

GOODNEWS LETTER

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IT'S THE ECONOMY, The ECONOMY, the Economy

["Therefore take no thought, saying, what shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you,"] Matthew 6:31, 33.

Jesus promises to take care of His people. He has done so since uttering those sacred words. But, while we cherish such a promise in times of need, we often fail to remember His words in the good times; when money is in the bank and food is on the table.

During the days of plenty, we forget His words, often thinking that our livelihood comes by our hard work; that success is because of our wisdom and timing. We even think that we have done the right thing at the right moment.

Where's the Lord? Let's get back to the words promised by Jesus; for, we are definitely in tough times. The reports are everywhere. We see how bad it looks on the internet, on television and really understand its depths by the closing of the local retail giant in our community. Even auto dealers.

Reporting on the current woeful economic situation has been first rate, I think. TV has covered it from every angle. And, the internet home page keeps us abreast of what's happening.

In order to present the best coverage, broadcasters have placed top notched anchors up front, hired experts to contribute, and worked writers/producers over time. Indeed, there's a lot of information that needs to get out there.

Reporters tell of the historical times - like the Great Depression - as an attempt of placing the woes of this present situation into some sort of perspective. They draw from every possible resource, except one - the **Bible**.

What happened to our dependence on the Almighty? Has America legislated so much worldly thinking into Her laws that no one ever shouts, "**...who is this uncircumcised Philistine that he should defy the armies of the living God?**" (1st Sam. 17:26).

Or, more to the issue, "**The LORD giveth and the LORD taketh away, blessed by the name of the LORD,**" Job 1:21. We ought to rejoice! The Lord is near.

However, even though the financial meltdown is explained to us by commentators and all kinds of visuals, God has been effectively removed out of the equation.

And, because God has been minimized by our government, it is easy to understand that America's financial problem was preceded by a moral decay. And, it's going to get worse; morally and financially. Hate and greed are brothers of the love for money.

The consequences of pushing God into the background have resulted in America looking to the rest of the nations for solutions. Solutions that are without God's wisdom.

And, while the world, as a whole, seeks answers, it falls deeper into the '**Great Delusion**' of 2nd Thessalonians 2:11. "... they shall believe a lie."

America needs to repent and get back to acknowledging the LORD, ALMIGHTY. Worldly thinking is not God's wisdom; something that Jesus addressed over 2000 years ago. "**If a blind man guides a blind man, both will fall into a pit,**" Matthew 15:14.

It's time to do business THE OLD WAY - THE BIBLICAL WAY

One reporter worded it correctly: "**America's long spending spree has come to an end.**" It is crystal clear that the world needs a new approach on financial planning. But, it won't be God's way.

Understanding that the **ONE-WORLD SYSTEM; that is**, a one-world government, ought to make every Christian start planning now in order to be prepared. We need to rethink how to live in the world and, all the while, understand that we are not of the world. Churches use the slogan but, their members have not done a good job internalizing its meaning.

Certainly, a change in attitude is desperately needed. Christians have learned to trust in phrases rather than the Bible. And so, when it comes to money and the making of it, Christians apply: '**If you at first don't succeed, try and try again.**' After all, that's the way the world does it.

And so, in the last 10 to 20 years, investors - Christian investors, approached money making with the same thought. If one venture fails, just buy stock from another company or, try another money-making scheme - buy a business; or, a lot to build on. All the while, analysts kept saying those buzz words, "**Stay focused and stay in for the long term.**"

The plan has been to purchase "A" until it peaked. Then, sell and use the Profits to buy stock in another up and coming company. And, there were lots of choices during these past "fat" years. For a long time, money was made in housing, the stock market or, just about any other place that you put your money.

But now, like the **Dot Com** boom of a few years ago, nearly every company on the "**Big Board**" keeps falling. Those big investors that we once listened to are not doing too well, either. They are not exempt from feeling the pain and have lost Billions. That's billion, with a '**B**'.

True, it was good while it lasted. But, most failed to take care of their money, thinking it would never dry up. A few made out, but the good is over, isn't it.

YOU SEE, IT'S THE SYSTEM THAT 'S IN CONTROL

Further, the system will control the world; not the other way around. Mankind can only react to the times. He does not create them.

But, what about believers? Well, the ones trusting in God hurt right along with the rest. Therefore, we must wake up!

Here's the problem. While, the average Joe Christian may be aware that a one-world government is coming, his head remains stuck in the events going on; not, in God who causes the events.

Yes, his church may have taught how the Beast System will control all countries, but he has, for too long, been caught up in making as much as he can, so he can buy as much as he can.

When one is financially stretched as far as possible, it's hard to get Biblically motivated, once again. But, listen carefully. We are, without any doubt, living in the end-times. A time when man thinks only in terms of the here and now. Peter knew about this kind of thinking: "**...all things continue as they were form the beginning, 2Peter 3:4.** So today, people mock and people lust.

Christians tend to think just as they have invested their money - with a - "**Sure, Jesus is coming but, not for a long, long time**" - kind of attitude. Sure, the Beast System is coming; but, we've heard that for years. They mock.

Yet, looking at the news, doesn't the present world condition - both, religious and secular, match the holy words of Jesus? "**And because lawlessness shall increase, the love of many will wax cold,**" Mt. 24:13.

Their love for God and one another is not completely gone, but it gets colder as the time grows nearer. So, as Joe, the Christian watches his treasures of the earth begin to be eaten up by **moths** and fall apart because of **rust**, he needs to put up his worldly tools and start **laying up treasures in heaven** (Mt. 6:19 &20); "**For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also,**" Jesus said.

Whatever comes out of the G20 summit or, any other decision made by the world, the answer to economic troubles will not be God's solution.

But, then again, it will be the way that God says it will be. He knows how the end will be and He has told us how it was going to occur. We had better learn to rely on God's word and not the world.

The world is not going to rely on God; even less as time goes on. And, as time progress, God will be further excluded from the equation.

So, when we hear of the global financial trouble or, we see more of the Beast System producing, we must seek God's word, more and more.

Economic lessons were plentiful in the teachings of Jesus and the Apostles throughout their ministries. Jesus taught that the **kingdom** is our goal; not housing, bank accounts and the stock market.

It is True! Many made a lot of money. But, its over, isn't it? My hope and prayer is that the passing of this world is something that the average Joe Christian can get his heart and mind around.