IS MAN GOOD OR BAD BY NATURE?

by Ricardo Beas Feb 8, 2013

We're All Hitler Inside And We're All Christ Inside And It's Just To Try and Work On The Good Bit Of You John Lennon, 1969 Interview

Note: The subject matter being considered in this article is so complex in nature that certain words or phrases can have different meanings to each of us based on our individual human experiences and therefore I will use footnotes to clarify "my" interpretation of such words as it applies to each subject matter or will simply comment on my statement. I recommend that you read only the article itself first and then, if inquisitive on the specifics of my arguments, that you come back and read it again and reference the footnotes, which might be extensive in some cases, so you can understand the overall concept I am trying to convey, correctly or incorrectly.

As I have explored various subjects on my blogs, I have found myself seeing how our lives are being manipulated by government/corporate entities that have severely and unjustly taken our freedom, wealth (in the form of the many taxing schemes, local, federal and state)¹ and health away.

But at the end of the day, these entities are run by people, like you and me. What if we were the politicians, what if we were the ones born to the Rockefeller fortune? Would we be any different? And do we all need a government with its police/military force, regardless of who controls it, to keep us in order? And what is order, what is good and what is bad?

My personal view is, for the most part, that government is too intrusive and defined to the smallest element, is a monopoly for those that control it. From caveman to kings to presidents, each one carries a club of varying sizes based on the technology of the day.

So in my criticism of government as exists today,² I must also consider that maybe as human beings we need such government control over our lives to survive in what some might call a "community life," everyone responsible, but everyone following the dictates of a majority,³ who in turn is controlled by those that own government.

² Let's say in supposed democracies, like the U.S., like the recently liberated and democratized Libya (boy they must be having a ball with all that freedom we gave them in the form of bombardments – and it was great, we did not loose a single American life that I recall - now we can get Halliburton to help with the reconstruction).

¹ In California, you are required to pay state "income taxes" if you are required to pay federal income taxes. What a racket.

³ Collectivism at its finest, especially when controlled by people that really don't care about you and me, no matter what they say in their campaign slogans. I consider the ideals reflected in the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution to be one that is in favor of individualisms as opposed to collectivism.

This brings me to the question of whether the human race, man, is by nature good or bad, as if he is good, then maybe we don't need so much control, and if he is bad, well then maybe we need the iron hand of government to control all our actions, as is happening here in the U.S. today.

But what is good? Its interpretation can be very personal.⁴ So for simplicity, let's define good as something universally accepted, like, it is good to love, but bad to hate, it is good to help a neighbor, but bad to rob him, kill him or seduce his wife; in other words, let's say those principles reflected in the 5th to 10th Commandments of the Bible's Old Testament.

I asked the question of whether man was by nature good or bad first to Professor Noam Chomsky. He replied that man can be both good and bad and as to the tendency, that it was unanswerable on the basis of current understanding.

Then I asked the question to my mentor and amigo, Walt P. Mann III, and he said man was good by nature, noting that the majority of us don't do bad things, like steal or act violent against others.

The next person I asked was a very good friend from Mexico, who was raised in extreme poverty and became one of the most successful salesmen in Mexico and South America for a pharmaceutical company. His opinion was that man tends to be bad.

When I asked a friend who was a teacher for more than 40 year, including more than thirty years teaching in prisons and who also has travelled to Africa, she did not answer the question directly, she simply described the horrible things that man is capable of doing that she had experienced herself.

I had all these views going through my head for four or five months, reading and considering different ways that human, we, I, react and act in the world.

From a religious point of view, some religions say that man is good, that we are a loving creature,⁵ others that we are bad and need to control our thoughts, but in both cases rules of moral conduct are encouraged.

⁴ For example, you may say that sex is good between a married couple, but not between two teenage boys; that building a freeway to help with traffic is good, unless they will take away your property to do so.

