The End Of The Dollar Empire

by Stephen K. Bannon

Volume 1: The Federal Reserve

How the Federal Reserve robs your wealth, enriches the wealthiest Americans, and distorts the free market

Dear fellow American,

Over the last few years I've become increasingly concerned by a number of growing economic forces that threaten the U.S. This "economic warfare" is taking place right now on a number of fronts.

The immediate goal is to undermine the U.S. dollar. This is a crucial step in removing the U.S. from its role on the world stage.

Whether you follow geopolitical struggles or not, this is important: As goes the dollar, so goes your savings. The struggle ahead may not only bankrupt our nation, but all of us as well.

This is the first of a series of sitreps [situation reports] I've assembled on the enemies of the dollar. I'm working with a trusted partner, Birch Gold Group, to distribute these reports to as many clear-thinking Americans as possible. You'll probably want to learn more about Birch Gold Group's services after finishing this report.

Today, we're taking a skeptical look at the one institution that's done more damage to the dollar than anything else over the last 100 years…

Your friend,

Steve Bannon

The Fed's story actually started 230 years ago...

In 1791, the just-formed United States created the largest corporation of its time at the behest of Alexander Hamilton. It was called the First Bank.

That was the beginning of a century-long fight between populists and East Coast elites over money. *What is money? Who will control it?*

Farmers **resisted the idea of having a centralized corporate power controlling monetary resources**, and the First Bank charter expired without renewal. That experiment would repeat itself in 1816 and last for another 20 years, only to fail once again thanks to the resistance of Andrew Jackson.

After a long history of back-and-forth politics, the Civil War, various banking acts, and several severe financial panics that all took place between 1836 and 1913, a wave of populist discontent swept the nation. Americans were tired of not having control of their own money, of being at the mercy of banks that frequently failed, leaving depositors destitute.

One of the most famous speeches in American political history was on this very subject. On July 9, 1896, William Jennings Bryan delivered his spellbinding "Cross of Gold" address. The issue at hand was whether to endorse the free coinage of silver at a ratio of 16 to 1. This measure would've increased the amount of money in circulation and aided cash-poor farmers encumbered with debt to get out from under the banks who owned their mortgages.

Monopolistic bankers *hated* that idea. They didn't want a bunch of redneck voters influencing what counted as money – that would cut into their profits. The elite bankers wanted even more control.

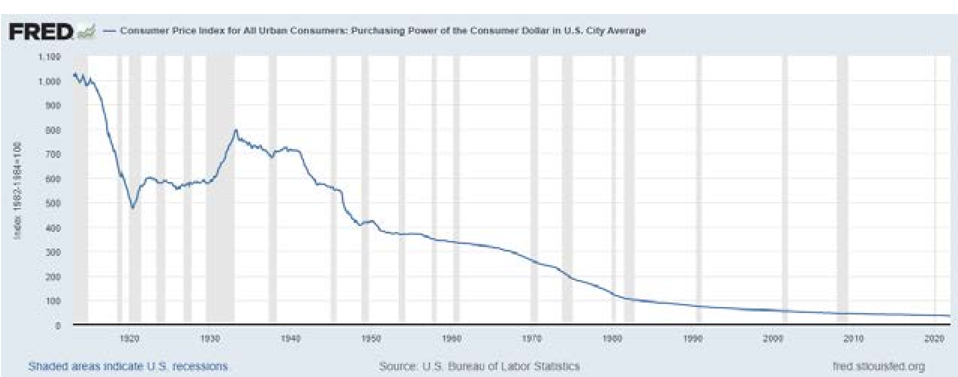
So the bankers locked arms with the United States government to get it. And way back then, just like today, when bankers want something, they figure out how to make it happen…

On December 23, 1913 the Federal Reserve Act was enacted. A centralized banking system with the Fed and twelve major banks in *nearly absolute control* of the entire monetary system was established.

From that day forward, everything changed. But this report isn't an in-depth historical account of the Fed — entire books have been written on that subject. (My personal favorite is *The Lords of Easy Money* by Christopher Leonard.)

Instead of covering that sordid history year by year, we're going to fast-forward to the present day to **examine the Fed's legacy and the impact it's had on Americans**.

