

# Kingdom Report

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## **The Church and the 2025-2035 South African Crisis**

During the next 10 years 8 of South Africa's old large coal power stations are planned to be decommissioned. The economy is in deep trouble. Exiting the country is not the answer. The Church needs a new vision of a parallel Kingdom Economy to rebuild the waste places of a Southern Africa Promised Land.

Here is a remarkable economic fact in the history of the South African economy. In 21 years from 1967 to 1988 the previous apartheid National Government built 11 new coal power stations providing 29,059 mw of new electricity to the national energy grid and then they added a new nuclear power station in 1985 with 1,900 mw.

12 new power stations in 21 years or about one every 2 years. By the early 1990's several more were added and South Africa had a vast surplus of electricity with the second lowest cost of electricity in the world. This was done under international sanctions of the economy from domestic savings mostly.

Eskom at that time had a workforce of about 14,000-16,000 people with average wage per employee of R36,000. Today Eskom has 47,000 employees at average wage cost per worker at R913,000. And some of the highest electricity costs in the world.

Over the next 10 years 8 of the oldest power stations are listed to be decommissioned. They are too old to get spares or to maintain. And if you think they can be replaced by sun and wind you are going to be greatly disappointed.

Here is an economic fact taught by all economists: The higher the amount of electricity use per person per year, the richer that nations is. The less electricity available, the less prosperous a nations is.

Over the next 10 years as the availability of electricity per person per year declines every year the poorer the nation becomes. South Africa is already in a disastrous economic situation with one of the highest unemployment rates in the world combined with an impossible government debt burden, high taxes, high crime, high malnutrition of young and old. The economic situation is about to get even worse year by year over the next 10 years.

Let me connect this crisis to a new economic strategy by looking to scripture, the past South Africa of 1967-1988 and the new world economics called "Goeconomics".

The old apartheid National Government had a very strict economic policy. Apart from racial discrimination and “separate development” they also had a strict South Africa tariff policy. Something Donald Trump is trying now to re-industrialize America. Today that economic strategy is called “Geoeconomics”.

Trump has launched a new world economic policy that other nations are also now following. Globalization and “free trade” is gone. Old allies are not important anymore for military defense. The new weapons of the new world war is finance and economy. National security now is not how much military you have but how dependent are you on vital supply lines from overseas. Nations have no permanent friends or enemies...they only have permanent interests.

This is the type of economics that the Nationalist government of South Africa launched from 1948 to the end of apartheid government in 1992. High tariff barriers. We make as much as we can internally in the country. Keep dependency on outside suppliers to a minimum. Keep money and capital inside the country.

But most importantly was preventing the big corporations and mining conglomerates from moving profits and capital offshore. You made your money from South African minerals fine but that money stays in South Africa. So Anglo had to invest into industry through Anglo American Industrial Corporation. They made enormous profits from mining but had to reinvest into starting new industries. The Afrikaner mining groups did the same. If the Afrikaners had Iscor, Anglo started Scaw and Highveld steel. If Anglo had Mondi the Afrikaners started Sappi. The huge SA Breweries had nowhere to expand in beer anymore so they started investing in hotels (Sun International), property (The Carlton Center), retail (Edgars, OK bazaars)...and so on.

The government directed the flow of capital from the banking and insurance groups into prescribed assets in the nation to mobilize capital for infrastructure development in the form of new power stations, railways, universities....and military arms manufacture (Denel, and Pelindaba uranium enrichment and nuclear bomb production).

That is how you build 12 new power stations in 21 years.

And then came political revolution, new government, new national freedom, new international networks of economic integration into the world. What happened? All the big corporates and their bottled up capital and profits went offshore. Money and capital flowed out. And the new money that flowed in was buying up the crown jewels of the economy built on South African labour and savings and mostly just stripped out profits and dividends out of the country.

The new government increasingly started to rely more and more on debt financing to fund mass consumption and greatly expanding the job employment by expanding government employment to create a new black middle class. But neglecting the needed investment in infrastructure and maintenance of the national economy.

Today? There is no captured corporate or personal savings available for capital needed for infrastructure. It has fled abroad. The invested capital of the last of the “boomer generation” of elderly retired from the old dispensation will be consumed over the next 10 years for retirement expenses.

What would be a Church response to the economic decline and poverty of the nation over the next decade?

Here are some certainties as far as I believe:

- There is no political solution that will change continuous decline over the next decade. Regardless of the GNU now in coalition I still believe that will change by the next election with the uniting of the ANC, MK and EFF. And it will be politics as usual.
- The emigration of skills and capital will not only continue but increase.
- The world cares nothing for South Africa. The “rainbow nation miracle” of 1994 is long past history. Nobody believes or cares.
- The new world of ‘Goeconomics’ means that the new multipolar world of economic power blocs have no interest in South Africa apart from whatever minerals they can extract. Beyond that we don’t have a serious prosperous domestic market to make it worthwhile to manufacture here or much buying power to export to.

My certainties for the Church over the next decade are these:

- The times of “end times” theology are coming to an end.
- The economic and social and military demise of Israel during this period will be the end of Christian Zionism as the destruction of Jerusalem in 70 AD was the end of Messianic Zionism for the Jewish Zealots.
- The growing poverty and collapse of the South African economy and desperation for the Christian majority population will mark the end of the American theology of the “prosperity gospel”.
- The corruption of the political and financial elites is endemic in the system and will necessitate the church to create a parallel social and economic order
- There will emerge a new leadership with new vision for the Church and the long road ahead.

God gave a prophecy to Daniel in Dan. 9:24-27. We call it the 70 Weeks prophecy. It laid out not only an exit out of 70 years of Babylonian captivity but it laid out a vision of building a New Jerusalem and a New Temple and with that a 490 year time line into the distant future.

To traverse that long timeline they would have to not only rebuild the Temple to keep their faith alive and with it their international witness but they needed to rebuild Jerusalem....a walled Jerusalem to keep their economy and social and national life alive for hundreds of years till the Messiah comes.

At some time in the over the next 10 years it will begin to become a growing acknowledgement among God’s people in Southern Africa of the following:

We are not getting raptured out of here.  
We are here for the long term.  
We have no political saviors.  
We have no miracle prosperity.

At this point the new Christian charismatic leadership will produce new visionaries on the order of :

- Zerubbabel: Who led the pioneers of the new Israel out of Babylon to occupy and build a new promised land.
- The new Ezras that will rebuild the Temple of God for the nations to come and worship the manifest presence of the Lord in His people the new Israel. They will teach the people the ways of the Lord fit for a new civilization and a new way of living.
- The new Nehemiah's ...the new Jerusalem city builders who will build new networked communities of God's people will now do what the Afrikaners did for the whites....a policy of Separate Development for the people of God no longer dependent on a failed state. A new form of BEE where the cadre deployment is God's family deployed in our own Kingdom companies, investing our savings in our own infrastructure, our own power plants, our own schools our own food production and industries.

And using our surplus to feed the hungry, heal the sick clothe, the naked and house the poor.

And I look forward to the day when we raise that "ensign of the Lord" over Southern Africa as Zephaniah 3:10 and Isaiah 18 says the people beyond the rivers of Ethiopia (Southern Africa) will do. The dispersed of our people in America and UK and Australia and New Zealand will see the miracle of a new South Africa and come home to join the vision with their skills and capital.