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Counting on Crypto 2

Cryptocurrencies, Decentralized Finance, and The Metaverse

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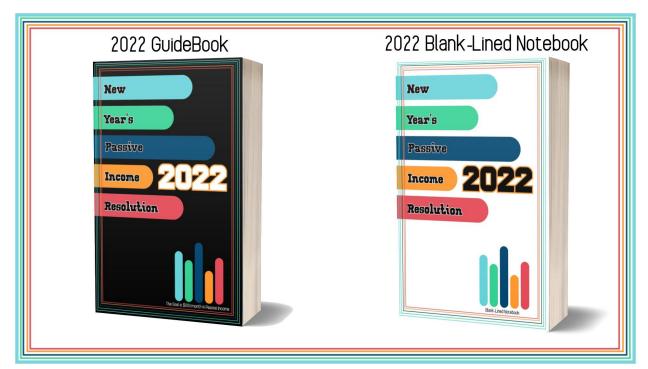


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INTRODUCTION



00 Counting on Crypto 2

Cryptocurrencies will play a huge role in our lives over the next many years. They may even overtake paper currencies as the primary money system by central banks.

However you feel about cryptocurrencies today, you should prepare for tomorrow by educating yourself. This is the same logic I used to start my journey into cryptocurrencies, decentralized finance, and the Metaverse.

Welcome back to my Signatures series of articles (and books). This book will complete the Signature Series round 2. Here is the entire series.

- 1) Financial Mindset- "Become CEO of Yourself 2" (free pdf)(Amazon)
- 2) Retirement Planning- "Your Retirement Planning Guide 2" (free pdf)(Amazon)
- 3) Investing- "How We Plan to Retire on Dividends 2" (free pdf)(Amazon)
- 4) Cryptocurrencies- You're Here
- 5) Real Estate- "Financial Independence through Real Estate 2" (free pdf)(Amazon)
- 6) Business- "Retire Rich, Retire Comfortable with a Business 2" (free pdf)(Amazon)

I first became interested in crypto because of a friend at work. He was deep into the crypto-verse, and I wanted to follow. I began reading books and blogs on crypto. Finally, I began to write articles about what I learned. And here we are today.

CRYPTOCURRENCY 101

My first series on crypto was CryptoCurrency 101. Throughout this series, I cover a wide selection of terms to understand and other basic mechanics. Here is the series so far.

- 1) <u>CryptoCurrency 101: Let's Invest in Crypto Together!</u>
- 2) <u>CryptoCurrency 102: Important Words to Understand</u>
- 3) <u>CryptoCurrency 103: Finding the Right Coins</u>
- 4) <u>CryptoCurrency 104: The Future of Decentralized Finance</u>
- 5) <u>CryptoCurrency 105: The Stability of Stablecoins</u>
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- 8) CryptoCurrency 108: What are DAOs?
- 9) <u>CryptoCurrency 109: Perform Your Due Diligence</u>
- 10) CryptoCurrency 110: Wrap Your Coins
- 11) <u>CryptoCurrency 111: Real Estate Tokenization</u>

CRYPTO BASICS

One of the first questions you have to ask yourself is, "<u>Why Am I Investing in Bitcoin?</u>" Or any other coin, for that matter. You must form your investing thesis if you plan on being successful at any form of investment.

When looking to build your empire, it is great to have options. For many, the choices come down to <u>stocks vs. crypto</u>. However, I ask, "Why can't you have both?"

Cryptocurrencies bring in a bevy of <u>passive income opportunities</u>. You will have to turn to decentralized finance for many of them, which may be riskier.

Two major coins dominate the media: <u>Bitcoin and Ethereum</u>. People always compare these cryptos; but they are pretty different. Depending on your goals, you may decide to hold one or the other.

Another major coin is <u>Chainlink</u>. It provides multiple smart chains access to accurate world data via an oracle. This allows smart contracts to decide the outcomes of decision points. For example, pay Bob \$20 if the weather is over 75 degrees in San Diego on Tuesday.

My favorite investment of the year 2022 is <u>USDC stable coin</u>. You get 9% interest on <u>Voyager</u> to hold your USDC. This could be the best opportunity on the market today. Voyager will even offer a <u>debit card linked</u> to your USDC holdings. Amazing.

