

# Property Money and Freedom

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The purpose of this presentation is

1. To persuade you that money has failed,
2. To offer reasonable means to adjust to that failure,
3. To urge you to prepare individually,
4. To provide a plan of action for all of us here,

Specifically, to contact your own State Legislators to sponsor and promote model legislation similar to The Utah Specie Tender Act of 2011 and to contact your own United States Representative to cosponsor H.R. 1098: Free Competition in Currency Act of 2011.

[Hand out sample letters, and/or < one page summaries of each bill, and/or suggested action (to do lists?)]

Since money has failed we all, as individuals, must adjust to that reality for ourselves, our loved ones, our community and following generations.

We all will adjust to money's failure – the question is – will we adjust actively and intelligently or will we be adjusted by circumstances?

What does property and money have to do with freedom?

We'll consider property first. Let's say we have an adult male who owns no property other than his mind (knowledge), body and spirit (time and energy). Where does he sleep? Has he eaten recently? Does he wish to marry and raise a family? Is he naked?

If he is dressed it's best that he received a gift of his clothing which would then be his personal property. For if someone else owns his clothing he either owes the other one rental fees or is in service to that person.

Wherever he is at a given time, he occupies space on someone's real property, be it public or private. If he is hungry he might exchange some of his time and energy for a meal.

You get the picture. To some extent at least a person's liberty is defined by what she chooses to own along with what she is able to own. What she chooses to own is defined by her ability to exchange something she already has and is willing to trade for something she wants. We're all subject to the law of supply and demand.

She also needs an environment ruled by laws which protects her property and freedom to trade.

Money among other purposes is a means to broaden trade. We'll discuss money later on.

For illustration purposes let's consider, as our nation's founders did, man in his infancy from the biblical perspective.

I realize some reject this biblical perspective as unscientific and, therefore, invalid. But our founders (including Benjamin Franklin and Thomas Jefferson, by the way) put great store in the biblical perspective and used it shape the jurisprudence of the federal republic they created. We'll see why a federal republic was chosen over other forms of government later.

In the garden of Eden Adam and Eve owned no property, needed no money and had freedom to do everything but to eat the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

Once they had eaten of the forbidden fruit, they lost their innocence and their freedom as we (from our founders' perspective) their progeny have to this day. For we, in our finite perspective, think we know what is good for us and what is evil against us. Since we are a fallen race our temptation to deceive one another for our personal advantage rules in all of us subtly like the serpent of old. We tell each other what we know to be good is actually evil and vice versa. And because we are forever trying to decipher what is good from what is evil, we can no longer live pleasantly in paradise, eating tasty fruits and vegetables with no need for shelter or clothing. According to Genesis 2 we are banished to live by the sweat of our brows in jeopardy of the sting (subtleness) of the serpent.

Our founders believed that we are a fallen people in need of a Redeemer. John Adams put it this way:

“We have no government armed with power capable of contending with human passions unbridled by morality and religion. Avarice, ambition, revenge or gallantry would break the strongest cords of our Constitution as a whale goes through a net. Our Constitution is designed only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate for any other.”

George Washington warned of government by men (godly or not:)

“Government is not reason; it is not eloquent; it is force. Like fire, it is a dangerous servant and a fearful master.”

Our founders, firmly believing this biblical authority, that man is a fallen creature in need of a Savior, modeled a limited government upon Israel. But they looked to Israel at its zenith of personal liberty under the Judges. This was after the exodus from Egyptian slavery but before the Israelites demanded a king against the will of their prophet and Judge Samuel.

The age of the Judges so inspired colonial people of late 18<sup>th</sup> Century that the revered liberty bell was commissioned to be cast with the lettering (from part of [Leviticus 25:10](#)) "Proclaim LIBERTY throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof." Those founders saw liberty as attainable only through God's providence and protection. The full context of Leviticus 25:10 is “And ye shall hallow the fiftieth year, and proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof: it shall be a jubilee unto you; and ye shall return every man unto his possession, and ye shall return every man unto his family.”

What is this Jubilee of Leviticus? It is the mandatory total restoration every fiftieth year of a head of household's property and freedom from contracted indentured servitude. Under Leviticus there were partial restorations every seven years. All 13 original States passed bankruptcy laws modeled on Leviticus. Unfortunately, our founders did not model a Jubilee redemption as well. Had they done so, we might have avoided fiat currency, panics and depressions.

What is money?

In one sense money is universal property. It is property that can readily be traded for a product or a service. As individuals we accept money for property that we own or control.

Land is property.

Minerals and water under land are property.

Air space above the land is property.

Tangible goods perishable and durable are property.