One official chart summarizes the U.S. dollar's evaporating purchasing power from December 1913 to the present and reveals the Fed's "effectiveness" over the last 100+ years fairly well:

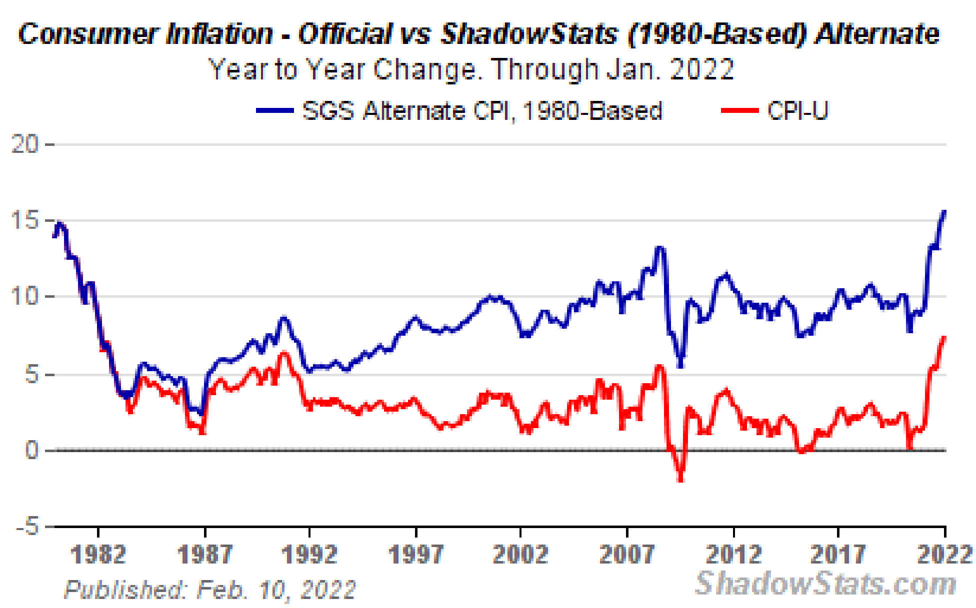


As you can see, **the purchasing power of the U.S. dollar has declined by approximately 96 percent** since the Federal Reserve took over.

If we zoom in just a little closer, in the last two years:

Since the eve of the pandemic, your money, your purchasing power, your ability to provide for yourself and your family *has declined by 8%*. This is through **no fault of your own** but simply because you've been receiving a paycheck denominated in Federal Reserve Notes.

And these are just the official numbers! Analyst John Williams uses the Federal Reserve's own inflation measures dating from 1980 (before they were watered down to understate inflation for political reasons). As bad as the official numbers are, the reality is much worse:

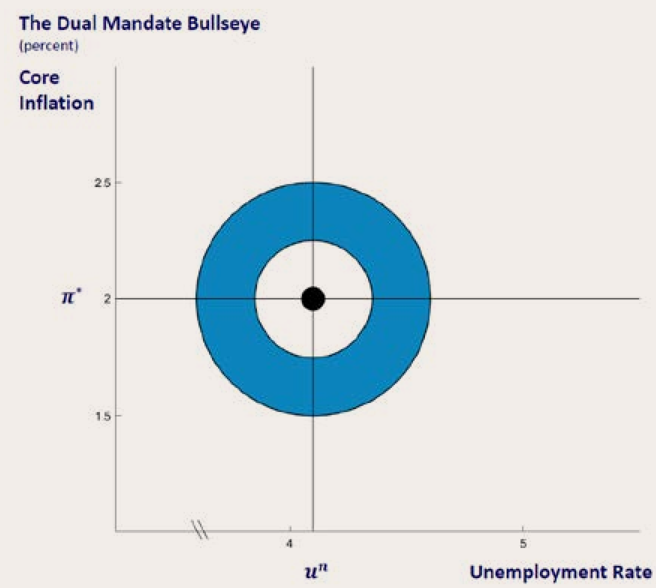


Of course, there's much more to the Fed's malfeasance than this handful of charts reveals. In fact, over the last two decades the Fed has *continuously* intervened to keep inflation, lending rates, and unemployment "under control."

But, to put it bluntly, their best interests are *not* our best interests…

How Unelected Technocrats From the Ivory Tower Create the Illusion They're "Looking Out for the Little Guy" While Doing Exactly the Opposite

The Fed is supposed to maintain a dual mandate of keeping inflation near 2% annually, *while* ensuring full employment.



You can see this depicted on the blue "bullseye" graphic, taken from the Chicago Federal Reserve's website, and current as of October 2020 (targets can change). It shows the "sweet spot" with core inflation at 2%, and unemployment at about 4.1%.

