



"For as a man thinks in his heart, so is he." (Prov. 23:7)

THE POWER OF FAITH

DIMINISHED FAITH

We live in an age of diminished faith. All around us we see victims of this ... people whose faith has been diminished or destroyed. Faith is being lost because of weak character and because of constant assault from godless philosophy and political deception. Faith is lost also due to personal disappointments from failed beliefs, corrupted institutions, and worthless "gods."

Furthermore, the problem within our society has been accelerated by the change agents – "educators" – in our "higher institutions" and on television teaching our children that Man is the supreme form of life. As man's estimation of himself increases, faith in the true God decreases. Humanistic philosophers reduce God to a concept small enough to fit inside their own paradigm and their own set of beliefs and words, thus measuring God by their own ideas. By accepting an elevated view of man, modern society has lost faith in a God who transcends man.

American society has lost its appreciation for faith. They associate faith in God with a lack of intelligence. Faith in God is considered unbecoming for adults.

But without faith man is handicapped. He is spiritually wounded and crippled. He is incomplete and cannot live a normal life without faith in God.

Faith in God today is considered similar to a child's faith in Santa Claus. It is for children, to trick them into obedience. This also results in subsequent rebellion on the part of youth who eventually come to see they've been tricked. Thus, faith is destroyed and God is diminished in their minds. They conclude that God is an invention of man ... instead of the other way around. God is perceived as an invention by those who control society. And I might add, this conclusion is justifiable for those who know only the gods of the churches.

Thus, faith is systematically diminished. America has undergone several generations of this spiritual assault, and today belief in God is greatly diminished. I'm not referring to the simplistic question of whether or not people believe that God exists, but rather to the question of whether men have sufficient interest in God to seek Him. Modern man doesn't

seem very concerned about God's will, or Scripture.

Today, people have little desire to try to understand the weak, small gods of modern religion. Man no longer fears or respects God. He has learned to ignore God with a clear conscience ... by reducing Him to a status similar to the mythical gods of ancient Greece and Rome. He dismisses Yahweh in the same way he dismisses Thor and Zeus.

Instead of looking to God, modern man sees himself as the measure of all things. He fits all things into his own paradigm ... with himself as the yardstick of reason. God and Scripture are diminished to factors small enough to fit in small minds of small men.

These mental images of small gods – the gods of the churches and the governments – have inoculated American minds against faith in the true God of Scripture.

HOW BAD IS IT?

Few people today realize how dark the darkness has grown in America. It is bad. Few people have lamps, and some of those are low on oil.

Learning the truth of how far Americans have strayed from God is scary. The typical response is to ignore it or downplay it. It sounds too extreme to most people.

Why is that? What has happened to a society that labels truth as the ramblings of a lunatic? It means that conventional wisdom is off track so badly that truth has become subversive. When Jesus spoke publicly, people declared that He was demented ("*He has a demon!*").

That was the state of mind in first-century Jerusalem. That, also, is where we are today in America.

The typical American grows up learning error ... error and lies in religion, and error and lies in politics. The only religions they know are false ones: sets of beliefs that are not actually Christian but more akin to Zoroastrianism. And the only politics they know are those that boast of liberty while creating slavery and oppression.

Few people have the tenacity and faith to enable them to escape that paradigm; to move to a new and different way of thinking. Few, indeed, have escaped ... and they are loosely scattered across the country. Only the strong in faith

are able to resist the onslaught of myths and manipulations.

The problem is not a lack of information. Information is plentiful today. Rather, the problem is an overwhelming flood of information – so much information, both good and bad, that most people have neither the initiative nor the concentration to sort it all out. With the flood of deceit and disinformation from the propaganda mills of the Beast System, truth gets swallowed in a sea of lies (Rev. 12:15).

Without faith and vision we cannot escape that darkness. Without faith in God – without vision – we are flying blind and lost in this man-created darkness.

