CENTER STREET PARTNERS · A GUIDE FOR SERIOUS INVESTORS

10 Most Important Questions to Ask Before the *End of the Decade*

The next ten years will test every financial plan built for calmer times. These are the questions that separate investors who are prepared from those who are hoping things work out.




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"Together we make better decisions — but only if we're asking the right questions."

THE 10 QUESTIONS

01

INCOME RESILIENCE

How resilient is your income if automation, AI, or geopolitical shocks disrupt your industry or the global economy?

The pace of technological and geopolitical disruption is accelerating. Is your income diversified enough to withstand it?

02

ASSET STRATEGY

Is your personal investment strategy based on paper assets or hard assets?

Paper assets have worked well in stable monetary environments. The question is whether that environment still exists.

03

HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

Looking at your current portfolio, how did your type of investments perform during the 1970s?

The 1970s were marked by stagflation, energy shocks, and currency instability. History doesn't repeat — but it rhymes.

04

PORTFOLIO DIVERSIFICATION

How diversified is your wealth if U.S. equity markets experience a lost decade like Japan in the 1990s?

Japan's Nikkei peaked in 1989 and didn't recover for over 30 years. True diversification means planning for that possibility.

05

GOVERNMENT & FREEDOM

Do you consider the U.S. Government to be a help or a hindrance to your financial freedom?

Your answer to this question should directly shape how you position your assets and plan for taxation.

06

INTEREST RATE RISK

Washington wants lower interest rates. How would it impact your goals and dreams if the rest of the world demanded higher rates for U.S. government bonds?

Foreign demand for U.S. treasuries is declining. The implications for borrowing costs — and your portfolio — are significant.

07

NATIONAL DEBT

How will your personal finances be impacted if our national debt breaks $50 trillion by the end of this decade?

At current trajectory, $50 trillion is not a worst-case scenario. It may be the baseline. Do you have a plan for that world?

08

HIDDEN OBLIGATIONS

A Boston University economics professor says the U.S. government's real financial hole is over $200 trillion. What happens to your retirement funds or tax bracket if government promises can't be kept?

Unfunded liabilities for Social Security, Medicare, and pensions dwarf the reported national debt. Are you planning around the reported number or the real one?

09

GOLD & SOUND MONEY

The world's central banks have been quietly buying gold for over a decade and moving away from dollars. Why isn't our government telling us to do the same?

Central bank gold purchases hit record highs in 2022 and 2023. When institutions act differently than they advise, it's worth asking why.

10

GEOPOLITICAL RISK

America's enemies don't just fight with weapons anymore. They attack currencies, banks, and supply chains. Is your retirement protected against that kind of war?

Financial warfare is the new frontier. De-dollarization, sanctions evasion, and cyber attacks on financial infrastructure are not hypotheticals — they are happening now.

Ready to answer these questions?

These aren't meant to frighten — they're meant to focus. Every one of these questions has a strategy behind it. We'd love to walk through them with you and help you build a plan designed for the decades ahead.



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