A Disclaimer:

I want to keep my word with you. I know you understand that I receive interesting and timely news items from friends all over the world. Most of these items appear to have prophetic relevance. Others are of particular interest in the field of Science, Health & Nutrition, Devotional themes and some touches of Humor.

With a bit of hesitation, I am forwarding some of these items to friends like you via email. My concern is this: some persons who will receive or read the items I choose to forward will assume that I endorse, approve or believe every "iota," and that I am endorsing the author or source. This simply is not true! As you read, you must be discerning, choosey, discriminating and use common sense. If you are going to quote someone, quote the source -- I am not the source, I am the reporter . . . --CW

Japan Today, Jerusalem Tomorrow

Exclusive: Joel Richardson notes, "Increase in earthquakes point to Jesus' return"
By: Joel Richardson / World Net Daily Commentary.com / March 13, 2011

"A new poll conducted by the National Association of Evangelicals reveals that a majority of its members would agree that the recent earthquakes in Haiti, New Zealand and Japan are signs of the soon coming return of Jesus.

"The survey shows that more than half of respondents adhere to the theological position known as Premillennialism, which interprets the Book of Revelation to be speaking of yet future events. In contrast, only 17 percent of those polled say they believe most biblical prophecy has already been fulfilled."
"I recently appeared on a popular Detroit radio station alongside fellow author, prophecy expert and friend, Gary Demar, to discuss and debate these issues. Demar is one of the most outspoken voices for the minority of evangelicals who believe that through the influence of the Christian church, the world is gradually improving and will eventually reach a 'Christianized' golden age. This fairly modern position has made some gains within mainstream Evangelicalism over the past few decades.

"Many in the Charismatic Christian movement, through the influence of what is called the New Apostolic Reformation Movement, have also embraced this position. On the other end of the political spectrum, many liberal-leaning 'Emergent' or anti-Zionist Evangelicals, such as Brian McLaren, Stephen Sizer, Gary Burge and Andrew Perriman, also argue that the events described in the Book of Revelation are now history. A survey of the arguments that dominate social media and Christian forums will reveal that the Christian church today is quite divided over this theological question.

"So do the recent earthquakes in Haiti, New Zealand and Japan have any relevance with regard to the return of Jesus? Absolutely. If we consider the words of Jesus as well as some very stunning earthquake statistics, then a clear picture emerges, pointing to the soon coming of the return of Jesus."

You Call This An Economic Recovery? 44 Million Americans On Food Stamps and 10 Other Reasons Why The Economy Is Simply Not Getting Better

"According to newly released numbers, over 44 million Americans are now on food stamps."

"So how many Americans have to go on food stamps before we can all finally agree that the U.S. economy is dying?"

"It just seems inconceivable that anyone can claim that the economy is improving when the number of Americans on food stamps continues to set a brand new record every single month. But the food stamp program is not the only indicator that the economy is still having massive problems. The following are 10 more reasons why the U.S. economy is simply not getting any better . . ."

"#1 . . ."
"Certain 'bits' come my way. Some 'bits' are provocative enough that I squeeze time to read them carefully and file 'some of these bits' in 'my memory.'

"I have decided to share some of these bits with friends who d/care to read beyond the headlines.

"Casual readers don't need to go here. . . "

-CW

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Rate Hike Lurking; Keep a Close Eye On the Euro!
By: Bryan Rich / Money and Markets.com / March 12, 2011

"In the short term, market participants tend to have a very narrow focus when it comes to determining what information influences their decision making.

"The dominant focus in markets for the past few weeks has been all about the interest rate outlook.

They fear another mistake is coming.

"The big question: Which major central bank will be the first to move rates off of historic lows and start an interest rate hiking cycle?

"At first the U.S. was in the pole position. But after the economy began sputtering around the middle of last year, that notion was put to bed. In fact, the Fed rolled out MORE accommodation . . . another dose of QE.

"Now the focus is on euro-zone rates and the European Central Bank (ECB)."

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Latest IBE Communicator -- Free Download:
The Cycle of Ministry
A duty that is ours this side of the Kingdom

People involved in full-time ministry are occasionally given the opportunity to contemplate what the world will be like when their services are no longer needed. Think about it: a time is coming when there shall be no need for a large portion of jobs in public service. No doctors, police officers, firefighters, attorneys or ... evangelists. The Bible speaks of a time when no one will have to teach another about our Heavenly Father, for we shall all know Him.

