

LEADING, in Power

I. Common Model: The American Dream (multi-trillion dollar GDP)

A. Methodology: Government services, funded by taxes

When that year was ended, they came unto him the second year, and said unto him, We will not hide it from my lord, how that our money is spent; my lord also hath our herds of cattle; there is not ought left in the sight of my lord, but our bodies, and our lands: Wherefore shall we die before thine eyes, both we and our land? buy us and our land for bread, and we and our land will be servants unto Pharaoh: and give us seed, that we may live, and not die, that the land be not desolate.

And Joseph bought all the land of Egypt for Pharaoh; for the Egyptians sold every man his field, because the famine prevailed over them: so the land became Pharaoh's. And as for the people, he removed them to cities from one end of the borders of Egypt even to the other end thereof.

Only the land of the priests bought he not; for the priests had a portion assigned them of Pharaoh, and did eat their portion which Pharaoh gave them: wherefore they sold not their lands.

Then Joseph said unto the people, Behold, I have bought you this day and your land for Pharaoh: lo, here is seed for you, and ye shall sow the land. And it shall come to pass in the increase, that ye shall give the fifth part unto Pharaoh, and four parts shall be your own, for seed of the field, and for your food, and for them of your households, and for food for your little ones.

And they said, Thou hast saved our lives: let us find grace in the sight of my lord, and we will be Pharaoh's servants.

And Joseph made it a law over the land of Egypt unto this day, that Pharaoh should have the fifth part, except the land of the priests only, which became not Pharaoh's.

(Genesis 47:18-26)

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### B. Some multi-multi-billion dollar companies . . .

*In the beginning of the reign of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah king*

*of Judah came this word unto Jeremiah from the LORD, saying, Thus saith the LORD to me; Make thee bonds and yokes, and put them upon thy neck, And send them to the king of Edom, and to the king of Moab, and to the king of the Ammonites, and to the king of Tyrus, and to the king of Zidon, by the hand of the messengers which come to Jerusalem unto Zedekiah king of Judah; And command them to say unto their masters,*

*Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Thus shall ye say unto your masters;*

*I have made the earth, the man and the beast that are upon the ground, by my great power and by my outstretched arm, and have given it unto whom it seemed meet unto me. And now have I given all these lands into the hand of Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon, my servant; and the beasts of the field have I given him also to serve him.*

(Jeremiah 27:1-6)

**... for a time.**

*And all nations shall serve him, and his son, and his son's son, until the very time of his land come: and then many nations and great kings shall serve themselves of him.*

(Jeremiah 27:7)

## **1. Some high rollers (including multi-million dollars salaries and bonuses)**

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*And he said, Go forth, and stand upon the mount before the LORD.*

*And, behold, the LORD passed by, and a great and strong wind rent the mountains, and brake in pieces the rocks before the LORD; but the LORD was not in the wind:*

*and after the wind an earthquake; but the LORD was not in the earthquake:*

*And after the earthquake a fire; but the LORD was not in the fire:*

*and after the fire a still small voice.*

*And it was so, when Elijah heard it that he wrapped his face in his mantle, and went out, and stood in the entering in of the cave.*

*And, behold, there came a voice unto him, and said, What doest thou here, Elijah?*

*And he said, I have been very jealous for the LORD*

*God of hosts: because the children of Israel have forsaken thy covenant, thrown down thine altars, and slain thy prophets with the sword; and I, even I only, am left; and they seek my life, to take it away.*

*And the LORD said unto him, Go, return on thy way to the wilderness of Damascus: and when thou comest, anoint Hazael to be king over Syria: And Jehu the son of Nimshi shalt thou anoint to be king over Israel: and Elisha the son of Shaphat of Abelmeholah shalt thou anoint to be prophet in thy room. And it shall come to pass, that him that escapeth the sword of Hazael shall Jehu slay: and him that escapeth from the sword of Jehu shall Elisha slay.*

*Yet I have left me seven thousand in Israel, all the knees which have not bowed unto Baal, and every mouth which hath not kissed him.*

(1 Kings 19:11-18)

**. . . including a few scoundrels**

*And Elisha came to Damascus; and Benhadad the king of Syria was sick; and it was told him, saying, The man of God is come hither. And the king said unto Hazael, Take a present in thine hand, and go, meet the man of God, and inquire of the LORD by him, saying, Shall I recover of this disease?*

*So Hazael went to meet him, and took a present with him, even of every good thing of Damascus, forty camels' burden, and came and stood before him, and said, Thy son Benhadad king of Syria hath sent me to thee, saying, Shall I recover of this disease?*

*And Elisha said unto him, Go, say unto him, Thou mayest certainly recover: howbeit the LORD hath showed me that he shall surely die.*

*And he settled his countenance stedfastly, until he was ashamed: and the man of God wept.*

*And Hazael said, Why weepeth my lord?*

*And he answered, Because I know the evil that thou wilt do unto the children of Israel: their strong holds wilt*

*thou set on fire, and their young men wilt thou slay  
with the sword, and wilt dash their children, and rip up  
their women with child.*

*And Hazael said, But what, is thy servant a dog, that he  
should do this great thing?*

*And Elisha answered, The LORD hath showed me that  
thou shalt be king over Syria.*

*So he departed from Elisha, and came to his master;  
who said to him, What said Elisha to thee?*

*And he answered, He told me that thou shouldest  
surely recover.*

*And it came to pass on the morrow, that he took a  
thick cloth, and dipped it in water, and spread it on his  
face, so that he died: and Hazael reigned in his stead.*

(2 Kings 8:7-15)

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C. Actions under the hood (Authority)

To the chief Musician, A Psalm of David.