IT IS EACH MAN'S DUTY TO KNOW GOD

As bad as it is today – as pervasive as the misinformation and deceit is – we have no excuse for not knowing God. Distraction or pressure from the majority is no excuse. Lack of time or talent is no excuse. Fear of being marginalized or ridiculed is no excuse. It is each man's duty to know God.

God places the seed of faith within us ... and then it is our responsibility to nurture that seed. Otherwise it will wither and die. God gives the gift, but we each must respond with honest curiosity. Oh how I wish honest curiosity, instead of fear and insecurity, were alive in Americans today! God comes to us with love. We must respond with honesty and interest to keep the flame alive.

Man must desire a relationship with God. Absent the desire to know God ... life lacks meaning. Without it man's existence is futile and empty. Absent the thirst for knowledge and truth, a man's life is worthless. He becomes nothing more than grist for the Beast System's mill. The man with no curiosity to know God is a lost soul.

This is a genuine problem because in today's society God gets put near the bottom of man's priority list. Even among those who profess to believe in God, most things in life come before God. Jobs, money, education, politics, retirement, insurance, entertainment, comfort ... all come before faith in God in modern man's life. These define one's faith. These things to which we devote our attention are our idols. By placing faith in these things – i.e., by believing that these things bring success and happiness – you automatically relegate God to a lesser importance.

So, what is more essential than God in your life?

It is each man's duty to develop a knowledge of God! By this I mean to place God at the TOP of your priority list. You can survive without those other things. You can survive without entertainment, politics, and popularity. You can survive without most things, but you CANNOT survive without God. That is to say, you may still be walking around, but you are dead ... and your existence is in a state of degradation, sinking lower each year.

Jesus scolded the religious people of his day, telling them that by chasing these less important things, and neglecting "the weightier matters" (like faith), they were denying God (Matt. 23:23).

Nothing – ABSOLUTELY NOTHING – is as important in your life as faith in God! Other things are important, but if you place any of them above your faith in God you will lose the race before you start. Faith in God comes before ALL

things ... thus the commandment: "*You shall have no other gods before Me.*" That's not to ignore the other things ... but first you must attend to the "weightier matters."

FAITH FIRST

God designed man's brain to function optimally within an atmosphere of faith. Sadly, most men's brains never reach normal operation today in America.

The first step toward sanity must begin with faith in God ... even if naive. Without faith we cannot get started. A beginner's faith should be simple and honest. It requires growth and development. But it must begin with a simple willingness to believe. Honest faith is the beginner's key to the Kingdom. Then comes curiosity and research. These lead to examination, refinements and improvements in how we perceive the world around us (our paradigm).

But we cannot change or grow if we drop anchor in the middle of a mistaken belief system. From the middle of our old paradigms we must toil our way all the way back to the beginning and start over. We must re-examine those basic questions and allow God to answer. This requires faith. It is a journey not for the faint of heart or for the faithless.

Without faith in God, man is stuck in a paradigm prison of SELF, without hope for growth, freedom, justice, or happiness. Without faith in God we are faced with pitiful alternatives: faith in MAN, or in NOTHING ... both pitiful. Faith in man is a rotten foundation.

That rotten foundation (faith in man) is exactly what the U.S. System is built upon. It is the doctrine of Freemasonry ... and Freemasonry is the doctrine that guided the "Founding Fathers," and it shaped the U.S. Constitution and the U.S. Government. When your faith is in the U.S. Government you are selling out the God of the Bible and taking up the god of Freemasonry. You are worshipping the powers of darkness and patronizing wickedness in high places.

So you see, your faith – i.e., where you place your trust, and where you invest your heart – is the key to everything regardless of how smart, rich, or advanced you are. It takes more than intellect to know right from wrong. It takes faith to allow God to reveal light to you! Faith is the gate through which every man must pass to get into the Kingdom; into the light.