Using 9% interest on USDC will allow you to <u>beat inflation</u> (currently around 7%) handily. Other types of crypto offer similar interest rates—if not more. Inflation can dampen your accounts if you don't proactively defeat it.

Every day I hear someone ask, "<u>Is now a good time to invest in crypto?</u>" The answer is always a resounding yes. The metaverse will almost entirely use cryptos, blockchains, and smart contracts for navigation and ownership. Crypto is more than speculation; it is a world unto itself.

The <u>magic of cryptocurrencies</u> is that they are as simple (9% on USDC) or complex (Fixed rate interest protocols) as you require. I am sticking to USDC and other interest-bearing coins for now.

My wife and I plan to <u>retire overseas on passive income</u>. If we can build a giant nest egg using USDC, we can set ourselves up for lifelong success. If USDC pays us 9% interest, and live on 5%, we will never run out of money. In fact, our cash pile will grow every month.

<u>Non-Fungible Tokens</u> are all the rage today; but will they be in style tomorrow? NFTs offer more options than just collectibles; however, you have to look deeper to see the future use-cases.

<u>Decentralized Finance</u> will change the banking world as we know it. DeFi will replicate Traditional Finance (TradFi) with a trustless system. Trustless means that you won't have to seek a middle-man (loan agent, insurance agent) to access capital. You will insert your collateral into a smart chain and extract a loan against it.

PASSIVE INCOME IN DEFI

There are a fantastic number of ways to earn passive income in DeFi. However, it can be riskier than TradFi because there is no SEC or FDIC to protect consumers. You genuinely need to know where you are inserting your cash. Here is my series on Passive Income in DeFi.

- 1) Passive Income in DeFi 101: Interest from Coins
- 2) Passive Income in DeFi 102: Borrowing and Lending
- 3) Passive Income in DeFi 103: Staking
- 4) Passive Income in DeFi 104: Yield Farming
- 5) Passive Income in DeFi 105: Crypto Rewards

THE METAVERSE

Welcome to the Metaverse. The Metaverse is a virtual world where people will interact using avatars. It may sound silly today, but in 1995, the internet sounded silly. We would have never guessed (in 1995) we would be watching YouTube on-demand in 2022.

The Metaverse is the same place as the internet was in 1995. Most regular folks are unaware of the digital revolution that is happening. Entrepreneurs, business folks, and content creators need to take heed and direct time and effort to the Metaverse. The Metaverse will make many millionaires; will you be one of them?

1) <u>The Metaverse 101: Enter the Metaverse</u>

- 2) <u>The Metaverse 102: Real Estate in the Metaverse</u>
- 3) The Metaverse 103: Business in the Metaverse
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- 11) The Metaverse 111: Transfer of Wealth in the Metaverse

BOOK TAKEAWAYS

The first books I recommend anyone read on Cryptocurrencies and DeFi are "<u>How to DeFi</u> <u>-Beginner</u>" and "<u>How to DeFi -Advanced.</u>" These books will give you a solid base of knowledge so you can proceed deeper into the crypto-verse.

Next, you will need some education on NFTs. The books "<u>The NFT Revolution</u>" and "<u>How to</u> <u>NFT</u>" will guide you through the future of NFTs. Many people are already making millions of dollars from simple artwork. However, NFTs will be more interesting than just clip art.

The two most significant coins are Bitcoin and Ethereum, so you should form an investing thesis on both of these. The books "<u>Ethereum</u>" and "<u>Bitcoin: Hard Money You Can't F-CK With</u>" are good late-night reading.

The Metaverse will consume us all, so we may as well read about what is inside these virtual worlds. Real estate, businesses, and employment will all move into the Metaverse. We will transact on the blockchain. The book "<u>The Metaverse</u>" gives us the details we need to build our future fortunes.

CONCLUSION

Many people are intimidated by the world of crypto. Knowledge combats fear, so do your due diligence. Don't let your fear stop you from building your fortune. I believe that crypto will be as large (if not larger) than the stock market someday.

Crypto is a worldwide game—it's not limited to the US. That means that anyone with internet access can be a player. With the ability to touch everyone globally, we are years away from the peak of crypto. We still have years of growth left, so it's not too late to get involved. Good Luck!

CRYPTOCURRENCY 101



01 CryptoCurrency 101: Let's Invest in Crypto Together!

Well, it is finally time to dive into the world of cryptocurrencies. I know that I have been a little apprehensive before, but fear never gets us anywhere. Sometimes we have to take the bull by the horns and wrestle control of our futures.