The Fed's dual mandate sounds like a reasonable idea when taken at face value. Two percent inflation doesn't sound bad. And we want people to have jobs, so why not maximize employment?

Recently, one Federal Reserve nominee, Sarah Bloom Raskin, has proposed expanding the Fed's charter. She thinks the Fed should be policing climate change. Senator Pat Toomey, the top Republican on the Banking Committee, says she really wants to "choke off credit" to fossil fuel companies. He went on to say, "Unelected officials like Ms. Raskin want to misuse bank regulation to impose environmental policies that Congress has refused to enact."

This is exactly what our nation *doesn't need*. It's just stupendously poor strategic vision. Making American energy development more costly would not only drive prices higher, even higher than they already are!

In January 2022, overall energy prices rose 27% year over year including:

- Fuel oil: +46.5%
- Electricity: +10.7%
- Gasoline: +40%
- WTI crude: +60%

Not only would you and I be paying higher prices, Baskin would also be condemning thousands of good jobs in the energy sector.

Where does she think we get oil from if we don't produce it ourselves? I'll tell you: Russia. Iran. China.

She'd rather see *your money* go into *their pockets* so she can feel good about herself and tell her friends at cocktail parties she's a proper social justice warrior.

The problem isn't Baskin, *per se* (though she's part of it). The problem is **these people aren't out to help you**. You **don't get to vote for them**. Congress can't recall them. As far as I can tell, no current or former member of the Federal Reserve has ever been indicted.

There's no transparency to their actions and no apparent day-to-day plan to *actually help the average American*.

In fact, the opposite is true…

Things aren't as "reasonable" as the Fed would have you believe.

When Fed executives fail to provide transparency about what they're doing, that behavior should arouse suspicion about their operations. For example, a Frontline investigation revealed the following disturbing behavior:

> *"From September 2019 to March of 2020, the Fed pumped out more than $9 trillion cumulatively in below-market rate loans to the trading units of the mega Wall Street banks in these repo loans.* ***To this day, the Fed has refused to release the names of the banks that received these funds or the amounts each bank received****. It has released only the cumulative tallies of the loan amounts."*

One might wonder, *Is the Fed actively propping up failing megabanks?* Based on the evidence, it's hard to deny that. And if you think they're hiding something, you would be correct.

Have you ever heard of the Plunge Protection Team (PPT)? It's a small team of people who report directly to POTUS. If the stock market falls too far too fast, the PPT starts buying up massive amounts of equities to reverse the direction of the market.

I know it sounds crazy, but this kind of activity has been going on a long time. For example, a 1989 speech published in *The Wall Street Journal* by former Federal Reserve Board of Governors member Robert Heller suggested the Fed **could directly support the stock market by purchasing index futures contracts**.

That begs the question: **Is it the Fed's job to benefit Wall Street?**

Based on the last 20 years of history, the answer is a resounding **YES.**

Here's an example:

Remember the Financial Crisis in 2008, after Lehman Brothers collapsed and A.I.G. was teetering on the verge of bankruptcy? Hank Paulson was the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury at the time. For the previous 22 years, Paulson had worked for Goldman Sachs, most recently as Chief Operating Officer, during which he amassed a personal fortune of about $700 million.

Well, Goldman Sachs was in trouble. Treasury Secretary Paulson went *out of his way* to save Goldman. He asked a Treasury lawyer to give him a conflict-of-interest waiver because "the magnitude of the government's interest" outweighed ethics. Paulson spoke to Goldman's CEO more than twenty times over the next few days.

Just a couple days later (on a Sunday, no less), the Federal Reserve announced that Goldman Sachs had transformed, over the weekend, from an investment bank into a "bank holding company." (This required a couple of lines on a piece of paper, signed by Fed chair Timothy Geithner and Goldman's CEO Blankfein.)

I'll let Matt Taibbi explain what that means:

"…a move that allows it access not only to $10 billion in TARP funds, but to a whole galaxy of less conspicuous, publicly backed funding — most notably, lending from the discount window of the Federal Reserve. By the end of March, the Fed will have lent or guaranteed at least $8.7 trillion under a series of new bailout programs — and thanks to an obscure law allowing the Fed to block most congressional audits, both the amounts and the recipients of the monies remain almost entirely secret.