GROWTH NEXT

I attempt to communicate the truths and wisdom that God offers us. But I am limited by time, talent and resources. So what I am doing (or attempting to do) is to approach the problem by tearing down the idols. By doing this I hope to disabuse you – to un-enslave your minds – from the constraints of ritual, habit, and programming that prevent you from moving forward. My goal is to give you intellectual and spiritual license and audacity to be unpersuaded by, and unobliged to, popular myth and conventional wisdoms. These are stumbling blocks to your spiritual development. I expose them as frauds, freeing you to question them and pursue real truths that God holds before you daily.

I want you to get mad about these spirit-killing lies that

keep you from your rightful heritage in Christ.

The truths that God holds out to you are there for you every day ... waiting for you to see them and embrace them. But these truths are obscured by the flood of myths and lies spewed at you by the churches and the government. By exposing and disempowering these myths – these stumbling blocks to your minds – I am attempting to free your minds and spirits to seek truth. These myths of religion and government (church and state) block your ability to grow in knowledge and wisdom, in spiritual health, and to accurately examine your life and the world around you. I can help you tear down the idols ... but it is up to you. You must exercise your faith. You must have a thirst for knowledge and truth. You must aggressively pursue this. If you do, God will reveal truth and you can begin to see and hear clearly.

THE LEARNING CURVE

My wish – my prayer for each of you – is that I can disabuse you of the conventional wisdoms (false truths) that burden your hearts and keep you from real happiness. Scores of false religious and political concepts have been heaped upon our people by the ungodly institutions of church and state. These false concepts paralyze man's brain and prevent him from learning and growing. Man becomes locked in bad paradigms and prevented from seeing the Kingdom of God.

In most cases, Americans look to government as god. They unwittingly think government is god. They are programmed to depend upon government for security, ultimate truth, and supreme authority. They no longer look to the God of Abraham for those things.

Our two biggest and closest enemies are the institutions of church and state. It isn't just a few bad churches and bad governments ... it is ALL of them. They are wrong and corrupt by their very nature.

I want to expose these two great enemies of mankind as the frauds and villains they are. I've also realized that man's problems are not from knowing too little, but from knowing too much of error, myth, and lies. The institutions of church & state have so flooded men's minds with lies and error that when truth is introduced to them they cannot appreciate it or absorb it because their minds are already filled with lies and errors. There is no room left for truth.

I want to assure people that it is okay to disrespect and dismiss the conventional wisdoms and false teachings from so-called "authorities." It takes audacity and faith to stand up and push the cherished myths away from yourself, and to believe in an unpopular principle.

So I am, in this regard, an iconoclast. I tear down the popular and cherished myths and deceptions of our society ... in hopes that men can step away from their errors and enjoy the freedom to observe and pursue the truths and accept the blessings that God continually holds before us.

One of the great deceptions in American society is the belief that man is naturally god-like ... that we are born with an innate divine nature. This deception intoxicates the godless mind to compete for superiority and power over others. When this is developed into a system it is called

"government." In this system man oppresses man and kills his brother for the sake of riches, power and competition.

This, and this alone, is the cause of wars, injustice, and the loss of hope and sanity.

WHAT IS FAITH?

I suspect that most people who call themselves Christians are confused about faith and what it does. Faith is not a work or a product of effort. It is not something we accomplish for the purpose of accruing merits to our account to gain favor with God. Faith is not a commodity that man dredges up at will from his own resources. Rather, faith is the result of something that happens to us. It originates from outside us. It does not originate from within.

Faith is born by something acting upon us ... causing a change of perspective, causing us to trust something or someone that we didn't trust before. Faith / trust is not something we manufacture at will just because we wish it.

Furthermore, faith is NOT blind! It does not emanate from nothing. What men often call "faith" is really something else. It is not faith at all, but rather a wish, a suspicion, a superstition, or an attempt to believe something without evidence. However, real faith requires evidence to evoke our trust. Lacking that, what is often called "faith" is nothing more than a superstition.

