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# ON WATCH IN WASHINGTON

Intercessors for America's PRAYER ALERT

June 8, 2011

## OBAMA AND OUR DEBT

The credit rating agency Moody's is now threatening to lower the rating of the United States because of massive debt. Lowering the rating from AAA would increase interest payments dramatically. Meanwhile, Obama's State Department and other agencies are giving money to nations that actually hold huge amounts of U.S. debt including China. Fox News obtained a CRS report showing that in 2010 the U.S. gave \$1.4 billion to 16 foreign countries that held at least \$10 billion in Treasury securities. Incredibly enough, we are borrowing money from other nations and then giving it back to them in "aid" while still owing them the money. [See full list.](#)

In the U.S. the \$61.6 trillion in unfunded obligations amounts to [\\$534,000 per household](#). That's more than five times what Americans have borrowed for everything else — mortgages, car loans and other debt. It reflects the challenge as the number of retirees soars over the next 20 years and seniors try to collect on those spending promises.

The government has promised pension and health benefits worth more than \$700,000 per retired civil servant. The pension fund's key asset: federal IOUs. (Contributors: Religious Freedom Coalition, USAToday)

**Ask our Lord to uncover the lies in our national monetary system, and make a clear way forward for the United States to recover and find balance. Ask the Lord to give our leaders His wisdom and His will to correct this major financial issue. Ask the Lord to help us see and comprehend His way of correction.**

*"He who sows iniquity will reap sorrow, and the rod of his anger will fail." (Proverbs 22:8)*

## DEVASTATING JOBS REPORT

Jaws dropped all over Washington this week when the Labor Department released its official employment figures for May: Just 54,000 new jobs were created last month, and the unemployment rate rose to 9.1%. Economists had predicted gains of 160,000 jobs. Worse yet, the government revised downward its job creation figures for March and April, so there were actually 40,000 fewer jobs created in those months than previously thought. This is bad news for job seekers, and bad news for America.

But it is reality and devastating news for Obama. Liberal elites in Washington are in panic mode -- and with good reason. On Wednesday the New York Times sounded the alarm, writing, "No American president or occupier of the White House since Franklin Delano Roosevelt has won a second term in office when the unemployment rate on Election Day topped 7.2 percent." Obama will no doubt blame the current state of the economy on George W. Bush. But Obama has been the occupier of the White House for 864 days now, and it is hard to think of a single day of good economic news since Obama took office.

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When Obama was inaugurated in January 2009, the unemployment rate was 7.6%. Obama's stimulus bill was supposed to prevent the unemployment rate from exceeding 8%. We can see how well that has turned out.

The [problem of course is the economy](#), but some industries, especially certain manufacturing jobs, are not ever expected to come back. Experts say unemployed workers need to be prepared to change careers. "That person has to realize that, discover what field they want to work in, become trained and find a job in that field," said Jerry Nickelsburg, Sr., an economist at UCLA.

Here's another problem: more than 1 million of the long-term unemployed have run out of unemployment benefits, leaving them without the money to get new training, buy new clothes, or even get to job interviews.

"If you have been unemployed for 6 months or more, it takes a much deeper toll - not just on your personal finances and your career prospects - but on your emotional well-being," said Paul Taylor, an executive vice president with the Pew Research Center. (Contributors: CBS News, Gary Bauer)

**Ask the Lord for ways in which we can overcome these serious problems of unemployment. Pray that we can be a nation that recognizes that we are created in His image and that we can offer a fulfilling contribution to our culture while bringing many into His Kingdom. Ask the Father to open our eyes and show us how He would have our lives reflect His Holiness and work to bring forth His honor and glory in these trying times. May our purpose in Him be unmistakably clear.**

*"The Lord's purpose is eternal; the designs of His heart go on through all the generations of man." (Psalm 33:11)*

## **ON MEDICAID: RYAN VS OBAMA**

It was Obama, Debbie Wasserman Schultz, and Congressional Democrats who set the death trap for seniors in forcing through Obamacare last year. Ryan's Medicare reforms would be so much better for seniors than Medicare under Obamacare, and [Obama's further schemes for the program](#).

The 2010 Financial Statement of the United States Government, published by the Treasury Department last December, discloses repeatedly in several tables of data that the total of future cuts in payments to doctors and hospitals under Medicare as provided in current law due to Obamacare and Obama's Medicare reimbursement policies is **\$15 trillion!**

Unlike Ryan's careful Medicare reforms, these draconian, unworkable, Obamacare cuts to Medicare apply to seniors already retired today. Ryan exempts from any change all seniors retired today and everyone over age 55. On these grounds alone, Ryan's Medicare is better for today's seniors than [Medicare under Obamacare](#).

House Budget Chairman Paul Ryan reportedly accused Obama of intentionally distorting his plan. You may recall that in his April speech on deficit reduction Obama said the Ryan plan would allow our bridges and roads to crumble, force "someone's grandparents" out of nursing homes and tell children with autism or Down syndrome to "fend for themselves."

Rep. Ryan said after the meeting that he explained his proposal to Obama "so that in the future, he won't mischaracterize it." Rep. Ryan is right. Even the Associated Press says "Democrats Distort GOP Medicare Plan."

[Obama was again quite wrong](#) when he told the *Facebook* town hall audience regarding Paul Ryan and the Republicans, "So they don't really want to make the health care system more efficient and cheaper. What they want to do is push the costs of health care inflation on you." Ryan's Medicare reforms involve INTERCESSORS FOR AMERICA | Post Office Box 915, Purcellville, VA 20134 | [GetAmericaPraying.com](#)  
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the only proven cost control mechanisms, other than the government rationing and outright denial of care to the critically ill involved in Obamacare.

