

For with You is the fountain of life; in Your light we see light.

Psalm 36:9

— the LifeWord —

with Michael Green



February 6, 2009

Dear Friend:

BLIND BAILOUT BLUES

"Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools..."

I woke up with an idea; I think we ought to get a movement going to get those words from Romans 1 chiseled on the front doors of the US Capital. Now, before some of you get too high up the tree, take off your party hat and acknowledge that *"fooldom"* knows no party bounds.

A few months ago, the DC gang, complete with *"The Sky Is Falling"* T-shirts, spent ONE TRILLION (that's 12 zeros) of our dollars on a bailout plan. We now know, midst all of the hoopla, even the most basic of accounting procedures had not been given much thought. You and I go through closer scrutiny if we add ten bucks to our Winn Dixie check to get some extra drive thru cash for the kids.

One of the guys who got some of our money has made some interesting decisions. Although the first financial firm he managed had lost about 15 billion dollars, he okayed bonuses totaling 4 billion to his *"Best People"*. He said that he didn't want to lose his best sales people to his competitors. They lost 15 billion bucks! I'm thinking, why wouldn't you want these clowns to work the same magic for your competitors?

Then, as he went to another bank, he felt his dreary office needed some sprucing up and he spent over a million bucks, including 87 thousand dollars for a rug that couldn't even fly. Guess my Office Depot pressed wood ensemble would be out of place in that penthouse.

We then heard of a guy who MADEoff with billions in a scheme right under the noses of the best and the brightest smack dab in the heart of the world's financial center. Hundreds of retirement funds got wiped out; even churches and charities got caught in the web. This is awful and just the tip of the iceberg. Fact is, many of these guys will need accommodations at the *"Grey Bar Motel"*.

People are worried and times are tough as the *"1929 Death Angel"* rattles his chains. So, *"who ya gonna call?"*

Look, up in the sky, it's The US Government!

Any day now, they're gonna spend another billion of our shekels furthering their reach to fulfill their mission of *"Saving us from ourselves"*. This pork monster is filled with an unbelievable array of unmitigated goofiness.

Here are just a few of the things that will *"restart our economy"*: 20 million for new grass on the Mall, 50 million for the National Endowment of the Arts, a couple mil for a Frisbee Golf course, a few more for Hollywood movie studios, 4 billion for a partisan, Nut Job lobby group, and 350 million to fight Sexually Transmitted Diseases.

As more light shines on the sham you will see more land mines nestled in the crevices of this mess. One interesting thing that recently got lifted was about 300 million targeted for birth (read, abortion) control. And I thought it was a stimulus bill.

In other words, we are going to spend our way out of our debt. Try that angle next time Visa or MasterCard gives you a buzz.

Just know, if you ever want to add a room to your house, don't call these guys. Recently they wanted to add a Guest Center to the Capital because as Head of the Senate stated, *"The Capital halls really smell when the tourists come to visit"*. Hey Senator Windbag, those are your constituents!

The new center was designed and priced at 60 million. At last count, it will cost over 600 million. And to think, they want to control our money and, on top of that, we are finding out that lots of them are also way behind in their own taxes. We need to send them some of those, *"perhaps our letters crossed in the mail"* postcards. If this happens to us we get penalized, fined and even worse, they get cabinet posts.

The point is, the crisis of leadership is worse than any of the financial messes we face. It is how we got into these messes to begin with.

On every level, leadership is confused and lost. Like the old story of the lost pilot, *"Ladies and Gentlemen, we are lost but we have a strong tailwind and we are really making good time."*

Yes, lives are derailed but the DC and the Wall Street gangs are not standing alone in the blame line. This is true on many fronts. Mistakes and mishaps are repeated and the perpetrators are amazed when their plans don't work. Principles, based in scriptural foundations, get violated and we act surprised.

Almost daily, recurring mistakes and ineffective choices are being made in our cities, schools, businesses and even in many of our churches. Certainly, we've all seen enough nauseating stuff to keep Pepto Bismol in business for years.

Where is the vision? Where is the direction? How does this happen?

It happens when the sense of entitlement smothers the sense of duty and calling. After a while, *"Justify trumps Justice"*. Arrogant deception says, *"This is my money, my credit card, my needed shopping spree, my money, my right. I know what is best. Don't you know who I am?"* This kind of idiot blindness is alive and well and it will try to kill you if you get in the way.

Jesus nailed it when He said, *"Every plant that My Father did not plant will be rooted up. Let them alone, they are blind leaders leading the blind. And if the blind leads the blind, both will fall in the ditch"*.

There will never be solace, safety and sanity for those who ignore the Father's loving direction in any quest. It is so plain.

As things on this planet continue to shake up and spin down, we need to prepare our hearts and remind ourselves of our Salt and Light job description. The panic and the compounding of the problems will increase. During this time, we need to stand strong but humble before our God. Expect to be the ones that are called to explain the dreams, interpret the scribbles on the wall, to speak peace and to stand up and say, *"This is the way, walk in it"*.

As for me, I'm not looking up North for a Beltway Bailout,

"I will lift up my eyes to the hills from where my help comes from; my help comes from the Lord who made Heaven and earth!"

Michael

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