

Hello and Welcome

Let's start with a prayer.

Jesus, I pray that every word spoken be anointed by the Holy Spirit. I pray for those who are in authority over us that Jesus will give them wisdom to lead our country and form our laws. I pray that Jesus will bring repentance and spiritual revival to America and the whole world. I pray that Jesus will heal our nation. I pray for Godly leaders and candidates to be voted into every office in the upcoming elections. I bind all evil spiritual and human forces that seek to destroy America because it is written, whatsoever I bind on earth will be bound in heaven. Jesus guard, protect, defend, and keep America in peace and prosperity. In Jesus name, Amen.

I have been sharing my concerns regarding the "sick" condition of our government and its leadership. Last week I spoke to our leaders in Washington and encouraged those that are being attacked by their enemies with Psalms 37.

So for this week, I want to continue to discuss some more issues facing our nation. One of those issues is gun control. I know this is a very intense topic and most people feel very passionate either for it or against it. However, I want to approach this very sensitive subject from a common sense and drama-free point of view.

The subject of gun control stirs up very strong feelings. Especially if someone you have loved or knew has been a victim of gun violence. I am sincerely sorry for your loss and I acknowledge your heartbreak and pain.

However, just feelings and emotional responses to problems are not bearing productive solutions. We have reached a point in our time that our nation has become very fractured. We have changed in our approach to deal with problems in this nation and around the world.

It seems to have become popular for our feelings and emotions to take precedent over the facts. This trend of dealing with our

national issues from a highly charged emotional state just prevents us from actually looking at the facts and discussing the facts and having a logical and productive conversation about what to do. If we can't honestly admit to the facts of where we are and to what has actually occurred, it will be impossible to have meaningful conversations and fruitful discussions about where to go from here, based on the facts. Facts are the key ingredient and have a bearing on the quality of our decisions in a democracy. Facts matter!

Feelings can be manipulated by leaders and the media who only pretend to care about your pain. They exploit your emotions to get power and to advance their toxic agendas. So while you are very passionate and sincere about an issue, they just use your feelings like a pawn in their game to get more power and control over your money, your health, your rights, your country, and your very lives.

Making laws that take away basic rights are exactly what our founders were trying to prevent. Our constitution and our bill of rights were based in facts that when too few hold the power in a nation, then the people suffer. They had all lived in other countries where individual rights and freedoms were ignored. They had already experienced tyranny and the abuse of power by their leadership in Europe and they were determined to provide an excellent framework for our nation to be free and stay free. They were trying to protect us from awful government bullies and oppressive dictators and federal government standing armies.

Being emotional, screaming at your political opponent, attacking the other political party, name calling, just seems like the elements of a good ole temper tantrum and this behavior will not address our problems nor will these actions produce reasonable discussions to achieve workable solutions. These are attributes of immature, entitled, manipulative, children who think that if they can out talk you or display an emotional meltdown that their outbursts are a substitute for an informed discussion and commonsense decision based on the facts.

So I want to present my case in favor of American's right to bear arms based on facts and not emotions. I will first explain how and why our right to bear arms and to own a gun became an important

aspect to maintaining our other freedoms. Also, I will present some facts about gun violence and where gun violence or mass shootings really rank as a cause of death in America. In addition, I will discuss the effectiveness of tighter gun laws, gun bans, and red flag rules. Lastly, I will expose the dangers of letting law makers erode away our right to bear arms.

The Second Amendment was written to preserve our individual right to keep and bear arms because we have the natural rights of self-defense and resistance to oppression, and the civic duty to act in concert in defense of the state.

One of the Constitution's most influential framers was James Madison. In the Federalist Paper No. 46, Madison wrote how a federal army could be kept in check by state militias, a standing federal army ... would be opposed by a militia of the people. He argued that state militias would be able to repel the danger of a federal army. Madison contrasted the federal government of the United States to the European nations, which he described as afraid to trust the people with arms, and assured that the existence of a people's militia would form a barrier against an oppressive federal government.

