70 to 100 years ago. The things we accept as normal today would have NEVER been accepted back then. The United States and the world in general has fallen into a moral sinkhole. For those that are familiar with the Bible, you know that was predicted and

boy are we living up to those predictions.

Again, if you are familiar with the Bible and the prophecies throughout the text, you may assume Sodom and Gomorrah and the city they lived in filled that particular prophecy of moral depravity and they were punished accordingly. Unfortunately, the world kept turning and nations rose again. Some have fallen and more are about to fall. This time the punishment will be extreme. How many chances do we get? God cannot turn a blind eye forever. We will destroy ourselves if he doesn't intervene.

Christians are braced for the Second Coming. This is essentially the light at the end of the tunnel. We know to get to that light, it is going to be rough going between here and there. The fall is going to be brutal. It is going to test our faith and our strength as humans.

We can be prepared for the coming fall. The fall will be what separates the believers from the non-believers. It will weed out those who are unworthy. God's wrath isn't going to be a massive fireball from the sky. It is going to be the fall of our great nation. It is going to bring people to their knees in a very literal sense. The collapse of a nation will leave people starving and in dire consequences. They will beg Him for mercy, which will be too late.

In the Urantia Book, it clearly states the nation will turn its back on God after being founded on the very principles that the Bible outlined. Is that not what has happened in the United States? Pilgrims came over to settle the land in pursuit of religious freedom. The Christians that founded this great nation created laws with God in mind and based many of the founding principles on what the Bible taught.

Over the past 200 years, the Bible has slowly been pushed out and God has been ignored and even banished! God is almost a dirty 3-letter word that is forbidden for use in public. We were once a great nation that thrived with God as our unseen backer. That is no longer the case. We have evicted God and now, America must pay the grave price.

We know that the removal of God has dire consequences (2084.7):

No social system or political regime which denies the reality of God can contribute in any constructive and lasting manner to the advancement of human civilization.

For believers in the Bible, the thought of not having God's love and support is terrifying. The more God is pushed out, the scarier this country gets. That is exactly what is happening in the United States. The writing is on the proverbial wall. Analysts and officials that are in the know have been saying it for years; we are headed for a massive collapse. The groundwork has already been laid.

Another prediction of the coming fall can be found on 2082.5 of the Urantia Book:¹

The complete secularization of science, education, industry, and society can lead only to disaster. During the first third of the twentieth century Urantians killed more human beings than were killed during the whole of the Christian dispensation up to that time. And this is only the beginning of the dire harvest of materialism and secularism; still more terrible destruction is yet to come.

The country has been slowly moving to a totalitarian government for quite some time. With each new leader, there are new laws that push America in that direction. The sad part are these laws are passed with most Americans not even aware that it is happening. Laws and regulations are piggybacked in, buried in the depths of other bigger laws that look great from the outside, but once you dig in, the ugly truth is there. Your civil liberties are slowly being eroded.

The 4 steps to totalitarianism are not always so obvious. This is why we have already taken the first three steps to a totalitarian state without anyone raising too much of a fuss. One more. That is all it takes for a fall and guess what? We are there. We are looking over the edge of a monstrous cliff. One little push is all it will take to plunge us into devastation and despair.

The three steps we have already taken are as follows:

¹ http://www.urantia.org/urantia-book-standardized/paper-195-after-pentecost#U195_8_0

- Step 1-Destroy the confidence, safety and security of the people. This can be several things. The threat of a domestic terror attack is certainly at the forefront. We have invited the government in to monitor and watch every move to make sure there isn't a terrorist among us.
- Step 2-Weaken the country. That has been done in many different ways. A fledgling economy, poor infrastructure and a country full of people who don't trust each other or respect each other.
- Step 3-Incite rebellion and rioting. That has been happening more and more just in the past year. Riots are so common nowadays, it is normal to see it on the news and even easier to ignore. It is so common and expected, people are not even truly bothered or shocked, which is why the violence and destruction continues to escalate.

What is step 4? Step 4 is when the government comes in, shaking their finger at the people and taking away all of their privileges. We will be punished for the actions that were orchestrated by the government in order for them to take over our lives. The American people have had their hands held right to the birth of the totalitarian government. We can't trust ourselves. We are weak, afraid and unsure. We have been taught that only the government can save us, so we must hand over the reins.

Turn on the evening news. You will see rioting in the streets. People are struggling and afraid of their own shadows, waiting for the next terrorist attack. The fear is so great, people are practically begging for more government control and surveillance with the hopes it will protect them.

There is not a week that goes by that economists don't promise we are on the verge of an economic collapse. With the way things are going, the predictions outlined in the Urantia Book are about to be proven accurate once again.

It is going to happen fast and martial law will be rolled out before you have time to prepare yourself, which is why you need to do it now. Now is the time to get ready for living in a totalitarian government. It isn't going to be pretty or easy. Those that aren't ready will likely succumb.

This guide is going to be the very thing that saves you. It is going to help you prepare so you are not one of the masses forced into the street with no food or water. You are not going to be one of the thousands who has to watch their children cry because their stomachs are empty and aching.

This guide is going to take you through everything you need to do today to be ready for the coming fall. Pray and prepare. That is all you can do. The groundwork for a collapse has already been laid. You can't stop it, but you can be ready to live through it.

What is Life Really Like Under a Totalitarian Regime?

Maybe you are still a little hesitant to buy into the idea of a collapse that results in a totalitarian state. It is hard to believe the leaders who proclaimed your safety and well-being were their priority would be so devious as to mislead you. Sheep are easily persuaded to look the other way while a wolf or a pack of wolves leads them to their demise. History is the best predictor of the future. Throughout the Bible and even our own history textbooks, you will see history has a funny way of repeating itself.

It doesn't always look exactly the same and it isn't going to be in the same place, but the undercurrents of what are happening in America today have happened in other countries. Not just once. Several times. The same mistakes are repeated over and over again. The same greed and desire for power rises up and the people are the ones to suffer.

Doesn't it make sense to learn from history?

China Under Mao Zedong

Let's revisit China in the mid 20th century, around 1950. Mao Zedong was one of those rulers who is infamous because he was a mass murderer. In fact, the murders he ordered or was responsible for far outnumber any other ruler in the 20th century.

People who lived in China from the late 1940s until the early 1970s were subjected to horrendous living conditions. The man reigned terror on the people for several decades. During that time, historians suspect upwards of 40 million, possibly up to 80 million people were killed under his regime for various reasons.² The true story of what happened in China during his reign is still coming out. For decades, it was carefully hidden from the world. Even now, the old-school leaders and those that are loyal to Zedong are keeping the stories under wraps. They don't want to taint his memory.

Historians and scholars who managed to survive Mao's reign of terror explained it was the communism that resulted in a "moral vacuum." Sound familiar? The Chinese Communist Party did not allow for traditional morals and values to be passed down from one generation to the next. Scholars and the elderly were harassed or murdered. They were targeted because they knew better and didn't automatically bend to the ways of their tyrannical leader.

Millions of Chinese were executed because they didn't meet the communist standards. Those who refused to conform to the communist ways were sent to prison which were dubbed "labor reform." The prisons were essentially concentration camps with such primitive living conditions that at least half of the people sent to these places, died.

The famine that gripped the nation is what killed many of the people trapped in the country during something Mao Zedong referred to as the Great Leap Forward. Zedong's plan was to make China into a strong economic force that rivaled that of the United States. Communes were created that were supposed to create an equal balance of industry and agriculture. Each commune included about 5000 families. The popular young adult series "The Hunger Games" could very well have been based on this regime. There are many similarities between the communes and the districts and of course, the fact that all of the people were starving.

