

## Birth of a Stable Economy (continued from front page)

how He acts and what He says, for Jesus gives “**content**” or “**substance**” to the idea of holiness. Jesus puts a “handle” on the idea of holiness and its related features such as love, compassion and truth. He makes God’s character **understandable**. Through Jesus, the holiness of God is **no longer “abstract.”** This is why the very highest standard of moral character to which we can aspire comes clearly to our minds by the word “Christ-like.” Jesus makes God’s Way, as well as God’s *Character*, **plain**.

For this reason, we can understand why God places all authority in Christ, just as the Bible repeatedly declares. Last month we commemorated Jesus’ birth. A well-known “fore-telling” of the birth of God’s *ONLY* promised Messiah is God’s word through the prophet, Isaiah. It says, “*For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of His government and peace There will be no end, upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, to order it and establish it with judgment and justice from that time forward, even forever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this*” (9:6,7). “*Zeal*” here, is the same passionate word translated elsewhere, “jealous.” The earlier verses of Isaiah 9 reveal enemies, but the word, “*For,*” means that God is doing something about those enemies! When referring to God, the word translated “zeal” or “jealous” apparently always refers to His anger against that which destroys those whom He loves, and therefore, a love-inspired anger!

The current global crisis, which involves **economy, industry and military** is largely the strategy of those who have been seeking one-world government for generations. Way back in 1931 in *The*

*Trend of International Affairs Since the War*, Arnold J. Toynbee wrote: “*We are at present working discreetly with all our might to wrest this mysterious force called sovereignty out of the clutches of the local nation states of the world. All the time we are denying with our lips what we are doing with our hands.*” **This tells us at least two things:** 1) Today’s quickly-emerging one-world government has been planned for generations, 2) The planners of this one-world government, are seen, by Toynbee’s example, to be people of the most sinister deceit. These facts have great relevance to the present world situation, and how it effects us all as individuals. I see that the atheist bus advert campaign has Toynbee’s granddaughter, Polly, as a co-aid with Dawkins. I also see more deceit!

**Standing in the clearest contrast** to these evil, one-world planners is the one-world government of God! But look at the character difference of the leadership! When I look at the perfect love of God as seen in Jesus Christ, how can I complain or argue against such administration? The present one-world system is a counterfeit and competitor to God’s. Multi-sided Madness put Caesar, Religion and Barabbas above Christ. That same scene is here today.

At Christmas, we remembered that Jesus was born in a **stable**. The One born in *that stable* later turned a storm-tossed sea into a **stable** one (Mark 4:39). He is the *only* Source of “**a stable economy**” or “**system**” today. No, we won’t have a new “Garden of Eden” until Christ returns. Anyway, to enter *THAT* glorious place we must have a current “passport” ...and no *fake* passport can fool God! God’s “passport” requirements are so clear and simple that a child may apply! Oh, that people were as eager and determined to enter Heaven as many have been for so long to enter Britain! Of Jesus, God said, “*This is My beloved Son in whom I am well pleased. Hear Him!*” (Matt. 17:5; 3:17; Acts 3:22; 2 Pet. 1:17; Isa. 42:1). **HE is God’s only provided Foundation for “a stable economy!”** (1 Cor. 3:11).

**CENTRED AND STABLE!** The flywheel of a factory’s huge power-plant became so off-centre that its large shelter seemed about to shake to pieces. The present world system is similar—way off-centre! As a result, there is global chaos for which “central banks” are not the cure. As Psalm 82:5 says, “*They do not know, nor do they understand; they walk about in darkness; all the foundations of the earth are unstable [or ‘shaken’].*” To a world in darkness, God gave a Great Light: Christ! Only Christ’s Kingdom of love and light is unshakable. All else faces a fearful end. (See Heb. 12:25-29; Matt. 24:35; 2 Pet. 3: 10-14; Dan.2:35,44)

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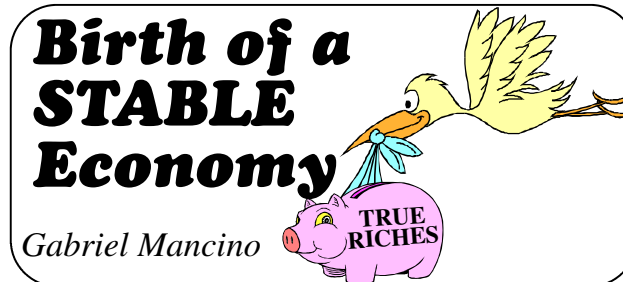
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# The London Christian Standard ...and Provincial

“Lift up a standard for the people.” Isaiah 62:10

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**JANUARY is the birth of a new year.** Spring will soon be here. Buds bursting forth shout “re-birth!” Yet, all around us, things are being destroyed; *some* by intentional “controlled demolition;” *other* is knock-on “collateral damage;” *still other* is the sad processes of “self-destruction.” The world is terminally ill, as ghastly symptoms prove, and can hope to be remedied only by a radical return to “**a stable economy!**”

