

# THE END OF MONEY

MARK HITCHCOCK



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*To Justin*

*You are a wise son who brings  
untold blessing and joy to my life.  
I'm proud to be your father.*

Chips can be programmed to store monetary value, just like EZ-Pass and Metrocard. If such a chip were implanted in the fleshy part of the palm of the hand, with a wave we could pay highway tolls, pass through subway and bus turnstiles and breeze through the supermarket checkout. Just think of the value to society: no more cash to worry about, or waiting for change, and no more muggings. This is the cashless society we have been dreaming of for years.

JEFFREY O. MILMAN

*The New York Times* (June 24, 1999)

FINANCIAL APOCALYPSE  
BRINGS AN ECONOMIC  
NEW WORLD ORDER

*The Nightmare on  
Wall Street Sets the Stage*

*“Once the smoke clears, I suspect we will find ourselves living in a world of globalization on steroids—a world in which key global economies are more intimately tied together than ever before.”*

THOMAS FRIEDMAN  
*The New York Times*  
(October 19, 2008)

The headlines stunned us all:

“Bailout Nation,” *Time* (September 22, 2008)

“Wall Street Financial Meltdown,” *USA Today* (September 30, 2008)

“Wall Street Panics; markets lose \$1 trillion: Dow plunges 778 points,” *Washington Times* (September 30, 2008)

“The Fall of America, Inc.,” *Newsweek* (October 4, 2008)

“America’s Credit Catastrophe,” *U.S. News & World Report* (October 3, 2008)

“The New Hard Times,” *Time* (October 13, 2008)

“How Scared Should You Be?” *U.S. News & World Report* (October 3, 2008)

The long-predicted financial meltdown of America’s debt-ridden economy finally arrived in the fall of 2008. The elements of an economic “perfect storm” converged. The chickens of our casino culture came home to roost. The nightmare on Wall Street finally hit.

Day after day, a cascade of bad news continued to gush forth. We witnessed the near-collapse of the entire investment banking sector and the fall of insurance giant AIG. Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac imploded. Carnage on Wall Street ensued. World markets plunged. For sure, the United States experienced the most serious economic earthquake since the Great Depression, and some even believe these seismic events were on the scale of the 1929 crash. I’ve heard it described as “Fiscal Armageddon.” The fallout was dramatic as we entered uncharted economic waters. All the old financial paradigms were thrown out the window. Even the

experts were at a loss over what to do. The aftershocks reverberated through every area of the economy. America as we know it was changed forever. This was the equivalent of an “economic 9/11” for America and the world. The word of the year in 2008, according to Merriam-Webster, was *bailout*. Webster’s definition for this word is “a rescue from financial distress.” The oft-repeated joke was that everyone’s 401(k) had suddenly become a 201(k). Yet we all knew this was no laughing matter.

One *Newsweek* headline summed up what many were thinking: “The Quitter Economy: Companies are liquidating; homeowners are mailing in the keys. Have we given up?” (February 2, 2009). In January 2009 alone, 600,000 jobs were lost, making the downturn the worst for unemployment in the post-WWII era.<sup>1</sup> Then in just one week in February 2009, another 600,000 jobs were lost. Unemployment approached 10 percent. America and the world faced the possibility of a devastating downward economic spiral. Spending and confidence tumbled worldwide. The crisis was dubbed the Great Recession. In the fourth quarter of 2008 the U.S. economy contracted at almost 4 percent annual rate. In Japan (fall of 13 percent) and Europe (6 percent decline) it was even worse.<sup>2</sup> Everyone was asking the same questions: How could this happen? What does it all mean? Where are we headed?

But there’s another question lurking in the background that many people may have never considered. What if the global financial chaos is not just a massive economic meltdown but the genesis of a dramatic, tectonic shift toward a global economic system? A system that will ultimately be controlled by one man. A system that will ultimately require all people to be registered and submit to him. What if it’s the first domino to fall in a chain of events that is setting the stage for the economy

of the end times? Such a new world order was foretold by the biblical prophets long ago.