Those families had to give up all of their tools and food to the com-

2 <http://factsanddetails.com/china/cat2/sub6/item1081.html>

muned. Everyone in the commune had to share resources. There was no more individuality. Each of the adults in the communes were expected to work. They were forced to put so much time and energy into the production of things like inferior steel and machinery, the agriculture side of things suffered. The farmers couldn't work in their fields, which created a snowball of hell.

It wasn't more than a year into the 5-year plan that a widespread famine happened.³ The famine killed millions while their communist leader thrived. The horror stories of children being abandoned and left to die are plentiful. Some of the communes resorted to cannibalism to survive.

This situation didn't happen overnight. It began decades before and then one day, people, just like you and me, found themselves living in a country that had fallen and had been taken over by a government who cared little for their well-being. Their leader had only his best interests in mind and didn't care about what happened to the people. Despite all the propaganda put out about making China into a great nation, the people were suffering and dying.

Right now, Americans have this very wrong idea that the government will take care of them no matter what. We have a welfare system that is designed to provide food and shelter for those who are in poverty and can't do it themselves. The people who work and earn are taxed so the money can be distributed to those who can't or won't.

The system is supposed to give the people comfort and security to know the government will always take care of them, even during hard times. We assume our backs are covered. This is a mistake. This is one of the tricks the wolf wants us to believe. If we are dependent on the wolf, a.k.a the leadership of our nation, we will blindly follow. We will not try to take care of ourselves. When there is no food and no welfare, those who assumed they would be taken care of by the government will perish. Just like the citizens under Mao's rule who succumbed to starvation.

3 <http://www.historylearningsite.co.uk/modern-world-history-1918-to-1980/china-1900-to-1976/the-great-leap-forward/>

Germany Under Hitler

Everyone knows about Adolf Hitler. The man has been made famous because of his evil deeds. He is a notorious figure in history that American students have learned a great deal about. He was a terrifying individual who had no regard for human life. Despite his horrible crimes, he doesn't quite compare to Mao. While Hitler was a dreadful human being, the murders at his hands are only a fraction of the number of Mao's.

Germany under Hitler was actually quite pleasant for the citizens for quite some time.⁴ They didn't even realize they were literally sheep being led to the slaughter. The capitalism veiled what was really going on. While the economy boomed and people were living the good life, they were oblivious to what Adolf Hitler was slowly taking away from them. They gladly obeyed the laws and restrictions that were being passed down, because it made their lives easier and better. Again, sound familiar?

The Nazi movement didn't start out as a bunch of guys pledging allegiance to a man who would go on to kill millions of people. No, it started as a way to support an ideal way of life. The Jews were the target of Hitler and his followers. They were blamed for the economic struggles in Germany. The Jews were also blamed for Germany losing the First World War. Hitler persuaded his people that it was the Jews they needed to get rid of so Germany could continue to thrive.

Many of the smartest people in the country were fooled by the pretty words and grand promises to fix the struggling economy. They supported Hitler's decision to disarm the Jews and ultimately exterminate them altogether. In order to completely control the people, Hitler put a plan in place that would give him more power with the next generation of Germans.

Women in Nazi Germany were baby-making machines and really little more than that. They were paid to have babies that would grow up to be soldiers for Adolf Hitler. He knew the children were the future and he figured brainwashing them from the get go would ensure their loyalty to him

4 <http://www.historynet.com/conversation-growing-up-in-nazi-germany.htm>

and his cause to eradicate the nation of Jews. It was a very effective plan. The schools taught Nazism. He was breeding Nazis from the time the kids could walk and talk.

Think of our schools today and what is being taught. The deeds of Hitler and the communism he taught are glossed over. This is because young people may recognize the signs of communism and what is happening in the United States. It wouldn't do to have the younger generations reject what is being spoon-fed to them.

God and anything related to the Bible are completely excluded. The constitution has been twisted to defend this new way of teaching and children are slowly, but very surely being taught a new way of life with very little morals and principles that we once held. God and the people who worship him are often targeted. Christians are prosecuted for not going with the flow and accepting the moral depravity like good little citizens.

Hitler did something similar. He banned the production and the sale of the Bible--just like we have forbidden God to be talked about in public.⁵ The similarities between the way Hitler ruled and the way our government is leading the country are striking. The people of Germany in the early 1930s were more than willing to accept a man who would help them prosper and thrive.

Hitler appeared to be the answer and he was a very suave, calculating individual who managed to lead them right into the Second World War. The brainwashing was effective and the youth that were trained as soldiers from an early age were more than willing to fight for him and his extreme beliefs. They were also willing to kill and be killed with no remorse.

Russia Under Stalin

Yet another leader in recent history who has given us a very good example of what the future of America holds is Joseph Stalin. Russians lost

⁵ <http://www.markedbyteachers.com/gcse/history/what-was-it-like-to-live-in-nazi-germany-how-did-life-change-for-young-people-in-nazi-germany-although-adolf-hitler-was-a-very-confident-man.html>

all of their freedom under his rule. You were either an avid supporter of “Uncle Joe” or you found yourself in a labor camp or dead.⁶ There was no in between.

Religious freedom vanished. Church leaders were executed or imprisoned. Stalin, like so many communist leaders, didn’t want anybody worshipping anybody other than him. If his people believed in a higher power, they would not fear him as much. This is how these leaders gain control. They position themselves as a deity that must be obeyed and worshiped. They will not share their control over their population with God. This is why they eradicate God and all of the words of the Bible from the population.

Despite the vanishing religious freedom, life in general improved for those who lived under Stalin’s rule. So they thought. There were plenty of jobs. Women were allowed to work. The economy boomed. All seemed to be perfect as long as nobody questioned the communist ruling of the country. As long as nobody tried to read something that was forbidden or questioned the authority of the great leader, life would be fairly easy.

Stalin’s rule led to the death of millions who starved. He wanted a nation of soldiers and demanded the focus be on fitness and being the best physically fit soldiers in the world. With his focus on fitness, agriculture was ignored. No agriculture, no food.

He encouraged population growth, but didn’t increase food production which made starvation a real issue. He ordered the government to take over the farms and distribute as they felt needed. Farmers that refused to turn over their goods were typically killed. There was no arguing. You did it or you died.

Guess what the government wasn’t so great at? Farming.⁷ Their inability to grow food and their bias in the distribution led to many people starving. When people are hungry, they tend to question the government’s ability to provide and to be fair.

6 <http://www.historylearningsite.co.uk/modern-world-history-1918-to-1980/russia-1900-to-1939/life-in-ussr-under-stalin/>

7 <http://www.history.com/topics/joseph-stalin>

Because Stalin knew that any dissent among his people put his reign of terror at risk, he regularly ordered purges. He purged the scholars and those who would dare to question his methods. Writers and critical thinkers were regularly targeted for speaking out against his rule.

Once again, people of certain religions were targeted.⁸ The Jews once again found themselves being killed for their heritage and beliefs. Jehovah's Witnesses and members of the Russian Orthodox Church were included in the purges that made Stalin famous. Anybody that threatened his reign was ordered to be killed. He had a zero tolerance policy and followed through.

Stalin had no qualms about starting wars or jumping in. Stalin has earned the credit of killing or being responsible for the deaths of upwards of 20 million people during his dictatorship. Those deaths included top ranking military officials and people who immigrated to Russia from other communist countries.

A Picture of a Totalitarian America

These are just three examples from history that help tell the future. Each of these men promised to take care of their people, while targeting a particular group. The leaders felt threatened by anyone who questioned their authority or how they were running things. Do you think you would be a person to question the government in a totalitarian society? Would you be targeted?