⁵ Probably the best definition I have seen of the word Love was in an Encyclopedia Britannica, around 1969, it was in Latin, stating that "to Love is to feel joy for the happiness of another." In a recent mental exercise with my Amigo I also concluded that Love, then, is harmony, and we can only have harmony when we have peace with ourselves and those around us, and that is very difficult because each of use is a completely unique being with very particular feelings and perceptions. In that interaction we hurt and are hurt by others, and the only way to overcome such hurt is to forgive, so we can finally rest from that hurtful feeling. So love and forgiveness go hand in hand. I guess that in a very simple musical way, the Beatles were right: ALL YOU NEED IS LOVE -- AND THE WORLD WILL LIVE AS ONE.

And one note on the Beatles, not only did they express the above and similar thoughts, they were an example of it. John in his Peace Movement, Paul with music of love in a more commercial manner, George in a religious manner and Ringo in a more mundane way, but never anything in violation of the principles the group stood for. For sure the world is a better place because of them.

We see good men everywhere, as well as bad men, in the worse human conditions and in the wealthiest classes. We are heavily influence by all that surrounds us, our physical characteristics, the type of upbringing we have, what we see, the joys we have and share, the toys we have or don't have, the pain that others cause, including probably more importantly the pain we create in our selves when we make wrong decisions, ⁶ after all, for the most part, we pretty much know what is good and what is bad, no one needs to explain it to us.

How about the assassins, the ones that rape women and children, as well as the ones that created the psychotropic drugs that made one or many of these bad persons commit the rape, and who never the less approved and encouraged the product for sale⁷ because of the billions expected from profits.⁸

Let's consider something else. Some animals, in varying ways, for example dogs, show acts of compassion, towards their kind and towards humans. Human beings also experience feelings of compassion, but in a more analytically profound way. Maybe deep inside we feel the pain of others for which we feel compassion in a certain difficult moment, so we then understand that suffering and we probably think at some point how horrible that might be if it were to happen to us or maybe we experienced something similar before. Our nature is to avoid suffering because we know how it affects us. It has also been my experience in life that most of us don't wish harm to others and probably more than anything we want for us to be left alone, while living in peace with others, even if it is only deep inside, regardless of our actions.

But this compassion in us is malleable, maybe adaptable, able to be reduced in intensity by exposure to horrible acts one might experience or commit, like murder.⁹

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⁶ The worse thing about time is that once we do something, it can never be undone. Time is a constant, but we always live in its three stages at the same time, thinking about the past (which might make us happy or sad), the present (what do I need now), and the future (what can I expect). One thing that distinguishes animals from man is that man lives in a three dimensional time span, while animals live in the present. When you consider that all the great sages recommend we always live in the now, maybe the animals are smarter than us. Maybe all they are missing are a bigger vocal ability (how many types of barks does a dog have?) and the ability to write and hold things. We do know for a fact that a dog feels sadness, happiness, pain and pleasure; you don't need a scientist to confirm that, all you need is to have a dog.

⁷ You see all the commercials of medications of all sorts, not only depression, that have as a side effect the possibility of making you feel suicidal. They other day I read the side effects section of one medication I saw in the internet and it said that it might make you feel suicidal, but also that it might make you hear voices telling you to do things. What is the worse thing you can do against yourself in life, commit suicide? If that is the case and you are having those negatives thoughts, how far fetch is it that you would consider killing the ones that you think are responsible for your pain before you take your own life. And yet, when do you hear in the news about any inquiry into all the medications all these murderers and rapists are taking and the possible pattern that may emerge.

⁸ These companies make billions and then when people get sick or die and they are sued they pay some millionaire, but fractional profit amount, through some settlement and therefore those in charge never face criminal charges because they knew of these side effects.

⁹ As to having the course (1.11)

⁹ As to having the courage to kill a person, they say that once you kill the first one, the ones that follow are easier to kill, with less remorse.