Something has to be done. One former Clinton official wrote this week that Medicare spending "is unsustainable." Unfortunately, Democrats believe they won the recent New York special election with their "Mediscare" tactics. Demagoguery will be a centerpiece of their 2012 campaign.

Will the American people fall for it? Because of fear tactics, will America continue down Obama's path toward European-style socialism? Or will we change course in 2012 and once again embrace free enterprise and individual responsibility?

There is some good news by way of the unexpected. The Obama Justice Department has agreed with Liberty Counsel on a key issue regarding Liberty Counsel's lawsuit challenging the Obama health care law.

The health care law was originally passed on the insistence that the Individual and Employer Mandate was a penalty fee, and not a tax. In court, however, the Obama Justice Department was defending that provision as a tax. Now, the Obama Justice Department has reversed course and has agreed with [Liberty Counsel that the Anti-Injunction Act \(AIA\), which controls how taxes are challenged in court, does not apply to this case.](#)

Those in the legal community challenging the health care law are thrilled and praising God in a way that only lawyers can! (Contributors: Forbes, Gary Bauer, [Liberty Counsel](#))

**Ask the Lord to give wisdom to our leaders in Congress on how best to serve the people of our nation in this ongoing health care debate. Ask the Lord to move in the hearts of those serving to seek sound counsel and direction from the Holy Spirit in creating legislation to best meet our nation's health needs. The Lord says that He will give liberally to those that ask for His wisdom.**

*"For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind." (2 Timothy 1:7)*

### **H.R. 2114: REDUCING THE SIZE OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT THROUGH ATTRITION ACT OF 2011**

For every three federal employees that retire, only one new employee will be hired, according to H.R. 2114, the Reducing the Size of the Federal Government Through Attrition Act of 2011 introduced by House Oversight and Government Reform Committee leaders.

Drawing on recommendations from the President's National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and Reform, Rep. Darrell Issa, R-Calif., Rep. Dennis Ross, R-Fla., and Rep. Jason Chaffetz, R-Utah, introduced the bill designed to reduce the size of federal workforce by 10% by 2015. The bill allows for one federal employee to be hired to replace every three that retire or leave their job. The Commission's proposal has been estimated to save taxpayers \$127.5 billion over ten years. The legislation fulfills a policy recommended in the Fiscal Year 2012 House Budget Resolution.

[The legislation](#) ensures agencies do not abuse the use of service contracts to get around the reduction in the size of their workforce, but it does not prohibit agencies from saving taxpayer money through competition. (Contributor: Fedsmith.com)

[Full text of H.R. 2114](#) (PDF)

**We are already seeing a transformation in the workforce in our nation, and the strains that it can cause. Ask the Father to raise up a new generation of leaders that sees clearly how to address**

**these problems, and ask that the Lord give our current leaders wisdom as to how they will work in the days, weeks, months, and years to come. Ask the Father to bring blessing and unexpected benefits from implementing His solutions to our problems, that the world might witness His healing and sovereign hand in our midst.**

*"The Lord lift up His countenance upon you, And give you peace." (Numbers 6:26)*

#### **"THE STUDENT NON-DISCRIMINATION ACT OF 2011" (H.R.998 & S.555)**

These parallel bills both prohibit public school students from being excluded from participating in, or subject to discrimination under, any federally-assisted educational program on the basis of their actual or perceived sexual orientation or gender identity or that of their associates. [S.555 Bill Summary & Status 112th Congress \(2011 - 2012\)](#)

Legal experts believe that, if passed, this bill will actually empower the homosexual community to dictate curriculum in all our schools, public and private. As a result, our schools may become a form of "indoctrination centers" for the gay lifestyle. (Contributors: Library of Congress, Capitol Hill Prayer Partners)

**Greater is He that is in us than He that is in the world! Ask the Lord to forgive the sponsors of these bills for they know not what they do.**

*"Thou shalt not lie with mankind, as with womankind: it [is] abomination." (Lev. 18:22)*

#### **H.R. 1006: "THE JERUSALEM EMBASSY AND RECOGNITION ACT OF 2011"**

Congressman Dan Burton has introduced H.R. 1006 "To recognize Jerusalem as the capital of Israel, to relocate to Jerusalem the United States Embassy in Israel, and for other purposes." This bill defines U.S. policy towards Jerusalem and the sense of the Congress, in part, as:

(a) POLICY. It is the policy of the United States to recognize Jerusalem as the undivided capital of the State of Israel, both de jure and de facto.

(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS. It is the sense of Congress that- (1) Jerusalem must remain an undivided city in which the rights of every ethnic and religious group are protected as they have been by Israel since 1967; (2) every citizen of Israel should have the right to reside anywhere in the undivided city of Jerusalem; (3) the President and the Secretary of State should publicly affirm as a matter of United States policy that Jerusalem must remain the undivided capital of the State of Israel; (4) the President should immediately implement the provisions of the Jerusalem Embassy Act of 1995 (Public Law 104-5) and begin the process of relocating the United States Embassy in Israel to Jerusalem; and (5) United States officials should refrain from any actions that contradict United States law on this subject.

**After the groundbreaking and historic speech delivered to the Joint Session of Congress by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, pray that Congress will now take action in response and move the U.S. Embassy to Israel to Jerusalem.**

*"May the LORD bless you from Zion, He who made heaven and earth." (Psalm 134:3)*