Americans today are definitely more armed than any of the people who were targeted in these examples. It wouldn't be quite as easy for the government to control those that wanted to fight back. A revolution would be possible, but those things take time to organize and the people who were willing to fight for their freedoms would have to stay alive long enough to do so. The rebels will be targeted and purged.

Unfortunately, unlike the other nations, Americans today are not self-sustainable. The majority of citizens are not capable of growing their own

8 <http://classroom.synonym.com/groups-were-targeted-stalin-19056.html>

food or living without electricity. They don't have the knowledge or the skills to take care of themselves without modern conveniences like grocery stores, vehicles and running water.

Americans have no idea how to do some of the things our grandparents did, like sewing, food preservation or using hand tools versus electric tools. Technology has given us some really great things, but it has made Americans handicapped in a way. As a nation, we have become dependent on other countries to make things for us and even grow our food. Americans don't know how to source water, find food or even how to take care of minor injuries and ailments.

The people that have taken the time to learn how to be self-sustainable are often targeted by the government. Preppers and survivalists have earned very bad reputations. This is propagated by government officials who want to discourage others for learning how to live without the help of the government. It is easier to control people who need your services.

Preppers know they have to keep their activities on the down low to avoid being targeted. They also know a law was quietly put into place several years ago that states when a state of emergency is declared or Martial Law is declared, the President of the United States has the authority to take all of your supplies, crops and whatever else they deem necessary. They will take your stockpile and distribute it as they see fit—for the greater good of course.

Living in totalitarian America is hard to imagine. For those who have lived in the U.S. all their lives, the idea of not having any freedoms is hard to picture. Seeing oppressed nations on the news or reading the stories in a book doesn't really paint the total picture.

We have seen a few times when Martial Law was implemented in cities where massive rioting was causing problems. Martial Law means the local police and governments are suspended. They are no longer in charge. The military is in charge and the President of the United States is in charge of the military. Martial Law is basically communism, which is what Hitler,

Stalin and Zedong used to control their people.

Martial Law would be instituted in the event of an economic collapse. This would be done under the guise of protecting the people and the country from the chaos that will ensue when that happens. It will be implemented with the promise to provide food and other basic necessities as long as people follow the rules.

We have already seen what happens when citizens become unhappy with the leadership. The riots we have seen thus far will look like temper tantrums compared to what is to come.

What would the country look like if Martial Law was instituted across the land?

- Freedom of the press is revoked. Newspapers and news stations will only be allowed to report the stories approved by the government
- Habeas corpus is suspended. You can get arrested for anything and you don't get the right to a trial.
- Curfews will be imposed. Getting caught out past curfew will likely mean imprisonment.
- The right to free assembly, which could include church gatherings, is suspended. Meetings to organize a revolution will be forbidden.
- Troops will patrol the streets. Those that violate any of the laws that have been put in place can be arrested and imprisoned indefinitely.
- Confiscation of food, guns and ammunition and other basic supplies by the government is very possible. The government may take what you have to distribute among the masses, similar to those earlier examples.
- Expect to be under heavy surveillance, much more than we already are. We already know our phone calls, emails, texts and shopping patterns are all being monitored by Big Brother. Everywhere you go, you are under surveillance from security cameras, drones and



satellites. Once Martial Law is declared, that surveillance is going to be downright invasive. Expect random searches of your home and your person with no right to say no.

- Food riots will also be very common. The government will initially try to ration food. Expect to wait in long lines and get a very limited amount of food. When the food is gone, it's gone, even if there are still folks in line. People will riot because they are starving. Venezuela is a recent example of what happens after an economic collapse and food shortages grip the nation.

Martial Law is a given. Police departments all across the country have been equipped with tanks and other military gear in preparation for an event that would allow the government to impose Martial Law. We know an economic collapse is coming. We know there are some very serious tensions among the people in the United States. Propaganda is already being used to stir up those tensions and divides in an effort to take the peoples' minds off of what the government is doing. They want you to believe their new laws and impositions are only being implemented for your own good.

Just as Hitler did with the young people in Nazi Germany, our young people are being taught to embrace totalitarianism. They don't even realize what is happening. It is being taught in a way that makes it okay for them to give up their freedoms in favor of the government taking over. They

don't mind taking a backseat and letting the government dictate what is best. Socialism looks appealing to today's youth who like the makeover the term has been given. That is what all those people in history thought too until they were starving and being denied the most basic human rights.

It is the older generations who recognize it for what it is—a doorway to communism. Democratic socialism sounds so pretty and Utopian. Everybody is equal. There are no class divisions. Everybody gets the same work and earnings. The government is in charge of collecting all the goods and distributing among the entire population as they see fit. Nobody has to worry about trying to get ahead or setting goals. Everybody can chill, follow orders and not worry about thinking.

In a nutshell, totalitarianism means one person has complete control over everything. The people that live in a totalitarian society have no freedoms. They are at the mercy of the leader.

When will the SHTF?

As you read through the examples history has provided us, it was probably pretty tough not to see the similarities between then and now. When can we expect SHTF? Well, as a Christian you know it is impossible to predict an exact date and time, but there are some pretty good indications that the time is coming quickly. It will most likely happen within the first year of our new president taking office. In fact, it could happen within the first half of 2017. This isn't saying it is the end of the world or a heralding of the Second Coming, this is pointing to the fact that our world as we know it is ending. The world itself will carry on until it has reached that point when God will intervene.

Yes, that is a scary thought and it does make you wonder how you will know when it is well and truly happening. You don't want to be one of the masses, blindly following a leader whose intent is to control your every move. You don't want to be one of the sheep. You must educate yourself and know the signs.

There have already been plenty of laws and bills passed very quietly that have taken away some of your freedoms and allowed the government a little more access to your private life. Think of the screenings you undergo at the airport. Think about the Patriot Act. There are plenty of horror stories from people who have been a victim of this law that allows the government to detain and prosecute a person based on suspicions and nothing else.

Saying the wrong word in an email, text message or phone conversation can get you flagged as a potential terrorist. Yes, they are watching, listening and reading.

What are the signs? The following are just some of the things that will give you a very clear indication that the worst is about to happen.

- Extreme market volatility is going to be something to watch for. This can include major swings up and down that ultimately lead to a major fall.
- Inflation increases. Use your own common sense and personal first-hand knowledge to judge this. Don't listen to the reports that are being fed to you via the government. A move to a totalitarian society will mean you are only being given the information the government wants you to hear.
- Purchasing power falls. Just because you are told unemployment is looking fabulous and there are minimum wage increases, doesn't mean the economy is healthy. These statistics don't factor in inflation. It costs more to live, which means the nominal increases in pay are still not enough. Your weekly pay doesn't go quite as far as it used to.
- You are broke. You have no savings. This is actually a bad sign because you are not alone. About a third of the people in the United States do not have a savings account.⁹ That means missing one paycheck could plunge them into foreclosure and dire financial straits.
- Lack of economic growth all around the world is a key sign of trouble. As the population grows, economic growth should happen. It hasn't and it is slowing. Don't believe the propaganda that is reported by the major news networks. Dig a little deeper to find the truth.

⁹ <http://www.profitconfidential.com/economy/7-signs-of-a-u-s-economic-collapse-in-2016/>



Those are some less obvious signs that we are headed for trouble. The next set of signs should be considered red alerts. These are signs that things went bad while you were sleeping or not paying attention and life is about to take a drastic turn for Americans as well as the countries depending on the US.