There seems to be more people that are good than there are bad, most of us minding our own business, not stealing, maybe telling little lies here and there, but wanting to be in peace, wanting to love and feel loved. The majority of the people appear to want to be happy and we all understand that if we respect each other there will be tranquility and yet, we often do things that we know are not correct, from the most minimal to the most tragic. So from that respect, of course we can all be the best or the worst of man, especially when you add environmental influences as described above to the mix. ¹⁰

We have many people who also dedicate part or all of their time to helping others, may be missionaries by title or actions, persons that help feed the poor, cure the sick in far away places away from all comforts, or people that donate to good causes, that are always ready to help a neighbor, to help the lady pick up the package she dropped on the floor in the supermarket and we can only assume that we do this because we are good, or we want to feel we are good, or maybe we just want to show others we are good, or maybe we do it because we expect something in return. What makes us act the way we do? How pure are our actions when we do something good for others?

Some people also risk their lives for others, definitely loved ones, people that mean much to us, but also sometimes they do it for people they don't know, like those that go into a home to save someone from a fire, someone who risks dying trying to save someone that is drowning. Yet, not everyone jumps in, most of us may be just cheering from the sidelines, could be because someone already jumped in, could be because we don't want to risk our lives, and that would be a valid reason, of course.

Probably one unadulterated way to analyze the extent of individual human feelings and tendencies as to what is good, bad, compassion, desire, hope, sadness, etc., is when people drop their defenses and are fully focused on a movie. Simple example here: in the movie a young woman is violently raped; who will feel disgust and who will feel sexual arousal?

In a theater people cry together when they see sadness, they feel joy and justice when the bad guy is caught. Most of us will come out hugging when the love story ended in the best way possible, the way we would want our lives to end. ¹¹ If nothing else, this proves for the most part that we all agree as to which human behavior is bad and which is good. It goes beyond saying that we would not wish any bad behavior upon us and we also understand that no one wants it against them either.

Of course, this was mentioned for example purposes only, media for the most part is used to manipulate us, like when its time for war, the war movies start appearing everywhere.

¹⁰ Environmental effects as used herein describes outside influences and not any caused by trauma, like a car accident or a road bomb in Iraq, or drugs, in particular psychotropic drugs.

A friend once said that everything in life was done out of convenience; ¹² in other words, we always do things in a way that benefits us the most (or at least we believe at that moment that it does).

Let's apply that rule to Mother Teresa. She loved Christ and what he represented and she would do anything to be at his side I assume, as would any pupil of a great sage. What if Christ appeared in front of her and said unequivocally that she needed to kill someone in order to save humanity and then she would follow him to his kingdom for eternity. Would she do it? I don't know the answer of course and on the other hand, I'm no Mother Teresa.

In a world where we might want to live in peace, we could say that there is nothing wrong with doing things as best benefits us, so long as we have consideration, consideration meaning consideration towards others, knowing that we all have a right to be happy and things can't always go our way, and it should not bother us to think of ourselves before others in certain or many instances.

Now, let me take this a step further. ¹³ In our quest for survival, as human animals and with our intelligence, whether said intelligence came from natural evolution, God or aliens, ¹⁴ we learn to do things as we adopt to our environment, consciously and subconsciously, like walking, feeding and dressing ourselves, obtaining money to survive economically, looking for a companion to share physical and emotional experiences with, plan and secure the future, entertain ourselves, enjoy life, try to feel good about ourselves, ¹⁵ etc.

We start developing patterns, tendencies and we observe how such things develop in others and we come to understand that we are all moving in the same direction, trying to survive in what our limited experience has told us that life is and what we think is better for us.

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¹² Sounds more accurate in Spanish, "todo en la vida es conveniencia."

¹³ I thought of stating here that this is simply my belief but not necessarily anybody else's, but when you think about it, if we think something is correct, then it follows that we must believe that anyone that thinks the opposite must be wrong. The issue of political correctness is important in this respect, as we now live in a social atmosphere where speaking your mind is wrong if it has the potential of being "perceived" as offensive to someone. The norm now is to be hypocritical when voicing an opinion in some issue because of the possible consequences. Lives sometimes are destroyed in seconds because of this. If someone where to make a negative remark about Mexicans (and my parents are Mexican) the statement can potentially be true or false. If it is false, I should feel more sorry than angry for that person, as maybe his experiences have taken him in that direction of belief. We should always attempt to avoid being offensive in our conversations, but should we not always be sincere? Maybe by talking frankly about the underlying experiences that explain why we believe something we will be better able to understand each other.

