

## IS IT THE ECONOMY?

Greetings precious people, this week we will look at a subject that has become the talk of everyone over the past few months, the economy. One of our past presidential candidates coined the phrase: "It's the economy stupid!" Nearly all the "experts" insist that most of our present woes are due to the economy and if it gets fixed everything will be good again.

But is this true? Is all of our current woes of unemployment; loss of homes; stock market crash; demise of the auto industry; etc. all due to the collapse of our economy or could it be something else? Is it really all about the economy?

**ABSOLUTELY NOT!** The economy and all that is involved with it, is merely a symptom of a far greater problem. Let me take you to the Word of God the Bible to prove my point. There are many verses to cite and I will begin with the 2 most telling. Psalm 33:12, "Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD: and the people whom he hath chosen for his own inheritance." Deuteronomy 28:47-48, "Because you did not serve the LORD your God with joy and gladness of heart, for the abundance of everything, therefore you shall serve your enemies, whom the LORD will send against you, in hunger, in thirst, in nakedness, and in need of everything; and He will put a yoke of iron on your neck until He has destroyed you."

When the nation of Israel obeyed the Lord, His blessings were upon them but when they turned their back on Him they suffered needlessly. When they suffered for their disobedience just as God had promised, there were many that offered solutions that would turn things around but none worked because there was no repentance from their sin. I encourage you to read the entire chapter of Deuteronomy in order to get the full picture.

As Israel disobeyed they suffered in many ways including their economy. The following are some verses to attest to this. Lamentations 5:2-4, "Our inheritance has been turned over to aliens, and our houses to foreigners. We have become orphans and waifs, Our mothers are like widows. We pay for the water we drink, and our wood comes at a price." Isaiah 1:7, "Your country is desolate, your cities are burned with fire; strangers devour your land in your presence; and it is desolate, as overthrown by strangers." Ezekiel 7:21-27 "I will give it as plunder into the hands of strangers, and to the wicked of the earth as spoil; and they shall defile it. I will turn My face from them, and they will defile My secret place; for robbers shall enter it and defile it. 'Make a chain, for the land is filled with crimes of blood and the city is full of violence. Therefore I will bring the worst of the Gentiles, and they will possess their houses; I will cause the pomp of the strong to cease, and their holy places shall be defiled. Destruction comes; they will seek peace, but there shall be none. Disaster will come upon disaster, and rumor will be upon rumor. Then they will seek a vision from a prophet; but the law will perish from the priest, And counsel from the elders. 'The king will mourn, the prince will be clothed with desolation, and the hands of the common people will tremble. I will do to them according to their way, and according to what they deserve I will judge them; then they shall know that I am the LORD!' "

It is astounding how similar our current situation is to the historical accounts of Israel in the Word of God. Like Israel, God greatly blessed us as we submitted and

committed ourselves to Him. Our founding fathers attest to this but currently we are telling God He no longer has any place in our lives. Our nation has become a godless land with godless people running the government; businesses; corporations; the public education system; etc.

I am hoping that it is not too late for us as a nation. I am still clinging to the promise God made to Israel in 2 Chronicles 7:14, "If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land."

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