- Grocery store shelves are empty and replenishment doesn't happen; things like bread, milk and basic staples will be depleted quickly
- ATMs run out of cash
- Gas stations have no fuel and no expected time for more to be delivered
- Businesses unexpectedly close, with seemingly no warning
- Banks close without warning
- Public transportation stops running
- Martial law is imposed

These are signs of major trouble and you better be ready. If you are not ready, your life and the lives of your children are going to be extremely difficult. It is important to use history as your guide. Think of the citizens of

Russia and Germany who had it so easy—or so they thought. Their leaders took care of all the big decisions. The citizens didn't have to worry about deciding what church they wanted to go to, where they should live or even what they should or shouldn't eat.

Look around you. How much has the government stepped into your life to make it better? It is scary when you think about how much of our lives are truly controlled by the government. We don't always notice because it is worded and presented in a way that makes us think it is best for us. We accept the new laws that mandate everything from our healthcare to what we should eat because the government is looking out for us. Right?

If your eyes have been opened, it is time for you to start creating your own backup plan. It is time for you to learn how to take care of yourself so you can be independent and stay off the government radar as much as possible. You don't want to be waiting in the food lines or forced to ask for help or mercy.

How to Prepare Now: Covering the Basics

Okay, now you get it. You have just had an epiphany and realize that things are not okay. The government is overstepping and we are clearly on the brink of an economic meltdown despite the powers that be telling us otherwise.

They don't want us to be afraid. They don't want the rest of the world to be worried about our very shaky, unsteady economy. It is a source of pride and needless to say, it is a black mark on the leaders of this country. They failed us. They failed the world.

We are the ones who are going to pay a very heavy price for the mismanagement of the country's finances. The only way you can get through this economic collapse is by being prepared. Think of the Great Depression. It is hard for us to imagine not having a welfare system that will provide us with the basics. It is hard to imagine simply not having things like food, clean water or even electricity, but it *will* happen. You need to be ready to deal with those things so you can worry about thriving instead of just surviving.

Should You Bug Out?

If you have visited any kind of prepping or survivalist blogs, you will

have read A LOT about bugging out. There is a certain romantic notion to grabbing a backpack and heading for the hills. Living off the land among the trees and animals sounds exciting—until you actually have to do it. You would be leaving your house to sleep on the ground, in the cold or heat with no roof over your head. You won't have a toilet or any of the creature comforts like chairs, a dining table or even a front door to lock people out.

If you have not already set up some secondary location, you are probably too late. It sounds harsh, but it is a reality. If you happen to have a hundred grand in the bank and can buy a rural property with some kind of humble abode already on it, go for it. You have time. If you don't have that kind of cash, you are going to have to rethink the whole bugging out idea.

Bugging out isn't always best. Mother Nature can be brutal and trying to live in the forest, wilderness or jungle without any shelter is dangerous. One of the rules of survival is to make shelter a priority. You can only live about three hours after your core body temperature drops a couple of degrees. You don't want to risk heat exhaustion either. You have to get out of the weather in order to stay warm or cool in the summer. Being wet will zap your body heat. Even in warm weather climates, nights are chilly. You have to have some kind of shelter.



stocked. Leaving behind your pantry full of food, the blankets on your bed and your personal hygiene products is not wise. If your cabin in the woods is not stocked with food, bedding, a way to stay warm, medicine and so on, it doesn't make a lot of sense to go there.

You must be pragmatic and think in terms of real world survival. Bugging out because everyone else is or because heading for the hills just seems like the thing to do could get you killed. Weigh your options. There may not be any one ideal option, but you will need to choose the one that gives you the best chance of survival, even if that means staying in your home with troops patrolling the street.

Bugging In

This is a phrase that isn't quite as popular or widely used in the survival world and that is a shame. Bugging in offers many benefits and is generally going to be your safest bet in a true economic collapse that leaves the country in dire straits.

It is far more practical to stay put and with the tips and tricks outlined in the next several chapters, you are going to find it is a lot cheaper. Anyone can afford to plan for a bugging in. Preparing now means you are setting yourself and your family up for life after the collapse. Your family will not be quite as dependent on the government and still be able to make decisions for yourselves because you already have your needs covered.

It is also going to give you more security. You can fortify your home to make it a fortress. It can be your hideout. You know your home and if you were to be ambushed, you know the way out. You can maneuver in the dark and escape. You know the neighborhood and the best way to sneak around undetected.

Bugging in also provides a sense of comfort and security for you as well as your family. One of the worst things about bugging out is the uncertainty. You are giving up everything that is familiar. Survival isn't just about the physical aspect. It is very mentally taxing. You have to be able to keep

your spirits up and your head straight. If you have children, they are going to do better in the place they are familiar with and all of the things that make them feel safe. You don't want to be stressed out dealing with a terrified child. Staying home will allow you to maintain a sense of normalcy that allows the entire family to function better.

Another reason and perhaps the best argument for bugging in is the fact it takes very little time. Let's face it, you are up against the clock. There is a ticking time bomb just ready to explode and you don't have a lot of time to plan and prepare anything really elaborate. You need to act now and get your home ready. Fortunately, you probably have quite a bit of supplies already. There are just a few more things you will need to focus on to make sure you are relatively self-sustainable.

Let's get to it!

How to Make Sure You Always Have Clean, Drinkable Water

Okay, this one may be throwing you off. Why would you need to worry about water if you are bugging in? Can't you just turn on the tap? Well, for those on a public water system, yes, technically for the immediate future after a major collapse you could. However, it is a public system, which means it is operated by the city government. The city government is going to be gone, so who is running the treatment plant that keeps the water clean and pumping? Exactly! Nobody!

The water from your tap may continue to come through the pipes, but it will not be safe to drink. City water supply systems take the gray water from the sewage systems and clean it to make it safe. Water treatment plants will go offline.

You also have to assume the power grid is ultimately going to fail. Without power to pump the water, it isn't going to come through your tap. The tap will be dry. You can expect the power grid to fail within the first 30 days of an economic collapse. It will probably be much sooner, but definitely not longer. You will have to act quick.

Let's talk about those who have their own well and their own pump to run it. You are ahead of the game and you will be okay as long as there is electricity to run the pump. Now, if you have a shallow well, you can

get your hands on a manual pump. It won't exactly give you running water, but you will have clean water to drink. That is assuming you don't have any groundwater contamination caused by a spill from a chemical or manufacturing plant in the area.

If you live in an area where this isn't likely to be a problem, you should be in pretty good shape. However, it is always a good idea to have a backup plan—just in case.



Making the Water Safe

Water that you do pull from the tap after about the first 12 hours of an economic collapse should be filtered and/or purified. Public water systems rely on electricity and the distribution of chemicals to purify the water before it is sent into the public water supply. If no one is watching, no one cares or the equipment needed to purify the water isn't available, it is going to be dirty. Dirty as in filled with bacteria, viruses and other organisms that can make you sick enough to kill you. It may not look dirty in the sense of the word, but it is not safe to drink. Drinking water that isn't clean is not fun. If you do survive, the diarrhea, vomiting, cramping, fever and lethargy will make you wish you hadn't been so lucky. Never drink water that you cannot guarantee is safe.

There are a number of different ways you can make water safe. These are things you will need to stockpile now so you are ready to purify your water, whether it comes from the tap, a mountain stream or the local lake. You could even purify water from a pond if needed.

Before we get into the cleaning methods, we need to define the difference between purifying and filtering. They are not one and the same.

Purifying: Purifying water kills the organisms and parasites in the water via chemicals or boiling the water to kill them that way. Purifying kills the nasty stuff so it can no longer make you ill. The viruses, bacteria, parasites and whatever else that is hiding in the water will be dead.

