

Has the Tishrei Phenomenon Reappeared?

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THE SUDDEN market downturn that began two months ago raises an intriguing question: has the Tishrei phenomenon reappeared?

Most reading this will recall that consecutive stock market crashes on Tishrei 1 in 2001 and 2008 had the prophetic community abuzz about a potential “shemitah crash” in 2015.¹ Yet, no such crash materialized. In fact, since 2009, the Dow has surged to break all-time records, including the longest Bull Run in history.²

Then came autumn 2018.

On October 10, corresponding to Tishrei 1, the Dow dropped 832 points, representing the third worst single-day decline in history and the sharpest decline in the month of Tishrei since 2008. The following day, stocks plunged even further, amounting to a massive 1,400-point drop in just two days.

The market began to rally on October 12 but has since suffered a number of similar scary plunges, including a 608-point drop (Oct. 25), a 400-point drop (Nov. 19), a 550-point drop (Nov. 20), an 800-point drop (Dec. 4), and a 500-point drop (Dec. 10).

Why has no one taken note of the apparent return of the “Tishrei phenomenon” after a ten-year absence? Two reasons: First, the market has, so far, rebounded enough that panic and a full-blown financial crisis have been averted. Second, the modern (precalculated) Jewish calendar is not reflective of the true biblical dates in 2018. Most Jewish calendars have October 10 corresponding to Cheshvan 1 this year. When we calculate the biblical New Year as in ancient times, however, reckoning the first new moon *after* the spring equinox Nisan 1, October 10 corresponds to Tishrei 1.³

Assuming that our calendar reckoning is correct, here’s the bottom line: October 10 marks the true (biblical) Tishrei 1 in 2018. Tishrei 1, the same date that marked the unprecedented financial crashes in 2001 and 2008, is when the *current* stock market began seeing convulsions that some analysts believe to be the “death throes” of a debt-and-bubble-laden economy that is long overdue for a crash.⁴

Supposing that the Tishrei phenomenon is in effect for the first time since 2008, what does it mean that a total crash did not occur on Tishrei 1 but only seems to have *begun* on this date? From where we stand on the prophetic timeline—presumably at the very end—a reasonable explanation is that the collapse is being temporarily prevented to keep the stage properly set for the Tribulation to begin. According to Scripture, the Day of the Lord begins during a period of economic expansion and prosperity, when people are “buying, selling, planting, and building” (Luke 17:26-29).

Could the restraining force holding back the market crash be the same One that Scripture implies will be removed at the Rapture?

“The one who now holds back will continue to do so till he is taken out of the way” (2 Thess. 2:7).

The implications are enormous.

LINKS:

<https://www.bloomberquint.com/global-economics/u-s-stock-market-exodus-is-second-biggest-on-record-bofa-says#gs.a9u95jU>

NOTES:

1. The biblical month of Tishrei is associated with major economic crashes, including Black Monday in October 1987 and Black Tuesday in October 1929, the crash that heralded the Great Depression. The Tishrei 1 crash in 2001 was, up until that point, the largest one-day crash in history. The Tishrei 1 crash in 2008 was even larger and led to a global financial crisis: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Financial_crisis_of_2007%E2%80%932008

2. The record-breaking Bull Run began at a market low of 666 points in March 2009.

3. For calendar reckoning explanation see NOTES section

here: http://www.theseasonofreturn.com/THE_SEVENTH_MONTH_-_KEEP_WATCH_rev_a.pdf

4. Leviticus instructs that a blowing of trumpets occur on Tishrei 1 each year (Lev. 23:24). Interpreting the trumpet blast as a warning of impending judgment (Joel 2), it makes sense that the market plunge heralding, or “trumpeting,” the presumed collapse of the financial system would be sounded on Tishrei 1.