*O LORD, thou hast searched me, and known me. Thou knowest
my downsitting and mine uprising, thou understandest my
thought afar off. Thou compasses my path and my lying down,
and art acquainted with all my ways. For there is not a word in
my tongue, but, lo, O LORD, thou knowest it altogether. Thou
hast beset me behind and before, and laid thine hand upon me.
Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is high, I cannot
attain unto it.*

*Whither shall I go from thy spirit? or whither shall I flee from
thy presence? If I ascend up into heaven, thou art there: if I
make my bed in hell, behold, thou art there. If I take the wings
of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea; Even
there shall thy hand lead me, and thy right hand shall hold me.
If I say, Surely the darkness shall cover me; even the night shall
be light about me. Yea, the darkness hideth not from thee; but
the night shineth as the day: the darkness and the light are both
alike to thee.*

For thou hast possessed my reins: thou hast covered me in

my mother's womb.

*I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made:
marvellous are thy works; and that my soul knoweth right well.
My substance was not hid from thee, when I was made in secret,
and curiously wrought in the lowest parts of the earth.*

(Psalm 139:1-15)

1. Level-setting royalty

*Again there was a day when the sons of God came to
present themselves before the LORD, and Satan came
also among them to present himself before the LORD.*

*And the LORD said unto Satan, From whence comest
thou?*

*And Satan answered the LORD, and said, From
going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and
down in it.*

*And the LORD said unto Satan, Hast thou considered
my servant Job, that there is none like him in the earth,
a perfect and an upright man, one that feareth God,
and escheweth evil? and still he holdeth fast his
integrity, although thou movedst me against him, to
destroy him without cause.*

*And Satan answered the LORD, and said, Skin for skin,
yea, all that a man hath will he give for his life. But
put forth thine hand now, and touch his bone and his
flesh, and he will curse thee to thy face.*

*And the LORD said unto Satan, Behold, he is in thine
hand; but save his life.*

*So went Satan forth from the presence of the LORD,
and smote Job with sore boils from the sole of his foot
unto his crown.*

*And he took him a potsherd to scrape himself withal;
and he sat down among the ashes.*

*Then said his wife unto him, Dost thou still retain
thine integrity? curse God, and die.*

But he said unto her, Thou speakest as one of the foolish women speaketh. What? shall we receive good at the hand of God, and shall we not receive evil? In all this did not Job sin with his lips.

(Job 2:1-10)

a. Siphoning off wealth (and the harm it can do)

And Satan stood up against Israel, and provoked David to number Israel.

And David said to Joab and to the rulers of the people, Go, number Israel from Beersheba even to Dan; and bring the number of them to me, that I may know it.

And Joab answered, The LORD make his people an hundred times so many more as they be: but, my lord the king, are they not all my lord's servants? why then doth my lord require this thing? why will he be a cause of trespass to Israel?

Nevertheless the king's word prevailed against Joab. Wherefore Joab departed, and went throughout all Israel, and came to Jerusalem. And Joab gave the sum of the number of the people unto David. And all they of Israel were a thousand thousand and an hundred thousand men that drew sword: and Judah was four hundred threescore and ten thousand men that drew sword. But Levi and Benjamin counted he not among them: for the king's word was abominable to Joab.

And God was displeased with this thing; therefore he smote Israel.

And David said unto God, I have sinned greatly, because I have done this thing: but now, I beseech thee, do away the iniquity of thy servant; for I have done very foolishly.

And the LORD spake unto Gad, David's seer, saying, Go and tell David, saying, Thus saith the LORD, I offer thee three things: choose thee one of them, that I may do it unto thee.

*So Gad came to David, and said unto him,
Thus saith the LORD, Choose thee
Either three years' famine;
or three months to be destroyed
before thy foes, while that the sword of
thine enemies overtaketh thee;
or else three days the sword of the
LORD, even the pestilence, in the
land, and the angel of the LORD
destroying throughout all the coasts of
Israel.*

*Now therefore advise thyself what word I
shall bring again to him that sent me.*

*And David said unto Gad, I am in a great
strait: let me fall now into the hand of the
LORD; for very great are his mercies: but let
me not fall into the hand of man.*

*So the LORD sent pestilence upon Israel: and
there fell of Israel seventy thousand men.*

(1 Chronicles 21:1-14)

b. Redistribution of wealth (life's episodes)

