



faith . discipline . patience

skv  three things



[Don't Fall For Doomsday Predictions](#), by David Von Drehele, gets 5-stars from me! I found the article difficult to excerpt, but tried: *“Earth’s greatest natural resource is the human brain. And it may also be among the least appreciated, judging from the persistent doom and gloom, going back centuries, over the supposed menace of overpopulation. **Wishing for fewer human brains on Earth is like wishing for fewer diamonds or rubies...** Take, for example, the pressing issue of water supplies — a current concern of population catastrophists. In water-stressed places from Israel to Singapore to Las Vegas, human brains are deploying a wide variety of technologies to efficiently desalinate seawater or effectively recycle wastewater, thereby increasing the available resource. Meanwhile, modern appliances and factories are made more efficient, which reduces demand. These advances don’t happen by magic. When a resource grows expensive, **creative people figure out how to find more**, create more or use less.... From immigration to climate to wealth distribution, our policy debates are dominated by doomsday and stalked by scarcity. Yet all around us, **if we will look past fear to facts, we see evidence of abundance.**”* (Washington Post, Jan 8th, 2019.)



Since 1926, **84% of the rolling three year periods** for the S&P 500 index (the 91 separate ones...1926-1928, 1927-1929....) have produced a positive return. (BTN Research)



So many economists have been calling for profit declines, and a recession lately...you have to look hard, but there is another view: *“We continue to get reports on corporate profits as well as forward guidance. Profits compared to a year ago are doing well; estimates for the future, not so much. But **those estimates for the future appear excessively pessimistic.** The recession many anticipated isn’t happening and consumers and businesses have plenty of purchasing power, which means top-line growth should offset any pressure on margins. In addition, the power of improved incentives has only begun to play out. Dropping the corporate tax rate to 21% from 35% means companies have more reason to shift operations to the US. **But these shifts take time** and it’s only been a year. Those predicting the next recession are going to be waiting for a while before they finally get one “right.”* Brian Wesbury, Chief

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Economist of First Trust, February 11, 2019 . (and on my personal "Economist Mt. Rushmore"
☺)



I found a box in the SKV attic of these really cool Swiss Army utility cards...lots of "tools" held inside this business card sized gadget. If you would like one, email me. Have about 20 left, first come first served.

FAITH

DISCIPLINE

PATIENCE

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S&P 500 Index: The S&P 500 Index consists of 500 stocks chosen for market size, liquidity, and industry group representation. It is a market value weighted index with each stock's weight in the Index proportionate to its market value.

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