

The Coming Economic Armageddon | Dr. David Jeremiah

Reviewed by Max Frazier in the February 2011 Philogian

There are many things we like to talk about when we are in groups, whether with family or friends. One of those things is weather. Those of us living in Minnesota pride ourselves on how hardy we are, especially when it comes to snow and cold. Many boldly say, "Bring it on!" Of course I am not one of those. I am proud to be a "winter wimp!" The scene of the sporting world is another topic. Vikings, Twins, Wolves, and Wild dominate many conversations here in Minnesota. Then I butt in with "How about da Bears!" and get that very strange look.

But one topic affects each one of us in so many ways. That is money and finances. Money is an absolute of life. Without it we are hard-pressed to survive. And I know you have heard that Jesus spent more time speaking about money and finances than about any other matter while He was here on earth. It was that important to Him.

Last year Dr. David Jeremiah published his third in a series on the End Times and its impact upon believers. You will remember that the first book was titled, What in the World is Going On?. In that book Dr. Jeremiah examined ten events that he believed indicated that we were nearing the return of Christ. The second book was titled, Living Confidently in a Chaotic World, where again he stressed the need for believers to be focused upon spiritual truth and demonstrate before a hostile world the hope that we have in a returning Jesus Christ. The third book is titled, The Coming Economic Armageddon: What Bible Prophecy Warns about the New Global Economy (Faith Words, 2010).

As with his previous volumes, Dr. Jeremiah offers carefully documented research as he presents the case for the advancement of a one-world government and financial system. We know the Apostle John writes about the financial conditions during the End Times in two specific passages. The first is Revelation 6:5-6: *When the Lamb opened the third seal, I heard the third living creature say, "Come!" I looked, and there before me was a black horse! Its rider was holding a pair of scales in his hand. Then I heard what sounded like a voice among the four living creatures, saying, "A quart of wheat for a day's wages, and three quarts of barley for a day's wages, and do not damage the oil and the wine!"*

The essence of this passage is that of a profound inflationary spiral during those early days of the Tribulation. During the days when John was writing, a day's wages could purchase eight quarts of wheat or twenty-four quarts of barley; just enough to keep a family alive for one day or so. So, notice how the inflation curve had impacted the common marketplace. Money had lost its purchasing power.

The second passage is Revelation 13:16-17, describing the influence of the false prophet and the Antichrist on the world's economic scene: *He also forced everyone, small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on his right hand or on his forehead, so that no one could buy or sell unless he had the mark, which is the name of the beast or the number of his name.* The thrust of this passage is that of a one-world economic program. A foundation for that program is the acceptance of a worldwide plan for buying and selling involving the receiving of a special identification. John describes this as a "mark." Could it be a special identification card? Could it be an implant of an electronic identification devise? The Bible is not specific, but John is certain that without such a "mark" there would be no commerce.

With this as introduction let's return to Dr. Jeremiah's book. In the very first chapter he tackles the problem of America's growing debt crisis. I appreciated his quoting of Richard Lamm, former governor Colorado: *Christmas is a time when kids tell Santa what they want and adults pay for it. Deficits are when adults tell the government what they want and their kids pay*

for it (page 5). Many of us grew up thinking that a million dollars was an incredible sum. Then it became a billion dollars. Now we talk in trillions of dollars. I don't know about you, but I find those figures hard to comprehend. The author quotes from a World magazine article to help us better understand those figures: *Going back in time 1 million seconds would take you back 12 days. One billion seconds would take you back 30 years and one trillion seconds would take you back 32,000 years!* (page 16). Wow!

In one of the more exciting chapters, Dr. Jeremiah chronicles the biblical advent of a one-world order. It began there on the plains of Babel when, in complete rebellion against God's command for the people to scatter, they instead developed a one-world order. Dr. Jeremiah shares a powerful quote from theologian David Breese: *I think we need to understand that political internationalism is not the will of God. (Editor: read United Nations here). Nationalism is God's will. God has ordained individual nations and not a complex of nations... When men try in their own unregenerate power to put together a complex of nations and make them cohere without God, then you have built into the complex the seeds of its own destruction. And that's exactly what will happen to the future world order that men are working on now* (page 36). Friends, as you look at the world today, it is built upon coalitions of nations almost as numerous as the alphabetical soup of names you can think of. It is interesting that the Old Testament prophets strongly condemned both the Northern and Southern Kingdom leaders for their alliances with other nations. As you study those episodes carefully, you will notice that nothing of good happened.

Dr. Jeremiah's chapter on the Antichrist is a powerful one. We talk much about the Antichrist, but he truly exposes him based upon biblical texts, of which there are many. Citing 2 Thessalonians 2:3, Dr. Jeremiah makes this statement: *The Antichrist will not be revealed until after the world sees a widespread rejection of God's truth* (page 108). Therefore, as we get nearer to Christ's return we should expect to witness, not a worldwide spiritual awakening, but a worldwide departure from the truth. Just look around you; is this not happening? The Gospel is being watered down for the sake of larger audiences. We don't want people to feel uncomfortable, but accepted. If this is happening now, can the unveiling of the Antichrist be far off? I don't think so!

As with his other books, Dr. Jeremiah closes with a strong chapter on what the believer can be doing now regarding his financial situation. *When it comes to your financial future, you desperately need to get your head in the game!* (page 247). Yet at the same time we need to keep our focus upon Jesus Christ, whose soon return is our eternal hope.

This is a book that I highly recommend. It would make for a wonderful small group discussion. And its truths need to be heeded as we approach that one-world government with its one-world financial system. (Editor's note: I am praying that the Rapture will come before those days officially are revealed).