*Thus saith the LORD to his anointed, to
Cyrus, whose right hand I have holden, to
subdue nations before him; and I will loose
the loins of kings, to open before him the two
leaved gates; and the gates shall not be shut;
I will go before thee, and make the crooked
places straight: I will break in pieces the
gates of brass, and cut in sunder the bars of
iron: And I will give thee the treasures of
darkness, and hidden riches of secret places,
that thou mayest know that I, the LORD,
which call thee by thy name, am the God of
Israel. For Jacob my servant's sake, and
Israel mine elect, I have even called thee by
thy name: I have surnamed thee, though thou
hast not known me.*

*I am the LORD, and there is none else, there
is no God beside me: I girded thee, though*

thou hast not known me: That they may know from the rising of the sun, and from the west, that there is none beside me. I am the LORD, and there is none else.

I form the light, and create darkness: I make peace, and create evil: I the LORD do all these things. Drop down, ye heavens, from above, and let the skies pour down righteousness: let the earth open, and let them bring forth salvation, and let righteousness spring up together; I the LORD have created it.

Woe unto him that striveth with his Maker! Let the potsherd strive with the potsherds of the earth. Shall the clay say to him that fashioneth it, What makest thou? or thy work, He hath no hands? Woe unto him that saith unto his father, What begettest thou? or to the woman, What hast thou brought forth?

Thus saith the LORD, the Holy One of Israel, and his Maker, Ask me of things to come concerning my sons, and concerning the work of my hands command ye me. I have made the earth, and created man upon it: I, even my hands, have stretched out the heavens, and all their host have I commanded. I have raised him up in righteousness, and I will direct all his ways: he shall build my city, and he shall let go my captives, not for price nor reward, saith the LORD of hosts.

(Isaiah 45:1-13)

c. Redistribution of wealth (death)

And one of the company said unto him, Master, speak to my brother, that he divide the inheritance with me.

And he said unto him, Man, who made me a judge or a divider over you?

And he said unto them, Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man's life

consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth.

And he spake a parable unto them, saying, The ground of a certain rich man brought forth plentifully: And he thought within himself, saying, What shall I do, because I have no room where to bestow my fruits? And he said, This will I do: I will pull down my barns, and build greater; and there will I bestow all my fruits and my goods. And I will say to my soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry.

But God said unto him, Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided?

So is he that layeth up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.

(Luke 12:13-21)

d. Provision for the faithful

And it was so, that after the LORD had spoken these words unto Job, the LORD said to Eliphaz the Temanite, My wrath is kindled against thee, and against thy two friends: for ye have not spoken of me the thing that is right, as my servant Job hath. Therefore take unto you now seven bullocks and seven rams, and go to my servant Job, and offer up for yourselves a burnt offering; and my servant Job shall pray for you: for him will I accept: lest I deal with you after your folly, in that ye have not spoken of me the thing which is right, like my servant Job.

So Eliphaz the Temanite and Bildad the Shuhite and Zophar the Naamathite went, and did according as the LORD commanded them: the LORD also accepted Job.

And the LORD turned the captivity of Job,

And when the people saw that Moses delayed to come down out of the mount, the people gathered themselves together unto Aaron, and said unto him, Up, make us gods, which shall go before us; for as for this Moses, the man that brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we wot not what is become of him.

And Aaron said unto them, Break off the golden earrings, which are in the ears of your wives, of your sons, and of your daughters, and bring them unto me.

And all the people brake off the golden earrings which were in their ears, and brought them unto Aaron. And he received them at their hand, and fashioned it with a graving tool, after he had made it a molten calf: and they said, These be thy gods, O Israel, which brought thee up out of the land of Egypt. And when Aaron saw it, he built an altar before it; and Aaron made proclamation, and said, To morrow is a feast to the LORD.

And they rose up early on the morrow, and offered burnt offerings, and brought peace offerings; and the people sat down to eat and to drink, and rose up to play.

And the LORD said unto Moses, Go, get thee down; for thy people, which thou broughtest out of the land of Egypt, have corrupted themselves: They have turned aside quickly out of the way which I commanded them: they have made them a molten calf, and have worshipped it, and have sacrificed thereunto, and said, These be thy gods, O Israel, which have brought thee up out of the land of Egypt.

And the LORD said unto Moses, I have seen this people, and, behold, it is a stiffnecked people: Now therefore let me alone, that my wrath may wax hot against them, and that I may consume them: and I will make of thee a great nation.

(Exodus 32:1-10)

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**... but,  
do pray for the preservation  
of the awareness  
of the name of God,  
above all**

*And Moses besought the LORD his God, and said, LORD, why doth thy wrath wax hot against thy people, which thou hast brought forth out of the land of Egypt with great power, and with a mighty hand? Wherefore should the Egyptians speak, and say, For mischief did he bring them out, to slay them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth?*



*peace: the mountains and the hills shall break forth before you into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. Instead of the thorn shall come up the fir tree, and instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle tree: and it shall be to the LORD for a name, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.*

(Isaiah 55:1-13)

