THE GREAT TRANSFER OF WEALTH AND THE TRANSFORMATION OF SOCIETY STEWARDSHIP SERIES Dr. Ché Ahn

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TEXT: Haggai 2:7 "'I will shake all the nations; and they will come with the wealth of all nations, and I will fill this house with glory,' says the LORD of hosts. 8 'The silver is Mine and the gold is Mine,' declares the LORD of hosts. 9 'The latter glory of this house will be greater than the former,' says the LORD of hosts."

INTRO: The Shaking Continues. Last year was a bad year. We had COVID-19 hit us last March. Then came George Floyd's death and the subsequent riots. This was followed by an election that will go down as the most controversial in history. (In my opinion, the election was stolen, to add to my personal shaking.) I spoke a few times from Haggai 2:6-7 in 2020 and 2021 and said that we were in a global shaking in fulfillment of the prophecy in Haggai. I also said that it was going to get worse before it got better. The shaking continues, but I am personally surprised how bad it has become. Let me enumerate:

(1) Under the Biden Administration we have had open borders. To date, 1.7 million illegal immigrants have poured into our nation. (If you don't have a secure border, you don't have a nation. This will further hurt our national security, our economy, and the continual spread of the pandemic.)

(2) The debacle in Afghanistan. Americans and tens of thousands of friends of Americans are still at risk of being persecuted and potentially executed by the Taliban. President Biden's poor planning of the evacuation has left \$80 million of equipment remaining there unintended for the Taliban to use. (The truth is that we have had American forces in 150 different places around the world including Germany and Korea since WWII, so why not leave some security for Afghanistan?)

(3) Biden's egregious and totalitarian Vaccine Mandate. This has been a disaster for our nation. For example, forcing the police department in Chicago to get the vaccine or face being fired with no access to retirement funds; 1,900 Washington state employees were forced to quit or they got fired over the COVID-19 vaccine; our military has given dishonorable



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(4) Vaccine passports for LA County and other parts of the United States. No restaurants, gyms, or indoor shopping without a vaccine passport. This is going to further hurt and kill businesses.

(5) Finally, we have parents who are being called domestic terrorists by Biden's Attorney General, because they are showing up at school board meetings exercising their First Amendment rights by speaking out against Critical Race Theory being taught, or vaccine mandates, or the LGBT policies of schools.

Why is God allowing this to happen? I believe that we are going through redemptive judgment from God. God is shaking all nations because He loves the nations, and He is graciously inviting all to be part of His family. God so loved the world! **"This gospel of the Kingdom must be preached to the whole world as a testimony to all the nations, and then the end will come." Matthew 24:14**

C.S. Lewis said, "God whispers to us in our pleasures, speaks in our conscience, but shouts in our pain: it is His megaphone to rouse a deaf world." When people are prospering and everything is going well, people don't turn to God. When they are suffering, they turn to God.

But going to our text of Haggai 2:7, with the global shaking and the coming revival ("I will fill this house with glory"), God says right in the middle of Haggai 2:7, "And they will come with the wealth of the nations." What is He talking about? Scripture teaches that it is going to take money to transform society or disciple nations. In the past we have limited raising funds for church projects, supporting a missionary, or even starting an orphanage, but we are realizing that it is going to take "The Great Transfer of Wealth" to transform societies.

I want you to do a paradigm shift. I believe that the tithe and offerings go to the storehouse, the local church (Malachi 3:10), but God wants to so prosper you that you would be led by the Lord to give the rest of your offering to transform society. God wants you to do a paradigm shift of giving not just to win souls but to disciple nations.

We see that in Matthew 28:18-20, God is serious about discipling nations. We cannot bring about transformation of society without the transfer of wealth. The goal of stewardship is not just to win souls but to disciple nations.



Peter Wagner, my spiritual father and apostle, says that there are certain things that must be established before the transformation of society takes place: (1) The government of God—consisting of apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers—must be established. (2) The Church in the workplace must be established. The Ekklesia on all seven mountains of culture (the church, family, business, education, government, media, and arts & entertainment mountains). (3) Then the Great Transfer of Wealth will take place. I want to add, this transfer of wealth will take place in a time of shaking (Haggai 2:7) and darkness (Isaiah 60:3-5).