Filtering: Filtering water removes tiny microorganisms from the water along with visible debris. However, some viruses are so tiny, they can slip right through the pores of the filter and remain in the water. Most filters offer a 97 to 99 percent rate of removal.

Let's go over some of the options you have. Some will be better for individuals on the move while others are perfect for families and bugging in situations.

- Lifestraws or similar brands are perfect for stashing in your car, purse or bug out bag. You put the straw (which is actually a filter) directly into the water source and suck. The water is cleaned as you pull it through the straw. Now, keep in mind this is a filter and not a purification method. There are Lifestraws designed to filter more water at a time. These are called Lifestraw Family filters.
- Steripens are great portable water purification methods. They use a UV light to purify the water. You simply put the stick with the light inside into a bottle of water, wait a few seconds and it is safe to drink.
- Purification tablets are great, but they are not exactly cheap or ideal when you need to purify several gallons of water on a daily basis. These tablets are best for emergency situations or when you are on the move.
- Large filtering systems like a Big Berkey are a bigger initial investment, but they are perfect for setting up at home and using in a bug in situation. Make sure you have extra filters on hand.
- Household bleach is an excellent purifier, BUT it is only truly potent for six months. If we are talking major collapse, your bleach

will lose its potency and be unable to purify your water six months from the time you bought it. You will absolutely need a backup plan for this.

- Iodine is another option and it will last for years if it is stored in a cool, dark area. However, some people have an allergy to iodine and pregnant women should not use iodine to purify their water. Typically, if someone has a shellfish allergy, they will be allergic to iodine.
- You can buy what you need to make your own gravity-fed filter. This is fairly easy and inexpensive and will filter hundreds of gallons of water. A quick search on Google will bring up plenty of free plans for these systems.

Clean, safe water is a big deal! Because it is so critical to your survival, you need a backup for your backup. Don't just go with one of these options. Have several on hand. The human body can only survive three days at max without water. In reality, the effects of dehydration will take you down much sooner than that. Don't even think about trying to go without. Be prepared!

No Water Nearby, No Problem!

Okay, you are probably in a bit of a panic. Where will you get water if you don't live near any bodies of water? Well, you have a couple of options. There are always options and when you take the time to plan and prepare, those options are possible.

So, your first option is to store water. Now, you are going to need a lot more than a case of bottled water in the pantry. You need one gallon of water per person, per day. That's a lot of water. If at all possible, start buying plastic, food-grade barrels now. These are plastic and typically blue or orange. Look for them used to save some cash. You can also buy NEW garbage cans with lids, the big round ones.

You can often find barrels on Craigslist or at yard sales. Sometimes they

are even free! Look around and get as many as you can. Fill them up now and store them behind the house or in the garage. If you are going to store them in the garage, put them on pallets or a piece of plywood. You don't want plastic barrels sitting on cement. It could leech chemicals into your water. Always store the barrels out of direct sunlight and cover them tightly.

Another option is something known as a Water BOB. This handy tool is under \$25 and gives you a way to store 100 gallons of water in your tub. No, you won't be drinking from the tub. The BOB is made from heavy duty plastic. You put it in the tub, fill it up from the faucet (remember you will need to do this immediately after SHTF) and put the cap on. It is easy to pull water from and will keep the water clean and sanitary for up to three months.

Driving Your Own Well

If you do not already have your own well, you need to know how to drill one, just in case. Driving a well isn't really all that difficult, but it does take some manual labor and patience. Where you live and where the water table is will determine if this is a possibility for you. If you live in a place where existing wells are 300 or more feet down, it would be incredibly difficult for you to attempt such a feat without the benefit of specialized equipment.

Before you randomly start digging for water, you need to find the best place that will give you the best results. In today's world, there are various tools available that indicate where the water is below the earth's surface. If you can't get to that equipment today, you can do the old fashioned way of finding water.

It is something known as divination. It is a little far-fetched, but it has actually worked. You can certainly give it a shot. A little help is better than taking a complete shot in the dark. The process involves using a willow twitch. The twitch is held parallel to the earth's surface. You would walk around holding the twitch with both hands and wait for it to vibrate. When it vibrates, water is supposed to be in that spot. As you can imagine,

this is not a full proof method. This is why you will need lots of patience.

You will likely have to drive several holes in your search for water. You may very well find water one day only to have it disappear the next. This is because you didn't hit a natural aquifer and just drove into a pocket. Keep trying.

To drive your well, you will need something known as a wellpoint. Buy this now. The wellpoint is a pointed metal rod with lots of holes. The holes are covered with a mesh wire. When you hit water, the water will flow into the rod, filtered by the mesh wire and you will be able to draw the water up through the pipe with a manual hand pump.

This is where the manual labor comes in. You will need to drive the well point into the ground. You can use a sledgehammer or a tool that is similar to a post pounder. An auger can also be used. It will depend on what kind of soil you are dealing with and what is available. Extremely rocky soil can damage your well point, which is why it is a good idea to use an auger.

Once the well point is driven down so that only 8 to 10 inches are above the surface, you will want to take off the cap that protected the pipe during the pounding process. Attach a coupler and seal it tight using teflon tape.

Now, you are going to screw another pipe, about 4 to 6 feet, into the top of the coupler so you have a long pipe sticking out of the ground. Put a cap on this pipe to protect the top end. You are going to pound this pipe down, just below the surface again. Remove the cap, apply a sealant, put on another coupler and attach a new pipe. Repeat the process. You are going to continue to do this until you hit the water table. A hollow sound while you are pounding the pipe will be your best indicator.

Now it's time to see just how successful you were. Use string or paracord with a weight attached to one end. Drop it into the pipe. When the weight hits the bottom, the cordage will go slack. Use your finger to mark the place and pull the rope back out. Use your other hand to feel the rope to check for wetness. You will be able to judge just how far your well point went into the aquifer. The goal is about 4 to 6 feet into the aquifer or you

will be sucking dirt and rocks.

Prime your pump with water before you attach it to the pipe. Attach the pump and get busy pumping. The first few gallons of water that come through are not going to look too appetizing. They will be muddy, but that's okay. You are just getting things going.

Take off your pump, put the cap on the pipe and give it a few good hits to drive it a couple more feet into the ground. This will create a nice hollow space around the well point that will be filled with clean water. If you have an electric pump, you can certainly use that, but it is best to stick with a manual pump. Yes, it is more work, but you won't have to waste your generator fuel to pump water.

Stockpiling the RIGHT Foods

Food is typically one of the first things that people think about when they want to start preparing for a major event. While water should be at the top of the list, food tends to be a priority. However, it is important we point out one little technical fact; you can survive 21 days without food. Yes, it sounds awful and it is, but when you are prioritizing your needs, keep that in mind.

With that said, nobody enjoys being hungry and starving. We are here to help you get a nice stockpile of food that will sustain you. You will want to focus on non-perishable foods or food that can store for long periods of time without spoiling. Anything that must be refrigerated or frozen is not an option. You have to be prepared to live without the luxury of refrigeration. Canned goods, freeze-dried foods and dried foods will be your best options.

A major mistake people tend to make when they start stockpiling food is they stock the wrong foods! Think about what you eat today. Okay, that may not be the best example if you are a junk food junkie. But, if you eat some fresh foods here and there, you are giving your body some nutrition. Without access to doctors (forgot about that, huh?) and working physically harder, you need to give your body what it needs to stay healthy. Raw fruits, veggies and fresh meat is going to be very hard to come by.

