

Your weekly market update

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Market Update

08 Dec 2017

This weeks market update will be relatively short as we head into the most wonderful time of the year full of family, friends and loved ones.

Year end is closing fast and equity markets have moved to a risk momentum pushing stocks higher on a global level. We are definitely in a jubilant moment and a Santa Claus rally. A Santa Claus rally is the market moving upwards due to lower taxation, overall happiness with investors and generally lower pessimism during the holiday season. A Santa Claus rally sets up markets for what is known as the January effect as investors rush to invest in November and December with high expectations that January 2018 markets will rise even further.

It seems that this overall 'feeling good' mood has spread beyond North America and the EU with Britain left in the dark. Does this all look like market Euphoria or the start of fiscal policy stimulus? One thing is clear the Federal Reserve in America will need to act on interest rate hikes as the economy continues to move forward at a faster than expected rate.

Bitcoin has moved to a hot market mover as the demand for bitcoin is greater than supply. Each and every time Central Banks around the world mention further regulation of digital currencies the cryptocurrency just rallies. Why? Since the introduction of Basel III rules which restrict banks in performing certain transactions regarding international deposit and wire transfers. Bitcoin is the chosen method of transfer of such off the books transactions. Let's



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be clear block chain technology is here to stay, as it makes the flow of global money transfers safer and cost efficient.

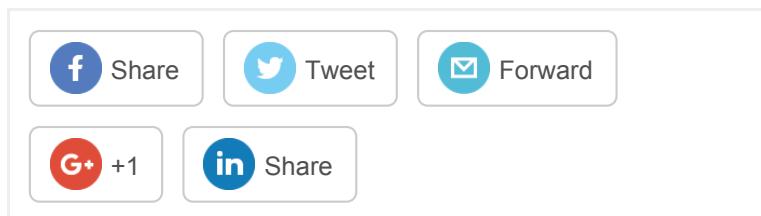
Gold has been since mankind mined it as the original store of value and preferred asset class to transfer wealth. Gold is untraceable, not subject to central banks, governmental collapse and taxation. It has been the ultimate wealth preservation tool. Central Banks around the world hold gold reserves as a store of wealth and alternative currency tool. We definitely live in world of greater prosperity along with escalating geopolitical stability.

Wealthy people in the developing world are consistently moving funds out of their own regions and moving to stable developed countries. Tax cuts only make wealth transfers in America even more desirable.

Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and the best in 2018.

In closing I leave you with this thought:

The most fascinating periods in history were filled with tumult and upheaval. Tales of treachery, wars, chaos and extreme wealth generation. History always repeats. Those who are/were living through the momentous changes were probably experiencing trepidation and concern about their future. In recent history, such monumental change came with the industrial revolution and have kept on accelerating at greater rates of speed. We live in times where the only constant in our lives is change itself.



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