In Hebrews 11:1, "faith" is defined as "... assurance of things expected; contemplation of things not in sight." Faith is more than mere hope. It is that which is reasonably expected ... due to evidence.

Faith in Jesus is the result of Jesus Himself impacting man ... impressing man. That impact affects and changes man's view of the world. It gives man new evidence which induces him to trust and believe in Jesus. It is not blind, and it is not without reason. We believe in those things, and those people, that have given us reason to believe in them. I have faith in my wife, not merely because I wish to have it, but because she gives me reason to believe in her.

WHAT DOES FAITH DO?

Faith empowers man. It gives him focus and direction. Faith acts upon us and points our eyes and ears in a direction corresponding with the source of that faith. Faith can also be wrong when it comes from bad sources. In Genesis, for example, Adam was persuaded to trust a lie (and a lying preacher) resulting in his own spiritual death.

Everyone has faith in something or someone. Everyone believes in something ... if only himself. In America, most people have faith in the government: the system of Man-As-God. In that case, Americans believe in themselves and the Masonic system which gives birth to that belief.

Everyone believes in something, some person, or some system. And in accordance with whatever they believe in, their decisions and their lives take shape.

When a man is impacted by an event or action which reveals Jesus, that man then believes in Jesus ... to one extent or another depending upon his accuracy of perception. That man then has the option to keep and pursue that faith, or reject it and return to self-inflicted blindness and

damnation. Faith can be acknowledged and appreciated, or it can be rejected and hated ... but either way it changes you. To accept it is to accept life, and to reject it is to accept death. However, I reiterate, faith never leaves us unchanged.

Without faith in Christ, man cannot be totally sane; he is unable to maintain a sound mind and spirit. Without faith in Jesus, and Jesus' Father, man is reduced to a dullard, a degenerate, and a criminal. In Bible terms, he is blind.

In II Cor. 5:7, Paul tells us that, "*We walk by faith, not by sight.*" By this he means that our natural eyesight is limited and does not provide the kind of vision we need to walk with the Lord. Only faith can enable that vision.

Faith in Christ enables man to live the life he was created to have. Without faith man cannot hope to reach his God-given potential for life and happiness.

PARADIGMS

A paradigm is a perceived model of the world and one's self. It is a way of framing and defining a set of perceptions ... a pattern that accommodates your perception of the world. Everyone perceives his world from a particular paradigm. The question is ... is he aware of the paradigm, and can he define it? Everyone operates within some paradigm. And generally, we cannot relate or communicate with others who operate in other paradigms.

This fact can be illustrated by considering the Native American Indian at the time Lewis and Clark trekked westward at the beginning of the 19th century. The Indians they encountered at that time had no concept of land ownership as understood in Europe, England, and the States. The Indian world paradigm was different from the European, the British and the Eastern Seaboard world paradigm. The Indians lived in a different paradigm. Much to their misfortune later on, the Indians had no idea what was meant by "land ownership." They had no idea what Lewis meant when he told them that Thomas Jefferson was their "new father in Washington." They had no idea that the White Man was going to buy and sell the land, and mark boundaries on the land, and put up fences, and claim sections as their own private, exclusive domains. Thus, there was no communication across those paradigms.

Furthermore, when the Indian thought of "God," he visualized a different concept than when Meriwether Lewis thought of "God." Thus, for Lewis to speak of "God" to an Indian in that day, there would have been no communication. The terms were not common between the two ... thus real communication did not happen.

This is true in modern America as well. Even in the land of one's birth, people are separated by paradigms; by their varying life models of politics and beliefs. Real understanding and workable communication across those religious and political paradigms does not normally happen.

Paradigms are framed and shaped by faith. Each paradigm frames its domain in its own way. People in one paradigm do not communicate accurately with people in another paradigm. Words spoken or written in one paradigm have different meanings in another paradigm.