¹⁴ UFOs are another big part of the equation that cannot be considered here, although all the evidence that

¹⁴ UFOs are another big part of the equation that cannot be considered here, although all the evidence that has been provided to prove it seems to be irrefutable, if for no other reason due to simple logic. I'll let you figure that one out on your own.

¹⁵ Our mental stability, other than when impaired by some physical disability or drug interaction, and maybe even in those cases, is probably based on the balance between who we are and who we think we should be and how that relates to what we know deep inside is right or wrong.

In situations where survival becomes imperative, like in situations of flood, fire, earthquakes, starvation, war, home invasion, defense against physical attack, it is obvious that as animals we will do almost anything so that we and our loved ones, spouses, children and siblings can survive that situation, in some cases maybe in detriment of others, up to death.

In our more typical days, especially when one is sufficiently stable economically in order to cover all minimum necessities, ¹⁶ we are as a race for the most part peaceful, trying to avoid conflict so we can continue trying to achieve our freedom from all the things that stop us from being secure in such necessities, as well as feeling happy. We all want to be happy.

Yet this attempt for our own happiness is directly affected by the environmental effects upon our lives, as noted above. Different cultures have adapted to controlling their environment, from the hunters of tigers in Africa to avoiding getting hit by a car in a busy New York street.

I once travelled to the state of Jalisco, Mexico with my mother to visit my father's home town of El Grullo. As we entered this small rural town in my cousin's relatively new car I saw an old man in a cart being pulled by a donkey and the back of the cart was full with large metal containers filled with milk. As I approached him the first thing that came to my mind was how poor this individual was and how bad his life probably was, but when I got close I saw the big smile on his face and he seemed very happy. Then my thoughts changed and I got sad, thinking of all the things we have been convinced that we need to live and how we often work like the donkey pulling the cart so we can purchase all those material possessions that define our consumer culture. ¹⁷

The norm of the day is that we have to be rich. We have to strive for yachts, mansions and power and by what we see on TV and the news, it seems that we must do it by any means possible, even if we pollute our environment in the process; even if we fire people from the factory so that the profits will remain the same, regardless of the fact that we will make the rest of the employees work

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¹⁶ Necessities, one of the tools used against us. While the U.S. may be proud to claim that it was the first nation to have a television set in almost every household as that technology initially developed, we might be, without realizing it, the most commercially, scholarly studied (economics, advertising, psychology, etc.) and manipulated country through such media control, from programs and limited news to commercials that define how we should act, what we should believe and what we should ignore, what we should buy and how we should spend our time (why think, when you are finally alone in some beautiful beach in California, when you could be seeing your favorite shows in the latest iPad.)

¹⁷ I once saw a documentary by one of the three major TV stations and it showed how a couple was working extra hours every day to, as they said, make ends meet. The wife even distributed newspapers to homes starting at 2:00 AM or so in the morning. They were both complaining about their lack of resources to live "decently," but then the story focused on what they had and they had several TV sets, hundreds of video games, two newer model vehicles and many other things that considering their complaints, seem unnecessary. We have become too attached to getting the new fad, and our resources are being drained because of it.

"more efficiently;" 18 even if we kill people so that our oil companies can make the best deals; even if we sacrifice young soldiers to fight wars for profit.

What about the difference between men and woman, can we differentiate between the sexes so as to say that one is better (more good, less bad) than the other? Looking at human history there is no doubt that men have taken advantage of their physical superiority to dominate woman, just like he forces his will physically over other men that may be weaker in character and/or strength physical or economical.