**Service (or skill) is potential property.  
Knowledge (inventions and expertise) are potential property.  
Time is property.**

**Some property is rare such as diamonds, some is renewable such as wheat, some is plentiful such as trash, and some is immeasurable such as knowledge, skill, hope, optimism and creativity.**

**Some property is illusion and false, such as usury, non-collectable debt and unconscionable contracted obligation; actually a kind of anti-property similar to anti-matter.**

**These are a few examples of property that we as individuals either own or might like to own, use, rent or discard. The question is, how have we come to get property we want and need for property we are willing to give up? We could barter. Suppose dairyman Mr. Cowman wants to have boots from Mr. Cobbler. Everything would be fine if Mr. Cobbler would accept 20 gallons of milk for the boots. The problem is that Mr. Cobbler doesn't want 20 gallons of milk. So direct trade barter will not work between Mr. Cowman and Mr. Cobbler.**

**Mr. Cowman and Mr. Cobbler need a medium of exchange to make them able to trade with each other. That medium of exchange must satisfy Mr. Cobbler's cost in land where he has his shop, leather, glue, tanning supply and tools, his knowledge, training and skill in his ability to make durable dependable boots and his time to produce those boots. And that's just his cost. He needs more to buy food, clothing, education, rest, entertainment and shelter for himself and his family. He would like to buy as delicious food, nice clothing, good education, much rest, pleasant entertainment and comfortable shelter as the market will allow. Mr. Cowman has corollary demands on the medium of exchange.**

**In order for this medium of exchange to meet the trade needs for Misterys Cowman and Cobbler several factors are necessary:**

- 1. It must have mutually perceived value,**
- 2. That value must be Stable,**
- 3. It must be Portable,**
- 4. Durable, and**
- 5. Divisible.**

**Delegates to the U.S. Constitutional Convention of 1787 established gold and silver coin as that standard medium of exchange; this, following historical examples from as far back as Genesis in biblical times, along with the painful fresh experience of unstable standards from 1776 to that time.**

**That Constitution still mandates in Article I "Section 10. [that] No State shall ... coin Money; emit Bills of Credit; [or] make any Thing but gold and silver Coin a Tender in Payment of Debts[.] ..."**

**While establishing what money was going to be, the delegates sought to secure its value by writing:**

**Article 1 Section 8. The Congress shall have Power ... To coin Money, regulate the Value thereof, and of foreign Coin, and fix the Standard of Weights and Measures; To provide for the Punishment of counterfeiting the Securities and current Coin of the United States[.] ..."**

**Proverbs 20:10, 23 Unjust weights, and unjust measures, both of them are alike abomination to the LORD. ... Unjust weights are an abomination to the LORD, and false scales are not good.**

**Congress in its compliance with the Constitutional monetary mandate passed the Coinage Act of 1792. In that act the United States Dollar was set at 416 grains (of "standard" (the quality of purity to be established uniformly by the U.S. Mint) silver. Ten Dollars of gold (the Eagle coin) was set at 270 grains of standard gold.**

**The Act defined the proportional value of gold and silver as 15 units of pure silver to 1 unit of pure gold. Standard gold was defined as 11 parts pure gold to one part alloy composed of silver and copper. Standard silver was defined as 1485 parts pure silver to 179 parts copper alloy.**

**Although the laws defining the ratio and weight value were changed from time to time to reflect the changing availability of gold and silver from mining they were based upon fixed standards set by Congress. This stability blessed the United States with prosperity for the general welfare of its citizens from 1792 to 1913 with the exception of an interruption during the Civil War.**

**Let's ask ourselves - who do these laws benefit? Do they benefit the general government officials? Do they benefit one person at the expense of another?**

**No, these laws benefit every individual's personal property and the ability to trade in good faith.**

**If and when these monetary laws are broken, the general government doesn't suffer, banks don't suffer – citizens, their families and their future generations suffer.**

**Without laws to protect one's property and at the same time give one assurance of stable monetary value can we say a person is actually free?**

**A man may have choices and the appearance of freedom with an unstable monetary system. But when he exchanges his time and labor for money losing its value, that money representing his labor and time must be spent quickly to preserve his labor, because of its ever-diminishing value.**

**He is not free to save his money at the value for which it was paid, because it is not possible to do so. He may choose to invest his money quickly which will put it at risk of losing value. His or her investment may increase or decrease depending on the market for whatever he invested; therefore he demands interest. He risks not being able to cash out of his investment at a convenient and opportune time, so his risk entitles him to compensation such as a higher price.**

**Regardless of the quality of the choices he makes, the value of his intangible property (time and labor) is volatile because of market influences.**