## Think Globally

The financial tsunami hit with brutal force and caught many by surprise. Many questions remain unanswered, but one fact became immediately clear: We live in a global economy. Megatrends affect the whole globe simultaneously. In the Internet age, the new economy is more deeply interconnected than ever. It is built on global trade, global capital markets, and global communication. National economies respond to the same forces and rise and fall together. Markets around the world responded immediately to the massive credit crunch in the United States. Precipitous declines struck the markets in Europe, Japan, Russia, and Hong Kong.

As the markets descended into chaos, the governments of the world swung into action to stave off a global financial collapse. This immediately paved the way for greater international cooperation and oversight of the world economy. The nations of the world scrambled for solutions. President Bush visited the headquarters of the 185-nation International Monetary Fund (IMF) and met with G-7 leaders. Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson and Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke participated in discussions with the “Group of 20” or G-20, which is an international organization that includes the leaders of 19 of the world’s biggest national economies, plus the entire European Union (EU). The EU came together in a show of force and unity with proposed solutions to the increasingly shaky global economy. Key nations acted in unparalleled unison to drop interest rates to squeeze some liquidity into world financial markets. There were heightened calls

for some kind of international oversight of the world's banking and financial institutions. Many believe there is a need to create an international financial system that is governed by global regulations and overseen by a global regulator.

The global cooperation was astonishing, but should not be surprising. In times of financial turmoil, people are willing to surrender freedoms, make concessions, and cooperate in ways that they wouldn't in calmer times. People in pain are willing to go along with almost anything the government proposes if it can stop the economic bleeding. Several years ago, I read that in the Chinese language the word *crisis* is made up of two characters signifying "opportunity" and "danger." Not knowing Chinese, I have to take the person's word that this is true. But whether this piece of linguistic trivia is accurate or not, we all know from experience that it's true that a time of great crisis, while carrying the potential for danger, opens up opportunities for those who are ready to seize them. Every crisis affords opportunity to those who will step forward, whether it be a personal or family crisis, or a global crisis.

White House Chief of Staff Rahm Emanuel, in November 2008, expressed this sentiment in a statement he made about the economic crisis: "You never want a serious crisis to go to waste. This crisis provides the opportunity for us to do things that you could not do before." Emanuel probably wished later that he hadn't said that, but it certainly expressed what he believes. And the principle he stated, though usually unspoken, is recognized by every leader: Crisis equals opportunity. The world has witnessed this again and again. For example, during the 1930s in America, Franklin Roosevelt was given wide latitude and backing to enact almost any legislation he wanted. And in Germany, a downward economic spiral allowed a madman like Adolf Hitler

to draw tens of thousand to his rallies by promising to restore prosperity. A few years later he assumed power and swayed the German people to follow his insanity for over ten years.

## Government Takeover

Going into 2009, unemployment in the United States skyrocketed to levels not seen in decades. Recession teetered perilously on the precipice of depression. America's national debt now stands at a staggering \$16.5 trillion dollars—and counting. The numbers on America's infamous debt clock near New York's Times Square have been spinning like the dial on Clark Griswold's electric meter. And added to the \$16.5 trillion is another \$53 trillion of unfunded public promises in the form of Social Security and Medicare. That's more than \$175,000 for every American—and rising. Given the current trends, this will amount to about 240 percent of GDP (Gross Domestic Product) by 2040, up from an almost manageable 65 percent today.<sup>3</sup> David Walker tried to get the nation's attention in 2008 when he released the aptly titled movie *I.O.U.S.A.*

To solve America's economic mess, the government has taken on a growing role in the economy. The economic stimulus bill signed in February 2009, the largest spending bill in U.S. history, carried a staggering \$789 billion price tag. Massive government spending and increasing control are leading many to point out that the United States is looking increasingly like a modern European state.<sup>4</sup> The size of the U.S. government increased to 40 percent of the U.S. economy in 2010.<sup>5</sup>

Major financial institutions have been nationalized, leading many to note that America is on the road to socialism. *Newsweek's* attention-grabbing cover story on February 16, 2009, was

“We Are All Socialists Now.” That same issue of *Newsweek* ran an article titled “Big Government Is Back—Big Time,” which highlights the fact that more and more Americans are looking to the government for support. Cradle-to-grave entitlements have led to dubbing America to be a “nanny state.” There’s no doubt that on every front, economic power is becoming more and more centralized both domestically and internationally. The words of Thomas Jefferson are a stark reminder and warning: “A government big enough to give you everything you want is strong enough to take everything you have.” And according to the Bible, that’s exactly where all of this is ultimately headed.

