THE LIBERTY EPIPHANY

Come—take my hand and pretend to walk with me—experience the clear blue sky, see the white fluffy clouds, and feel the calmness of the day that tells us of our freedom to choose a life of liberty and the pursuit of happiness! Let us jingle the coins at our finger tips often found deep in our pockets. These coins (some of them) remind us of our collective trust in God. The words "In God We Trust" found on the pennies and nickels we carry with us and share with others is a reminder regarding the intention of a great nation.

Why, I ask myself, am I experiencing such an emotional relationship with these words currently and with you as my imaginary walking companion? The words seem to ring clear of the emotional concern I feel regarding the political tone of the times! Our responsibility is to choose a political party that will represent our beliefs related to the history and current needs of a free, yet always struggling, society to maintain liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

The pennies and nickels we use almost daily remind us of our recognition of God's presence in the United States of America in every way. There is a consistent reminder to us that, indeed, America was founded upon the trust that God cares about all citizens of the United States. We are a chosen people and stewards of a land of freedom for which many have died to maintain and suffered to become a citizen. We have a responsibility to preserve our land of the free, not only for ourselves but for our children and future posterity!

We know that our national history is related to civil turmoil and internal strife with war and controversy related to governmental political parties and their practices on our behalf. There have been numerous challenges related to the maturity of our nation—like a refining fire. Yet, let us hope that the national refining of our status has taught us lessons regarding the importance of freedom, individual respect, and overall kindness.

In our mutual hopeful pursuit of maintaining our liberty, I do not request your commitment to a political preference for the Democratic or Republican party. Your intellectual approach to your commitment to either party is your choice as you practice the freedom of this great nation. However, it does require an intellectual pause that refreshes causing your answer to that question to hopefully make intellectual sense! The intellectual pause requires each of us to remember the historical reason for this United States and the many who paid with pain, time, and personal cost to take literally, "In God We Trust" as we have historically moved forward as the greatest nation on earth. However, that continuation of maintaining the greatest nation is dependent on wise political choices through psychological astuteness, critical thinking, and common sense—known as the Intellectual Amigos.

Wait—did I feel you squeeze my hand? Yes, I believe you heard my message! We are the keepers of democracy on behalf of our future children. Let our responsible democratic choices of voting represent our keen responsibility to our posterity relative to our political "smartness" as we cast our votes. The practice of political choice and the act of voting has been a gift from those who paid the price for our freedom. Therefore, think carefully about your political choices. Teach and show our

children as future recipients of our political decisions that freedom to choose government leaders is a precious gift.

I remind you of the happening of Entropy—that means that everything in the universe moves toward randomness and decay—nothing ever remains the same! Holding tightly to our political liberty we choose our destiny that will hopefully preserve the freedoms we currently have and the gift we leave for our children.

I put the coins back in my pocket and I squeeze your imaginary hand, look at your imaginary face, and wonder if you understand the immenseness of our responsibility to individually make a responsible political choice. As the coins imply--yes, in God I do trust—I trust that you, individually, will think carefully about your political choice and vote responsibly!

The sun is beginning to set. As I (your imaginary friend) hold tightly your imaginary hand we turn toward home. I visualize that you turn to me, as your imaginary friend, and together we verbally reassure each other of our friendship regardless and because of our freedom to make our responsible personal political choices. We, also, assure each other that regardless of our personal political choices through our application of the Three Amigos, we will listen carefully and intellectually to political party options and beliefs before we make our final political decisions. Our responsibility is to help assure liberty and the continued pursuit of happiness for ourselves and our future posterity—it is our sole political responsibility!

I place my few pennies and nickels back in my pocket and I free your imaginary hand from my grip. I trust you, as a free American Citizen, to carefully consider your political choices, and do so with a conscious intellectual awareness of the consequences for the continued freedom of all humankind in the United States of America. I listen carefully for your answer as my pocket jingles with the reminder that In God We Trust!

Respectfully,

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