You need the good stuff, which is why you want to stay away from

those foods marketed to folks that are trying to be prepared and willing to buy into the hype of some freeze-dried food packaging. Here's the deal; they are not healthy. They are not good for you. In fact, some of them don't even taste all that great.

When you are stockpiling food, you should be more focused on quality, rather than quantity. In an extreme time when food isn't plentiful and readily available, calories count. Nutrition counts. Unfortunately, some of the commercial foods, especially those marketed for long-term food storage, do not provide accurate calorie counts.

In order to keep up your strength and health, you have to eat a particular number of calories per day. This is going to depend on your age, current physical shape, your gender and how much work you will be doing will influence this number.

Along with inaccurate calorie counts, you need to be concerned with what is in the food. Preservatives, like MSG, sodium and nitrates are used to help those foods last longer. Those are things you DON'T want to be putting in your body. Nutritional value is going to be very important. You must be prepared to be doing far more physical labor than you normally do. Cleanliness and sanitation are going to be lacking, which means you need to stay as healthy as possible.

Getting sick or even weak in a SHTF scenario is life-threatening. You can't run to the doctor and get medicine and you can't take a few days off. What you eat will play a huge role in your health.

With that said, packaged commercial food does have its benefits. It is easy to get and plentiful. Despite its nutritional value, you should absolutely store a few hundred servings. The trick is not to solely rely on these foods alone. That is where you run into problems. Having a quick meal to serve after a long day of working hard can be a great thing. It is all about moderation.

You are in luck. Numanna Organic Family Pack offers survival food without any of the nasty chemicals, pesticides or other things you wouldn't

want to eat. You aren't going to get any artificial flavors, hydrogenated oils or refined sugars. Do what you can to add these products to your shelf now, before they are sold out.

How to Grow Your Own Food Supply

Even if you have a six month supply of food, you are not really set up. You need to think long term and renewable. Are you supposed to stop eating after six months? Is the world miraculously going to heal itself and we go back to our regularly scheduled lives? No. We will still need food.

An option that provides you fresh protein and fresh vegetables is something known as aquaponics. If you have never heard of the term, you are in for a real treat. Basically, you keep fish in a large tub or barrel and grow vegetables in some kind of medium that is suspended over the open tank. The fish provide nitrogen and other nutrients that are absorbed by the roots and the plants thrive. The roots of the plants help keep the water clean and the environment for the fish nice and healthy.

Aquaponics are one of the best options by far and provide the most food per square foot. Think about a garden. You can only plant so much in a single plot and it is going to be limited to a few plants. You are also



dependent on the weather and can only grow food a few months out of the year. Aquaponics provide you with a renewable food source. The fish will continue to breed and produce more fish. The plants you grow from heirloom seeds will produce fruits and vegetables that you can harvest seeds from to grow new plants.

An aquaponics system allows you to have more plants, because they are not fighting for space in the soil or resources like water and nutrients. You can grow the plants all year round, assuming you can put it in a greenhouse. You are also getting a great source of fresh fish to help balance out your diet.

The rule of thumb is for every gallon of water your tank holds, you can sustain a pound of fish. However, that is for a system that has been up and running and is already in perfect balance. For beginners, it is better to start with about 10 gallons of water for every pound of fish. The key with aquaponics is to make sure you have the right amount of oxygen and nitrogen in the water. Too many fish and you could end up with too much nitrogen and your fish will die.

Aquaponics: Everything You Need to Know to Grow Your Own Food Supply

It is incredibly easy to get your own system set up. This is a brief overview and then we will list some books you can pick up to help you fine tune your system.

Things you will need:

- Food grade barrel, old bathtub, square water cisten, old plastic swimming pool or any kind of vessel
- A grow bed can be made from the other half of the square cistern or constructed from 2x4s and lined with pond liner
- Water pump—if you can go with one that relies on solar energy or invest in a panel that will run your pump

- Black flexible hosing
- ½ inch PVC pipe
- 6 inches of ¾ inch pipe
- PVC glue
- Medium for grow beds i.e. gravel (cheapest, but heavy), clay pebbles or hydroton, expanded shale, synthetics (very expensive, but very light)
- Tools: drill, handsaw

Where you place your system is up to you, but many aquaponics users find a greenhouse works best. This allows you to grow all year round and you don't have to worry about using grow lights. In a true SHTF situation, you wouldn't have the electricity to run the lights, anyways. The greenhouse will protect your plants and fish from birds as well. You also won't have to worry about the temperature of the water for your fish when you use a greenhouse.

You can put together a greenhouse fairly easily and it will be well worth the small investment. It doesn't have to be huge. Your plants will be growing right over the top of your barrels or tanks. In fact, you can even put several layers above your tank if you have a powerful enough pump to push the water around.

Putting it Together

It may sound complicated, but you will be surprised at how easy it is to put a set up together.

- If you are using a plastic barrel or cistern, you will want to cut off the top third or so. Use your saw to do this. The piece you cut off is going to be flipped over and used as your grow bed. Cut a ¾ inch hole in the center that will house your PVC drain tube.
- If you are building grow beds, construct boxes that will fit over the

top of your tank. Make them sturdy enough to hold the medium you choose. Leave a hole in the center of the box for a drain tube.

- Cut your PVC pipe to fit around the perimeter of your grow box. You want it to create a square. You will need to use 90 degree elbows to connect the pipes. Use a drill to make $\frac{1}{4}$ inch holes about every 6 inches in your PVC pipe.
- Place the $\frac{3}{4}$ inch PVC pipe into the center of your grow bed. The longer the pipe, the less bubbling you will get into the bottom fish tank. The shorter the tank, the more bubbles and aeration you will get, but it also gets a little messy. Adjust the length of pipe to suit your needs.
- Use another 6 inch long piece of $\frac{1}{2}$ pipe with holes all over. This pipe will go into the larger pipe. It is the drain pipe that will drain the water from the grow bed into the fish tank. The outer pipe will prevent your medium from going into the fish tank. Secure the pipes into place.
- If you used a wood grow box, line it with pond liner or thick plastic, cutting a small hole for the drain pipe. Seal the area around the cut plastic.
- Place the grow box over your fish tank, so you can still see the tank clearly. Your box should be on the back half. Use additional supports if necessary.
- Add your medium.
- Place the PVC perimeter into the grow box.
- Place the pump into the bottom tank. Run the black tubing from the pump up the side of the tank and into the PVC at the top.

That's it. That is your setup. Your pump will move the water from the tank into the PVC pipe. The holes in the pipe allow the water to evenly spread throughout the grow box. Plants are planted directly into the medi-

um. Only use starts and not seeds. You can start your seeds in a separate area.

Aquaponics experts prefer to stick with the hardy Tilapia. They are tolerant and grow quickly. You can expect a one pound fish in about 6 months. Your fish will continue to reproduce as long as the climate in the tank is ideal. You will need to have another tank set up for fingerlings.

Leafy vegetables like kale, spinach and lettuce tend to do the best in these systems. You can experiment and learn more about spacing and what grows best.

Check out these books for more information on maintaining your aquaponics system and troubleshooting any issues.

- Aquaponic Gardening by Sylvia Bernstein
- The Complete Idiot's Guide to Aquaponic Gardening by Meg Stout
- Aquaponics: The Essential Aquaponics Guide by Andy Jacobson
- Aquaponics: How to Build Your Own Aquaponics System by Celine Walker
- Aquaponics: From Beginning to Expert by William Walsworth

Don't put off building your aquaponics system. You need to get it done now. It takes months to get the water just right for your fish. Every day you don't get started is a day you will be without food in the future.

