

Prophetic Alert 3: Are we headed for Hyperinflation? (Rev 6:1-8)



A. Come and See!



When we try to work out a picture puzzle – we stare at it until our eyes adjust and we see the first image, then we stare until our eyes adjust yet again and we can see the second image. Rev 4, 5 is the scene of heaven, full of God's glory. It is the picture of heaven in the book of Revelations. Rev 6 is the scene of earth, full of all kinds of trouble. Yet we must see Rev 6 in the light of *'Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of His glory!'* (Is 6:3)

Jesus said:

- *'I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now.'* (John 16:12)
- *'Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you, not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.'* (John 14:27)
- *'These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation, but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.'* (John 16:33)

B. Black Horse

'A quart of wheat for a denarius, and three quarts of barley for a denarius; and do not harm the oil and the wine.' (6:6)

B.1 1 QUART = 500G; DENARIUS = A WORKER'S DAILY WAGE

This describes two conditions of the world economy in the last days:

- (i) 'hyperinflation' - the death of the currency.
- (ii) 'food shortage' - particularly wheat and barley' are singled out. Average calorie consumption of the world = 2700 calories per person. 1 quart (0.5kg) of wheat = 2700 calories. 3 quarts of barley is 8,100 (3 x 2700) calories of barley/day. However, the oil and wine which are luxury items for the rich are untouched. How could this be?

Two surprises:

- (i) With the speed of scientific discovery and global economic expansion, how in the world do we get to this level of poverty?
- (ii) Draught, flood, and fire do not discriminate between oil, wine, wheat, and barley. Also, hyperinflation is historically local, not a global phenomenon. E.g., Zimbabwe, Venezuela, Weimer Republic, etc.

So how does the world get into severe food shortage in a hyperinflationary environment on a global scale while having luxury goods for the rich perfectly preserved? It looks like a 'manufactured crisis' rather than a natural crisis.

B.2 DOUBLE-DIGIT INFLATION IN 2022

We have seen huge inflation in food and energy costs all over the world this year, the highest in 30-40 years in Europe, Asia, Africa, North and South America, Russia, Australia, Canada, etc. At this rate, we are marching into a 'hyperinflationary territory.' *'A major hedge fund just warned that hyperinflation could lead to global societal collapse – and it blames the central bank.'* (Fortune Magazine) Most MSN are forecasting that in 1-2 years inflation will come down to 2%.

- (i) Is this a normal cyclical economic downturn of boom and bust? Or a serious structural problem that could lead to a biblical level of hyperinflation? Hyperinflation is both an economic and psychological phenomenon. Once this process starts, it is very difficult to stop.
- (ii) Are we dealing with an 'inflation problem' or a 'currency problem'? For the first time in human history, we are in uncharted territory of Modern Monetary Theory.

B.3 3 IMPORTANT EVENTS IN HISTORY

- (i) **July 1944** – 730 delegates from 44 nations gathered in New Hampshire, USA to formulate the Bretton Wood system at the backend of WW2 (1939-1945). All the participating nations have agreed to fix their national currencies to the USD while the USD is fixed to a weight of gold (~\$35/oz). The whole world entered into an era of USD-denominated gold standard, instead of each nation's currency directly being backed by a fixed amount of monetary metals such as gold and silver.

So, the USD became the 'direct gold substitute' and the 'anchor currency' in international trade. At the time this made a lot of sense because much of Europe's manufacturing capacity was devastated by the two world wars, leaving American manufacturing plants to drive the global economic recovery without any serious competition. Also, the USA held two-thirds of the world's gold at the time. However, as the decades rolled on and the world economy recovered from the devastations of the two world wars, the European nations began to suspect that the USA was cheating, printing far more dollars than the gold they held in the treasury. In 1965 French President Charles de Gaulle demanded payment in gold instead of the USD, and the USA began to deplete their gold stockpiles fast, losing two-thirds of its gold holding.

- (ii) 15th August 1971, President Nixon of the USA 'temporarily suspended the convertibility of USD to gold,' effectively ending the Bretton Wood Agreement. This rendered the USD a floating 'fiat currency' no longer backed by anything, and all other currencies of the world followed shortly after. This move opened the era of free-floating currencies, and for the first time, the nations of the world possessed the power to print their money at will with no restraint. This power was fully exploited by the nations, resulting in ever-growing levels of national debts, inflation (CPI), boom and bust cycle, and multiple currency defaults.

E.g., Inflation from 1971 – USD lost 96% against gold. USA's national debt now stands at 31 trillion dollars – a unicorn level like Zimbabwe. How did the US extend such a high debt level without any consequence?

- (iii) In 1973 the US struck the 'Petrodollar deal' with Saudi Arabia, the leader of the oil-producing nations. Saudi Arabia agreed to sell oil exclusively in the USD, and in return, the US military will guarantee Saudi's security. This Petrodollar deal has provided firm support to the USD for the last 50 years which allowed the USA to live far beyond their means with a huge trade deficit each year without any consequence. And they exported inflation to other nations that had to work hard for each printed dollar. However, this is now changing. The relationship between the US and Saudi Arabia has been steadily souring. Saudi Arabia is no longer interested in supporting US's cause, who wants to go green energy. Saudi Arabia has announced they will cut oil production by 2M barrels a day and expressed a desire to join the BRICS+ block, and they just reiterated their commitment to China regardless of US concerns.