In the twenty-first century, the Supreme Court handed down a landmark decision that held the amendment protects an individual's right to keep a gun for self-defense. This was the first time the Court had ruled that the Second Amendment guarantees an individual's right to own a gun.

The CDC reported 39,773 gun deaths in 2017. Of those gun deaths, 60% were from suicide. According to the FBI, there were 10,982 fire arm homicides in 2017 and of those 403 deaths were caused by rifles. There actually were more people killed with a knife or cutting instrument, 1,591. Of these gun deaths, 423 were justifiable homicide by law enforcement and 299 were justifiable homicide by private citizens defending themselves, family, or property.

The Justice Department defines a mass shooting as a multiple homicide where four or more victims are killed with firearms, in one event in one or more locations in close proximity. This is the

definition that an organization called "Mother Jones" uses to track mass shooting incidents. According to Mother Jones there have been 115 mass shootings since 1982. My research shows that you are more likely to die from lung disease, alcohol, drug overdose, suicide, drowning, fire or smoke, bicycling, or a car accident than as a mass shooting victim. So if we are going to want to ban guns, let's ban tobacco products, alcohol "again", matches, bicycles, cars, and swimming pools. You are probably thinking those things will never be banned. Well my parents thought they would never take God and prayer out of the public schools, but they did. We also thought at one time that a child's life was safe in the womb of its mother, but Americans have murdered over 60 million babies. Do not think that anything is so sacred that the government would not dare to restrict it or allow it, if it was politically expedient to getting re-elected and giving in to emotionally charged mob rule.

Now let's look at how effective stronger gun laws in certain states and prior bans on certain types of guns has been in preventing gun violence. According to the FBI, gun homicide deaths by each state, reveal that some of the states with the toughest gun laws rank as among the highest when it comes to gun violence deaths. For 2017, California, Illinois, Maryland, Michigan, Ohio, and Florida either require permits, background checks, red flag rules, or a combination of these regulations. These six states are in the top 11 states with the highest homicide deaths by gun violence. Also, the federal ban on assault weapons for 10 years does not show a marked reduction in violent crimes. The 2004 National Institute of Justice study, showed assault weapons were only used in 8% of violent crime prior to the ban and that number has not changed a significant amount in a over a decade since the ban was lifted. The use of assault weapons in violent crime fluctuates between 2.5 to 8.5 %.

Lastly, I want to demonstrate that gun control may have a devastating effect on our individual freedoms, safety, security, and continuing to be a sovereign nation. Our founders had seen the tyranny and oppression by European governments where the citizens were not trusted to bear arms. It is important for individuals to be able to defend themselves personally and to be a line of defense in the event of an invasion by a foreign power. I believe that a gun in the hands of a law abiding citizen can stop or

reduce the bloodshed intended by a mass shooter. I recently took a road trip through the states of New Mexico, Colorado, Utah, Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming. I visited with many of the people that live in very remote and wilderness locations. They encounter dangers on a daily basis and they actually need and use their weapons to protect themselves or their livestock from both human and animal predators. I have also talked with people who live along our southern border in Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, and California. They have had to defend their very lives against drug and other illegal activities on their own property along this border. Finally, we have witnessed in the last week the billion dollar drug cartels declare war on the police and military of Mexico. Mexico City is only about one thousand miles or 16 hours from Austin, Texas. If this does not wake up America to the fact that the criminals are going to have guns and use them to impose their will on law abiding citizens, law enforcement, and even the military, I don't know what will.

Wake up America. Call your Congressperson and Senator in Washington and your state representatives. If not now, when are you going to stand up for your right to bear arms. Register and go vote. Ways to contact your US Congressperson or Senator is on my website.

Now please pray the prayer of salvation with me.

Jesus I confess I am a sinner. I repent of my sins. Please forgive me. I believe You sacrificed your life to secure my salvation and my healing. Jesus come into my heart and be my Lord and Savior. In Jesus name, Amen.

Thank you and God bless America.