Being a man myself, it would be impossible for me to see things fully from a woman's perspective, so this I can only imagine when giving my opinion. In general terms we consider woman to be visibly more loving, sentimental and less prone to violence, yet isn't it more that we all feel the same things in the same intensity, but each sex tends to express it differently? We do see and know that woman can also be aggressive, violent, controlling, so what if women were stronger than men, would they also take advantage of such physical attribute? Would it be more common place to see women being the aggressive, violent sex?

The way each sex acts, in general terms, can simply be a result of our environment, our physical aptitudes and maybe even more, tradition, where, for example, men are expected to be strong, controlling of their feelings, aggressive/protective if necessary and they act in such manner, for the most part. So too woman are exposes to traditions of the way they should be, things as simple as associating pink and tenderness with woman. If this is the case, then all that has been discussed above can apply to either sex, and thus sex would be irrelevant to the question at hand.

I know this analysis is very simplistic, but because we cannot invert roles to see the results. I believe the conclusion can be reasonably entertained and accepted for the purposes of this discussion, women can be as good or as bad as men.

So now what? We are exposed to the necessities of life, in a world that has been corrupted, we have been corrupted, ignoring what is good and what is bad, each individual at different levels, from allowing our government to invade other countries while we see the action on TV, to being a rapist and serial killer in our own neighborhood. A friend from San Diego says, if you don't like it, move to Guam, 19 in other words, we don't live in a perfect world and we have to accept it

¹⁹ Inside joke.

¹⁸ A nice way of saying, squeeze every second an employee works. Corporations that trade on the stock exchanges are measured by their profits, so the logic goes that the CEO has to do whatever is necessary to maintain those profit expectation, no matter which employees suffer the consequences (by being overworked or fired), as if corporate profits could not be sacrificed in those hard times to pay back the employees for their dedication. Corporate officers always say that employees are their most valued resource and yet they demand the employees' loyalty, until the corporation deems them expendable to help the

bottom line, of course. We need a new corporate structure, something I'll cover in the future.

as is, because we really can't change it, and we must be heavily regulated to control everyone that lives in it.²⁰

It would be a fantasy to think that tomorrow we could all wake up and see how bad things are and change the world/ourselves in an instant, especially those that run the economic and military machine that rules the world, referenced by Professor Noam Chomsky in one of his speeches as the De Facto World Government.²¹

It would be very sad to think that the only way we can better everyone's lot in life is to start over, because it seems that the only way that could happen is if we had a major catastrophe, like a meteorite hitting our planet, like the magnetic fields of the poles shifting and major earthquakes and volcanoes erupting or worse, like having a third world war with nuclear weapons and biological agents, used indiscriminately.

The technological reality is that no longer do humans have to suffer hunger, bad health, a life of poverty, no longer do they have to live in fear, but the reason I say this is not because of what you may think:

It's not because we now have GMO seeds and food, not because radiation is the best treatment of cancer, not because the government will create a welfare program to pay you for not working as long as you want, not because we will bomb every nation our national leaders disagree with; I say it because ...

... the technology exists to cheaply provide potable water to the world and we have developed natural organic procedures to make crops increase their yield without pesticides, because many people have already discovered a natural and inexpensive way to cure disease and they risk their lives and finances to make those treatments available to us, because if we eliminated unnecessary (and I believe illegal) taxes and put in place proven natural energy sources like magnetism in place our income would increase substantially, because we have all the information we need to understand how we are being manipulated by those that control government and people are opening their eyes in masses to the deception going on. I say it because in our need to survive, we know we have to change our world.

One more thought regarding man as compared to other mammals. It is interesting to see, for example, how a horse is born and how it immediately

collusion to steal our freedom by making laws that benefit primarily those that put them in power. This, I believe, extends to all three branches of government.

