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Today the American spirit is under pressure. Our open access to information via the internet, cable television, and satellite broadcasting, has given us front row seats to the process of “law-making,” and I think we can all agree that it’s a messy process. With new sound bites, opinions and television’s talking heads offering “perspectives of the moment”, we’ve unintentionally allowed ourselves to develop personal biases that vary on a day to day, hour to hour basis. Finger pointing and blame are running rampant and it seems that we have all caught a touch of depression fever. As a result, the resilient attitude of this country has been humbled and our confidence in leadership is now fractured.

So where’s the good news? Where’s the silver lining?

Recently we’ve been asking our clients the following question. Do you think the economic situation in America will be better three years from now or not? We believe that your answer to this question is a key driver towards considering whether a dramatic shift to your portfolio is needed. Fortunately, the vast majority of our clients believe that we will be on better economic footing within 2-3 years; it’s the next 3-6 months that leave us all a bit queasy and perplexed.

In our opinion, the “shock and awe” of this economic meltdown has been a healthy (in some regards), yet a very uncomfortable example of a shakedown in American greed and smugness. We all know that we’ve been (in some part) contributors to the problem – yet, it is always easier to blame others.

So, when this economic uncertainty passes – and we assure you it will pass someday – what lessons will we have learned and how might we approach our financial futures differently? We look forward to sharing lessons that we’ve learned in our upcoming newsletter, but until then, we encourage you to consider the important questions that we’ve asked above. Try your very best to think rationally, and in our opinion remain optimistic. As always, feel free contact us at any time. We’re here for you.

With sincerest respect,

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