Click image above to download a free PDF report and read the rest of the article ...
A new poll conducted by the National Association of Evangelicals reveals that a majority of its members would agree that the recent earthquakes in Haiti, New Zealand and Japan are signs of the soon coming return of Jesus.

The survey shows that more than half of respondents adhere to the theological position known as Premillennialism, which interprets the Book of Revelation to be speaking of yet future events. In contrast, only 17 percent of those polled say they believe most biblical prophecy has already been fulfilled.

I recently appeared on a popular Detroit radio station alongside fellow author, prophecy expert and friend, Gary Demar, to discuss and debate these issues. Demar is one of the most outspoken voices for the minority of evangelicals who believe that through the influence of the Christian church, the world is gradually improving and will eventually reach a "Christianized" golden age. This fairly modern position has made some gains within mainstream Evangelicalism over the past few decades.

Many in the Charismatic Christian movement, through the influence of what is called the New Apostolic Reformation Movement, have also embraced this position. On the other end of the political spectrum, many liberal-leaning "Emergent" or anti-Zionist Evangelicals, such as Brian McClaren, Stephen Sizer, Gary Burge and Andrew Perriman, also argue that the events described in the Book of Revelation are now history. A survey of the arguments that dominate social media and Christian forums will reveal that the Christian church today is quite divided over this theological question.

So do the recent earthquakes in Haiti, New Zealand and Japan have any relevance with regard to the return of Jesus? Absolutely. If we consider the words of Jesus as well as some very stunning earthquake statistics, then a clear picture emerges, pointing to the soon coming of the return of Jesus.

First, it needs to be noted that Jesus taught that even as one can look to various "signs" within nature as indicators regarding the changing of seasons, so also should we look to some specific signs with regard to the prophetic seasons and the drawing near of the time of redemption.

> Look at the fig tree and all the trees. When they sprout leaves, you can see for yourselves and know that summer is near. Even so, when you see these things happening, you know that the kingdom of God is near.

> — Luke 17:29-31

When evening comes, you say, "It will be fair weather, for the sky is red," and in the morning, "Today it will be stormy, for the sky is red and overcast." You know how to interpret the
appearance of the sky, but you cannot interpret the signs of the times.

– Matthew 16:1-3

(Column continues below)

Elsewhere, Jesus told us that among the signs of his return would be earthquakes. But the primary analogy that Jesus used to describe the last days earthquakes were birth contractions, which we all know are universally characterized by a progressive increase in both frequency and intensity:

There will be famines and earthquakes in various places. All these are the beginning of birth pains.

– Matthew 24:7-8

And once more, the ultimate result of the return of Jesus will be a massive earthquake that literally transforms the topography of Jerusalem and devastates the whole earth:

On that day his feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, east of Jerusalem, and the Mount of Olives will be split in two from east to west, forming a great valley, with half of the mountain moving north and half moving south.

– Zechariah 14:4

Then there came flashes of lightning, rumblings, peals of thunder and a severe earthquake. No earthquake like it has ever occurred since mankind has been on earth, so tremendous was the quake.

– Revelation 16:18

With all of this in mind, it is fascinating to take note of some astounding statistics that were brought to my attention last year by my friend, Pastor Cecil Boswell, from Nashville, Tenn. Pastor Boswell has spent a lot of time reviewing and calculating statistics from the U.S. Geological Survey. By analyzing the records of ancient earthquakes as well as every earthquake in modern times that registered a 7.0 or higher on the Richter scale, the picture that emerges is portentous indeed.

- From 1 A.D. to 1800 there were approximately 28 major earthquakes recorded in history. This results in an average of one major earthquake approximately every 60 years.

- From 1801-1900 there were approximately 31 earthquakes 7.0 or higher. This results in one major earthquake approximately every 3.2 years.

- From 1901 to 2000 there were 222 major earthquakes 7.0 or higher. This results in an average of one major earthquake every 6 months.

- From 2000 to 2003 there were approximately 59 earthquakes of 7.0 or higher. This results in approximately one major earthquake every 24 days.

This brings us to recent times. One of the most notable major earthquake was in Bam, Iran, on Dec. 26, 2003. Exactly one year later, Dec. 26, 2004, Sumatra, Indonesia, experienced another massive earthquake and a subsequent devastating tsunami. Between these two earthquakes, more than 330,000 lives were lost.

- From 2004 to 2007, there were 56 major earthquakes 7.0 or higher. This results in an average of one
major earthquake every 25 days.

- In 2008, there were 12 major earthquakes 7.0 or higher. This results in an average of one major earthquake every 30 days.

- In 2009, there were 17 major earthquakes 7.0 or higher. This results in an average of one major earthquake every 20 days.

