

Maybe Nothing Will Happen

By Joseph Parish



What if we do what all good preppers do, and prepare for the inevitable? What if we have a year's supply of food stored up and nothing terrible ever happens? Is this merely a waste of our time and money if that suspected disaster, or calamity never takes place? Before I answer that question let me relate my Y2K situation to you. As the turn of the century approached, I was more than prepared for anything that might happen. I had gone out and purchased a huge Airstream motor home, stocked it with food and supplies and at the last minute I filled it with fresh water. December 31st arrived and I retreated to the motor home to watch the news, eat some canned lobster and drink a glass of New Year's wine. As midnight approached, I was ready for the events to start unfolding.

Fortunately, we know that nothing damaging took place at that time for which I personally was very happy to see. Although we were out of danger it did not redeem me from being the bunt of my children's jokes. For years after, Y2K it was the family joke that I had prepared as I did. Was it all a waste of time and money?

To answer that question for me is fairly simple. It was not and never would be considered a waste in any respect what-so-ever. To me it takes a wise man to see far enough into the future to anticipate potential problems. I always consider prepping as an insurance policy against disaster. Bad times can happen at any time and it doesn't have to be at the hands of Mother Nature. Perhaps a family breadwinner will lose their

job and that stored up food and supplies could be their means of survival. Watch as a hurricane approaches your state and notice all the people flocking to the grocery store to encounter an abundance of empty shelves.

I am often asked if it is embarrassing to prepare as I do and find that nothing out of the ordinary takes place. In general, I first thank my luck stars that I didn't have to use the supplies which I had previously accumulated. Secondly, I feel good knowing that in the event something did happen my family would be safe and survive the ordeal. Being a prepper is an educational experience. You get to learn more about the domain managed by Mother Nature and how to best incorporate yourself into it with her. You learn about the wildlife and the various plants which can make your life more bearable and secure in the event of a breakdown in our usual lifestyle. My learning has allowed us to add to our food storage supplies by seeking out wild foods such as Lambs Quarters which can take the place of spinach or other locally growing wild products. This allows us to work with nature and benefit from its abundance while avoiding an increased grocery expense. Those saved dollars can go towards other needs that we simply do not have the funds for.

What more can be said about prepping other than it allows you and your family to get out and reap the rewards offered by Mother Nature. These are readily available to those that seek out the information. Get a little healthier with a walk in the forest as you search for these amazing treats. Take them home and store up on them. Learn new skills such as dehydrating, or canning. Best of all you can see and realize that prepping is not a waste of time or money. Learn and enjoy it now.