"Converting to a bank-holding company has other benefits as well: Goldman's primary supervisor is now the New York Fed, whose chairman at the time of its announcement was Stephen Friedman, a former co-chairman of Goldman Sachs. Friedman was technically in violation of Federal Reserve policy by remaining on the board of Goldman even as he was supposedly regulating the bank; in order to rectify the problem, he applied for, and got, a conflict of interest waiver from the government."

Even Hank Paulson's $700 billion Troubled Asset Relief Program (the one where the government used taxpayer dollars to buy "toxic assets" from too-big-to-fail banks) was run by Neel Kashkari, another Goldman banker.

The phrase **regulatory capture** means that institutions that are supposed to **follow rules** *also* **control the rule-making** and rule-enforcement organizations. It's another way of saying, "The inmates are running the asylum."

It's become clear to me over the last twenty years that the Federal Reserve is mostly an institution that's run *by Wall Street, for Wall Street*.

This shady Fed behavior has been going on for more than 30 years, yet the general public is still largely unaware of it. And that's by design. The Fed likes to project the image that its sole purpose is to help the little guy — while their actions benefit the wealthy elites. For example, here's Minneapolis Fed President Neel Kashkari (the same guy who was running the $700 billion TARP fund) justifying the Fed's behavior:

> *"The Fed has been on a mission, I've been on a mission to put Americans back to work and help them get their wages up, especially for those lowest income Americans. And if it's had some effect on Wall Street, to me, the tradeoff is well worth it if we can put Americans back to work, so that they can put food on the table, they can take care of themselves. That is profoundly beneficial to society."*

Notice how he skims over the part about Wall Street? Kashkari is basically admitting that the Fed is providing financial aid that benefits Wall Street. And, he says, the money they're giving Wall Street is justified because it will "trickle down" to average Americans and help them put food on the table.

It's pretty clear the Fed's bailout money wasn't being used to support its mandates. Rather, that money was used to take care of some of the wealthiest corporations and individuals in society.

So why is it so important to provide support to these failing institutions?

Does the Fed's under-the-table, free loans to banks limit inflation?

No.

Is it the Fed's intention to keep the half-million or so U.S. employees of the megabanks from losing their jobs when their corporate employers shut down?

Hardly…

It seems the Fed's primary goal is to keep the stock market from falling. And they've been relentlessly pursuing that goal since 2008, injecting $6 trillion of economic rocket fuel into the American economy.

There's just one problem.

What goes up, must come down. That's just as true in the real world of thrown rocks as it is in the weird world of finance. And just like in the real world, *the further up you go, the further you fall* (and *the worse it hurts* when you land).

A Forbes article summarized this situation very well:

"The longer we artificially extend our expansion or economic boom, the bigger the recession we create. When we artificially affect the economy, we throw the natural business cycle out of order. Thus, we may lose more than the wealth we've created during the economic boom."

Here's why: The "natural business cycle" includes bad economic times as well as good ones. Recessions and bear markets are a part of Schumpeter's creative destruction that are a part of all **healthy, dynamic markets**.

When the Fed prints money to prop up the stock market, they're preventing the natural business cycle from working. That leads to a build-up of unhealthy assets in the market, to speculation, to bubbles.

A return to healthy, dynamic and most of all **free markets** would have tremendous benefits. But the Fed thinks that would be catastrophic, because of something called the "wealth effect."

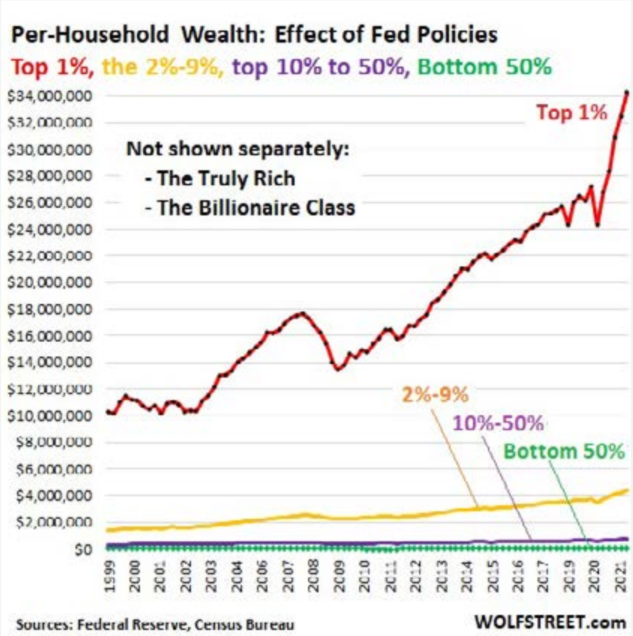
What’s the wealth effect?