- In 2010, there were 22 major earthquakes 7.0 or higher. This results in an average of one major earthquake every 15 days.

I have no question that the scoffers will scoff at this information, but the numbers don't lie. In fact, based on the undeniable patterns, on March 4, six days before the earthquake in Japan, Pastor Cecil sent me the following e-mail:

Prediction: The longest amount of time last year that the earth went without a major (7.0 or greater) earthquake was 57 days. We haven't had a major earthquake since January 18th of this year. As of today, we stand at 45 days without a major quake. I am predicting a major (7.0 or greater) earthquake BEFORE Wednesday, March 17th. … my prediction is that there will be a major earthquake sometime within the next week!

Sadly, even within the church, there will be those who claim that this information means absolutely nothing and that Christians should pay no attention. But for the majority of believers out there who take Jesus' words at face value, who are watching the specific signs that Jesus spoke of, the evidence is all there. The contractions are increasing in both intensity and frequency. I believe there is a birth on the horizon.

Joel Richardson is the author of "Islamic Antichrist," published by WND Books, and is the co-author of "God's War on Terror." His blog is www.Joelstrumpet.com.
You Call This An Economic Recovery? 44 Million Americans On Food Stamps and 10 Other Reasons Why The Economy Is Simply Not Getting Better

When Barack Obama, the Federal Reserve and the mainstream media tell us that we are in the middle of an economic recovery, is that supposed to be some kind of sick joke? According to newly released numbers, over 44 million Americans are now on food stamps. That is a new all-time record and that number is 13.1% higher than it was just one year ago. So how many Americans have to go on food stamps before we can all finally agree that the U.S. economy is dying? 50 million? 60 million? All of us? The food stamp program is the modern equivalent of the old bread lines. More than one out of every seven Americans now depends on the federal government for food. Oh, but haven't you heard? The economy is showing dramatic improvement. Corporate profits are up. The stock market is soaring. Happy days are here again.

It just seems inconceivable that anyone can claim that the economy is improving when the number of Americans on food stamps continues to set a brand new record every single month. But the food stamp program is not the only indicator that the economy is still having massive problems.

The following are 10 more reasons why the U.S. economy is simply not getting any better:

#1 Some recent statistics actually indicate that the number of unemployed Americans is still going up. According to Gallup, unemployment in the United States rose to 10.3% at the end of February. That is the highest number Gallup has reported since early last year.

#2 The housing industry is still a complete and total disaster. In fact, new home sales in the U.S. in January were 11.2% lower than they were in December. Not only that, the number of new home sales in January was 18.6% lower than the number of new home sales in January 2010. That is not a sign of improvement.

#3 There wouldn't even be much of a housing industry at all at this point if it was not for the U.S. government. Right now the U.S. government is either writing or guaranteeing well over 90 percent of all mortgages in the United States. So what would the housing market look like in 2011 if the government was not in the picture?

#4 In 2010, more than a million U.S. families lost their homes to foreclosure for the first time ever, and that number is expected to go even higher in 2011.

#5 Due to rampant economic decay and record numbers of foreclosures there are areas in most of our major cities that now look like "war zones". For example, the Huffington Post is reporting that there are now approximately 15,000 vacant buildings in the city of Chicago and there are approximately 60,000 vacant houses and apartments in the city of Las Vegas.

#6 According to the Oil Price Information Service, U.S. drivers spent an average of $347 on gasoline during the month of February, which was 30 percent more than a year earlier. This represented 8.5% of median monthly income. So what is going to happen when gas prices go even higher? Sadly, the average price of gasoline in the U.S. has risen another 4 cents since yesterday and it is likely to go much higher from here.

#7 The U.S. trade deficit continues to grow. The trade deficit was about 33 percent larger in 2010 than it was in 2009, and the 2011 trade deficit is expected to be even bigger.

#8 The CredAbility Consumer Distress Index, which measures the average financial condition of U.S. households, declined in every single quarter in 2010.

#9 The number of Americans that have become so discouraged that they have given up searching for work completely now stands at an all-time high.

#10 The U.S. national debt is growing faster than ever. The Obama administration is projecting that the federal budget deficit for this fiscal year will be a new all-time record 1.65 trillion dollars. It is hard to even imagine how much money that is. If you went out today and started spending one dollar every single second, it would take you over 31,000 years to spend one trillion dollars. Long ago the U.S. government should have been getting these deficits under control, but instead they are just getting even larger.

So in light of the statistics above, can anyone really claim that we are in the middle of an economic recovery?

