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Quotations to live by during the financial storm

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The financial meltdown of economies around the world has mesmerized everyone, especially those with investment portfolios. The bad news is that this condition will continue for many more months and, possibly years.

What to do? Should we respond to the urge to protect what's left, convert it to hard cash and hide it under the mattress, or should we hunker down and weather the storm?

Charles Darwin once said, "It is not the strongest of the species, nor the most intelligent that survives, but rather the one that is most adaptable to change."

Jennifer Lerner, director of the Laboratory for Decision Research at Harvard University said, "Emotions can lead to choices without the decision-maker realizing it. Fear makes people perceive more risk and make risk-averse choices."

Fear can often result in a reaction of anger, which is not ideal when considering your next investment move. Possibly the best solution is to keep calm and look for opportunities, not revenge.

Warren Buffet is on a buying spree, going for the long-term investment, not the fear-spurred short-term solution to cut and run. Maybe it's time to look to him and other successful survivors.

Albert Einstein said, "We can't solve problems by using the same kind of thinking we used when we created them."

Remember, in every crisis there is a message. I say it's time to seize the opportunity and reject the fear.

John Hopkins
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