

# CHRISTIAN PREPAREDNESS

*“A prudent man foresees evil and hides himself;  
the simple pass on and are punished.” Proverbs 27:12*

**It was not raining when Noah built the Ark.** But Noah and his family survived the Flood by building the Ark and stocking it in obedience to God (Genesis 6:11-22). *“For man also does not know his time: Like fish taken in a cruel net, like birds caught in a snare, so the sons of men are snared in an evil time, when it falls suddenly upon them.” Ecclesiastes 9:12*

**Abraham, Isaac and Jacob** each enabled their families to survive successive famines by following the guidance of God and taking the appropriate steps (Genesis 12:10; 26:2, 12-14).

God led **Joseph** to use the years of plenty to store up sufficient grain to feed his people throughout the 7 year famine (Genesis 41:33-36).

When **Lot's** family were captured by an invading army, his uncle Abraham mobilised his 318 armed and trained servants to rescue them (Genesis 14:14-16).

The armed servants of **Abraham** and **Isaac** managed to restrain the murderous intentions of the Philistines (Genesis 26:15-22).

The armed servants of **Jacob** enabled his household to escape the exploitation of Laban (Genesis 31:17-24).

Armed defence played an important role in the early expansion of the Church. Not even the Roman peace (*Pax Romana*) was effective enough to protect travellers from murderous thieves. **Jesus** related a story of the brutal robbery of a traveller whose battered and bleeding body stirred the compassion of the Good Samaritan and at the Last Supper the Lord instructed His followers: *“...he who has no sword, let him sell his garment and buy one.” Luke 22:36*

*“But if anyone does not provide for his own and especially for those of his household, he has denied the Faith and is worse than an unbeliever.” 1 Timothy 5:8*

## THE 4 G's of SURVIVAL: GROCERIES, GUNS, GOLD and GOD

### Groceries

Famine has often been used by God as a form of judgement - through drought, war, riots and breakdown of the transportation infrastructure.

Just as Joseph stored up enough food to feed all of Egypt and much of the surrounding territories during the 7 years of famine, so too we should use times of plenty to make provision for the trying times that may lie ahead.

When shops are closed or empty and when water and electricity are cut off, some of the essential items needed will include:

- Large water containers including, if possible, containers to harvest water from your roof (and water purification methods).
- Large quantities of high protein food (canned meats, beans, rice, vegetables, soups, fruit, condensed milk and cooking oil).
- Vitamin tablets.
- Medical supplies for First Aid and chronic condition medication.
- A camping cooker with the necessary fuel.
- Candles, matches, torches, batteries and gas lamps for lighting.
- Soaps, disinfectants, plastic garbage bags for hygiene and sanitation.
- Tools of every sort.

- Fire extinguishers.
- Fuel reserves for your vehicles and generator.
- Solar panels.

See also: [www.survivalblog.com](http://www.survivalblog.com)

## **Guns**

In a time of violence, crime and instability it makes sense to obtain firearms for personal and home defence. Training in the safe and efficient use of a firearm is essential. (Exodus 22:2; Numbers 32:20; Judges 5:8; 1 Samuel 13:19-22; Nehemiah 4:14; Luke 22:36; 1 Timothy 5:8)

*“Firearms stand next to importance to the Constitution itself. They are the American people’s liberty teeth and keystone under independence. To secure peace, security and happiness, the rifle and the pistol are equally indispensable. The very atmosphere of firearms everywhere restrains evil interference - they deserve a place of honour with all that is good.”* George Washington

### **Some essential rules of firearm safety:**

1. Always assume a weapon is loaded - never take anyone’s word for it.
2. Always check a firearm to ascertain if it is loaded or not.
3. Check and clear your weapon before handing it to someone else.
4. Never point a firearm at anyone or anything unless you intend to destroy it.
5. Keep your firearm loaded, with safety catch on and on your person for quick access.

*“Ignorance and a loaded weapon are a dangerous combination - but never blame the firearm!”*

When handled correctly and responsibly: firearms can save lives and prevent crime.

### **Ideal weapons for home defence:**

.38 revolver - for ladies or those inexperienced in firearm handling.

9mm pistol -for men with weapons training.

A pump action shotgun.

Be sure to stock adequate ammunition, have suitable holsters and a gun safe.

## **Gold**

In the Bible we find many references to gold and silver. Gold has always been found to be an excellent medium of exchange. Gold is durable, portable and consistent and it has intrinsic value. Gold is real money, much more stable in value than paper currency or stock market investments.

In a world awash in debt, an economic recession is likely. In any recession governments try to re-float the sinking economy by resorting to inflation (a massive increase in paper money). In times of inflation and depression gold offers real long term value.

## **God**

*“...Do not be afraid of those who kill the body and after that have no more that they can do. But I will show you whom you should fear: Fear Him who, after He has killed, has power to cast into hell; yes, I say to you, fear Him!”* Luke 12:4-5

Our trust must never be in our own strength, stores or strategies - our faith must be in our Sovereign God alone. The Word of God must be our constant source of inspiration, guidance and strength. God alone is all knowing, everywhere present and all powerful.

When David walked into the valley to confront the giant Goliath he declared: *“...You come to me with a sword, with a spear and with a javelin. But I come to you in the Name of the Lord of Hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied.”* 1 Samuel 17:45

Although David was an extra-ordinary fighter who had successfully defended his sheep from both a bear and a lion he did not trust in his own abilities. Although he took the weapon he was most familiar with - the sling - he placed all his faith in the Lord alone.

The Great Russian writer Alexandr Solzhenitsyn survived many years in Stalin's Soviet Siberian concentration camps. He described the importance of spiritual strength in this way: *"The strength or weakness of a society depends more on the level of its spiritual life than on its level of industrialization. Neither a market economy nor even general abundance constitutes the crowning achievement of human life. If a nation's spiritual energies have been exhausted, it will not be saved from collapse by the most perfect government structure, or by any industrial development. A tree with a rotten core cannot stand."*

There is nothing more important than our personal relationship to God. If we are to survive the storms and floods of life then our lives need to be firmly rooted in obedience to the Word of God. Are you building your life upon the Rock or shifting sands? (Matthew 7:21-27).