In 2010, Fed chair Ben Bernanke explained the “wealth effect” to Americans. Not on cable news. Not in a press release, or at a press conference. Nope, he chose the editorial page of t*he Washington Post*. He wrote:

> *Easier financial conditions will promote economic growth. For example, lower mortgage rates will make housing more affordable and allow more homeowners to refinance. Lower corporate bond rates will encourage investment. And higher stock prices will boost consumer wealth and help increase confidence, which can also spur spending. Increased spending will lead to higher incomes and profits that, in a virtuous circle, will further support economic expansion.*

There it is, in a nutshell. The “wealth effect” is the Fed’s never-ending quest to boost asset prices. That’s it! If stocks go up, it will “help increase confidence” which is good to “spur spending.” Everybody wins. Right?

There’s just one small problem with this approach: **it benefits the wealthiest Americans *almost exclusively*.** Analyst and commentator Wolf Richter put together a chart from Fed and Census Bureau data to show just how unfairly the Fed’s “wealth effect” obsession gets distributed:



As you can see, the wealthier you already are, the more the Fed’s policies benefit you. If you’re not already rich, well, too bad!

So where does all that extra money come from?

It’s hot off the presses…

Take a close look at that chart.

About **1 out of every 2 dollars in circulation *magically* appeared since January 2020.** A few months later, suddenly the Fed pretends to be surprised to see inflation. Powell assured America it was merely “transitory” nine months before giving up and just admitting that inflation was stubbornly, persistently high.

You don’t need an economics degree to understand why. ***Every single new dollar reduces the buying power of every other dollar in existence.***

Meanwhile, nearly 2 out of 3 families are living paycheck-to-paycheck.

Their justification? It’s the same one they use every time: We didn’t want to do it, but the alternative is much, *much worse*… It’s the logic that Timothy Geithner used to justify the bailout that saved Wall Street at the cost of *billions of taxpayer dollars*.

> *“It seems unjust. But look what happened to the global economy…* ***It’s not Wall Street that suffers when you ‘teach people a lesson.’ The tragedy of financial populism is that you do terrible things to innocent people.”***

Quite frankly, this is just a bunch of Federal Reserve PR spin. The truth is, the very thing Geithner is so afraid of, **financial populism, *is our only hope for the future***.

The Solution? Follow the Golden Brick Road

The beginning of the revival of our nation starts with the politics of money. It starts with taking back the sovereignty of our wealth, with saying ***No*** to the games the elites are playing *with our money*. With our **future**.

American Presidents including Andrew Jackson and Abraham Lincoln warned us against the evils of a central bank and the hazards of paper money. William Jennings Bryan almost managed to redefine money over a century ago – he almost managed to make it possible for cash-strapped Americans to pay off their debts and liberate themselves.

That's when the elites set up the Federal Reserve. Because they think financial populism means "you do terrible things to innocent people."

BULLSHIT. Did financial populism destroy 96% of your spending power? Did financial populism enable deficit spending to the tune of $30 trillion (and counting)? Did financial populism use taxpayer dollars to ensure the fattest cats on Wall Street walked away from the 2008 Financial Crisis *not only with their jobs, but **wealthier than before***?

Remember that chart at the beginning of this report? Every dollar that the Fed "prints" and injects into the markets dilutes the value of existing dollars.

The Federal Reserve and the debt-drunk U.S. government are making each and every one of us *pay for the privilege of devaluing our own currency!*

They're practically forcing us to investigate alternative stores of value like precious metals.

It's pretty simple. Gold, silver, and other precious metals are different from fiat currency. Precious metals all have a finite supply that cannot be conjured up on a whim.

These physical precious metals all sit outside of the purview of the Federal Reserve and other elected officials in the government, and are therefore relatively safe from their constant meddling.

Is gold still the best hedge against a currency collapse?

I've devoted a tremendous amount of time and thought to this question, and I believe the answer is **Yes**. Consider the alternatives:

Cryptocurrencies: Digital money is definitely a hedge against central banks. However, nearly 2,000 cryptocurrencies have failed since 2017. In addition, cryptocurrency transactions aren't as private as most people think.