So, today I want to speak to you about the Great Transfer of Wealth and the Transformation of Societies.

Peter Wagner also said, "There are three things that have changed history more than anything else: (1) violence, (2) knowledge, (3) wealth. And the greatest is wealth." C.P. Wagner

The past recall election is a good example of how wealth transforms society, either for better or worse. First, I was very encouraged by the Christian turnout and how well Larry Elder did, getting 48.5% of all the votes, but I was discouraged by Gavin Newsom winning the recall. I thought we had a chance. Then this week, I heard from Sen. Shannon Grove how much Newsom spent. He spent \$100 million on this recall election and \$35 million just in the month of August! It goes to show how it takes money—lots of it—to win elections. You have heard of the "golden rule": Whoever has the gold, rules! The Bible affirms this truth with a radical verse found in Ecclesiastes 10:19: "Money is the answer to everything." Ecclesiastes 10:19

- I. THE GREAT TRANSFER OF WEALTH IN THE LAST DAYS
- A. OTHER GREAT TRANSFER OF WEALTH PASSAGES
- 1. <u>Isaiah 60:5</u> "Then you will look and be radiant, your heart will throb and swell with joy; the wealth on the seas will be brought to you, to you the riches of the nations will come... <u>Isaiah 60:11</u> Your gates will always stand open, they will never be shut, day or night, so that men may bring you the wealth of the nations — their kings led in triumphal procession." (NIV)
- 2. Isaiah 61:6 "But you will be called the priests of the LORD; you will be spoken of as ministers of our God. You will eat the wealth of nations, and in their riches you will boast."
- **3.** Joan Kroc's \$1.5 billion gift to the Salvation Army.



4. Proverbs 13:22 A good man leaves an inheritance to his children's children, but the wealth of the sinner is stored up for the righteous.

II. THE THREE TYPES OF TRANSFER OF WEALTH AND NATION BUILDING

- A. SUPERNATURAL TRANSFER OF WEALTH
- 1. Exodus 12:35 The Israelites did as Moses instructed and asked the Egyptians for articles of silver and gold and for clothing. 36 The LORD had made the Egyptians favorably disposed toward the people, and they gave them what they asked for; so they plundered the Egyptians. (NIV)
- **B. REPOSSESSING LOST WEALTH**
- Ezra 6:3 In the first year of King Cyrus, the king issued a decree concerning the temple of God in Jerusalem: Let the temple be rebuilt as a place to present sacrifices, and let its foundations be laid... 8 Moreover, I hereby decree what you are to do for these elders of the Jews in the construction of this house of God: The expenses of these men are to be fully paid out of the royal treasury, from the revenues of Trans-Euphrates, so that the work will not stop. 9 Whatever is needed — young bulls, rams, male lambs for burnt offerings to the God of heaven, and wheat, salt, wine, and oil, as requested by the priests in Jerusalem — must be given them daily without fail, 10 so that they may offer sacrifices pleasing to the God of heaven and pray for the wellbeing of the king and his sons.
- 2. We know that Cyrus restored the treasure taken from the Temple by Nebuchadnezzar.
- 3. Ezra 1:7 Also King Cyrus brought out the articles of the house of the LORD, which Nebuchadnezzar had carried away from Jerusalem... 11 and brought them all up from Babylon to Jerusalem.
- 4. Notice the purpose of the wealth. It is always for His glory and to help build a nation. To disciple nations. Genesis 12:3 "I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you."
- 5. My inheritance from my grandfather.
- C. WEALTH CREATION
- 1. Deuteronomy 8:18 "But you shall remember the LORD your God, for it is He who is giving you power to make wealth, that He may confirm His covenant which He swore to your fathers, as it is this day."
- 2. He wants us to remember Him—it is for His glory and by His grace.



- 3. He wants us to confirm His covenant, which is to establish His Kingdom on earth.
- 4. The purpose of the prosperity is to see Sustained Transformation of Society or Reformation. It takes wealth to transform society!
- 5. Closing illustration: how God blessed us during the 2008 recession.
- 6. Invite people to give their hearts to Jesus.