## The New World Order

The economic Armageddon the world has experienced could be the initial explosion that sets in motion a chain reaction of events that eventually lead to the global system foretold by the prophets of old. Globalists have seized the opportunity created by the 2008 financial tsunami and the ensuing spirit of cooperation to further entwine world economies and step up moves for a more centralized authority and oversight. And the prediction of a financial new world order was front-page news:

“There is going to be a new financial world order that will be born of this” (*Bloomberg*, September 16, 2008)

“Financial Crisis Reshapes World Order” (*Washington Post*, October 12, 2008)

“G-7 Sets Sights on New World Order” (Agence France-Presse, February 15, 2009)

The emergency worldwide economic summit of the G-20 nations in Washington in November 2008 was a kind of first step toward further cementing the world together economically. The call for a global economy was heard round the world. Britain's prime minister, Gordon Brown, immediately jumped on the global bandwagon. He viewed the 2008 financial crash that engulfed the world as a unique opportunity:

And if we learn from our experience of turning unity of purpose into unity of action, we can together seize this moment of change in our world to create a truly global society. . . . My message is that we must be: internationalist not protectionist; interventionist not neutral; progressive not reactive; and forward-looking not frozen by events. We can seize the moment and in doing so build a truly global society.<sup>6</sup>

In March 2009, in preparation for another meeting of the G-20, Brown's rhetoric soared even higher when he began to promote what he called a "global new deal." He met with President Obama of the United States to discuss what he referred to as "a global new deal, whose impact can stretch from the villages of Africa to reforming the financial institutions of London and New York—and giving security to the hard-working families in every country." He continued: "It is a global new deal that will lay the foundations not just for a sustainable economic recovery but for a genuinely new era of international partnership in which all countries have a part to play."<sup>7</sup> Brown also said, "We need a global New Deal—a grand bargain between the countries and continents of this world—so that the world economy can not only recover but. . . so the banking system can be based on. . . best principles." Brown believes that this could happen quickly. He said, "There is the possibility in

the next few months of a global new deal that will involve all the countries of the world in sorting out and cleaning up the banking system.” German chancellor Angela Merkel supports Brown’s bold new initiative. She proposed that a new institution grow out of the crisis—one that “will take on more responsibility for global [financial] mechanisms.”<sup>8</sup>

The *Los Angeles Times* also pointed toward a new global strategy as the answer:

The way the current financial crisis spread around the world like a brush fire, outracing all efforts to contain it, underscored a painful reality: We have a global economy but nothing close to a global system for managing it. The world may be flat when it comes to the increasingly interconnected economies of the 21st century, but it still has borders—and conflicting national interests to go with them...the question is whether the worst economic crisis since before World War II will open the door for a comprehensive, unified economic strategy.<sup>9</sup>

People everywhere are calling for a global fix. The world faces the biggest reshaping of the financial system since the Great Depression. National economies are being transformed into a global one. Robert Reich, the former labor secretary under President Clinton, sees globalism as an inescapable economic force. “We are living through a transformation that will rearrange the politics and economics of the coming century...Each nation’s primary political task will be to cope with the centrifugal forces of the global economy.”<sup>10</sup> Alex Patelis, head of international economics at Merrill Lynch, said, “We do need a new world financial order, and we will probably get one as a side effect of this crisis.”<sup>11</sup> Peter Kenny, managing director of Knight Capital Group, said,

“The tectonic plates beneath the world financial system are shifting, and there is going to be a new financial world order that will be born of this.”<sup>12</sup>

There have even been increased calls for a global economic “policeman” that will serve as a kind of United Nations for the world economy. *The Telegraph* reports:

So, as the world’s central bankers gather this week in Washington DC for an IMF-World Bank conference to discuss the crisis, the big question they face is whether it is time to establish a global economic “policeman” to ensure the crash of 2008 can never be repeated... In essence, any organization with the power to police the global economy would have to include representatives of every major country—a United Nations of economic regulation.<sup>13</sup>