I want this series to be a place where we can continually evolve our knowledge and information of crypto. With all of my stock market investing series (<u>Stock Market Investing 101</u>, <u>Preferred</u> <u>Shares 101</u>, <u>Introduction to REITs</u>, and <u>Investing for Dividends 101</u>), I was able to find a good ending point. I expect the world of crypto to continue to evolve almost every week.

Therefore, I expect this series to be a mainstay along with my other cryptocurrency articles. However, it will be fun to look back and see how our confidence with crypto matures over time. Let's take a look at what we know about crypto so far.

My Experience with Crypto. I just opened my <u>Voyager</u> account two weeks ago. I have read three books based on cryptocurrencies: "<u>Bitcoin: Hard Money You Can't F*CK With</u>," "<u>Ethereum</u>," and "<u>The Nft Revolution.</u>" So, I am just starting my journey into the wide world of crypto. If you are nervous and don't know much about it, then you are not alone. Today is as good as any to get involved. Crypto is not going away any time soon.

CryptoCurrency: The Digital Stock Market: Investing in crypto is an eye-watering good time. The numbers always dance around on your screen. That is because there is no centralized stock market. Everything is decentralized. Decentralized means that there is no central actor that can change the rules or manipulate the scenario. For example, with the US Stock Markets, the Federal Reserve can change interest rates. Although this does not inherently change the stock market, it changes people's investment theories, which change the exchange's intrinsic value.

Crytpo is unregulated. The world of crypto is different because there is no central authority. This fact means that crypto, as of now, is an utterly free-market economy. Being an actual capitalist society can be a positive or negative situation.

The pros of being a free-market are that you can invest knowing that what you see is what you get. In the US stock market, you may want to invest in REITs, but there may be talk of the Fed raising interest rates. You have to perform second-level thinking before you invest. You have to manage a larger investment picture when others have control of the situation.

The cons of being a free-market are that the news cycle and "hype-cycle" in crypto can be perilous for the uninitiated. There are good crypto coins and bad ones. If you are waiting for the news to tell you what to buy, you are already too late. There are bad actors whose only mission is to hype up their coin, push up the price, and take profits—leaving you with the bag. They call this a pump-and-dump.

Insider vs. outsider. Knowing the difference between an insider and an outsider, as any type of investor, is vital to your success. I'll take the time to explain it because this is how you can make extraordinary profits in the crypto space.

An inside investor is someone who controls the outcome of the investing landscape. An inside investor is the one who holds the company that goes to its initial public offering (IPO), who owns real estate and controls rents, who owns the business, and who creates the coins that go to the initial coin offering (ICO).

An outside investor is someone who controls none of the above. They buy overpriced stocks at IPO, have their rents raised, buy from the businesses, and purchase coins at an ICO. They have no internal leverage to control the investment outcome.

Now, there is nothing wrong with being an outside investor in certain aspects of life. We can't all be everywhere and know everything. However, it is good to be an insider in parts of your life—perhaps own a small business or rental property. But this is a vast topic for another day.

Being a good crypto outside investor. Most of us will be outsiders in the crypto space, at least until we start to connect with some of the more prominent players. However, just because we aren't bringing the coins to ICO doesn't mean we can't get as close to the action as possible.

Therein lies the profits in the crypto space, being close to the inside. As I dig deeper into the crypto world, I see that the first movers get the best returns. In the US Stock Market, the SEC

blocks the average joe from getting into the action early. You have to be an <u>accredited investor</u> to invest in a company before IPO. In crypto, no such distinction exists.

How do you find good deals in crypto? Just like every other investment, you have to do your research. What I have noticed is that crypto is similar to every other investing mechanism. Those who are willing to read, follow, track, and analyze get the best results. Those waiting for the talking heads on television or YouTube to tell them what to invest in are the net losers (do not get high returns).

Where to look for excellent crypto news. We all have to start somewhere. I like to start my daily reading at <u>CoinGecko</u>. It is an aggregate site that pulls in articles from across the crypto sphere. As you click on outbound links, you can find additional sites that help you delve deeper into the inside. Remember, the closer we are to the inside, the better our returns. We want to find great coins that are early in their business cycle.

