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March 13, 2010

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In Search of Good Politicians

Are there any good politicians? In modern America where would one look to find an example of a “good” politician? But as Bill Clinton taught us—it depends on how you define “good.” It also depends on a clear understanding of the difference between a politician and a statesman.

Elected officials are individuals who are willing to spend far more money to win elected office than they will ever receive in salary from said elected office. This fact alone should cause tax payers, who are forced to pay for the services of elected officials, to question the motive of those seeking elected office. There can only be two motives; (1) the individual seeking elected office is willing to spend more than he will ever get back because he is community spirited, altruistic, a Mother Teresa spirit who voluntarily pours out his life in the service of a higher calling or (2) the individual seeking elected office is a cunning, parasitic, entrepreneur who seeks public office to use the power, perks and privileges associated with elected office to enrich himself and those with close connections to the office holder. “Those with close connections” are generally the individuals and corporations who provided the tremendous sums of money necessary to “win” election and once “their man” wins they expect pay back for their investment.

If the first motive describes the individual seeking elected office then he would be better described not as a politician but as a statesman. Because “money is the mother’s milk of American politics” even those who would be statesmen must compromise in order to get the money necessary to run a successful political campaign. It is not impossible to elect statesmen but the probability of doing so is very, very small. Even if a “good” person is elected it is unlikely he will remain “good” when surrounded by politicians who use the political status quo to enrich themselves and those with close connections to the political status quo.

Suppose a “good” conservative, family values candidate is elected to----say U.S. Senate from a conservative, Bible Belt state like Louisiana. What happens when that “family values” candidate becomes immersed in the corrupt and corrupting political status quo of Washington, D.C.? He begins to “ear mark” pet legislation just like the liberals, he begins to ignore moral values issues, and he becomes intoxicated with the arrogance of power and eventually gets caught up in a whore house scandal! Our

“good” elected official now becomes a poster boy for the secular humanist left to demonstrate how hypocritical people are who claim to hold “Christian” moral values.

Political power is corrupting therefore to protect liberty we the people must keep political power as small as possible. The more power we grant government the more corrupted our society becomes. As government gets larger our tax burden get larger until we are reduced to tax serfs. Basic rule: More politicians, more political power, more government, more taxes—less freedom. As Anti-Federalists we seek an end run around the political status quo. As Anti-Federalist we seek the right of “we the people” within our Sovereign State to nullify onerous acts of Federal politicians. We seek an alternative to “politics as usual.” Even “good” politicians will not discipline themselves—if it is to be done “we the people” of the Sovereign States must do it! Why? Because politicians have a vested interest in maintaining the perks, privileges, and power inherent in the political status quo. They will never fundamentally change the status quo—if it is to be done those of us who must pay the tax bill will have to do it. The task will not be done using traditional party (or third party) politics. The Anti-Federalist Revolution has the solution to an out of control, tax, borrow and spend government.