
New Horizons Newsletter

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*"May the LORD show you
His favor and give you
peace." (Nu. 6:26)*

[Read: Romans 12](#)

ARE YOU READY?

By Dr. Pierre J. Samaan

At this moment, I am sitting in the house in Georgia watching on the local news, the number of power outages multiply as the current ice storm blows through. For the south, daily 28 degree weather is unusual. Because of its rarity, the emergency responders are limited by their equipment and materials. The Governor said the safe thing to do is stay in your homes and wait for the weather to clear and the roads made safe. FEMA has positioned emergency supplies in strategic areas to be distributed after the storm.

Suddenly, a thought crossed my mind about the latter days that are written about in the Bible. What would the crisis be like when the "Puppet Masters" of this world make their expected move to knock off the U.S. Dollar as the standard for world currency? How will it unfold and what will we have to endure?

Let me first give you some background into what I am talking about.

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"Somewhere between 40 and 60 percent of international financial transactions are denominated in dollars. For decades the dollar has also been the world's principal reserve currency; in 1996, the dollar accounted for approximately two-thirds of the world's foreign exchange reserves"¹

For example, if Italy wants to buy Oil from Saudi Arabia, Italy must buy U.S. Dollars to use for purchasing the Saudi Oil. It is similar for commodity purchases such as Oranges from Brazil. However, since 2009, our government's 24 hour a day printing of the U.S. Dollar has devalued world currencies. As a result, the over printing of the dollar has triggered responses from world governments, possibly setting up a future global monetary system.

"On 24 March 2009, [Zhou Xiaochuan](#), President of the [People's Bank of China](#), called for 'creative reform of the existing international monetary system towards an international reserve currency,' believing it would 'significantly reduce the risks of a future crisis and enhance crisis management capability.'"²

The Russian government stated it would like to see regional currency standards go into effect. For example, North and South America having a joint currency. One thing is certain, most are saying the U.S. Dollar will be dropped as the world currency standard.

Having said all that, it brings me back to what I started to talk about. If the dollar is dropped, it may take only a day or two for emergency action to take effect, similar to that of our current ice storm. But, in actuality, plans will have been made years prior to protect the fortunes of the "Puppet Masters." Otherwise, everyone would be talking about how they are shifting their investments where they will stand to prosper the most from their schemes. The government will say they have everything under control, giving the people the illusion that the government will take care of them, should anything happen. In the meantime, the ice storm hits and we are told to stay home.

As during The Great Depression,³ which lasted 10 years, banks may temporarily close or limit the amount of money depositors can withdraw. Businesses will strain to stay open as their merchandise cannot be replenished. Food and gas surpluses could run out. As we saw in New Orleans during the flooding from Hurricane Katrina, citizens begin to turn into mobs. Some steal out of necessity while others steal to profit. At some point, the government would then likely declare a State of Emergency and Martial Law is instituted, "to keep the people safe."

Federal and State authorities may tell us to remain in our homes until the immediate crisis settles down. But, unlike the ice storm that blows through, how will we be able to tell how long we will have to stay in our homes?

Are you ready for this very possible scenario to take place? If this happens, you will not only need two to three weeks of water and food, you will need faith. Is your faith strong enough to get through any crisis?

Today, there are so many stressed out Christians who are living on the edge. I, myself, have gone through almost double the amount of stress a person would normally go through in one year's length of

¹ Retrieved 2/12/14, from https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World_currency#U.S._dollar

² Ibid.

³ The Great Depression, see <http://www.history.com/topics/great-depression>

time. I know this because I completed the *Holmes – Rahe Social Readjustment Scale*. “Their results were published as the Social Readjustment Rating Scale (SRRS), known more commonly as the **Holmes and Rahe Stress Scale**. Subsequent validation has supported the links between stress and illness.”⁴ (You can score your own stress level by going to http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Holmes_and_Rahe_stress_scale and total up your stress score for the last year.)

I am only saying this to encourage each of you to reexamine yourselves. Ask yourself if you were confronted by a serious life crisis, would you still be able to allow Christ to function through you? Abiding in Christ is when you allow His life to flow out of you which produces a righteous lifestyle. Or, do you have a history of escaping to a drug, alcohol, or other pampering behavior to self-medicate. “Whatever is not from faith is sin.” (Romans 14:23)

Those who try to face mounting stress and crisis through their own strength will soon burn out and crash. You cannot be self-sufficient and please God. Self-sufficiency leads to self-righteousness. God wants us to find our source of life in Him, not in ourselves, others, or anything else. “Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.” (Romans 8:8)

You see, the events of the 2008 banking crisis has changed our lifestyles. The next financial crisis which could be just around the corner, may well change the American culture as we know it. That includes the way we practice our faith and worship. Are you ready for such a drastic change to everything that you have known to be normal and stable in life? If that is taken from you, how do you believe you will react?

I can tell you this, those who have truly surrendered their lives to God through His Son, Jesus Christ will have an easier time adapting to the possible forthcoming changes. God will take care of His own, but it is up to us to be prepared.

Think of Adam & Eve, who had everything going their way. Suddenly, without strengthened faith in God their Creator, they independently made a very, very bad decision. That decision was the symptom of lack of faith. Talk about a change of lifestyle, I can’t even try to imagine what they must have emotionally gone through in the hours, days, weeks, and years after being ejected from Paradise.

“After the fall, they suddenly became aware of their own identity separate from God. Until that time they had been God conscious to such an extent, they were unaware of their own nakedness. In a manner of speaking, they hadn’t even looked at themselves. When they ate from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, they became egocentric. They began to evaluate their own appearance, actions, and attitudes. Their eyes were off God and on themselves.”⁵

When we fail to abide in Christ, it doesn’t matter what decisions we make. No decision will please God when it is not made by faith through abiding in Christ. I remember Campus Crusades booklet the *Four Spiritual Laws*.⁶ In it, there was written the statement to keep Jesus Christ on the throne of your life. In other words, let Him be the center of your world. Base your day on an attitude of being Christ centered,

⁴ Retrieved 2/13/14, from http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Holmes_and_Rahe_stress_scale

⁵McVey, Steve, (1995), *Grace Walk*, p 111, Harvest House Publishers, Eugene, OR.

⁶ See, <http://carm.org/christianity/evangelism/four-spiritual-laws>

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with all thoughts and decisions revolving around the life sustaining force that will always do whatever is best and right for you.

⁹ Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil. Cling to what is good.¹⁰ Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another; ¹¹ not lagging in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord; ¹² rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing steadfastly in prayer; ¹³ distributing to the needs of the saints, given to hospitality. (Romans 12:9-13 NKJV)

He will call attention to whatever you need to change from within. God will do the work, you only have to be the willing vessel, yielding. Be prepared for the possible upcoming world changes, and remember, those changes are also heralding the eminent return of The God Man, Jesus Christ, Messiah.



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