Looking for good coins. Much of the crypto world is based on speculation—meaning that there may not be a valid business reason for the investment to succeed; we may just want the price to go up. Speculation happens in all investment platforms; stocks, bonds, commodities, real estate, Pokemon cards, etc.

To find coins that have some staying power, you have to research what innovative thesis they provide. For example, Chainlink (LINK) helps the smart contracts aggregate data so that they can make a decision on when the contract complies or not. It connects to the outside world to allow the smart contract to decide when the contract should conduct a payout.

Now that I know that Chainlink will have utility, my investing thesis is strong, and I can invest knowing what I am getting myself into. Even if Chainlink drops in price, I can use this as a buying opportunity to add more. When you have the information, you have the power.

More to come. There is so much to talk about in Crypto, and I want to do it justice. I am learning as much as I can, but it is hard to keep up. Remember, crypto is just a part of my overall passive income cash flow system.

The other pillars are retirement income, real estate, stock market investing, cryptocurrencies, and business. I plan to make crypto about 5% of my portfolio. Crypto tends to have wild swings in market prices as it tries to find its way.

The future of Crypto. Look for crypto to stabilize more as its actual use cases come to the forefront. The Ethereum platform and smart contracts will become a significant player in finance, video games, and maybe healthcare. Right now, most of everything is speculation, but the true importance of crypto hasn't shown through yet.

Think of crypto as the early days of the internet, back in 1995. We had AOL dial-up and less than 1MB internet speeds (<u>56 kps was standard</u>). Back then, we had no idea about YouTube, Tablets, iPhones, and the connected world of 2021. Crypto is in the same timeframe right now.

We think we have a clue as to where crypto is headed, but we have no clue. We could be living our entire life on smart contracts one day (I'm joking). So we have to invest in what we think sounds like good common sense projects and do some speculation. There are no 100% solid bets because nothing is 100% reliable. We don't know anything about the true future of crypto.

But if you had a chance to invest in Amazon or Google early in their existence, would you? It is the same now, with Bitcoin, Ethereum, ChainLink, and BitTorrent. These names will be the major players in the future.

So, invest safely, dollar cost average into your positions, and buy with at least a 3-5 year timeframe. I think we can all do okay if we keep our heads about us. I love the world of crypto because it is always on. Don't get caught up in the day trading aspect. Research, make good choices based on solid investment theories, and buy-and-hold. I look forward to bringing you more as I learn more. Good Luck!



02 CryptoCurrency 102: Important Words to Understand

Learning a second or third language can be challenging, and learning the language of cryptocurrencies is similar. You are entering into a new world, full of words you didn't even know existed.

Today, I will attempt to give you a good starting point in your journey into the crypto wonderland. I will convert these words into the common tongue so all comprehend what I am speaking about today. If you want a more scientific definition, please Google at your earliest convenience. Let's get started.

Cryptocurrencies are digital tokens that are usually mined digitally by a computer workforce. As computers mine them, they can also be offered up to be bought by speculators. Some tokens also can be used on the blockchain, which we will talk about later.

Fiat currencies are your regular monies that governments issue. Cryptocurrency and fiat currencies offer different attributes of scarcity and freedom. Knowing who controls each is vital to your success in crypto.

The **Blockchain** is the innovation first brought to the world with Bitcoin. The blockchain is the heart of Bitcoin (and others)—it is a unique string of digital blocks visible to the world as a whole. People use computers to mine for these blocks by solving complex math problems. Each block contains data from the block prior, ensuring that the chain cannot be disrupted or hacked.

Cryptocurrency Digital Wallet stores public and private keys to buy, trade, and sell cryptocurrency.

A **Centralized Exchange** is where a third party controls your digital wallet for you. Some examples of a centralized exchange are Coinbase and Voyager. With a centralized exchange, the third party will hold the keys to your digital wallet.

A **Decentralized Exchange or (DEX)** is where **you** control the keys to your digital wallet. It is vital to keep your private key private. Many people write it down and keep it safe. If you write it down in a digital format, it opens the possibility for someone to steal it digitally. Your wallet has no personally identifiable information, so anyone with your private key can gain access. Uniswap is an example of a decentralized exchange; here are <u>some more examples</u>.

Here is a <u>good article</u> on the difference between a centralized and decentralized exchange. It is essential to know which exchange you are using and why. You can have multiple wallets on either type of exchange.

