



## *The Deceitfulness of Riches*

*God's Economic Report - What Happens When the World  
Puts Their Trust in Untrustworthy Things?*

By Koinonia Business Women  
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# INTRODUCTION

*“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me.”*

John 14:1

Welcome and thank you for reading this special report that we at Koinonia Business Women have prepared for you. We believe this information is vital for your spiritual health and for building your faith in God during troubled economic times, whether that be personally or globally.

As you read through the powerful message in this eBook, be conscious of your thoughts. While you begin to renew your mind to the power of the Word note the new thought patterns that begin to emerge. We know there is greater power when our thinking aligns with God’s truth rather than relying on our own perspective. Meditate on the verses we have provided. Spend time in deep thought and prayer as they build your strength in Him. Pray them out loud, the action of hearing and speaking the word is transformative. Use these scriptures as part of your daily meditation and prayer time.

Encourage yourself and others that the greatest stories of God’s redemption come out of real or perceived “catastrophes”.

We pray this report brings you strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow.

Sincerely,

Krista Dunk & Tammy Redmon, Co-Founders

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*Tammy & Krista*

## *In This World There Will Be Troubles*

It's true. The world has many troubles and can cause many worries. Have you found yourself becoming distracted by the world's fear, doubt or worries? Even as a Christian believer?

*"Blessed is the man who makes the LORD his trust, who does not look to the proud, to those who turn aside to false gods."* Psalm 40:3

If we're honest, we will all admit to misplacing trust at some point, placing it with perishing things. Maybe some of us are doing it now! However, as children of God we are instructed not to worry, nor to be anxious.

*"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God."* Philippians 4:6

Easier said than done? But here's the silly part - Unfortunately, we often worry about things we have absolutely no control over. For example, the economy, wars, what other people think of us, etc. Did you know that our bodies are sapped of energy and our minds are blocked from creative thought processes when we worry?

*"An anxious heart weighs a man down, but a kind word cheers him up."* Proverbs 12:25

Not only are we physically, mentally and emotionally disabled by worry, but it keeps us from our purpose, and even from remembering His promises to us. Our minds become preoccupied with fear rather than faith. At times, we ALL fall short in this area. When this happens, ask yourself this question; "Do I truly believe that God wants me to cast all my anxiety on Him because He cares for me?"

In the news, we see daily examples of dismay, disillusionment and destruction caused by people or nations putting their trust in something other than God Himself. As Christians, God beckons us to know better. We NEED to know better.

# MISPLACED TRUST

## Examples of wrong places to put your trust in:

- The Natural World
- In a Spouse
- In Your Knowledge, Skills or Education
- In Government or Other Leaders
- The Media
- The Stock Market, Investments or Retirement Accounts
- Money

You may have heard the saying, “What can be shaken, will be shaken”. This comes from this passage in Hebrews:

*“At that time His voice shook the earth, but now He has promised, “Once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heavens.” The words “once more” indicate the removing of what can be shaken – that is, created things – so that what cannot be shaken may remain.”* Hebrews 12:26-27

Take note of that last part – “so that what cannot be shaken may remain.” We’ll talk more about that in a little bit. First, let’s quickly review how the items on the list above can, and will be shaken according to God’s Word.

### The Natural World

*“Though the mountains be shaken and the hills be removed, yet my unfailing love for you will not be shaken nor my covenant of peace be removed,” says the LORD, who has compassion on you.”* Isaiah 54:10

*“Men will faint from terror, apprehensive of what is coming on the world, for the heavenly bodies will be shaken.”* Luke 21:26

*“I watched as he opened the sixth seal. There was a great earthquake. The sun turned black like sackcloth made of goat hair, the whole moon turned blood red, and the stars in the sky fell to earth, as late figs drop from a fig tree when shaken by a strong wind. The sky receded like a scroll, rolling up, and every mountain and island was removed from its place.”* Revelation 6:12-14

*“But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash.”*

Matthew 7:26-27

Our natural world is cursed by sin and is slowly perishing. In the gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke, this statement is made by Jesus, *“Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.”*

### **In a Spouse**

*“Even my close friend, whom I trusted, he who shared my bread, has lifted up his heel against me.”* Psalm 41:9

*“It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in man.”* Psalm 118:8

God created marriage to be a partnership to love, help and serve each other – not to worship each other. Never be deceived by falsely viewing them as your source or ‘savior’. We are to worship God alone, while remaining faithful to our marriage covenant made on earth. Establish a bond of trust with your spouse – yes. Trust in them like as in an all-knowing, holy Lord – no. Who can live up to that?!

### **In Government or Other Leaders**

*“It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in princes.”* Psalm 118:9

*“The LORD had humbled Judah because of Ahaz king of Israel, for he had promoted wickedness in Judah and had been most unfaithful to the LORD.”* 2 Chronicles 28:19

Politicians and governments fail us. Though it’s our duty to participate in the process as citizens, the system is inherently untrustworthy at times. Even religious leaders are not immune to failure and sin. Not that we advocate it, but falling short is a fact of life for people and leaders are people!

### **In Your Knowledge, Skills, Strength, or Education**

*“In his pride the wicked does not seek him; in all his thoughts there is no room for God.”* Psalm 10:2

*“You may say to yourself, “My power and the strength of my hands have produced this wealth for me.” But remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you the ability*

*to produce wealth, and so confirms his covenant, which he swore to your forefathers, as it is today.” Deuteronomy 8:17-18*

*“Woe to those who go down to Egypt for help, who rely on horses, who trust in the multitude of their chariots and in the great strength of their horsemen, but do not look to the Holy One of Israel, or seek help from the LORD.” Isaiah 31:1.*

Anytime a verse says “woe to those”... take note!

