**These Perilous Times**

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**“Whose Word Are We Listening to?”**

**Part III**

“But as the days of Noe were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and given in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, and they knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.” Matthew 24:37-38 KJV

**A Little History Lesson**

 Many of us might have read or perhaps heard of the “Stock Market Crash” of 1929, leading to the “Great Depression.” The economy was deemed the best ever in U. S. history, (sound familiar) even nick-named, “The Roaring Twenties.” But suddenly, the world-wide global economy collapsed.

 However, without giving too many details, people were obtaining large personal loans, buying, and selling thousands of dollar’s worth of stocks, going into great debt, etc. when the bottom fell out. The depression lasted for several years. In 1933, 15 million Americans were unemployed, a 17% national unemployment rate. Many factories were shut down, and the *agricultural* segment of the economy was suffering immensely due to ***drought*** and falling prices. Welcome to the Great Depression of 2020, and I’m not speaking of the “Roaring Twenties!”

 My mom, who lived during that troublesome time, shared with me some of the effects of the failed economy. She said that a special “*ration card*” was required to purchase food supplies.

 Later, “The Department of Agriculture” (in collaboration with the U.S. government) in Rochester came up with a plan to help people during the crisis. They began printing orange and blue “Food Stamps,” worth 25 cents each. For each cash dollar spent by an unemployed person, they would receive food stamps valued at $1.50. Not exactly a stimulus package, but help nevertheless.

**What does this mean for us?**

**Obvious Signs Do Tell The Season**

**A Little More History**

 The Stock Market Crash of 1929 wasn’t the only significant history being made during that particular year. While most governments were focusing on revitalizing the economy, Benito Mussolini, Prime Minister of Italy, and Cardinal Gasparri signed a document known as the “Lateran Treaty,” resuscitating the Papacy from its’ deadly wound (1798). The Roman Catholic Church was given full autonomy once again. Now a sovereign state, known as “Vatican City,” in Rome, Italy.

“And I saw that one of his heads as it was wounded to death: and his *deadly wound was healed*: and **all the world wandered after the beast**, and they worshipped the beast…” Revelation 13:3, 4 KJV (Emphasis supplied)

“…for it is written, thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and Him only shall thou serve.” Matthew 4:10 KJV

**Council from God’s inspired messenger**

 Absorbed in worldly business and pleasure, the antediluvians “Knew not until the flood came, and took them all away.” Matt. 24:39.

They had heaven-sent warnings, but they refused to listen. And today the world, utterly regardless of the warning voice of God, is hurrying on to eternal ruin.”[[1]](#footnote-1)

“And I beheld another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, and he *spake as a dragon*. And he exerciseth all the power of the first beast before him and *causeth the earth and them which dwell therein to worship the first beast whose deadly wound was healed*. Revelation 13:11, 12 KJV

(Italics supplied)

“And causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: *And that no man might buy or sell*, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.” Revelation 13:17 (Italics supplied)

1. E. G. White. Counsels For The Church, p. 38. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)