Proof of Work is the term used to identify the confirmation of what is written to the blockchain. The network of computers works together to verify anything that someone writes to the blockchain. So, in theory, nothing can be written or deleted from the blockchain because of the computer network's confirmations.

Proof of Stake is a different type of blockchain verification that uses much less energy. Ehtereum 2.0 is moving to a proof of stake platform.

Smart Contracts are self-executing contracts between a buyer and a seller directly written in lines of code. The contract is then distributed across a decentralized blockchain, like Ethereum. The code controls the execution, and transactions are trackable and irreversible. Read more about <u>smart contracts here</u>.

If there is one item to get familiar with, it is smart contracts. In my opinion, they are the wave of the future and give cryptocurrencies legitimate staying power. Once you understand smart contracts, you will appreciate the actual fate of cryptocurrencies.

Gas Expense is the cost of writing items, such as smart contracts and NFTs, to the blockchain. Nothing in life is free, so why would writing on blockchains be an exception. You pay the gas expense in the native token to the blockchain. For example, to write on the Ethereum network, you pay with Ether (ETH). Ether is the same coin that speculators can buy on centralized exchanges, like Coinbase.

Non-fungible tokens or (NFTs) are wholly unique items written on the blockchain. Basically, you can create something, like a book or artwork, and give it its own unique key (or token) on the blockchain. This key serves as verification that the work is wholly unique. NFTs are the wave of the future and another reason to be bullish on blockchain, smart contracts, and cryptocurrencies.

Whew, I think that is enough for today. The key isn't knowing a ton of words but understanding the concepts of cryptocurrencies. Many people are speculating on the coins without knowing the deeply rooted thesis of the crypto-verse.

I am investing, not speculating, in the world of crypto. We are still extremely early on, kind of like the internet in the early 1990s. We thought that the internet would be websites and images, but we never could imagine what it has become today. Smart refrigerators, cars, Google Maps, internet on phones were not in our minds in the 1990s.

Cryptocurrencies are in the same position now. Look for the utility of the coins you are buying, so you will know what it's futures hold. For example, a coin I am investing in is Chainlink (link). Chainlink is an application that helps smart contracts interface and verifies information with real-world data.

Let's say you create a smart contract that pays your brother one ETHER if the weather in San Diego is above 80 degrees at noon on a particular day. Chain Link would gather the data from multiple sources, create an average of the data, and report back to the smart contract. If the data shows the correct information, the smart contract will pay the money out.

Now, we can think about things like sports betting, bonds, etc. How about child support arrangements written on the blockchain with smart contracts. No more keeping track of payments; everything is written securely and available for everyone to see.

These are the actual use cases of cryptocurrencies—everything else is hype and speculation. Become an investor and learn about what the future of cryptocurrency holds. It is okay to speculate from time to time, but most of your investing should be with coins that serve a function. Good Luck!



03 CryptoCurrency 103: Finding the Right Coins

The land of cryptocurrencies is full of speculation, and speculating is not what a true investor does. A true investor chooses an investment for the long run or until the investment thesis changes. Actual investors don't try to time the market, sell to a bigger fool or follow the crowd. Catch up on the CryptoCurrency 101 series here (101, 102).

Every day, looking at the crypto space can give you FOMO (fear of missing out) because everyone seems to be winning. They are picking the coins that are making the big money runs, or so it seems. Remember, <u>JOMO (Joy of Missing Out)</u> wins every time.

Everyone's a winner until the crash happens, then everyone seems to be quiet. That is why we build our portfolio to withstand crashes. Our overall portfolio should consist of real estate, business, crypto, and stock investments.

Inside our portfolio, crypto should account for no more than 5-10% of our total assets (closer to 5%). As much as we love to invest in cryptos, there just isn't enough long-term data for us to increase this allowance yet.

Now looking into our crypto portfolio, we can allocate certain types of coins to diversify our portfolio. These are the names that I, Josh, call them. This naming convention is how I best understand them and can convey the information to you. I am sure an intelligent crypto person will have more technical terms for them.

I list the types of coins: Bitcoin, ecosystem coins, launchpool coins, improvement coins, stable coins, and speculation coins. By having these categories, I can visualize my investment thesis for purchasing coins. Let's look at an infographic that will help you in the long run.



