

Right response to economic troubles 9/11/20

Today I want to speak on having the right response to economic troubles. When things get difficult, Will we react with faith, or fear?

In Psalm 37:25, listen to David's declaration of faith...

Ps 37:25 I have been young, and now I am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread.

David had many years of experience; he observed many things.

And this is his declaration...

I have never seen the righteous forsaken, or his children begging for food. God is going to take care of us, even when there is an economic collapse.

In Matthew 6:30-34 - Jesus taught us to have faith, not fear.

“...O ye of little faith? Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, what shall we wear? (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knows that ye have need of all these things. But seek first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. Take therefore no thought for tomorrow: (or, do not worry about tomorrow) Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof.” Matthew 6:30-34, KJV.

What were Israel's complaints? Wilderness ... at times no water, no food. O, God is not going to take care of us. But God always took care of them. Their constant complaining caused them to eventually lose Gods favor. Faith always makes a way, where there is no way.

There's a great lesson to be seen in Revelation 6:5-6.

The economy and dollar value is determined in heaven, at the throne.

The key, is to be in good standing with Him who is on the throne.

Let's look at Revelation 6:5-6...

“And when he had opened the third seal, I heard the third [living creature] say, Come and see. And I beheld, a black horse; and he that sat on him had a pair of balances in his hand. And I heard a voice in the midst of the four [living creatures] say, A measure of wheat for a penny, and three measures of barley for a penny; and see thou hurt not the oil and the wine.” 6:5-6

Here we see that it is determined in heaven, during a time of famine ... That from the throne, food and the price of food, comes from above. So much for this kind of food, so much for that kind of food, And no shortages at all of certain things. Do not limit the oil and wine. Of course it can have a spiritual meaning too. The wine and the oil. No shortage of the oil, the anointing, the wine, the joy of the Lord. We will especially need the wine and the oil in our times.

Safety and security are in the presence of God. And being in the will of God. Be where God wants you to be, And be doing what God wants you to do. God is going to take good care of us. Amen!

Story of a man in the auto industry

I remember a story of a man in Detroit who worked in the auto industry. He put all his trust in his company, and all the fringe benefits. Pension plan, retirement program, health insurance, a member of the union He scorned his son for being in the ministry. Oh there's no security in that. Then everything reversed. I think the company went out of business. He lost everything that he was putting his trust in. Security is found in the will of God, having his faith in our hearts.

Another man tremendously feared losing his job. So afraid, affected health. And then, he did lose his job... and had a nervous breakdown. He learned, it is far worse to lose your health, than your money. He had to learn to trust in God to take care of him, not his job.

At times, God allows the economy to be diminished for several reasons:

(I do believe there is going to be a food shortage), ... broken economy

- 1. To test our heart, to see where our affections are. God or materialism.**
- 2. To remind us to invest in eternal things... better and enduring substance.**
- 3. It is also to increase our faith, and test our faith.**

Luke 16:11 speaks of the true riches. Heb.10:34 better / enduring substance

Sometimes I speak to groups of wealthy businessmen. Some are very rich.

Riches, of themselves, are not wrong, if it is not an idol in the heart.

But it is so important where we place the deepest affections of our heart.

Remember Abraham, he was rich, very rich.

Gen. 13:2 And Abram was very rich in cattle, in silver, and in gold.

This is not where his heart was. He'd seen new Jerusalem. Eternal vision.

He was looking for a city, new Jerusalem, whose builder was God.

"For he looked for a city that has foundations, whose builder and maker is God." Hebrews 11:10, KJV.

Often, Jesus warned about the dangers of riches.

When you are rich, the tendency is to put all your trust in your riches.

But there were some in the Bible, who were wealthy, yet godly.

One of my very favorite accounts in scripture, is the life of Job.

Tremendous character was demonstrated in him, when he lost everything.

He fell down and worshiped, saying - God is good all the time. Job 1:20-22

He did not speak with his lips, or charge God foolishly.

Character is actually the most important thing in life.

Doing what is right, even when it is extremely difficult.

Character is one of the main things we take with us into the next life.

God allowed Job to lose everything, but later gave him double...

When his heart was proven to be pure, and he passed his tests.

Let's be rich with the true riches

In Revelation 3:17-19 - Jesus had an important message for his church. This message was to believers, who thought they had it all.

”Because you say, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and know not that you art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked:

I counsel you to buy of me gold tried in the fire, [divine nature] that you may be rich; and white raiment, that thou may be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see.

