



## QA: Why Is Our Economy Seemingly Failing? by [John T Polk II](#)

All Scriptures and comments are based on the **New King James Version**, unless otherwise noted.

### QUESTION: "Why is our economy seemingly failing?"

### ANSWER: People can lie with money.

**Proverbs 11:1**: "Dishonest scales are an abomination to the LORD, But a just weight is His delight."

1. **Whatever is "an abomination to the LORD" is as despicable** as anything can be, for that places it along with: dabblers in the supernatural, **Deuteronomy 18:9-12**; prostitution, **Deuteronomy 23:18**; perverse heart, **Proverbs 11:20**; lying lips, **Proverbs 12:22**; everyone proud in heart, **Proverbs 16:5**. "Dishonest scales" certainly fit in that list. God's Law through Moses was very explicit about this matter:

"You shall not have in your bag differing weights, a heavy and a light. You shall not have in your house differing measures, a large and a small. You shall have a perfect and just weight, a perfect and just measure, that your days may be lengthened in the land which the LORD your God is giving you. For all who do such things, all who behave unrighteously, are an abomination to the LORD your God." (**Deuteronomy 25:13-16**)

Anyone who carries "differing measures," or different weights, is planning to deal unfairly with someone, somewhere, sometime. The "all who do such things" means the practice is wrong, no matter if someone is poor, disadvantaged, under a "glass ceiling," prosperous, an official of a government, tax assessor, tax collector, manufacturer, or all such "excuses." Certainly, a "two-tiered" justice system would also be included.

2. **When people plan to "buy and sell and make a profit" (James 4:13), it should never be as God condemned in Amos 8:5:**

Making the ephah small and the shekel large, Falsifying the balances by deceit.

The "ephah" would have measured the produce and the "shekel" the money to purchase it. Shortening the measurement and acting as if the money amount was larger within a transaction is abominable to God! That describes today's making the container look the same size but putting less inside; artificially inflating costs by printing more money without value; raising "minimum wage" for the same or less work; shortchanging customers; changing the terms of already signed contracts; or any of the myriad of ways the wicked will invent to "profit." God's "fair labor law"

was that the “poor and needy” laborer should be paid when the work was done” (**Deuteronomy 24:14-15**), not at the convenience of the employer, regardless of ethnicity! Minimizing the product’s worth to get a good buy shows intent to deceive. Honest discounts, coupons, merchant sales, or actually factory defective products offered at low prices are not included in this proverb, however. Honesty truly applies to economics as well as to words, deeds, relationships!

—- jtpll, September 17, 2023