Bitcoin. Bitcoin is the first and biggest coin out there. I think everyone should own a little bitcoin because it will always be a player in the space. Where bitcoin goes, cryptocurrencies go. Bitcoin can be highly volatile, and this volatility will also affect other cryptocurrencies at the same time.

Ecosystem coins. As you can see from this fantastic infographic, cryptocurrency is full of separate and distinct ecosystems. Currently, Ethereum and Binance are the most prominent players. To create smart contracts and applications on these ecosystems, you have to use the ecosystem coins. So to make an application on Ethereum, you will need to pay in Ether (ETH).

This is the proper use of these coins, and from the outside, speculators and investors can purchase these coins to hold or sell. By purchasing coins like Ether and DOT (Polkadot), we are helping make these platforms or ecosystems stronger. I like to think of ecosystems like computer operating systems like Windows, Mac OS, and Chrome OS.

Launchpool coins. The infographic also gives us an insight into launchpool coins. A launchpool helps new coins come to fruition. Buying a coin at launch is a great way to jump into the investment arena for the coins. Remember, from my article "Becoming a Bonafide Investor:

<u>Investing Insider vs. Outsider</u>," buying at IPO or ICO will make you an investing outsider. You are not going to get out-sized gains by buying at the start.

This warning doesn't mean we can't invest as new coins come on board; we just need to manage expectations. To get involved with new coins being launched, you will have to transact in these particular launchpad tokens. For example, PancakeSwap, on the Binance Smart Chian, has CAKE coin.

Improvement coins. These coins are here to help the cryptocurrency space become better through interoperability, speed, and efficiency. For example, Chainlink (LINK) helps smart contracts gather the necessary data to adjudicate the contracts. There are many improvement coins, and reading about their purposes will help you ascertain if they have any merit or not.

I initiate most of my crypto reading on <u>CoinGecko</u>, and from there, I can go down various rabbit holes. Since CoinGecko is an aggregate site, it leads to other smaller crypto sites with great information. For example, here is a deep dive on the <u>Cosmos coin (ATOM)</u> that I read recently.

Stable coins. Stable coins are the cash or bonds of cryptocurrencies. When you are in-between investments or when a crash is imminent, you probably want to have some money in a stable coin. Most stable coins attempt to mimic the USD or other fiat currency.

I currently have some cash in USDC, which also pays me 9% interest. It is not a bad place to park some money, and you can redeploy if a buying opportunity arrives. Stable coins are also a good place for beginners to start because of interest rates and stability.

Speculation coins. Finally, speculation coins serve no real purpose. They can also be called MEME coins. Be careful here because some of these coins have been known to be scams. Anyone can create a coin, so some people start them with bad intentions. That is why we want to research the purpose or reason each coin exists. Not only will this help us form an investment thesis, but it will also help us avoid speculation coins. The major speculation coin over the last year has been Dogecoin.

Putting it all together. Having a mix of coins and a purpose for each is an excellent way to diversify your long-term crypto assets. However, when the inevitable crash happens, they will usually all crash together. How they grow back may be different based on their purpose. As long as you understand each coin, you have a better chance in the long run.

Remember, as a crypto investor, our investment thesis is paramount. There will be more and more coins coming online, and we need to be careful that we are doing our due diligence and screening for the best future-facing coins possible. Good Luck!



04 CryptoCurrency 104: The Future of Decentralized Finance

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to lend money to a friend and not have to worry if they paid you back? How about having the ability to make an excellent return on your money while it sits in a bank account? What about setting parameters and having your cash deploy when those objectives are met?

In today's world, you would need to go through a banking institution to handle most of these transactions. Sure, you could lend your friend \$1,000 on your own, but good luck on trying to get your money back.

Currently, the financial world that we deal in the most is called centralized finance—we never call it that because we never had an alternative. Almost every transaction that deals with money must be processed, approved, and routed through a central banking institution like your local bank or a national bank like Wells Fargo or Bank of America.

If I want to send my mom \$1,000, I have to either put her on my official transfer list or go through another application like Zelle, where she has been authorized. It is a mess, and it takes a while to accomplish anything.

Decentralized finance, or DeFi, promises to improve on many of our day-to-day banking processes, including making loans, betting, and investing. But what is DeFi, and how will it change the future?

