

Reader Questions

16 May 2020

Q = Question A= My reply / comment

C = The Committee

Q: A number of years ago you said we'd know serious world changes would begin when Katla [volcano in Iceland] erupted. Today she did. [15th May 2020] Is this the eruption you were talking about?

A: Yes, however the "serious changes" have already begun. The volcano in question erupts with regularity, if not often enough to get lots of attention.

The challenge for almost all of humanity will be what is called critical mass in physics, chemistry or emotions. Physical stress, chemical reactions or frustrations increase without being noticed, measured or detected until suddenly, something ruptures. It's why volcanoes "e-rupt".

Unlike increasing tension on a steel beam, unseen until the last moment before failure —the collapse of the World Trade Center towers on the 11th of September, 2001 is a good example— the increasing effects are currently passing before the world unnoticed, as they build. When the effects become impossible to miss, they will seem to have built up very quickly, in a matter of weeks or months, depending on the location. It's happening already.

Q: No need to read article - the title says it all:

Bill Gates backs \$1bn plan to cover earth in video surveillance satellites

https://www.spacedaily.com/reports/Eye_in_the_Sky_Bill_Gates_Back Real_Time_Global_Satellite_Surveillance_Network_999.html

This is from 2 years ago - I wonder if this "project" is up and running?!

A: Surveillance by satellite has been occurring for five decades at least. It's ubiquitous.

Q: I am actively looking to where to shift [money invested] in a way as described be the Committee:

". . . shift investments to products which shall continue providing essentials to a region or territory not requiring airplanes and oceangoing ships to either bring needed materials or send products & services to customers. We suggest crude oil and derived products be excluded, that future value oscillations be ignored as they occur. Automobile manufacturing should be avoided also. Natural gas will be affected as an investment, since crude oil and natural gas are produced from the same source and often by the same companies, however delivery of natural gas will remain more steady, if not rock solid."

I am struggling with this, not having been someone who follows financial markets investments. Would The Committee be describing grocery stores or more like telephone cell service companies? I told my investment manager what I am looking for. He thinks I am nuts that I won't consider investing in banks, either.

A = Great question, which does not require answers from The Committee. The answers lie with the structure of "the economy".

What is "the economy" anyway? The value of products and services, measured in units called money. Vouchers, chips, coupons, shares, bitcoin, tobacco leaves, S&H green stamps and the list goes on....

Because the value vouchers or coupons exchanged for products and services, also known as money, represent faith —specifically belief in future effects— getting or losing them changes expectations.

To answer this specific question, requires backing up a little and examining the economic landscape, not just one species of tree over there or this little hill right here. In financial terms, the stock of this company or shares in that one.

As geophysical changes cause economic contraction & retreat, some products and services will decrease more than others, in both money units and overall market size for the product. Retraction & shrink will happen to everybody everywhere, which means some products will no longer be available at any price.

Your specific investment decisions must consider which products and services will continue in a bigger way by comparison to others, and which will decrease to maybe fade away. It is also important to know how much money you will personally spend, and when.

If your investment drops by one third but the price of what you want falls to half, that's good. Most people do not compare decreases and the proportions, but rather examine just the smaller number on one side, then react with feelings of decline and loss. This perception is caused by price inflation, because central banks print money to smooth over the sensation of loss and to get people moving and buying again. As a reaction to the corona virus, this is happening in a huge way right now, all over the world. The problem with inflation is, it doesn't percolate evenly through an economy and ends up affecting many people like a new tax.

During the USA's economic depression of the 1930s, people hoarded money and often outside a bank. As less and less money circulated, this itself became a machine running low on oil and eventually almost dry. Learning from that mistake, central banks began and still now typically do the opposite, they pump more air into the balloon but not too fast; the "economy" needs to steadily build and expand into a bigger balloon. It can burst open then collapse under a hyperinflationary spiral where money loses a lot of value, and sometimes becomes worthless. I personally experienced this.

Your investments should be in business sectors which do not depend on international trade, especially not international trade of physical goods, or transportation, or oil or money lending. Basic products and services are much more likely to see lower drops in consumer popularity, this is where you should invest. Food, clothing, basic medicine & treatments (not emerging, experimental drugs, treatments or devices) and communications, are examples. Many opportunities exist now in these broad areas.

Money is not going away, the central banks are constantly printing then erasing it, as part of money supply management. One problem in times of economic stress is uneven ownership and amounts; just like individual people, a business or industry exists among groups of us. Both individual people and

groups seek to conserve wealth, increase the "safety" of money's value, just like you do.

Desire and willingness will fade for products and services becoming unnecessary, superfluous or luxury items. For example, people tend to eat similar amounts, just out less. Necessary things will continue but consumed more in a non-luxury way. Timex vs Rolex, Ford or Ferrari, Gucci and Chattahoochee, etcetera

To summarize the answer to this question:

1. How much do you wish to be able to spend when? One tenth of what you now have each year for the next ten years? Half right now, half in five years? As little as possible spent combined with as much as possible saved and invested indefinitely? Something else?
2. What products and services do you know about which are necessary in your region and do not require oceangoing ships and airplanes?
3. What foods require lots of sunlight? Oatmeal will be a better investment than grapes or oranges. What services depend on lots of inexpensive travel?
4. Anything connected to tourism or physically located close to shorelines should be avoided, for investments. Even a business in the region of rising sea levels which escapes damage will be affected by people, products and services in that region not escaping the direct effects. Do not buy hotels on Miami Beach.
5. The large swings in crude oil prices will make energy investments look both like disasters and windfalls, depending on the calendar. Do NOT gamble with this; if you do or have already invested in oil, current low prices and share values will increase sharply. As soon as this happens, sell the investments when you can get a nice increase, **then stay away from it** after that. Do not watch consumer prices plus stock values increase, and sit on that happy but vulnerable. Oil will plummet again. If you are not already invested in energy, stay out of it. If you already are, wait until you see share prices make a healthy increase and sell. After that, stay away from it.

Stay away from luxury goods. Stay away from car manufacturing including businesses which supply any of these business segments.

Do not measure self worth with money, do not worry that your financial future will be bleak but not for most other people. Have faith and hope, and remember: human life is not valuable because of what we buy & sell. How much a house is worth in money doesn't mean much if you are not going to sell it. Its worth is how well it keeps you dry, warm, cool and feeling safe, as much as a house can.

Q: Could The Committee advise of the plans for ET disclosure that I think was happening in June or July? [2020 I presume the question asks] (Assuming I am remembering that accurately) I think was mentioned on here a couple of months ago please.

C: More of the same, more frequent thus more widely reported incidents and events, with equally "magnetic" effects attracting both supporters & enthusiasts and the more numerous skeptical critical detractors & disbelievers. Both popularity and doubt are good, either and both will lift belief and occurrence.