Alternative Energy Sources

Living without electricity is tough business. You never realize how dependent you are on electricity until it is ripped away from you. There is very little you do on a daily basis that does not somehow go back to electricity. You need to have a backup plan.

Before you automatically assume solar power or a wind turbine are your best and only options, think again. Unless you have thousands, maybe even hundreds of thousands of dollars to throw at an alternative energy system, you need an option. Solar energy is great, but the panels and batteries are still very expensive. You would be putting yourself into debt.

Instead of going big and spendy, go cheap with a small, used generator. All you have to do is check Craigslist. They are always on there for half the cost of a new generator. The engines are similar to that of a lawnmower or small car. They are fairly easy to repair and maintain, which makes them much more cost savvy than a solar power system. If something breaks on one of those things, very few people know how to fix them and in many cases, they cannot be fixed at all. The cost to replace or repair is so exorbitant it just doesn't make sense.

You also need to think of the availability of parts. After SHTE, you can't run to Home Depot to get what you need to fix your back up electricity source. You are going to have to scavenge for it. There is an endless supply of lawnmowers and vehicles that you can borrow parts from to

keep your generator running.

The major issue you will have is storing the fuel needed to run your generator. Make it a priority to store at least 300 gallons of fuel, but ideally 500 gallons. Use fuel stabilizer to keep it fresh and ready to use. Storing it below 70 degrees will also help extend the life of the gas. Fuel stored in ideal conditions can store for about a year. Beyond that, fuel tends lose potency and can cause problems for the engine of your generator.

Limit your generator use. Only run it when you absolutely need it. If you limit your usage, you can expect to go through about 10 to 15 gallons of gas per week. That would give you enough fuel to last about 8 months. On average, a generator will use anywhere from 12 to 20 gallons of gas in a single 24 hour period. You can limit that to just a couple of hours a day and really make it stretch.



How to Bolster Your Home Defense

Because you will be bugging in, you need to do everything you can to protect yourself and all those supplies you stockpiled. The old saying, “the best offense is a good defense” is applicable here. It is critical to your immediate survival and your ability to survive the coming future. There are some things you can do to protect yourself, your home and your supplies from those that will want to take it.

The sobering reality is not everyone will have taken the time or heeded the warnings and prepared for an economic collapse. There are going to be hundreds of thousands of people who are starving, freezing or just unscrupulous and will try to take what you have. In a world where it will truly be the survival of the fittest or most prepared, you have to be ready for anything. Your generous heart and Christian values may lead you to give what you can, but you have to be careful. Not everyone is as kind as you are. You give an inch and they will take a mile.

Yes, it will be difficult, but you have to do what is necessary to protect your own family and ensure they have what they need to survive.

Home Defense

You want to start working on fortifying your home now. You need to make it as solid as possible with little change of an intruder making their way in. It may not be Fort Knox, but you can certainly make it better than

what it is right now.

- Replace your flimsy, cheap front and back doors. Sorry, but most homes come with hollow doors that are easily broke down or broke through. This is a bit of an investment, but check out Restore or Craigslist for used doors.
- Put deadbolts on each door that lead outside, including the door that leads to the garage. Reinforce the strike plate and the hinges with long, at least 2 to 3 inch, screws. You want the screws to go into the studs that frame the door.
- Put bars over your windows. It may not look all that attractive in today's world, but it can keep out intruders today and in a dangerous future. If time and money are an issue, focus on getting all of the ground floor windows first.
- If you have sliding glass doors, consider getting rid of them. They are a major security risk. It doesn't take much to throw up some siding and sheetrock to make your home a little more secure.
- Get a fence up. Depending on where you live, you may have some rules and restrictions about the height of the fence and the type of



material that you can use. Do what you can to secure the perimeter around your home with a sturdy fence. If you can, run some barbed wire across the top for good measure. Most thieves and looters are not going to come equipped with large wire cutters.

- Consider using large boulders in your landscaping that will double as blockades. You don't need a lot. Just a few well-placed boulders that make it impossible for a vehicle to ram your house will work.
- Use thorny bushes planted around windows and in between those boulders to deter intruders. Roses and barberry work great. For now, they will blend in to the landscaping. After SHTF, they will keep out the bad guys.
- If you don't have a big dog that will bark and snarl at anyone that gets close to the door, you can still give the impression that you do. Put up some beware of dog signs. Scatter a couple of those really large dog bones in the yard. You can even “borrow” some poop from a neighbor or buy the fake stuff. Large landmines are always a good sign there is a large dog in the house.
- State the obvious—Trespassers will be shot. Hang signs on your fence and your front door. It could be enough to make someone think twice about trying to get in. The goal is to survive. People are not going to willingly put themselves in front of a loaded gun.

These are things you can do now to make your home a little more secure. The goal is to keep out the bad guys so you never have to engage in any kind of combat.

Camouflaging Your Home

Along with fortifying your home and making it as impenetrable as possible, you must be prepared to give it some camouflage. No, you aren't going to paint it green and brown and try to make it blend into the landscape. Your goal is going to be to make your home look abandoned, gutted and completely uninviting. You want looters to think your home is a waste of

time. The goal is to make it look like all the good stuff is gone. If looters see your run-down, ramshackle house in a neighborhood filled with homes that look nice and are well-kept, they are going to go for those and ignore yours.

The following tips and tricks can make your home look abandoned and really unappealing. You don't have to do these things today, but at the first signs of trouble, you need to act fast.

- Toss trash around the front yard or any area visible from the street. Food containers, busted furniture and some clothing strewn about will give the impression the home has already been looted.
- Start a few fires around the yard and near the front door. Rub the charcoal around the doors and windows to give the appearance the home has been burned and is nothing more than a hollow frame.
- Board up the windows. Use screws to cover the windows and even the front door. Nails are easily pried up. Make sure you leave an exit for yourself or a way to quickly cut the wood to escape if there is a fire or someone does manage to get in.
- Tossing empty rifle cartridges or shells on the ground may also be enough to keep some of the weaker looters away. They will assume you have weapons (which you should) and they will think twice about trying to come in and take what you have.
- If you don't board up the windows, you need to hang blankets or heavy curtains. You don't want anybody peering in to see what you have. This will also conceal you in the house, especially if you are using any candles or flashlights.
- Keep the rooms closest to the street relatively empty. These are the windows that people will peek into first. If there is nothing inside, they may not bother trying to get through your heavy door. Do what you can to fortify an inner room of the house and that is where you will hole up. If you have a basement, black out any of the win-

dows that may draw attention. Have plants or move rocks in front of the windows to conceal the fact you have a basement at all.

When you are taking care of the camouflaging of your home, make sure you do it at night when no one is watching. If your neighbors see you trashing your home, they are going to realize what you are doing. Sadly, you can't even trust your once friendly neighbors. Everyone is a threat.

Hiding Guns and Ammo

One of your biggest assets will be the guns and ammunition you have stored. Guns and ammo are going to be of extremely high value and people are going to want them—including the government. A totalitarian government only works when the government has all the resources and that includes weapons. The government doesn't want you to be able to defend yourself against their control. Think back to the examples in history.

You need to have guns and ammunition to protect yourself and anything you have. Sadly, a show of force is necessary. You may not always be comfortable with the situation, but it is going to be how you stay alive and keep all of your food, water and other necessities in your control. You will also need your weapon to hunt for more food. Remember, the grocery stores are going to be closed and you can't expect the government to deliver fresh meat to you on a weekly basis.

Because your weapons are so valuable, you will need to hide them at all times, just in case. Hide them from the people who will want them for themselves or even the government agents who will likely be pounding on your door to confiscate said weapons.