DeFi is what is known as finance that we conduct over the blockchain. If you remember from earlier articles in the CryptoCurrency 101 series (<u>101</u>, <u>102</u>, <u>103</u>), the blockchain platform was the central creation along with Bitcoin.

Using a system of computers that can verify everything that people write onto the blockchain allows it to be safe, secure, and visible to all. DeFi uses the same blockchain technology but over the <u>Ethereum blockchain</u>, or smart chain.

<u>Bitcoin</u> was seen more as a store of wealth with parallels to gold. Ethereum is more of a computer operating system where applications and transactions can take place more efficiently.

Using these applications over the Ethereum smart chain will allow us to do things like loans, crowdfunding, and execute smart contracts. But Josh, if everything is so great on the smart chain, why haven't we already moved everything over?

Great question. One of the significant drawbacks of DeFi is that there is a cost associated with writing anything to the blockchain. This cost is called the gas expense, and you pay it using Ether (ETH). In the past, it could get quite expensive to write these transactions onto the blockchain.

The good news is that the community is coming up with solutions to speed up transactions and significantly reduce costs. I won't go into the details because they are very complex and above my paygrade, but let's say that they want to combine many transactions together and then write them onto the blockchain. This will increase speed and reduce cost.

When they work out some of the nuances associated with DeFi, there will be some fantastic things that we will conduct over the smart chain. DeFi is so vital to the world because it gives actual purpose to cryptocurrencies.

Right now, the main negative for crypto is that the general public does not think that it serves a purpose. The public believes that it is just a market where you speculate and get rich selling your coins to a bigger fool. With smart chains, smart contracts, and DeFi, there is a way for us to form an investment thesis. Let's take a look at some uses of DeFi.

Smart Contracts. Smart contracts are agreements between people or institutions where the contract can execute a transfer of money when certain conditions are met. For example, I can write a smart contract to transfer my son money if he obtains a 3.5-grade point average.

Decentralized Exchanges (Dex). These are places where you will find some of the newest coins on the market. Dex's can be a little riskier because more coins appear that may not have been vetted. The risk/reward is exceptionally high on a Dex.

Stablecoins. I love stablecoins. They are coins that are pegged (follow) a fiat currency like the US Dollar. My favorite stable coin is USDC, and it has a one-for-one attach rate. So for every

USD people invest in USDC, they produce a coin. Stablecoins are an excellent place to earn interest on your cash.

Lending platforms. Lending platforms are where you can earn interest on your stablecoins and other cryptocurrencies. Lending over DeFi is based on leverage which means that people have to put up a certain amount of collateral to borrow against it. Let's say the rate is 50%. Then I would have to put up one Ether to borrow ½ Ether—this keeps everyone safely invested. Because of this leverage, there are no credit checks and loan officers involved. You either have the leverage or not. Also, the lender and borrower do not have to give out their identities in DeFi lending schemes.

Prediction markets. These markets are kind of like sports betting. If you want to bet on who will win the next presidential election or if Will and Jada Smith will get divorced, the prediction markets are for you. Remember what we talk about with smart contracts; they can execute when certain conditions are met.

Yield Farming. Another great example of risk/reward is yield farming. Traders search through the DeFi networks to find high yield opportunities. Usually, if a new coin is trying to stabilize, it will over yield to entice new cash. Again, just like in the stock market, you get a higher yield when taking more risk.

Liquidity mining. Again, liquidity is the key for new coins to get off the ground. To attract people to their coins, groups will offer high yield to entice new money.

What is the future of Decentralized Finance? No one knows the future, but I am personally betting big on the future. Again, I will equate this new world of DeFi to the internet in the 1990s. We did not have a clue what the internet was going to become back then.

The internet had to go through many protocol transitions while it kept improving. The same with DeFi. It will have to keep improving, but it will be huge in the long term. Make no mistake, banks and other financial institutions stand to lose a lot of money if DeFi comes in strong.

So there is a political aspect to all of this, like with things like cigarettes. There are a lot of people lobbying against cryptocurrencies; you just might not see it. So, the price action in the crypto space will see a crazy amount of ups and downs, fits and starts.

That is why it is so nice to be an investor and not a trader. I invest for the long term. I look at coins that are trying to solve problems and invest my money there. My <u>Voyager</u> app may even pay me interest while I wait. I couldn't ask for more.

