



I was attending a meeting not too long ago for ministry, when the subject soon turned into concerns for the future. “*What will the future hold for the next generation*” became the topic of discussion. The concerns were: not being able to keep up with the high cost of living; high housing cost (rental and purchasing); high food cost; and the biggest concern was that of the high cost of college education. These concerns were valid, but no one could think of resolvable solutions.

When you look at the economy of our country today, the future doesn't look too good. In the 50's through the early 80's a person could graduate from high school and enter into the workforce with the idea of retiring from the company where they began employment. That prospect no longer exists, opportunities our generation once had no longer exists for the youth of today!

Jobs with a future have been taken away from the next generations because the majority of America's industry is being manufactured in foreign countries. Thousands of teens graduate each year only to find minimum wage employment. With cost of living so high, a person can't afford housing and other necessities, such as food with a minimum wage salary.

It was further stated at the meeting that youth are encouraged to attend college in order to obtain a better job. While that's a great idea, unfortunately most can't afford the cost of higher education or some students are not college material. Those that do attend college are then burdened with large student loans upon graduation. Those that don't attend college have to work two or three minimum wage jobs just to make ends meet.

As the discussion continued, I listened as a couple attendees at the meeting discussed their college loans. One attendee had student loans totaling over \$100,000. She said she will go to her grave owing Uncle Sam—how sad! Others who had student loans said, “*it was a great opportunity at the time, but now they feel as if they have a monkey on their back struggling to repay these loans.*” One attendee said she read an article that the majority of college graduates very rarely get jobs in the major they student for who they can't get jobs at all.

So the question still remains, what will the future hold for the next generation? The answer: *if you know Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior, then your answers can be found with the Most High God, your future is with Him.* Deuteronomy 28:1-14 and Matthew 6:25-30 gives us the principles for living in financial freedom and without fear of the future. These scriptures tells us that if we are obedient to God, He will bless our employment; our children; help us to start our own business; He will chase away our enemies; everything we put our hands to He will bless; in other words, He will take care of ALL our needs, which include housing, food, and clothing. If you haven't already, I encourage you to put your trust in God, He will never leave you nor forsake you. He says He will supply all your needs according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus (Phil. 4:19).

If you give, you will receive. Your gift will return to you in full measure, pressed down, shaken together to make room for more and running over. Whatever measure you use in giving—it will be used to measure what is given back to you.

Luke 6:38