



Up Front

Orange Man, the french-fry tosser.
By C.J. Hadley

I read a lot and am a fan of Jeffrey A. Tucker, who writes regularly for *The Epoch Times*. In his post-election column, he described “the feeling in the air in this remarkable and truly historic moment in the life of this wonderful country.” He continued: “The divisions and discontent on all sides have intensified without relief for as long as I can remember, particularly since Sept. 11, 2021. The surveillance state grew ever more intrusive and the power of the bureaucracy ascended even as politics itself seemed to stop working as a method of change.”

Tucker listed five main takeaways from the results of the recent election and the effect on public mood: (1) The discovery that you are not alone; (2) The realization that our overlords are a tiny minority; (3) The possibility that the future can be better than the past; (4) The genuine appearance that dramatic change is coming; and (5) The birth of a new freedom on the ashes of the old despotism.

As our next president, Donald J. Trump does offer hope. Since Election Day on November 5, world leaders, entrepreneurs, movie stars, tech giants and “journalists” have been calling or knocking on the doors at Mar-a-Lago, his home in Palm Beach, Fla. Some bad guys have even taken a knee—and he’s not even president yet. At the same time, President Biden’s handlers are throwing every buck they can find from federal agency budgets into a dump truck, selling steel Trump left behind for the border wall for pennies on the dollar and packing green giveaway groups’ private treasuries while banning off-shore oil development and sharing billions with Ukraine and self-serving climate zealots. They are making sure that Trump will start his second term with a looted bank account, wars all around, and a debt so deep and far into the future that it’s almost impossible to fathom.

As a former left-winger from New York City, I find “the relentless incoming” irresistible, but also overwhelming. However, I have been entertained recently by Trump’s bright and enlightened cabinet picks. “Orange Man”

learned the hard way last go-round, so he’s trying to avoid RINOs and swamp rats and is prying open that one small door pointing toward a promising future.

From Biden for President, Feb. 19, 2024, an imaginative PR shill wrote: “In their ranking of presidential greatness, a group of expert American historical scholars just placed President Biden in the top third of presidencies among the likes of Obama, Kennedy, and FDR—achieving a record of accomplishments in the first three years of his term that many administrations can’t top in seven or eight.”

The press release continued: “Meanwhile, if you scroll all the way down the rankings, all the way to the bottom—you can see that Donald Trump comes in as the worst president in American history.” Two *Los Angeles Times* opinion writers, Justin Vaughn and Brandon Rottinghaus, echoed that with: “Experts rank Biden among the best presidents. Trump? Not so much.” The “experts” were handpicked by the Biden/Harris campaign.

Wyoming oil man, intellect and entrepreneur John Hoak has a different opinion: “If leftist destroyers of America can break the law with impunity to seize and hold power, to dismantle our economy and culture for their own nefarious ends, then America is neither safe nor secure as our enemies within will regroup,

rearm and renew efforts to subvert justice and America’s other foundational institutions. If America continues down the path of a two-tiered justice system, we have no

justice. A society without justice will devolve quickly into a totalitarian hell and literal bloodbath.”

It is early January and in a few days Donald J. Trump will be inaugurated in Washington, D.C., as the 47th president of the United States. We already know that this attention-getting billionaire will always be on the side of American workers, especially resource providers like ranchers, farmers, loggers and miners. We also know that he will be surrounded by men and women with great brains and hearts, patriots of all religions, races, sexes, shapes and colors, and that he will become an accidental champion of “Diversity, Equity & Inclusion.”

I have a Harris/Walz sign in my office thanks to one friend and a Trumpy Doll from another friend with a different point of view. It’s a nice ensemble. And I, too, believe America’s future is bright—if we can keep that flashy, yellow-haired french-fry tosser alive. ■