**The world financial crisis stays in the news.** However, as I mentioned in Nov’s article, *Things In Freefall*, the word “**economy**” (in the title above) also means “system.” In reference to God, the word “**economy**” refers to God’s administration of the world in a given place or time. Londoner, Charles Lamb (1775-1834), the son of a clerk, wrote: “*The economy of Heaven is dark, And wisest clerks have missed the mark.*” Lamb was saying that many have no clue what God is doing or what God wants. Some say they

don’t believe in God, and have launched a bus-advert campaign to spread their “joy!” Believing in God need not create worry, nor rob life of enjoyment (as they suggest), BUT gambling that God “PROBABLY” doesn’t exist is an insane, yet very common gamble.

God *does* have a **system**, an **administration** and a **government**. He is the Ruler above all earthly rulers, and to

whom ALL world rulers *and inhabitants* are to submit. Some critics select certain Bible passages that *appear* to make God the most horrific beast that ever lived. Satan originated that strategy in the Garden of Eden, making Eve think that God was a cheat and a liar. Like so many today, Satan was simply projecting his own nature upon God... “what you *say* is what you *are*,” as we children used to say to name-callers.

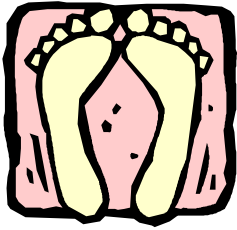
God’s character is far superior than we could ever imagine. Yet, to those who ask me if I have ever seen God, I often reply, “whenever I wish to see God, I look at Jesus Christ.” Of all the characteristics of God, “**HOLY**” is properly considered the greatest of all. But what does “holy” mean. Ah, look at Jesus! Read Matthew, Mark, Luke and John in the Bible...follow Jesus around, watching what He does,

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**THE MONEY MASTERS** say “Spend, in order to ensure economic growth!” Others say “Ignore reality; just enjoy yourself.” Hey! Are you awake? We fiddle while Rome burns. Babylon’s last king was having a huge, pleasure-filled banquet... while the Persians entered the “impenetrable” capital under the walls, having diverted the river! The Bible asks, “*How shall you escape, if you neglect so great salvation?*” Jesus Christ faithfully tells us that we **WON’T** escape if we mess around like fools, ignoring our souls and eternity (see Luke 12:15-21). 2009 is here for you to get prepared to meet God, and try to help *others* to do so! There **IS** no greater work!

# Look at Those Feet!

Gabriel L. Mancino



People often consider a New Year as entering vast, uncharted territory. Of course, each *day* can hold good and bad surprises. Unseen things *will* enter our lives. It is in our greatest interest, however, that we consider the *chosen* aspects of our lives; the things we *purposely* and *consistently* pursue.

God encouraged and instructed Joshua, whom He had chosen as leader after Moses had died. God told the people that they needed to be holy and to listen, saying "*for you have not travelled this way before!*" There are many Bible sections that give blessing and guidance regarding this very important matter. One of these is chapter four from the book of Proverbs. There we see "**wisdom**" as an actual person, trying to reason with us all. God is "*personified*" as "**wisdom**;" willing to share "**wisdom**" with every listening ear, tender heart and receptive mind! Obviously, God's **wisdom** is limitless and perfect, while ours is not. Read it again and again. Make notes. I am absolutely sure you will find one truth after another, just like I have!

## Proverbs 4

1 ¶ Hear, my children, the instruction of a father, And give attention to know understanding; 2 For I give you good doctrine: Do not forsake my law. 3 When I was my father's son, Tender and the only one in the sight of my mother, 4 He also taught me, and said to me: "Let your heart retain my words; Keep my commands, and live. 5 Get wisdom! Get understanding! Do not forget, nor turn away from the words of

my mouth. 6 Do not forsake her, and she will preserve you; Love her, and she will keep you. 7 Wisdom is the principal thing; Therefore get wisdom. And in all your getting, get understanding. 8 Exalt her, and she will promote you; She will bring you honour, when you embrace her. 9 She will place on your head an ornament of grace; A crown of glory she will deliver to you."

10 Hear, my son, and receive my sayings, And the years of your life will be many. 11 I have taught you in the way of wisdom; I have led you in right paths. **12 When you walk**, your steps will not be hindered, And when you run, you will not stumble. 13 Take firm hold of instruction, do not let go; Keep her, for she is your life.

14 ¶ Do not enter the path of the wicked, And **do not walk** in the way of evil. 15 Avoid it, do not travel on it; Turn away from it and pass on. 16 For they do not sleep unless they have done evil; And their sleep is taken away unless they make someone fall. 17 For they eat the bread of wickedness, And drink the wine of violence. 18 But the path of the just is like the shining sun, That shines ever brighter unto the perfect day. 19 The way of the wicked is like darkness; They do not know what makes them **stumble**.

