What are the safe-haven assets? The Swiss Franc, Bitcoin, gold and silver, and the dollar. There are others but that's enough for now. First the currencies: the Swiss Franc has historically been a safe-haven, but with the Swiss central banks being a big owner of stocks, Switzerland is not what it used to be. And, in an existential economic threat (which is our future), the Swiss franc will not be safe.

Bitcoin has risen, over a few weeks, from $3000 to more than $11,000. Why is that? Two reasons: Bitcoin is a safe-haven. Proof for that is seen in other cryptos, which during that same period fell, while Bitcoin soared. That's because, in a world of uncertainty, you have to pick the one that may persist as things worsen. And that's Bitcoin, not for transactions, but a store of value (as is gold and silver). And Bitcoin is private money (which I will address in this blog).

Like Bitcoin, but not as dramatically, gold has broken through a resistance point of $1350 which it came up against 6 different times, only to fall back. But over the last few weeks gold moved from the mid $1200s to $1415 and, as yet, has not been beaten back down. And like Bitcoin, gold and silver are safe-haven assets, representing a flight to quality, away from risky paper in a risky world. Gold may fall back next week but that will only indicate that the bull market in the shiny metals is closer than in years. It may be upon us now, and if it is, don't be surprised to see gold take out $2000 over a short time.

Like the Swiss franc, the dollar has safe-haven status, but like Swiss cheese, the dollar is full of holes that will soon take away its safe-haven status, when a flight to safety will be out of the dollar. This is because all currencies are public money, as opposed to Bitcoin and gold, which are private money—assets not subject to third-party risk—not controlled by governments. Sure, governments can outlaw Bitcoin, but can they follow through on that? They can't get rid of Bitcoin by bringing down the internet because everything they do (including conducting economies) depends on the internet. Bitcoin has risks associated with an attack on the grid, which wipes out data, but so does every stock portfolio and bank deposit record. Unless governments can utilize technology to control cryp-
tos, the private money realm of the Bitcoin world has an unlimited future, as a safe-haven, when compared with possible futures for public (money) currency.

Anyone who does not see a future for Bitcoin (and cryptos) is not getting it, because Bitcoin will remain a safe-haven, able to grow in price, for as long as it remains outside of third-party control. Same with gold and silver, which can also be outlawed, but with the prospect of two billion persons holding precious metals, will the globalists attempt to make almost a third of humankind into criminals? Eventually that could be the same for Bitcoin; when everyone owns a bit, will everyone be a criminal? Will the cop who knocks on your door, who himself owns 50 ounces of silver and a Bitcoin wallet, arrest you for owning private money?

The safe-haven status for Bitcoin and gold are not difficult to describe. Bitcoin is highly transportable between nations, whereas gold needs to be physically smuggled (then again, some of us enjoy the thought). But gold is real; it is not a cipher. And as long as you hold it safely, in your own keeping, there is no third-party risk. It doesn't matter if the grid goes down—gold is gold—and silver is silver. Which, to my mind, gives gold and silver the edge in terms of a flight to safety. Metals are not as good for getting money from an oppressive nation to a safer place, but safer when they are where you want them to be.

If you think about what could go wrong in the crypto realm, think about hackers, and how well they do breaking into government sites and banks. If all the public money were in public cryptos (which may be a contradiction in terms), imagine the incentive for hackers to go after it, and imagine the ingenuity that comes with that. Which leads me to conclude that private money (Bitcoin) ought to be much safer than an Uncle Sam alternative. The government hackers, in their suits with their FBI badges, can't do what the geeks can do.

So what can nations do to make public money competitive with private money? They can use cryptos, and they will, but the recipe needs to have precious metals in it. And it can't involve backing the ruble or the yuan with gold because, at $1400, if they opted for a gold standard with currencies convertible to gold, at $1400, all of their gold would be taken off their hands in one click of a keyboard. The world is aware that backing currency with gold calls for $15,000 gold, not $1400. They will have to be more creative than giving away their gold. Maybe just the perception that their economic model is supported with gold and less debt will, in itself, get gold re-priced above $10,000. If they can do that incrementally, over a period of time, it's a sure bet.

And what about collectibles? That Van Gogh or the 55 Chevy convertible. Depends on how bad things get. In the end you may have to trade "Starry Night" for three loaves of bread. Or the Chevy for an old mule.

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