For example, when a Catholic or Protestant thinks of "God," the image or concept is not the same as when I think of God. Thus, I live and speak in a different paradigm from the churchgoing religious people around me. And if I were to attempt to speak to a typical churchgoer about "God," my words would be interpreted wrongly. Many hard years of trying to communicate across those paradigm lines have taught me that it rarely if ever works ... unless Jesus first intervenes (as He did when He confronted Saul on the road to Damascus) and gives them eyes to see and ears to hear. There is nothing like a face-to-face confrontation with Jesus to reshape one's paradigm.

Without a real faith in Jesus (I don't mean a manufactured attempt to believe in someone you don't know) it is impossible to understand Him or his Word. Therefore, man is dependent upon outside influence coming upon him in order to develop faith in Jesus. Lacking that, you can read the words but you cannot interpret them correctly ... because they emanate from a different paradigm.

MAN'S POTENTIAL

God created man with capacity for learning and being at peace with his world, as well as understanding Jesus. However that potential is rarely achieved. Why? Because of the lack of faith.

What causes this lack of faith? Several things. But perhaps the two greatest factors are: 1. Man's natural selfish nature that causes him to focus upon himself instead of God; and 2. The religious and political systems that have always undermined faith in God. These two factors are killers of the faith. They rob man of his potential happiness and well-being that is available through Christ.

Without the spirit of God man cannot live a sane life. Without the spirit of God man cannot see or experience true happiness. He is in darkness and cannot fathom the light that exists beyond his limited view.

THE PROBLEM

The problem is that Americans are being poisoned, spiritually speaking. The lies and myths they hear from lying preachers and politicians are inoculating them against faith. After being let down by false principles and concepts of religion, their ability to have faith has been destroyed.

Thus they do not have the faith of a little child that is needed to get started. The American system has caused these "little ones" to stumble. Accordingly great judgment is falling upon America. Without the ability to have a starting faith in God, man cannot live an examined, sane life.

THE GOOD LIFE

What is the good life that man can and should seek? Obviously the good life is not one of seeking power or advantage over other men. But what is it? What are the things that can give us happiness and not disappoint us?

What are the values that can build us up and strengthen us instead of tear us down and weaken us? What kind of goals and ambitions lead to the good life?

These are questions that, unfortunately, too few people

today think about. Monkeys and devils can learn how to control, oppress and destroy one another. But it takes a sane and wholesome mind and spirit to solve problems. An automaton or a computer can spit out programmed formulae and responses to data entered into it. Problem solving requires more than mere memorization and programming. It requires the higher ability of a sound mind that is attune to God. It takes a true man of God to solve problems. It takes the kind of man who can examine his own life and contemplate on a higher plane than the masses who think only about pleasure and power.

The good life is one of service: service to family and community, rather than seeking comfort and gratification. Happiness is a by product of serving. Anyone can create problems, but the ability to solve problems and offer durable solutions has never been achieved by anyone other than godly souls who are sane and have faith in God.

The good life is not one of competing for power. Man is created for a simple life. Sanity (soundness of mind) is the product of faith and service. Riches do not bring sanity. God knows there are educated, rich, and powerful people who are not sane. Thus, faith is more important than education or riches or power.

We are created for a simple life. It is fitting for us, and good for family and society. God did not create us to strive for power over others. Striving for power over others was the lie that spiritually slew Adam and every son of Adam since. The one exception to this death is the empowered man who receives the spirit of God and rejects the lies that began in Eden and continued through Babylon and every institution of church and state since then.

Sanity (soundness of mind) is the product of faith more than intellect. There are many intelligent men who are insane. Intelligent devils are plentiful around us. But faith in Christ protects against delusions and lies.

By the same token, vision (eyes to see and ears to hear) is the result of God's gift rather than the development of education or intellect. Monkeys can be trained to be intelligent and repeat tasks. Idiots can be trained to work on assembly lines and make computers. But there is a higher, more effective, more beneficial, problem-solving mode of thinking available through faith in Christ.

