

# Weekly Update by Mark Armstrong

## - 28 January 2022

Greetings from Tyler,

You've no doubt encountered word this week of police ambushes. They have to be very wary of responding to a domestic dispute or pulling a car over. It's heartbreaking that officers of the law are being murdered, and one faction of society wants to celebrate. Nothing personal. Have you heard? There's a new and more dangerous variant, and it's in Texas! They should have a name by Monday.

It seems mighty convenient that we're involved arguing about masks and shots, while Russia has Ukraine threatened on three sides. We know we haven't heard the end of it. Putin thought the dissolution of the Soviet Union was a great tragedy. A sizable percentage of the Ukrainian population speaks Russian, and some are involved in the "Russian separatist" movement, at loggerheads with the Ukraine government.

But Ukraine trades primarily with Europe. Less than 10% is with Russia. If you look at the map, Russia half surrounds the country, and could cut off access to the Black Sea by seizing the port of Odessa.

Meetings between diplomats have not gone well. Putin is reportedly worried that NATO will install missile batteries, or at least that's one explanation. He's finally spoken up and said his key concerns have not been addressed. He wants all Western powers to back off, in which case he could take it without war. Who knows. More meetings are scheduled with Anthony Blinken, if nothing happens in the mean time. The Russians say they don't want war, but can't tolerate their interests being ignored.

Can you imagine this having happened two years ago? Is there some chance that Putin, Xi, Kim Jong-un or the Iranians have missed recent public appearances of the occupant? They see what we see. If there was ever a time to act...

The Chinese ambassador to the U. S. is warning that if Taiwan continues walking down the road toward independence, it will likely involve military conflict with

China. Who didn't see this coming? Maybe we need conflict with Iran and North Korea too. That ought to do it.

Is there some chance the world is not aware that U. S. governance has turned against citizens as a primary focus? Do they not see the same reports we wish we could avoid? A collapsed border, with middle of the night shuttles into middle America are all over now. It's household information. It's hard to look.

North of the border, there's a massive convoy of eighteen wheelers descending on Ottawa. It goes without saying that much of what we, and Canadians consume is delivered by truck. We don't think of Canadians as demanding and unruly, but the rules and regulations being demanded of truckers from their government (*and ours*) has got their ire up. Will anybody listen?

Meanwhile a major blizzard is about to descend on New England. It may turn out to be the biggest storm Boston has ever seen. We hope everybody will be appropriately concerned about their carbon footprint as they dig out.

The nation's children are being taught racism, and to elevate themselves personally above the men who founded the nation that has shined the light of freedom around the world. Parents who don't want the indoctrination for their own children have been categorized as domestic terrorists.

To catalog everything that has gone wrong, and is about to go wrong would take encyclopedic volumes. The outright rejection of God, denying His very existence is at the crux. History is being spun to result in little kids being critical, even hateful toward some of the greatest men who ever lived. Entertainment has delved into every evil and nobody says a word. Well, not NOBODY. But when somebody does (*who's famous*) they get banned, de-platformed and ridiculed in the mainstream media. Here we are on tenterhooks about Ukraine, and we're being destroyed from within. It is all so unnecessary.

Mark

PS: We mailed out just over 200,563 items in 2021. (*It's slightly less than recent years, but is accounted for by the fact that we've doubled up some mailings for efficiency's sake.*) Having advertised on *Facebook*, sadly, we've reached 2 ½ million. The current ad on *The Gospel* has reached almost 1 million. We've seen over 56,000 views on *Youtube* with a watch time of 19,000 hours with 578,529

“impressions.” We hope you’ve all received your *21<sup>st</sup> Century WATCH* magazine. If not, we have some extras.

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