All of a sudden the phrase *new world order* is on the lips of financial policy gurus. “The phrase ‘new world order’ traces back at least as far as 1940, when author H.G. Wells used it as the title of a book about a socialist, unified, one-world government. The phrase has also been linked to American presidents, including Woodrow Wilson, whose work on establishing the League of Nations pioneered the concept of international government bodies, and to the first President Bush, who used it in a 1989 speech.”<sup>14</sup> Speaking at the Business Council for the United Nations on September 14, 1994, David Rockefeller looked forward to some great crisis that could spark the new world order: “We are on the verge of a global transformation. All we need is the right major crisis and the nations will accept the New World Order.”<sup>15</sup> The current economic meltdown is the major crisis the globalists have been looking for.

One of the chief proponents and strategists for the new world order is former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, a member of the Council on Foreign Relations. In January 2009, Kissinger said this:

There is a need for a new world order. I think that at the end of this administration, with all its turmoil, and at the beginning of the next, we might actually witness the creation of a new order—because people looking in the abyss...have to conclude that at some point, ordered expectations must return under a different system...The president-elect is coming into office at a moment when there is upheaval in many parts of the world simultaneously...You have India, Pakistan; you have the jihadist movement. So he can't really say there is one problem, that it's the most important one. But he can give new impetus to American foreign policy partly because the reception of him is so extraordinary around the world. His task will be to develop an overall strategy for America in this period when, really, a new world order can be created. It's a great opportunity, it isn't just a crisis... Within the next four years we will witness the emergence of a "New International Order."<sup>16</sup>

Kissinger continued:

In the end, the political and economic systems can be harmonized in only one of two ways: by creating an international political regulatory system with the same reach as that of the economic world...or by shrinking the economic units to a size manageable by existing political structures, which is likely to lead to a new mercantilism, perhaps of regional units.<sup>17</sup>

Kissinger clearly favors the more global approach. He continued laying out his global vision: “The economic world has been globalized...[the] world financial mess is not a crisis, but an opportunity to forge a New World Order, politically, but primarily economic.”<sup>18</sup> Make no mistake—Kissinger and other globalists intend to take full advantage of the world financial meltdown to justify and advance their vision and forge a global economy.

Klaus Schwab is the founder of the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland. When the forum met in January 2009, the 2000 business and political leaders in attendance described the world economic disaster as a “crisis of capitalism.” The official theme of the 2009 forum was “shaping the post-crisis world.” Klaus Schwab referred to the global economic meltdown as a “transformational crisis.” He urged the delegates to respond to the crisis by shaping a “new world order.” Schwab said: “Above all else this is a crisis of confidence. To restore confidence you have to establish signposts that the world after the crisis will be different. We have to create a new world.”<sup>19</sup> He also announced the need for a “global redesign initiative” to rebuild the global economic system.

The G-20 leaders met again in London on April 2, 2009, amidst calls for a new “Bretton Woods” financial framework. Bretton Woods is a mountain resort in New Hampshire where 44 Allied nations met in 1944 to hammer out a plan for the postwar financial system. Bretton Woods is where the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank were conceived, as well as the “fixed exchange rates built around the U.S. dollar that was linked to gold.”<sup>20</sup> That was the first tangible step toward a global economy. A new Bretton Woods would be a huge second step.

The current financial mess has exponentially accelerated calls for an entirely new global financial infrastructure. Greece is a

bankrupt nation. Portugal, Italy, and Spain are in dire financial straits. Nations such as China, Germany, and Brazil believe that big changes are needed. A growing choir of international voices is calling for global laws and regulations, including a much stronger IMF that will function as a central bank to the world. China and Russia have urged the world to create a new global currency to replace the U.S. dollar.<sup>21</sup> All of these efforts are aimed at solidifying the world economically. The independent financial sovereignty of nations is rapidly becoming a thing of the past.

Already the G-7, an exclusive club of wealthy nations, has called for the creation of a “college of supervisors” to more closely oversee and coordinate the regulation of multinational banks. The Group of Thirty, an influential organization of former and current central bankers and financial regulators, is recommending that large financial institutions be subjected to tougher requirements and regulations. Clearly, change is on the way, and the change that’s coming is sweeping. Unstoppable forces have been unleashed that will change the world forever.

