

# IS SUSTAINED NATIONAL PROSPERITY POSSIBLE?

Contributed by Jim Jordal  
Wednesday, 26 April 2017

## IS SUSTAINED NATIONAL PROSPERITY POSSIBLE?

By Jim  
Jordal

And he [God] will judge between many peoples, And will decide concerning strong nations afar off. They will beat their swords into plowshares, And their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not lift up sword against nation, Neither will they learn war any more. But they will sit every man under his vine and under his fig tree; And no one will make them afraid&hellip; Micah 4:3-4 WEB

These two Bible verses set forth part of what will happen in the end times as formerly warring nations &ldquo;beat their swords into plowshares&rdquo; and no longer fight one against another. The people delivered from the scourges of war and the political struggles of one power bloc against another will &ldquo;sit every man under his vine and under his fig tree; And no one will make him afraid.&rdquo;

This sounds as if peace and prosperity have finally come to dwell among humans. They will no longer be afraid as they sit happily in their own possessions and with their own source of sufficient resources to be productive and happy.

However, we still must deal with today and the broken, chaotic excuse we now have for government. Whatever ideas for peace and prosperity that do rise out of this mess usually suggest nothing new and everything old as we prepare to step back by several generations into the failed ideas of that time. What we desire is sustained prosperity, peace, and freedom to live our lives to the best of our ability. What we get is endless wars, periodic depressions, and about one-fourth of our people who simply cannot make it in this society.

The road to sustained national prosperity does not go through an exploited and stripped environment; privatized medical, educational, and social security systems; or a crippled governmental regulatory power, contrary to what the Trump administration offers us with its plans for unwinding scores of important regulations

protecting the public against corporate exploitation.

#### Sustained

national prosperity is possible, but not under present policies. Some economists now foresee a virtual tsunami of artificial intelligence (AI) and automation with rising unemployment in surface transportation and clerical service jobs. These jobs will not be replaced by increased tariffs on foreign goods, or better education, or the controlling of immigration, or, for that matter, any existing governmental policies. They will be lost forever unless a solution both profound and workable is found.

#### That type of

solution does exist, but it involves that we once and for all learn that God's ways are superior to ours. If we choose God's way--- and we will after our resources and panaceas have withered away--- then we can bring victory out of the dust of defeat and failed policies.

#### God's way

involves Jubilee justice of the Old Testament, brought back to life by Jesus in his first sermon in Luke chapter four. Under God's system we would return to the Jubilee concept that the earth belongs to God, not just those people having enough power and influence to conquer it for themselves. It would involve us accepting that the earth and its envelope of atmosphere belong to God, who gave it to us for our use, not our despoliation. If we all "own" the earth, then there ought to be some financial return accruing to us as shareholders.

#### Economists

call it "rent seeking," or the attempt by owners to gain a greater share of existing wealth without creating new wealth. In the Western world today this process has played itself out as large corporations seize almost the entire earth envelope as their so-called "free" goods. They now use and exploit for themselves "commons" areas really belonging to the people. They use air, water, infrastructure, electro-magnetic waves, governmental structures and court decisions, English common law, copyright protection, and many other entities that benefit them even though they do not belong to them. They belong to the people, who should receive their fair share as dividends due to owners, not welfare checks due to indigents.

If these blessings of God were recognized as part of the public commons, if people were ranked as shareholders rather than welfare problems, and if corporations were to pay fair returns for their use of these benefits, then we would have trillions of dollars available to end poverty and institute economic Jubilee justice. Think on it!