MAN'S DUTY

Faith must come first, and since faith is not developed from within ourselves it must be given to us from God. It is a gift that men must accept. There must be the initial will to go forward – to “become as little children” (Mtt. 18:3; 19:14). Children believe. That is the innocent quality of children. They believe. It is easy for them. Of course, without the guidance of adults they may be led to believe in things that aren't good for them. But a child's ability to believe is great.

Like children, we must begin by believing in Jesus. Then as we grow, under tutelage of elders and the spirit of God, we sort out the things that we discover to be false. By the process of critical examination we refine our thinking.

It is every man's duty to do this. It is our duty to know God; to prove our faith in Him, and hold it firmly in our hearts

and lives. **It is every man's duty to know God!** This leads to “the good life.”

SIGNS OF COLLAPSE

My readers who are awake and aware know (or at least you should) that America is in decline. That is to say, people of the “middle class” are losing their homes, their jobs, and their life style. The fat cats at the top of the Babylonian food chain are still doing well ... but soon that will change too.

Easy times are over in America. The privileged class hasn't felt it much yet, but they are heading for a great fall. If you are not preparing, physically and spiritually, for life after the collapse, you are shirking your responsibility. If you are still making long-range plans to “succeed” by chasing the usual channels in the corporate world, you'd better wake up. Those channels are in the process of rot. Things are changing fast, and those who choose to ignore it are in for some brutal surprises. These changes will become more apparent in the near future.

The U.S. dollar is in freefall along with real estate. Investors are sweating blood, and investment firms are firing their CEO's. The U.S. is borrowing about two billion dollars a day to finance its policies and float its debts. China alone holds enough debt against the U.S. to bankrupt it. Inflation and idiotic government policies are devaluing the US dollar faster than I have seen in my lifetime. It takes nearly 1½ dollars to equal one Euro, and its getting worse. The Euro is now replacing the U.S. dollar as the world's reserve currency. The Canadian dollar is now worth more than the U.S. dollar. Bankruptcies are at epidemic proportions and growing. The big three automakers are in trouble. On top of all that, the U.S. Government is bogged down in self-destructive wars with Afghanistan and Iraq, and now it wants to go to war with Iran. Pakistan is in a state of dissolution ... and it has nuclear weapons.

If the goal is to ruin America, the U.S. Government is doing everything right.

These statistics are, of course, of greater interest to the monied class. To the common man, the collapse will be less catastrophic. It is usually the Wall Street bankers that leap from the windows when a crash occurs. That is not to say, however, that we common folk will go unaffected. Times will get hard for us, but not impossible.

Making a living will get more and more difficult ... for a variety of reasons. Oil, war, arms, government and entertainment are the enterprises currently making lots of money ... but that can last only so long. Soon they will finish killing the goose that has layed the golden eggs for them.

People around the world already hate America for our war mongering and arrogant bullying style of foreign policy ... or they deride us for our stupidity. The only country where people aren't aware of this is America. Americans are ignorant of what America is doing ... and they are ignorant of what other countries think ... and Americans don't care.

While the ship of state sinks, Americans continue to live it up in the ship's ball room, gambling in the casino and making plans of how to spend their winnings (which they will

never see). It is pathetic. They'll go down with the ship, waiting for government to come save them ... just like the Blacks in New Orleans when Hurricane Katrina hit.

Most Americans are in denial. They will refuse to see the inevitable until it has overtaken them.

America deserves her judgment. This nation has arrogantly flaunted its sin and corruption for far too long. Americans have murdered millions of babies in the womb, millions of young men and women in the military, and millions of innocent civilians in various lands ... all for profit through oil, bananas, and cheap labor. The U.S. stands for corruption and cruelty.

So her judgment is upon her ... and most the people are too blind to see it. But the time will soon come when it will be obvious. This is not the time to be buying vacation homes. Rather, it is the time to prepare for the storm that is coming. Most Americans are not prepared.

