

# THE UPWARD CALL

*Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of it yet;  
but one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead,  
**I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God  
IN CHRIST JESUS.***  
(Philippians 3:13-14 NASB)

#03-0946

## ***What Could God Be Saying To Us?***

March 15, 2009

In issue #03-0929, February 17, 2009, *Today's News: The Enemy of the Absolutely Essential*, I mentioned a report that has been widely circulated about how the world financial system almost totally collapsed on September 18, 2008. According to the report, it was within hours of a total meltdown.

What was lacking in the report was the cause of what could be called an electronic run on the bank. It seems mighty strange that such a thing would happen so close to the US presidential election. This event should raise some questions: Was it orchestrated to bring about major changes in the global economy? Why did it take so long for this information to surface in the media? Did this one event bring fear upon the global financial and political leaders that led them to such dramatic action?

I realize that some of these questions raise the issue of a possible conspiracy on the part of some powerful people. I generally steer clear of conspiracy theories, for most of them are mere speculation, so I will refrain from doing so at this point as well. I merely raise the issue because it seems to me that, more and more, we cannot trust what we hear being reported or what the political and financial leaders are saying. As I have stated elsewhere, I do not believe we are being given an accurate appraisal of what is going on, both in the negative and the positive. The general public is being manipulated like puppets on a string to move public opinion in whatever direction is needed to support certain agendas. Is the economy as bad as many say it is, or is it worse? Soon, I suspect we will hear that everything is getting better and not to fear. After all, the financial beast called the stock market has rallied for four days in a row, and the Obama team is on the campaign trail again, but they are singing a different economic tune.

This leads to some other questions: Why didn't a collapse of the global financial system occur back in September? Were there different forces at work; one force trying to pull it down and another force trying to prop it up? It has been reported that the Federal Reserve stepped in and pumped a lot of money into the system. Were they clever (smart) enough to stop it? Were there some other forces that kicked in to stabilize the situation?

Of course, all these questions are based on man's involvement, but what about God's involvement? What part has He played in the matter? We don't need man's perspective; we really need God's perspective. We need to see things from God's view, and this requires spiritual eyes.

The simple answer to why the global financial system did not collapse on September 18, 2008 is because it was not God's time for it to collapse. Daniel declared that **the Most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will** (Daniel 4:32 ASV). Daniel also declared: **"For wisdom and power belong to Him. It is He who changes the times and the epochs"** (Daniel 2:20b, 21 NASB). The Father sets the times and the seasons, so obviously it was not the day and the hour for mystery Babylon to fall.

Now, some might say that God intervened in the matter to stay the hand of the forces at work in this hour. For the sake of discussion, let us assume that God did intervene. This poses the question of His reason for doing so at this time. More specifically, is God saying something to us through all that is transpiring and, if so, what? What could God be saying to us, His people? Forget the world for the moment. What does He want us to see and do?

Before attempting to answer this question, there is one other matter. Some are saying that we need to pray that the Lord will intervene in the crises that have come upon the world. This poses some other

questions: Intervene for what purpose? Do we want Him to get us back on track so that we can continue exponential growth, along with its baggage of excesses financed through more and more debt, and I might add, with the corruption and immorality that go along with it? Do we simply want to keep the best of what we have but with some improvements? Do we simply want to start the K-wave cycle over again? See issue #03-0945, March 14, 2009, *Economic Cycles & The Jubilee*. Do we want to see the so-called church begin to take on more prominence in the affairs of state, business, and essentially all other aspects of life? Or, do we want to truly see the kingdom of Christ begin to operate among the nations and true righteousness, justice, and peace permeate the affairs of the world? I would hope that most would agree that we need to see the kingdom of Christ take root in some of the nations until most are under the reign of the Son of God.

Let us be clear that the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ (Revelation 11:15) has not taken root in the nations as of this day. Is there any nation on earth today that we can point to and proclaim that it is a kingdom nation, that is, a nation that is under the reign of God's Son? Of course, there are none. The kingdom of Christ has not been literally manifested so that there is no doubt whatsoever that the Lord is in charge of the governance of this world and His reign is acknowledged. Of course, the kingdom of Christ will progressively overtake most of the nations during the 1,000-year Kingdom or Tabernacles Age as the glory of the Lord fills the earth. This will take time as the Lord's conquerors, the complement of Christ, teach the nations righteousness and God's divine laws and manifest His love in ways the world has not seen since Calvary. See issues #02-08110-111, September 2008, *The Complement of the One*; #03-0911, *Head Up All In The Christ*. Let us not forget that the foundation of God's law and of His kingdom is love, for God is love.

Some might argue that we are already in the kingdom of God, so we should be able to progressively overtake the world now. Well, believers have had 2,000 years with an earnest of the spirit to do so and every generation has failed, so why do we think we have a better chance to succeed? It is true that when we believe, we spiritually come into the kingdom of God, but only to the degree that we do the will of God can we say that we are under His reign, which is what the kingdom implies. See issue #02-0915, February 23, 2009, *The Kingdom: The Realm of the Will of God*.

Don't you long for the day that the loud voices in heaven proclaim: **The kingdom of the world hath become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign unto the ages of ages** (Revelation 11:15 REB)? This is the day we should long for; anything less is merely a shadow or, at best, a taste. It is like sticking a finger in a hot fudge sundae, which I confess I love to eat, and touching our tongue with it and never devouring the whole thing, savoring its whole flavor. A taste tells us it is good, but it is merely a taste, not the fullness of its flavor. We need the full measure; we need the full measure of Christ, and this does not come until His day comes, the day of Christ. As for me, I want to see the real thing in operation, and I want to see the love of our life heading it up as we occupy spiritual, immortal, glorified bodies in the image of our beloved Lord and King. Until then, I want to see all that can be shaken to be shaken so that all that remains is of Christ.

Now, I have a simple answer to the main question. Warren Buffett, one of the wealthiest men in the world, was recently quoted as stating: **"Not only has the economy slowed down a lot, but people have really changed their habits like I haven't seen."** In other words, the current crisis is causing the people of the world to change their buying and selling habits. What about the Lord's people? Do you think the Lord would have intervened just so we would change our buying habits? I doubt it. Actually, whether He intervened or not is not the issue. The issue is that it is time to wake up to the corrupt, immoral, and unethical political, financial, and even religious systems to which we all have been bound. It is time to get our eyes and our hope off the world system that is in a state of confusion (Babel) and does not know which way to turn. God is judging mystery Babylon, and the call is going forth to **come out of her, My people** (Revelation 18:4). The church-at-large has wed itself to the world and the kingdoms of men. **It is time to repent!** We need to change our minds and our habits and get our eyes upon the only answer that we or the world, for that matter, have. **Our hope is God's Son and His coming kingdom.** I believe this is what God the Father is saying to us!