NFTs: These were invented in 2014, started to catch on in 2017 and finally went mainstream in 2021. Will they withstand the test of time? There's just no way to know, due to their brief historical track record.

Cash: Some people believe owning other currencies will help preserve their savings for the long haul. This simply isn't the case. Consider: of the 750 currencies that have existed since 1700, only about 20% remain, and the survivors all have been devalued. By "devalued," *I mean worth only a fraction of their original value.* Today's British pound sterling (GBP or £) has declined 96.4% in purchasing power over my lifetime.

Compare with **gold**, which has been valued since 4,000 BC and used as money since 1,500 BC (and silver almost as long). In fact, **gold is still used as money today** by the world's central banks.

That's right – *the same people* who tell you that inflation is for your own good, and that you don't know what money is, *they buy gold*. Here's why:

- Gold is a "**trustless**" currency – it doesn't matter who's on the other side of the transaction, you know the money's good.
- Gold is **uninflatable**.
- Gold is **unhackable**.
- Gold is **still there when the lights go out**.

Finally, *gold frees its owners form bank oversight*. Maybe you've seen the stories about the Canadians whose bank accounts were frozen because their government didn't like their politics? **This is already happening right here in the U.S.**

Friends, ***we are at war*** whether we know it or not. Each and every American patriot is at war with Wall Street and its government puppet, the Federal Reserve. And don't be fooled – their weapons are frightening. In 1978, Ronald Reagan warned us:

"Inflation is as violent as a mugger, as frightening as an armed robber and as deadly as a hit man."

If you want to have *any power over your own financial future*, you need to opt out of the Fed's paper-based pickpocketing and their paternalistic attitude that they know what we need better than we do.

So here's what you need to do next…

You need to talk to my friends over at the Birch Gold Group. They'll walk you through the benefits of physical precious metals (*completely* different from ETFs and other paper-based, imaginary finance hocus-pocus).

And then they'll hook you up with a **FREE 20-page information kit** to take a look at. (Don't worry, there is **no cost or obligation** when you take this initial step.)
I'm hoping that you'll carefully examine the possibility of shifting some of your savings into precious metals today.

So take action. To get Birch Gold's no-cost, no-obligation info kit, click here now.

One final thought

I did some back-of-the-envelope calculations… Were the U.S. to come to its senses and go back to a gold standard **right this minute**, and back *every dollar in existence* with gold from the U.S. reserves, the price per ounce of gold would *skyrocket*.

A	B	C	D	E
Record Date	Facility Description	Form Description	Location Description	Fine Troy Ounces
1/31/2022	Mint Held Gold - Deep Storage	Gold Bullion	Denver, CO	43853707.28
1/31/2022	Mint Held Gold - Deep Storage	Gold Bullion	Fort Knox, KY	147341858.4
1/31/2022	Mint Held Gold - Deep Storage	Gold Bullion	West Point, NY	54067331.38
1/31/2022	Mint Held Gold - Working Stock	Gold Coins	All Locations- Coins, blanks, misc.	2783218.656
1/31/2022	Federal Reserve Bank Held Gold	Gold Bullion	Federal Reserve Banks - NY Vault	13376987.72
1/31/2022	Federal Reserve Bank Held Gold	Gold Bullion	Federal Reserve Banks - Display	2393.352
1/31/2022	Federal Reserve Bank Held Gold	Gold Coins	Federal Reserve Banks - NY Vault	73472.281
1/31/2022	Federal Reserve Bank Held Gold	Gold Coins	Federal Reserve Banks - Display	357.238
			total oz govt gold	261,499,326.29
			$30,142,346,400,000.00	debt
			$115,267.40	gold price per oz

Now, this doesn't seem likely to me. I fully expect the Fed to continue printing money with abandon, devaluing our money by the minute. If that's the case, it makes sense to me to spend those dollars *now, while they still have value*, and buy something that will stand the test of time.

So, which do you think will still be valuable twenty years from now: a 1 oz bar of gold, or a 1-pound pile of Federal Reserve Notes? Which is a firmer foundation for your financial future? Consider: that 1-pound pile is made of 490 $100 bills. After 20 years of 7.5% inflation (remember, that's what we're seeing today, *officially*) your buying power has **declined 77%** -- that $49,000 is now worth less than $12,000.

Again, I encourage you to take a hard look at precious metals.
[Get your free info kit from Birch Gold here.]