With the gun laws the way they are, the government knows what guns you own if you bought them at a store or in the recent past. However, we all know there are plenty of ways to buy guns without jumping through hoops and registering them with the government. So, when the government comes knocking with a list in hand of each of the guns you currently own, hand them over. Don't make life any harder than it needs to be. They

will assume you are a good little citizen and following orders.

This is not the time to stand out. You don't want them searching your home and you don't want to get killed by the very government that is doing what is best for your own good. Hand over the guns that are registered and make sure your other guns are out of sight and completely off the radar.

Here are some ideas about where you can hide your guns and ammo so they are nearby, but out of sight.

- You don't want to store them in your house. That is far too risky. If they suspect you are hiding weapons, they will destroy your home trying to find them. They may use metal detectors and other methods to find some of the more obvious hiding spots.
- Hiding your guns in various locations is your best bet. Never put all your eggs into one basket. If one location gets found, there is a good chance they will stop looking. Have backups for your backups!
- Underground is always a very good idea. You must take great care to seal your gun and ammunition up tight so it doesn't get exposed to moisture. Moisture means rust for your guns and it is a bad deal for your ammo. Storing your guns in large foodsaver or Mylar bags will protect them from the dirt and the moisture in the soil. Toss in a few silica gel packs to each package for good measure. Bury the guns in places that are out of the way and not likely to be accidentally stumbled upon. It isn't always best to hide them on your property, just in case the government decides to use underground imaging. Desperate times call for desperate measures and if you have positioned yourself as a patriot, they are going to come looking and they are going to be looking very hard.
- Create false bottoms in your floorboards to hide your guns. This isn't quite as stealth as an underground location, but it keeps the guns close. Wood flooring is perfect for this. Put a rug over the top with a couch or table and it isn't going to be so obvious.

- Creating false bottoms in closets is also a clever way to hide your valuables. You can easily create a trap door that conceals a small, shallow space big enough to hide a couple of rifles and handguns. Put carpet over the area so it all blends in.
- Your furniture can be your concealment. Please be careful if you have young children in the house that may find your guns. Do a quick Google search of tactical furniture and you will be amazed at what you find. Some of the most common objects, like end tables, tissue boxes and even ornate shelves are actually made to conceal guns and ammo. You can make your own or transform your existing furniture to use as hiding places.
- Don't be afraid to go with the classic behind a picture frame. If you have a lot of pictures hanging in your house, it will blend right in. Just make sure the picture lays flat against the wall. If it bulges out, it will be obvious. Choose the frame wisely.
- Hidden gun safes are ideal and can be stored outside. You can store them under your porch, behind a bunch of boxes or totes in the garage or in the barn.
- Lockboxes are great and can be stashed inside a rubber tote that is labeled "winter clothes" or Christmas decorations and stored in the attic or garage. Toss some clothing or whatever over the top of the lockbox to sell the idea.
- Potted plants, real or fake, are great for hiding a handgun. If you are going with a real plant, make sure your gun is sealed up tight. Place your gun in the bottom, add the soil and then your plant. Fake plants are easy enough to pull up and place the gun under the root ball.

You can look around your house and probably find a lot more hiding places. Get creative. A wall is never just a wall. Stairs inside or outside are perfect hollow places to hide things. The bottom of a full laundry basket is another trick. Hiding in plain sight is often the best way to go. Always

remember where the guns are and of course, always be extra safe when kids are in the home.

Dealing with Government Agents

Government agents are going to be a problem. They are going to be a bigger problem than the looters and bandits who are starving simply because they have power behind them. Totalitarianism means you are at the mercy of the government to an extent. They will seek to control you and they will try to disarm you to make you more amenable to their demands.

Your best option is to avoid them. Stay away from them if you can. Don't draw attention to yourself if you are in the city streets or even in your front yard. Only go out when you know it is safe and you can avoid detection. If you need to collect water or hunt for supplies, the best time is in the wee hours of the morning. There will likely be patrols throughout the day and after dark. Think between 3 and 5 in the morning.

If you do encounter an agent or there is just no real way to avoid it, you need to work on your acting skills. Either you or someone in your group needs to look and act extremely ill. Once a collapse has happened, sickness is going to be rampant. Medical help is going to be tough to get. People, including the agents, are going to do everything they can to avoid coming into contact with a person who is potentially contagious with some horrible virus.

You will need to create the illusion of being sick. Use makeup if needed to make dark circles under the eyes. Powder or liquid makeup to make can create a pale or even jaundiced look. Coughing and moaning are also going to help sell the story. The agents are not going to be quite as interested in dealing with an infected person or a group of people.

Bartering Basics: How to Trade, Swap, Exchange and Sell Your Items WITHOUT Money

Today when you need something, you grab your debit card, credit card or some cash and head to the store. The price is clearly stated and you know exactly how much you will pay to get what you need. It is fairly cut and dry.

After an economic collapse, paper money will hold no value. You could use it as toilet paper or tinder for a fire. It sounds extreme, but history has shown us time and again currency or sometimes call fiat money will fail. It isn't a maybe. It is a when. Since the Roman Empire way back in the day, every fiat currency has failed. That is an entirely different subject in itself, but know this: the dollar will fall. The economic collapse will happen and when it does, the money you think you have in the bank is gone. The money you have hidden under your mattress has no value.

You will still need to get certain things, but how will you go about it? Now, some people will steal, loot and strong arm the holder of the goods they need, but that is only going to work in certain situations. To live in peace and harmony, it is best to pay a fair price for the goods you wish to obtain. That means you will need to barter.

Think back to the olden days. People traded goods and services to get

what they needed. That will be the new way of shopping.

You can expect a major shift in the value of goods and services. Right now, that big, flat screen is a hot commodity worth quite a bit. Guess what? In a totalitarian society where there is no electricity, it is going to be worthless. A gallon of fresh milk or a case of toilet paper are going to be the high value items.

Things we buy for very little today, because they are so common and so mass produced, are things we take for granted. Salt and other spices, alcohol, chocolate and so on. Those things don't cost a lot and are readily available. We depend on those items and are very accustomed to having them whenever we want.

After a collapse, those things are going to vanish. You can't run to the store and buy more salt. You will have to barter for it. Bartering isn't quite as cut and dry as shopping at the store. The person who has the goods determines how valuable they are. That person gets to determine what a fair trade is. You will learn that certain parts of the country will place a higher value on certain foods and goods than other regions.

You can prepare to barter for things you may need by stockpiling the cheap stuff that will be highly sought after. The government may restrict certain items, like alcohol and cigarettes, which will only make them even more valuable. Don't be afraid to stock these items, even if you aren't a drinker or a smoker.

What to stockpile for bartering:

- Alcohol—it can be the cheap stuff
- Tobacco
- Sugar
- Spices i.e. garlic powder, salt, pepper, Lawry's etc...
- Coffee
- Feminine hygiene products



- Toilet paper
- Soap
- Batteries
- First aid supplies
- Heirloom seeds
- Books
- Crayons, pens, paper
- Medicine i.e. cold meds, pain killers, antacids
- Candles
- Water filters
- Razors and a variety of personal hygiene products
- Candy
- Sunscreen
- Chapstick

These items can often be found at the dollar store or even cheaper when you buy in bulk. Stock up on them now. Your investment will pay off tenfold after the collapse and these cheap items become very valuable. You will be able to exchange a roll of toilet paper for food, clothing or whatever else you find you need.

Living in a world after an economic collapse will take some adjustment. With this guide, you will have a leg up and be able to prepare yourself for living in a totalitarian society. You don't have to be a victim of circumstances. Get ready now. The time is near.



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