B.4 TWO OPPOSING FORCES ARE AT WORK:

- (i) Due to the rising inflation, the US FED is forced to hike interest rates aggressively until 'inflation returns to 2%.' Or until something breaks in the system? This is destroying all other currencies which are denominated in the USD causing massive inflation worldwide. If the US sneezes Asia catches a cold. But there is something that raising interest rates cannot fix - the supply shortage in food and energy exacerbated by the sanctions. 25% of world wheat and barley comes from the Black Sea area.
- (ii) BRICS+ nations (East & Global South) do not want to play this losing game anymore. They are starting to pull away from using the USD for international trade. They are forming direct bilateral trade deals and dumping USD. BRICS announced they want to start a new global trade currency based on tangible assets such as gold and other natural resources.

In the short term, the USD has been strengthening against other currencies, but when the move away from the USD hits a critical mass, the momentum will reverse and cause the flood of USD to return home triggering off hyperinflation. What will this do to all other 'fiat currencies' denominated in USD?

B.5 AUSTRALIA'S CALLING

- (i) The voice comes from heaven declaring the seven-fold praises of God, not found anywhere else in Scripture: '*Worthy is the Lamb who was slain to receive power, riches, wisdom, strength, honour, glory, blessing!*' (Rev 5:12) This praise is declared in heaven the whole time and joined by those who dwell on the earth even as the manmade Babylonian economic system based on debt, greed, and dishonesty begins

to crumble under its own weight. (The first fiat currency system started out in Babylon, replacing silver with the clay tablets from the Babylonian temple.) There are God's people on earth agreeing with heaven's economic system of honouring Christ, which is based on integrity, personal responsibility, and generosity toward the weak and the poor. And this will release heaven's riches and the blessings of God, ready for the harvest of the earth.

God has for Himself hidden a company of Josephs in the last days. I believe that having the right priorities and attitude toward wealth will become increasingly very important. We must check our hearts and put our life in order. It is so easy to follow the values and systems of this world which is characterised by materialism – i.e., valuing our life by how much we can consume on ourselves rather than how much we can honour Christ and serve His purpose. *'Come out from her [the Babylonian thinking & system], my people, lest you share in her sins, and lest you receive of her plagues.'* (Rev 18:4)

- (ii) Australia's calling - We are heading toward a future where food security will become the top priority. Australia is blessed by God with one of the richest natural resources with a high output of food production. We are also uniquely placed between the West and the East to fulfil our calling as 'missionary nation' and the 'breadbasket' of the world.
- (iii) How did the world reset the table in the past each time faith was lost in fiat currencies? They had to go back to the biblical standard for money for a time (Gen 2:10-12), i.e., gold standard until public faith was restored in the new currency. (Gold in Heb 'zahab' - give or fair exchange unit for labour.) The Central Banks around the world have been accumulating gold (and silver) this year at an all-time record since 1967 before the London gold pool failure. They sense that something is not right, and at some point, a monetary reset is inevitable.

Many believe that in the coming days, holding a small amount of physical gold or silver as insurance or protection of purchasing power, may not be a foolish idea. We must individually take it to the Lord in prayer and follow His direction, which is different for everyone. If a disorderly reset takes place, then 'bail-in laws' will be applied (Dodd-Frank Act, 2010), since depositors are now unsecured creditors.

C. [Pale Horse](#)

Pale green is the colour of the flesh with blood drained. *'Death and Hades followed with him. And power was given to them over a fourth of the earth, to kill with sword, with hunger, with death, and by the beasts of the earth.'*

- (i) World War III with the four horses running, will have the collective death toll of 1/4th of the earth's population - close to 2B. The death toll in WWI was 20M; WWII 80M – 100M including starvation death, ~ 4% of the world's population at that time. Our mind cannot fathom the extent of the troubles ahead. Even if somehow the Lord grants an extension of time and our generation escapes the pale horse, this does not change the fact that this is the destination of our world fashioned by sinful men.

'Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.' For all that is in the world – the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life – is not of the Father but is of the world. And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever.' (1 John 2:15)

What is the church's response during this time? Will we have God's heart for the harvest of souls?

- (i) 3 purposes of God: Israel, Church, and Harvest. It will be the greatest opportunity for the church as there will be an unparalleled move of God during this period (7:12-14). The Lord will move powerfully in Israel (7:1-8) and the world for the global harvest (7:9-17). The people's faith in this world will be severely shaken and they will fear God again (6:16; 14:7) making them ready to turn to God.

Rom 1:17-18 speaks about the two sides of God's nature revealed to the world – the righteousness of God to those who are saved by His grace, and the wrath of God to those who continue in sin. God's simmering anger VS God's boiling anger (Rom 1:24-32).

There will be unusual clarity of the prophetic revelations with healing anointing with the preaching of the gospel. Let us cry out to God for more of His grace, purity, and power to be set apart to do His will.