The truth is that there is no sign that any of the long-term trends that are destroying the U.S. economy are even slowing down. Millions of jobs continue to be shipped overseas.

The U.S. dollar continues to be devalued.

The federal government continues to go into more debt.

State and local governments continue to go into more debt.

Our trade deficit continues to grow.

Our cities continue to be transformed into wastelands as they are being systematically deindustrialized.

The number of Americans that are dependent on the government continues to soar.

The U.S. middle class continues to shrink.

I know that I harp on these themes over and over, but it is vitally important that everyone understands that the mainstream media is lying to us.

The U.S. economy is dying a very painful death and there is no hope on the horizon.

Things are not going to be getting better. Well, they may get a bit better for the boys down on Wall Street, but for the rest of us our standards of living are going to continue to decline.
The best days for the U.S. economy are already behind us. What lies ahead is a whole lot of pain.

We are going to pay the price for decades of corruption and incompetence.

An economic collapse is coming and you had better get ready.

Share and Enjoy:
In the short term, market participants tend to have a very narrow focus when it comes to determining what information influences their decision making. And we’re certainly seeing that now …

I say that because despite all of the underlying problems in the world, the dominant focus in markets for the past few weeks has been all about the interest rate outlook.

The big question: Which major central bank will be the first to move rates off of historic lows and start an interest rate hiking cycle?

At first the U.S. was in the pole position. But after the economy began sputtering around the middle of last year, that notion was put to bed. In fact, the Fed rolled out MORE accommodation … another dose of QE.

Now the focus is on euro-zone rates and the European Central Bank (ECB).

But how, you might ask, can Europe even consider raising interest rates when many euro-zone economies are on life support?

Good question.

Under the current ultra-easy monetary policy in the euro zone, Greece required rescuing, so did Ireland. Neither can borrow at current market interest rates to keep their countries solvent. Portugal will likely join that group in the coming weeks. And Spain looks like a strong candidate too.

**Why Would the ECB Risk Exacerbating That Problem by Raising Rates?**

Simply put, because it has tunnel vision on just one thing: Inflation.

In the U.S. things work a bit differently …

The Fed determines its monetary policy based on several factors. Employment and inflation are the main two. Plus it looks at things such as the output gap and general economic stability. Given all these factors, the Fed will likely hold the line on its ultra easy monetary policy for quite a while longer.

But in Europe, it’s all about inflation. So as long as the inflation data peaks above the ECB’s target level, history shows that rate hikes will follow.

Just go back to 2008 …

While other central banks around the world were aggressively slashing prices as the global financial crisis was unraveling, the ECB was in action too … not slashing rates, but pushing them even higher!

Many called this move a big mistake. And they fear another mistake is coming.

Take a look at the chart below. It shows a +2.4 percent recent reading for the central bank’s favored measure of inflation … *above* their 2 percent target zone (the blue line).
The Cycle of Ministry

A duty that is ours this side of the Kingdom

People involved in full-time ministry are occasionally given the opportunity to contemplate what the world will be like when their services are no longer needed. Think about it: a time is coming when there shall be no need for a large portion of jobs in public service. No doctors, police officers, firefighters, attorneys or … evangelists. The Bible speaks of a time when no one will have to teach another about our Heavenly Father, for we shall all know Him.

It appears that none shall have an intellectual advantage over another in the matter of “knowing God.” No list of degrees or string of letters after our names will deem any one of us more qualified than another to speak of the things of God. In the earth made new we can be sure that the things which can be known and comprehended about God, will indeed be known—by all.

Right now our world is so full of confusion, bloodshed, ladder-climbing, jealousy and—not so much unbelief—but uncertainty about what to actually believe in. Who can keep count of the variations of religion that are added to the constantly growing list? When a seeker wants to find truth, where shall they go? Well, of course, that’s a broad question. And one may ask, “Truth about What?” While all truth is eternal, some truths take a while to ripen in the mind. And some truths, though important, are not as essential as others. Knowing the precise measurements of the universe might be completely unnecessary, if you have no plan or possibility to one day actually check the math out—with your own eyes. Right?

On a regular basis, though not as often as we would like, we receive shipments of thousands of books that take up temporary residence in our warehouse, books that ultimately belong in the hands of fellow travelers of Planet Earth. As we make plans to take thousands more books to give away during Mardi Gras in New Orleans, we are reminded of the ongoing need for both workers—and tools. Keep up the good work, and Thank You for giving us the opportunity to also help you in your efforts.

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—Charles W. Eliot

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