

## JOBS REACH PRE-RECESSION LEVELS

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By Jim  
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“Woe to him who builds his house by  
unrighteousness and his chambers by injustice, who uses his neighbor’s service  
without wages and gives him nothing for his work.”  
Jeremiah 22:13 NKJV

“And I will come near you for judgment, I  
will be a swift witness against sorcerers, against adulterers, against  
perjurers, against those who exploit wage earners and widows and orphans, and  
against those who turn away an alien---because they do not fear me, says the  
Lord of hosts.”  
Malachi 3:5 NKJV

The news recently  
trumpets that new jobs added by the economy last month have now completed the  
recovery of the 7 million jobs lost during the last recession, and we are now  
back to normal in number of jobs available. How nice, especially now that an  
election is coming.

Try telling  
this to the long-term unemployed who have dropped out of the labor market in  
hopeless disgust. Or the single mother working two entry-level jobs just to pay  
for a scuzzy apartment, a junk car, and school expense for her kids. Or the  
college graduates who find they must accept entry-level jobs just to exist. Or  
the college adjunct professors who have no tenure, no insurance, no retirement,  
no right to continued employment, and salaries (if you can call them that) low  
enough so that they must compete with students for available campus jobs. Or  
the seniors who are illegally retired because of age and find all doors to new  
employment now closed.

What the  
politicos don’t want to tell us, although we already know, is that most of  
these vaunted replacement jobs are in service industries paying far lower wages  
and fewer benefits than the jobs lost to outsourcing and the recession. And

many more are part-time with absolutely no benefits.

Another

thing they conveniently don't mention is that population growth during this period would necessitate creating millions of other new jobs just to stand still.

The problem

with all this is, as I have said before, that labor is now treated merely as another factor of production to be obtained as cheaply as possible and discarded when its efficiency declines. The old alliance between management and labor, with labor treated as a valuable resource and avenue to better community relationships, is gone, at least in massive multinational corporations.

Again, it's

relatively common knowledge that 95 percent of the gains in wealth during the "recovery" have gone to the top few percent of wealth holders. Why? Because the game is rigged to reward owners of capital rather than owners of labor. It got rigged over the past generation or so because the "good" people were seduced into acquiescence by the lies and misrepresentations of their so-called leaders; the addictive cesspool of modern entertainment; and by the quiet complicity of the religious sector as it transformed the simple gospel of Jesus into a dogmatic set of rules aimed only at getting individuals to heaven and leaving no place for national righteousness and justice here on earth.

Is the

situation too far gone to save? Will the laboring class ever get their just rewards? Not as long as we keep worshiping modern economic and political theory at the expense of God's word.

The Bible

verses above indicate God's expectation that workers be rewarded fairly for their input into the productive process. They are not to be manipulated or coerced into accepting sub-standard wages, nor is their relative powerlessness in the market to be exploited. They are vital factors in producing what consumers need and should be treated accordingly.

God promises as we recently celebrated at

Pentecost that he will at the proper time pour out his Spirit on all flesh, and will cause Ezekiel's "dry bones" to surge with new life. That outpouring of his Spirit is not far away. In fact, it is available now to those choosing to follow God's word in Spirit and in truth. That's the final answer, folks! Nothing else will provide the deliverance this earth cries for