20 ¶ My son, give attention to my words; Incline your ear to my sayings. 21 Do not let them depart from your eyes; Keep them in the midst of your heart; 22 For they are life to those who find them, And health to all their flesh. 23 Keep your heart with all diligence, For out of it spring the issues of life. 24 Put away from you a deceitful mouth, And put perverse lips far from you. 25 Let your eyes look straight ahead, And your eyelids look right before you. **26 Ponder the path of your feet, And let all your ways be established.** 27 Do not turn to the right or the left; Remove your foot from evil.

**MORE WISDOM:** No one is left out, if they will take their place God's Way! "*But God has given you a place in Jesus Christ, through whom God has given us godly wisdom, forgiveness and new life, and inward holiness, and full deliverance from the slavery of sin*" (1 Cor. 1:30). The apostle, James [chapter 4], describes both the wisdom *FROM* God, and the "*wisdom*" that *DOESN'T* come from God. James says that the difference is seen in our conduct. It shows! Wisdom from God "*is first holy!*" New Year's Resolutions for a life pleasing to God, and to the help and eternal salvation of our fellow man, CAN be a reality with God's help. BE WISE!

We meet at Christ Church on the corner of Brent Street and Heriot Road in Hendon (NW4) at 5:45 pm Sundays. Nearest Tube: Hendon Central.



Our former boss told a rather humorous story of his days in the U.S. Air Force many years ago. He was an officer of some rank, but had never had charge of a group of soldiers. Another officer gave him the opportunity to march a company of soldiers in Boston Common. To his shock and embarrassment, he couldn't remember the order to have the men turn, and they were heading directly for the large body of water! Another soldier whispered the command to him... just in time to avert disaster!

Proverbs 4 verse 26 (on the page to the left) says "Ponder the path of your feet." But the next verse says "Don't turn!" This is not a contradiction, for **there is a time to turn, and there is a time to keep going straight ahead!** From the pen of the prophet, Ezekiel, God gives us examples of both. We see the same truth in chapter 18 and in chapter 33. Briefly put, God says that if He tells a sinner "You are in big trouble," and he thinks on his way and changes, then none of his sin will be remembered against him. Such a person will be on good terms with God. Ezekiel also says that if God speaks approvingly to a person who is walking with Him, and then that person trusts in himself and his past blessing from God, and begins sinning rather than continuing to obey God, then none of that person's earlier right-ness will be remembered by God. In other words, God will "delete" the record of good or bad, depending on the action of the person. Read it for yourself. Such

truth as this brings hope to the "worst," and proper caution to the "best." Both of those people "pondered" or *considered* their path. Both changed. One was very wise. The other was so very, very foolish.

One of the greatest Bible examples of a person considering his sin, and then turning from it, is clearly painted in Psalm 51. This Psalm contains the words of King David, who wholeheartedly turned from his sin after being confronted by God's courageous prophet, **Nathan** in 2 Samuel 12:7. You had better thank God when He sticks His finger in your face and says "**YOU are the man!**" Sometimes God will use another person, or sometimes God will use a circumstance, or just the wonderful voice of His own holy Spirit.

Not everybody listens, however. Even though **Governor Felix** "trembled" at God's truth coming from St. Paul, he cooled it off, tried to postpone, and then even hoped that St. Paul would offer him money to release him from imprisonment (Acts 24: 25, 26). You can't bribe God, nor a Nathan, nor a St. Paul! But you *can* obey the voice and calling of God, and turn. I noticed near the end of Psalm 51, David says that when he gets right with God, then he will help others to get right with God, too! What about *you*? Jesus told of a man (Luke 16) who wished to turn his own brothers away from sin's *path* and sin's *end*...but it was too late, for that man was already in hell himself!

Finally, in **Revelation 3**, Jesus reasons with a group of "religious professors" who really didn't know who they were. They thought they were "ok" spiritually, whereas God's estimate was that they were in BIG trouble, and would drop into Hell. Jesus lovingly tells them the way out. The choice was theirs *then*, and the choice is ours *today*. Jesus has His hands out *now*! **Turn to the "right," and keep going straight!**

**PLEASURE'S PATTERN!** We need not replace "gloomy predictions of a horrible year," with "Go On, Enjoy Yourself!" Let atheist scientists examine theories by their *strongest*, not *weakest* arguments. Regarding both "Christianity," and "Pleasure-seeking," we see Jesus as the Standard for comparison. HE is Our Great "Argument!" The Bible states: "*For even Christ did not please Himself*" (Rom. 15:3). Christ chose to do the Father's will and finish it! "Redeeming-love" seeks to live for God and others, not for self! Follow the Pattern!