HOW TO PREPARE

For those of us who know what is happening, the collapse is not feared. Yes, it will cause some hardship, but it will be worth it because we will begin to see some justice once again. God's wrath is overdue. And we who are prepared spiritually will be thankful for it.

First and foremost, prepare yourself spiritually. If you are not spiritually prepared, regardless of any other preparations you may take, you may be overwhelmed by the changes. I have discussed your spiritual preparation earlier in this article, as well as in earlier issues of STRAIGHT TALK.

By "spiritual preparation" I mean "gird up the loins of your mind" (toughen your thinking) to meet whatever fears and obstacles that may cross your path. Also practice your thinking in terms of how to react and deal physically with harder times when basics of living and survival may become a daily issue. Realize that life under those circumstances is not impossible ... and, in fact, may actually be better than life in the fast lane today.

Don't get stuck in the rush hour traffic of mass idiocy. Our forefathers lived and prospered through times that were more austere than we have yet seen ... in terms of basic survival. We can too!

Stop placing your trust and hope in the government and the U.S. system. The government protects itself and the corporations that own it. It does not protect you!

If you have investments, move them out of accounts in banks or the stock market, and instead invest in durable goods like gold, silver, tools, rifles, ammunition, horse & carts ... something that will still have value when the dollar doesn't. Real estate is better than the dollar, although flipping and profit taking is no good in the current market.

OVERCOME HABIT AND COMPULSION

I know that some who read this will give a nod, agree that these are good ideas, and then go on with their daily routine and make no effort to do anything about it.

These folks are non-starters ... like smokers who know they are killing themselves but prefer death before discipline – misery before change. These people are beyond help, and

they are always the ones who complain the most and cry loudest when things go bad. They are also the ones who will cave in to pressure and turn against their friends. There is no helping this type of person.

So don't be this kind of person! Instead, be a "can do" kind of person. Take the attitude that says, "If others have done it, then I can do it too." With this attitude we can survive almost anything. This was the attitude of our pioneer forefathers.

I am descended from pioneer ancestors and it runs in my blood. It comes natural for me. I believe the pioneer life is the best kind.

Think about cutting back on spending for unnecessary things. Practice eating at home. Practice cooking simple meals. I don't like eating out. My wife and I store food. We always have. It comes natural to us. We buy bulk canned food cheaply at supply outlets. You can also ask your local grocer if he can sell you bulk canned food by the case. Our grocer is glad to do it for us. Each time you go to the grocery store buy a case of beans, corn, peas, chili, tomatoes, or whatever you like to eat. One or two cases at a time will add up and be a God send in a time of need.

Think about how you might heat your house in an energy crash. We have a wood heater and a propane cook stove. We can cook and keep warm on the coldest winter night with or without electricity. Our 120 gallon propane tank lasts our cook stove a little over two years.

Think about storing some fuel for your car, and don't let your tanks get below the 1/2 point.

Think about extra coats and blankets, etc..

Think about storing an extra supply of medications (if you are on medication) and the vitamins and minerals you need to stay healthy.

Think about storing some gallon water jugs.

Think about getting yourself a generator. You can get a good 4000 watt generator for under \$500.

If you live in town, think about moving to the country. If you can't do that, think about a plan to get out of town in a hurry if necessary.

Keep cash in your house so it will be available to you in an emergency. Get a fireproof safe and keep your valuables under your own control. Keep its location secret.

Practice living simply and cheaply, and being self-supporting. Practice living with only the basics ... like our ancestors have done for centuries before the opulent and excessive lifestyle became common. This requires living with less than you have in the past. Begin hardening yourself against the times that are coming. Develop confidence in your ability to solve problems and be inventive and intuitive when it comes to survival. And learn to rely upon God to show you how and what is necessary.

Living with these ideals and motives is actually healthy ... even without the current crisis. We should be moving in this direction no matter what. We should be looking more to God, less to government, and live the good, simple life.

Pray for faith!

