



Liberty Matters

Post: P.O. Box 2211
Whakatane
Ph: 07 308-4187
A/h: 07 307-0444
Fax: 07 308-6308
libertytrust@hotmail.com
www.libertytrust.org.nz

As the first year of the new millennium rushes on and with Christmas approaching soon, it is good to stop and reflect.

The price of petrol has gone through the roof, our dollar is dropping and inflation is expected to rise.

How does this all affect us in Liberty Trust, a part of God's Kingdom?

We as trustees continually realise the sacrifice people are making to belong to this work. It is a struggle making the dollar go round.

I am reminded of the initial vision of Liberty Trust - "to pool our resources and pay off mortgages". Every dollar given to Liberty Trust is now permanently in God's Kingdom, it will never go back into the world's system. This concept of the Kingdom of God financing Christian families, not the world, is awesome. The small beginnings back in 1988, where will it end? - when the Lord returns!

Be encouraged, that even though times are tough and our dollars don't seem to go as far as they used to, God will richly bless you as you continue to help others in debt.

"Good will come to him who is generous and lends freely, who conducts his affairs with justice" Psalm 112:5

Being a trustee has continually brought us before God in prayer, seeking His will for His work. God works in mysterious ways and sometimes we cannot understand where He is leading us.

We have recently gone through a legal restructure which has often been long and we've wondered where it is leading us. With consistent prayer seeking God's will we have restructured and know that Liberty Trust is a strong part of the Kingdom of God.

"Unless the Lord builds the house, its builders labour in vain" Psalm 127:1

We trustees know that we have not laboured in vain, God has built Liberty Trust and will continue to keep building until He returns.

Yours in Christ,

Jonathan Segedin, Trustee



A big **WELCOME!**

to new members. These include an older man from **Pukekohe** sponsored by his children who are concerned that his bank repayments on a comparatively low mortgage are two-thirds interest.

Also a family from **Christchurch** who say they should have joined long ago, because they greatly support the principles of supporting one another to repay each others loans.

Welcome to Liberty Trust!

TRUSTEES

Kelvin Deal
Chartered Accountant

Kevin Wilson
Environmental Manager

Elaine Bateson
Company Director

Jonathan Segedin
Master Builder

Colleen Medwin
Teacher

Mark Langridge
I.T. Manager

Treasurer:
Martin Tyrrell
Chartered Accountant

Loan Officer:
John Anderson
Business Manager

Budget Advisor:
Robert Cleland
Dairy Farmer

Administration:
Kathleen Deal
Kerryanne Dalgleish

For I shall walk in
Liberty
for I follow Your
Principles
Psalm 119 v 45

As Jonathan writes, these are difficult times for NZ and Christians are not exempt. God is protecting Liberty Trust and our contributors. Praise the Lord!

Many things cannot be changed easily, such as the price of oil and the low \$NZ, and many have left for better wages overseas. Pray for our nation and its leadership that God will give them wisdom and that He will continue to keep His people as we follow His principles.

www.libertytrust.org.nz



Yes, that's right Liberty Trust is now on the World Wide Web!

Now you and everyone else on earth can access information, print forms, read these newsletters and make enquiries at the touch of a button. Many thanks to Aaron & Kerryanne Dalgleish who are still hard at work on it.

Happy Surfing.

In the last newsletter we profiled "The Four Laws of Debt Free Prosperity" by Harris & Coonradt. Here is an excerpt on interest we'd like to share with you.

Debt Free Prosperity



Interest is a formidable opponent. Once the game starts, he never rests. You may work 50 or 60 hours a week to keep up with him, but he works 168 hours a week to keep ahead of you. He never takes a timeout or a half-time break.

He works every Sunday, every holiday, and every night. He has no mercy. He even takes your money when you are sick in bed. And if you lose your job and miss two mortgages payments, he will take your house.



If you have a \$100,000 mortgage on your home at 8%, you can go to sleep every night knowing you just accrued another \$22 in interest. You pay \$22 when you spend Christmas day at Grandma's. You pay another \$22 every Sunday, even when you are in church. When you signed the papers for that \$100,000 30-year mortgage, you agreed to pay \$164,153 in interest. Add closing costs and occasional late fees, and you will almost pay for your house three times by the time the mortgage is paid.

If you finance a new car over five years at 12% interest, you just about pay for it twice. And what about the 18% you pay on VISA and MasterCard, unpaid medical and detail bills, and so on? If you had a \$3,900 balance on your VISA or MasterCard, and you paid the minimum payment of \$78 a month, it would take 35 years to pay the balance down to zero, assuming you never used the card again. During that time you would have paid \$10,096 in interest.



A person or couple earning a lifetime income of \$2 million (about \$45,000 a year), taking a 30-year mortgage and always meeting minimum payments will pay \$300,000 to \$400,000 in interest. Over a 45 year working career, \$200,000 in interest breaks down to about \$370 a month.

Suppose you invested \$370 a month at 6% instead of paying it out, the amount you'd end up with is \$1,045,232 in the bank when you retire. By continuing to earn 6% you could withdraw \$5,336 a month during retirement, and never reduce the principal.

If you add up all the interest you are paying, including your mortgage, you can begin to see why you are struggling financially, even with a good job or a double income. Just think what you could do if you got to keep all that money you spend in interest every month.

Live on less than you earn so you can have a surplus to get you out of debt and invest in assets that appreciate (increase in value). The key to having a surplus is to pay yourself first, and then live on what's left over.



No-one, regardless of income, can be financially successful unless they live on less than they earn.

After Albert Einstein invented the atomic bomb, he said the most powerful thing he ever discovered was compound interest.

For those who save their way out of debt, interest can suddenly become a wonderful team-mate. Instead of being a borrower, you are a lender. Instead of being in the interest trap, interest is working just as hard for you as it used to work against you. Twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week it is earning money for you. It works weekends, holidays, and nights. It never takes a day off, and it earns just as much for

you on the days when you are sick as when you are well, and just as much when you are on vacation as when you are working.

Those who don't understand interest, pay it. Those who understand it, collect it.

After Albert Einstein invented the atomic bomb, he said the most powerful thing he ever discovered was compound interest.

The point is that if you can just change the direction of your interest stream so it's coming in instead of going out, you will see wonderful, far-reaching changes in your financial life.