*“Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the LORD our God.” Psalm 20:7*

*“For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the measure of faith God has given you.” Romans 12:3*

Let's just sum up this section with this verse, shall we? *“I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.” John 15:5.*

How completely true. Apart from Him, we really can't do anything of any value. Give credit (and glory) where credit is due.

### **The Stock Market, Investments or Retirement Accounts**

*“Cast but a glance at riches, and they are gone, for they will surely sprout wings and fly off to the sky like an eagle.” Proverbs 23:5*

*“The house of the righteous contains great treasure, but the income of the wicked brings them trouble.” Proverbs 15:6*

*“But about this time tomorrow I am going to send my officials to search your palace and the houses of your officials. They will seize everything you value and carry it away.”*

1 Kings 20:6

*“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal.” Matthew 6:19*

Can God give you creative ideas to grow your money and become more successful in your endeavors? Yes. Does He want you to enlarge your wealth so that you can

eventually place your trust in it? No way. The world seems to be turned upside down whenever the economy goes on the down turn. Don't be tossed by these waves.

## **Money**

*“For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.”* 1 Timothy 6:10

*“Whoever loves money never has money enough; whoever loves wealth is never satisfied with his income. This too is meaningless.”* Ecclesiastes 5:10

*“Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without cost. Why spend money on what is not bread, and your labor on what does not satisfy? Listen, listen to me, and eat what is good, and your soul will delight in the richest of fare”.* Isaiah 55:1-2

*“No servant can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and Money.”* Luke 16:13

*“Whoever trusts in his riches will fall, but the righteous will thrive like a green leaf.”* Proverbs 11:28

Money is untrustworthy. Some people deeply believe it is their money that keeps them safe. When you have some, it all boils down to this statement: *“...though your riches increase, do not set your heart on them.”* Psalm 62:10

Of course money itself is not bad or evil. However, the love and obsession with attaining it and placing trust in it, is sin. God knows we need some! He is our sole (and soul 😊) provider and source. Actually, He desires that we use money as a tool and be a wise steward of it, as well as being generous with it.

*“So he called ten of his servants and gave them ten minas. 'Put this money to work,' he said, 'until I come back.' ”* Luke 19:13

Many of you also know the parable of the talents, where 3 servants received sums of money and were then expected to be wise stewards of it until their master returned. That parable shows us an important lesson - God expects us to gain wise money skills, yet at the same time be faithful with it what we've been entrusted with.

# TRUSTWORTHY & UNSHAKEABLE

Now we're ready to find a trustworthy source - Our source for provision, love, wisdom, safety, and life more abundant. It's time to place our trust in what cannot be shaken, and what will eternally remain.

## Right places to put your trust in:

- God's Word
- Prayer
- God's Promises
- God's Provision
- God's Love for You

Let this be your trust anthem; *"I will say of the LORD, "He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust."* Psalm 91:2

God Himself is the only One truly worthy of our trust. His Word is right and true. God has dreams for His people. He never leaves us or forsakes us. His mercy is new every morning. He is with us always. He makes all things new. He hides us in the shadow of His wings. His righteous people (those saved by belief in Jesus) will never be forsaken or have to beg for bread. We are the apple of His eye. He covers us and although our sins were scarlet red, makes us white as snow.

Read through these noteworthy verses to strengthen your faith and renew your mind.

*"O Sovereign LORD, you are God! Your words are trustworthy, and you have promised these good things to your servant."* 2 Samuel 7:28

*"Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe, for our "God is a consuming fire."* Hebrews 12:28-29

*"Find rest, O my soul, in God alone; my hope comes from Him. He alone is my rock and my salvation; He is my fortress, I will not be shaken."* Psalm 62:5-6

*“The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul. The statutes of the LORD are trustworthy, making wise the simple.” Psalm 19:7*

*“You will again obey the LORD and follow all his commands I am giving you today. Then the LORD your God will make you most prosperous in all the work of your hands and in the fruit of your womb, the young of your livestock and the crops of your land. The LORD will again delight in you and make you prosperous, just as he delighted in your fathers, if you obey the LORD your God and keep his commands and decrees that are written in this Book of the Law and turn to the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul.” Deuteronomy 30:8-10*

*“They are not of the world, even as I am not of it. Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth.” John 17:16-17*

*“And the LORD has declared this day that you are his people, his treasured possession as he promised, and that you are to keep all his commands.” Deuteronomy 26:18*

*“...if they turn back to you with all their heart and soul in the land of their captivity where they were taken, and pray toward the land you gave their fathers, toward the city you have chosen and toward the temple I have built for your Name; then from heaven, your dwelling place, hear their prayer and their pleas, and uphold their cause. And forgive your people, who have sinned against you. Now, my God, may your eyes be open and your ears attentive to the prayers offered in this place.” 2 Chronicles 6:38-40*

*“Now I know that the LORD saves his anointed; he answers him from his holy heaven with the saving power of his right hand.” Psalm 20:6*

*“Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up.” Luke 18:1*

*“Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.” James 5:16*

*“Faith that is firm, is also patient.” Isaiah 28:16*

*“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.” John 3:16*

Our hope is in Him alone. Meditate on His promises rather than on worldly worry. Be a good steward of the blessings God has given you. Even during times of turmoil, God sustains His people and positions us for success. We leave you with one final scripture to mediate on.

*“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.”*

Romans 15:13



*“Building & Empowering Today’s Christian Businesswomen”*

## RESOURCES

### *About Koinonia Business Women:*

#### **Our Vision:**

**Koinonia Business Women** - the premier source for women in Godly encouragement, professional training & inspiration. Through fellowship & teaching, we are lifting up today's faith filled women leaders to realize the fullness of their God-given potential & anointed calling.

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*They will sparkle in His land like jewels in a crown. -Zech 9:16*

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