Many of the conversations with my friend center on government issues and both political parties. He thinks the Democrats are better than Republicans, I thing that most in both groups are corrupt and work in

²¹ I don't know who the top tier of this group is, as Chomsky refused to identify them in our correspondence, but I have a general idea who it is as there are many books on the subject (and you should be reading them). As to the so called "Conspiracy," as George Carlin said in an interview, (to believe in such conspiracy) ... They've made that (into) something that should not be even entertained for a minute, that powerful people might get together and have a plan. Doesn't happen. You're a cook, you're a conspiracy buff.

adapts to walking and feeding from its mother, yet human beings almost take six months simply to turn around inside their crib. Apparently while the horse simply accepts its environment, the human baby begins a phase of observation, absorption of the environment, analysis, reasoning and reaction based on the former.

With all of the above said and considering the different things we do and the different things we are capable of, I have concluded that man is neither good or bad, man is simply "a human animal" with a survival instinct, and his life is simply a result of internal and external forces and environments that either shape (to a greater or lesser degree) or have the potential of shaping who he is and what he will become as he struggles to position himself securely in the world and with everything around him.

This conclusion is reached without consideration of the existence of a being called God or that life after death exists or that our souls and/or spirits²² live after the human body dies.²³ To add that into this mix would be too complicated, hard to prove scientifically, or so they say, and way beyond my experience.²⁴

Man is, not a good man, not a bad man, but a man that for the most part aspires to be happily self-sufficient and if man is for the most part a result of his environmental situation, then that is what we need to control and change in a positive way. But how can he, when so many things, like governments, are corrupt and keep them in poverty, ignorance and despair? Unfortunately for us, we are not allowed to exercise this liberating way of life to try to be successful and allow other to be so as well; instead many very powerful men around the world, through their control of the overall economies of their countries and through their corporations and international interconnecting organizations limit man's ability to achieve his utopian destiny, or at least what man should strive for. So the question is, how can we counter this negative force in man's evolution?

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²² In some religions and mystical beliefs they speak of the trinity, made up of the human body, the spirit and a soul that connects the first two, the soul being the vehicle used as we travel from body to body.

²³ I have been fortunate in life in that my dection (if such a thing prior) or simply the way things present

²³ I have been fortunate in life in that my destiny (if such a thing exists) or simply the way things presented themselves in my life allowed me to have multiple experiences that have proven to me irrefutably without a doubt that: (a) when a person dies their spirit or soul lives on (if the spirit lives after the body dies a reasonable conclusion could also be that the spirit lives before it enters a human body. If this is true, then the teachings about reincarnation may be true); (b) that the future can be seen by such spirits as well as by humans in dreams or visions (and thus the future may already exist); and (c) that a person can communicate with these non-human beings. Some of the experiences I had came from my personal meetings with famous Los Angeles clairvoyant Maria Moreno once in her Hollywood, CA home in 1974 and several years later in Tijuana, Mexico. You can read her story in Ghosts Over Hollywood by Jess Stearn, 1992.

²⁴ My experience did not show me to what extent these spirits are involved directly in our lives, if there are good and bad spirits or to what extent they interact with each other, if there is any fighting among them (angels vs. demons type of thing) or if there is any all encompassing being of which we are all a part, known commonly as God. I can only say that when our bodies die, we will survive in another form. What happens afterwards, once we liberate ourselves from the flesh is only my guess based on my limited readings of metaphysical and religious materials, in conjunction with my experiences as noted above.

I believe that the way to achieve this goal is threefold: (1) restrain those that seek to control our lives and try and for the most part keep the majority of us in ignorance and as mere slave workers with minimum opportunities to really succeed and be independent, and we should do so through legal action against them and by any other preferably nonviolent means that may be available to achieve that goal, (2) take back control of our government and not only kick out bad politician, but also prosecute those proven to have conspired with the previously mentioned group (hold everyone accountable as an example)²⁵ and (3) educate the masses about the truth of how the world operates and who has been pulling the strings, how they can better themselves and how to developed communities that prosper,²⁶ but more than anything, to instill a perpetual distrust of government and teach them how to restrain it.