**God's people thought - we are rich. God said, you are very poor
God's People thought - we are well clothed, God said, you are naked
Gods people thought - we see things clearly, God said, you are blind.**

**As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent.”
Revelation 3:17-19**

**Divine nature is obtained in fiery trials. Also our faith is purified / increased.
Let's be rich in - compassion, mercy, humility, wisdom, forbearance.
Godliness with contentment is great gain - 1 Tim.6:6. True wealth.
These are the things we take with us when we die.
What we have allowed God to do in our heart.**

God is going to take care of us

**We cannot measure God's favor by how much we have materially.
Let's ask God to increase our faith ... increase our trust in Him
I believe economic trouble is coming, and food shortage is coming.
We must be governed by faith, not fear.**

Let us read these assuring words from Habakkuk 3:17-19, KJV.

“Although the fig tree shall not blossom, neither shall fruit be in the vines; the labour of the olive shall fail, and the fields shall yield no food; the flock shall be cut off from the fold, and there shall be no herd in the stalls: Yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will joy in the God of my salvation. The LORD God is my strength, and he will make my feet like hinds’ feet, and he will make me to walk upon mine high places...”. What a declaration of faith!

God is going to take care of us.

Jesus fed a multitude with several loaves of bread, much more leftover. He told us many times, see that you be not troubled, fear not. Mk.13:7

Elisha performed many miracles of provision.

In 2 Kings 4:1-7 - remember the widow, she couldn't pay her bills.

They were going to take her two sons, and make them slaves.

Elisha said to them, what do you have in your house? Only this oil.

He said, go and get as many vessels as you can, and pour oil into them.

The oil never stopped. She was able to pay all her bills.

Another time when water was bitter, no one could drink it. 2 Kings 2:21, 22

In the name of the Lord, he pronounce the waters to be clear and clean.

“And he went forth unto the spring of the waters, and cast the salt in there, and said, Thus saith the LORD, I have healed these waters; there shall not be from thence any more death or barren land. So the waters were healed unto this day, according to the saying of Elisha.”

Jesus said, greater works shall you do, because I go to my father. Jn.14:12

Jesus fed 5000. He healed many cities. He raised the dead.

He delivered the demon possessed... and many more things.

And he said, it is possible for you to do even greater things.

Because I am sending my Holy Spirit, as I return to my father.

Dangers of an easy life / dangers of prosperity

Psalms 30:6; 3 And in my prosperity I said, I shall never be moved.”

Jeremiah 22:21 I spake unto thee in thy prosperity; but thou said, I will not hear. This has been thy manner from youth, that thou obeyed not my voice.”

Why is America in the condition it is in today? Prosperity, an easy life.

Why is the church today in terrible condition?

Because people tend to forget God, and not depend on him, in prosperity

This is the reason God has to remove his blessing, and prosperity.

To bring people to their senses, to cause them to return to the Lord.

This is the reason for coming economic collapse. And food shortage.

Am I being negative? Or am I being very scriptural?

What was the message of all the prophets?

Have you ever read the message of the prophets? Their message:

Many Difficulties are coming because you have forgotten the Lord.

Return to the Lord, he will forgive, and restore blessing.

Do you think all these warnings of the prophets, are meaningless for today?

Remember George Washington's vision:

He was visited by an angel. Shown America's future.

Extending from shore to shore.

Then the civil war, Brother against brother.

Why did we have the Civil War? prosperity, forgetting God.

The church was in terrible condition in the 1860s.

Then, Asia, Africa, and Europe surrounding us, plundering us.

Then God came on the scene, and delivered us.

But first, several things will happen. Economic difficulties. .. Then Revival.

Then awesome judgment, to purge the wicked element from our country.

Then America will rise again.

Remember, God created all the seasons. There are spiritual truths in them. Summer/winter, day/night, Cold and heat, good times and difficult times.

**Difficulties are necessary ... man's fallen nature so easily turns from God
God is going to protect the righteous.**

He is going to supply our needs, as we live right and depend on him.

**Ezekiel 9:4 tells us, that when trouble comes to a nation,
God can put a protective hedge around the righteous.**

**“And the LORD said unto him, Go through the midst of the city, through the
midst of Jerusalem, and set a mark upon the foreheads of the men that
sigh and that cry for all the abominations that be done in the midst
thereof.” Ezekiel 9:4,**

**God is going to take care of us, and protect us. As we live right.
God is going to multiply our food. He is going to supply our needs.**

**Remember again, The words of David. I have never seen the righteous
forsaken Or his children begging for food.**

**Let's ask God to increase our faith, and stop all our fears!
Amen!**