Drastic, transformational changes in attitudes usually come about when there is a crisis grave enough to justify the shift. As the old saying goes, “Desperate times call for desperate measures.” The current world financial chaos may be the catalyst that ushers in the new world order that globalists have dreamed about for so long.

## **Why Globalism?**

It might be helpful at this point to pause for a moment and briefly consider why so many powerful political and economic insiders want a global economy. What’s so great about globalism? While globalists can probably give many reasons in support of

their goals, two stand out from the rest. First, they say it is far more economically advantageous to have the entire world as your market rather than one nation or even a region. They see simple mass marketing on a greater scale as beneficial. Second, globalists believe that the more the nations of the world are economically intertwined, the less likely it is that they will start wars against one another. Both of these justifications are true, but the danger of globalism is that it will “grease the skids” for the coming of the slickest politician the world has ever known, the Antichrist, who will one day seize the reins of world power and the global economy to advance his own agenda.<sup>22</sup>

## Crucial Technology Is Here

The current worldwide economic chaos is clearly a driving force in bringing the countries of the world together in an unprecedented way. But it’s not the only force. Over the last 20 years, we have witnessed an exponential leap in the technology that is necessary for the end-time global system to be put in place. The staggering advances made with computers, related electronic technologies, and biometrics are drawing the nations of the world closer and closer to total interdependence and globalization. This technology is related to every area of modern life: banking, commerce, communications, and transportation. Financial catastrophe, “transformational crisis,” and mind-boggling technology are converging to usher in a financial new world order.

## Signs of the Times

Economic globalization and the technology to support it could be one of the most important signs of the times. Amazingly, the

Bible predicted over 1900 years ago that one man, the coming Antichrist, will ultimately take control of the entire world's economy. Many have wondered how this could ever happen. What could possibly transpire to bring the economies of the world under the umbrella of a central authority? We may now have the answer. The prerequisites to make this prophecy possible are here.

The biblical entry point for any discussion of the one-world economic system, a cashless society, and end-time prophecy is Revelation 13:16-18:

He causes all, the small and the great, and the rich and the poor, and the free men and the slaves, to be given a mark on their right hand or on their forehead, and he provides that no one will be able to buy or to sell, except the one who has the mark, either the name of the beast or the number of his name. Here is wisdom. Let him who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, for the number is that of a man; and his number is six hundred and sixty-six.

The Bible clearly links the global mark of the beast system with the emergence of a cashless society. We will discuss all this more in later chapters. But it seems clear to many people that what we see today is a frightening foreshadow and portent of what's coming. While no one on earth knows what the final fallout will be from the world economic crisis, it's clear that the world is ripe for a universal economic strategy and a charismatic leader to bring the world together. As prophecy teacher Phillip Goodman notes, "The political winds of our time are full speed ahead to take America's economy—and that of all nations—and force-fit them into a global economic framework which will provide yet another sign that the world stage is being set for the

arrival of the ultimate political, military, religious and economic czar, the Antichrist.”<sup>23</sup>

## FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions)

Looking beyond financial meltdown and chaos to where it’s all headed, here are some of the questions this book will seek to answer:

Will there be a one-world economy in the end times?

What will it look like?

Does the Bible predict a cashless society?

How is the stage being set for a cashless society?

What is the mark of the beast?

What’s the significance of the number 666?

What’s the purpose of the mark?

Does modern technology relate to the mark of the beast?

We will explore these questions and many more in the pages that follow. To answer these questions we must consult two main sources—the Bible and current events. Any relevant discussion of the coming cashless society must consider today’s news and current advances in technology, and be moored in the major prophetic declarations found in Scripture. As one preacher is quoted to have said, “We need to have a copy of the Bible in one hand and the newspaper in the other.”

It now appears that it’s no longer a matter of *if* but *when* a one-world global economy emerges, and that it will be some form

of a cashless system. It also appears that current economic and technological trends and developments are hurriedly setting the stage for the final chapter of this age as described in the Bible. The mechanism for controlling all commerce by controlling economic transactions and banking could not have been imagined in the past.

But not anymore.