It is clear:

- Money and Power corrupts
- Some people exploit such powers upon the masses
- People are bought with such money and power
- Centralizing power in a few leads to abuse
- Government taxation not only takes away from ordinary people, but it gives governments the money, and thus the power, that can be abused
- The government is just simply the monopoly of those behind it
- The lust for such power can be overwhelming, even for the best of us

The first two goals mentioned are very self evident, regardless of how difficult a task that may result to be,²⁷ but the third goal is actually something more achievable that can result in a bigger movement to achieve the first two goals. In this respect I would defer such educational strategy to the teaching of Professor Paulo Freire, as expressed in his book "Pedagogy of the Oppressed." This system is not focused on a human mental container that simply receives data from its teachers, but one where the student is encourage to question everything, including his lot in life. This would be the true teaching of critical thinking:

First Rule of Critical Thinking

- Question Authority

Second First Rule of Critical Thinking

²⁵ Like Mexican president Vicente Fox said when he took office, "No hay borrón y cuenta nueva."

²⁶ The whole idea of globalization is based on a fiction that we all "need" to be connected. Because of this forced commercial connection the world is now on the brink of financial collapse, and while the average Joe will suffer the consequences, the master will prosper beyond anyone's dreams. We don't need to live in a One World Government, we need to live in small communities, cities, states and countries that strive for self reliance, with trade with others in measured ways to maintain that independence.

²⁷ It is difficult to believe and I would be naïve to believe that those in power would simply say, you're right so I will change, or here is everything I stole, put me in jail. Most likely, if for example, Dr. Ron Paul would become president and abolish the Federal Reserve (sic, a private bank that for the most part owns Wall Street), the owners of the Fed (the same group that owns most, if not all the other worlds' central banks) would unleash a financial crisis upon humanity that would dwarf any recession or depression in the past.

Questions yourself, as you are your biggest authority

It's not easy to change the world and even if it was, everyone, if not the majority of us, would have to be a part of such a global movement for it to succeed.

This discussion also made me conclude that we don't need much government intrusion in everything we do, as always having survival in mind, we would find a way to prosper if we knew a way to achieve it without harming others and putting ourselves in jeopardy; all we need is the proper education, tools and opportunities.

For those that fear that lack of government controls over the individual (as opposed to corporations) will result in chaos, relax, nobody is saying that we should erase the white and yellow lines on the street so anyone can travel in either side so they can have freedom of choice, that would be contrary to our logical conclusion that it is safer to divide the street in such a way.

Consider how Congressman Ron Paul responded to a question by the moderator in one of the recent presidential debates, regarding his views on legalizing drugs, in particular heroin. His response went something like this: "Are you going to tell me that if they legalized heroin tomorrow that the majority of this audience would start using it?" The crowd erupted in laughter and applause. Man may be a human animal, but in his efforts to survive in the majority of cases he is not stupid, precisely because of his survival instincts. Now, if we add to that a good moral foundation built on respect, freedom and filled with opportunity, then, nothing would be able to stop the human race from prospering as a species and as an individual natural person. Our minds would be the limit.

To close let me say that if indeed we are good or bad simply as a result of our environment and in particular the result of our interaction with others (being treated good or bad by others), then maybe our first step should be to forgive others for what they have done to us, 28 hope that others forgive us for what we have done against them and of course, forgive ourselves for every bad thing we have done to others and ourselves, every bad decision we have taken, so we can better achieve our move from a society of indifference, destruction and greed to one of community and love, with true respect for each other's right to freedom and happiness. I've put that thought in my song: Let's Make Amends. Click here to listen.

A Perfect World. How easy it is to say, how difficult it is to achieve... but it's possible (maybe not probable) and I'm not loosing hope! Man Can Be Good!

To comment go to http://www.cafepeyote.com/blog/is_man_good_or_bad/

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²⁸ In no way does that imply that people that have done harm to others and those that have caused great harm to humanity (directly or indirectly) should not be punished and I'm not talking about UN related criminal tribunals, as those are tools of the global puppeteers, as is the UN as a whole.