



God's Property



Freedom or Security

Every 4th of July we celebrate the anniversary of an event where a few brave men rose up against a powerful monarchy that gave them security but not freedom. Freedom and security are not one and the same. The more security you want, the less freedom you have; the more freedom, the less security. For example millions of Americans seeking job security thinking that they are now free of worry have much of their freedom taken away. They are now burdened with a job that tells them where they have to be, when they have to be there, what time they can leave, when they can go on vacation, etc. Where's the freedom in that?

When our founding fathers signed the Declaration of Independence, they then had freedom, but their security was gone. The same country which they depended on for their security would be battling them. Today, millions of Americans are now unemployed and have lost their security and don't have a clue where to go. They've been institutionalized and are frantically looking for the next job that will provide security, with even less freedom, but that doesn't matter as long as a paycheck is coming to them regularly.

I don't believe this is how God

wants us to live. One of the best examples is the amazing story in the Bible of the exodus of His people from Egypt. The Israelites had been enslaved for nearly 400 years by the Egyptians. They worked hard, had a roof over their heads and food on their tables, but were under Egyptian rule. It wasn't until God had Moses take them out of there to the land He had promised them that they would realize what true freedom meant. Even then there were naysayers who although hated the working conditions, couldn't imagine not having the security Pharaoh provided. Sound familiar? How many people do you know who complain about their job, yet are scared to death of losing it?

As real estate investors, many of us left a corporate environment that had kept us enslaved and unable to reach our full God-given potential. Our departure from a "secure" environment is scary, but the freedom that comes with it is a blessing. Freedom does come at a price, just as our forefathers had to fight a fierce battle to secure freedom to this new republic. As a real estate investor, you'll have your own battles to fight to protect and retain your freedom. Even as seasoned investors, you'll always have to continue to defend your freedom as there will be those looking to take it

away, through competition, government regulation, etc.

Whatever the costs, I will take freedom over security. There have been years where Sharon and I wondered how we would get by. The thought of seeking a job crossed our minds, but just for a fleeting moment as the thought of giving up our freedom for a little security was unthinkable. Instead of focusing on the problems, we got back to seeking where God wanted us to move next and diligently worked towards that path.

What would you rather have: freedom or security?

Happy Independence Day & God Bless,

Juan C Restrepo