What are your thoughts on Decentralized Finance? Will you bet big on DeFi? Whatever you choose, ensure you have an outstanding investing thesis, and you will make the right decisions for your portfolio. Good Luck!



05 CryptoCurrency 105: The Stability of Stablecoins

The cryptocurrency market can be highly volatile. It is not uncommon to see 30-40% swings over a few days. This price action puts many investors off because they are used to the more consistent stock market movement.

But what if there was a way to invest in the crypto market without having the wild price swings? There may be a way for investors to get solid returns in the crypto market with little to no price volatility. However, this stability and safety carry one big caveat.

Stablecoins are cryptocurrencies pegged to other assets such as dollars, commodities, or other cryptocurrencies. Because another reserve asset backs them, they tend to mimic the price action of that asset. There are three types of stablecoins; fiat-collateralized stablecoins, crypto-collateralized stablecoins, and non-collateralized stablecoins.

Fiat-collateralized stablecoins hold the underlying reserve currency. For example, USDC (a stablecoin) has a one-for-one dollar-to-stablecoin ratio.

Crypto-collateralized stablecoins hold the underlying reserve crypto assets. However, because of crypto volatility, they have more reserves than they issue in stablecoins. For example, they may save \$1 million in Ether but release \$500,000 in stablecoins.

Non-collateralized stablecoins are not backed by a reserve asset but act more like a central bank. They use automated algorithms to keep the price of stablecoins stable.

Now that you know a little about stablecoins, what is the investing thesis for them? If stablecoins peg themselves to the US dollar, why would we want to invest in them vice holding cash? I see two primary positive reasons to invest in stablecoins and one giant negative.

Positive #1. Getting your regular money (i.e., USD) into the crypto markets can be a pain. It takes 3-5 days for the transaction to clear. You may be able to spend your money in seconds, but the actual transactions take a long time to process.

Getting your money into stablecoins early is a great way to be ready for the following buying opportunities. You may think of stablecoins as the money market account of your brokerage account—a place to hold cash until prepared to purchase other cryptocurrencies.

Positive #2. Currently, centralized exchanges, like <u>Voyager</u>, are paying massive amounts of interest to entice people to keep large sums of money in stablecoins.

I see upwards of 8-9% interest being paid for stablecoins like USDC on the Voyager platform. This is insane. To get this type of return on a relatively safe investment is absolutely amazing.

Why do platforms pay that much in interest? Platforms will lend the cryptocurrencies out to other entities that are trying to achieve even more significant gains. These entities, such as investment houses, would love to pay 9-10% for a stablecoin and find an investment that could 5-10X. They can then return the money to the platform.

In the meantime, the platform pays you a lot of money to keep investing in stablecoins. Remember, stablecoins will not see the price action of other cryptos. So when the market is hot, stablecoins look bad, but when the market is cold, stablecoins look like an excellent investment.

Negative #1. The only negative I can see for investing in stablecoins for the long-term is the uncertainty of the interest these platforms will pay you. Currently, I am getting 9% interest on Voyager for my investment in USDC.

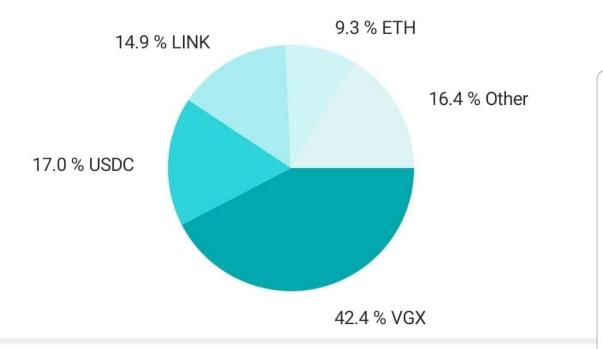
Nothing is stopping the platform from lowering this amount to 3% or 1%. If you have a high-yield savings account, you will understand the dilemma.

I started my Discover high-yield savings account in June 2019 with a 2% interest rate on my dollars. Today, my account pays me 0.4%—this is very sad. Nothing is stopping this from happening to my USDC investment.

So, that is something to think about. I believe that the rates on fiat-collateralized stablecoins will remain high because there will always be a market for borrowers of this money. And, if the interest rates become lower, I can find other investments to dive into to keep my money working. My high-yield savings account doesn't offer immediate options like this.

Investing in Stablecoins. The immediate investing thesis is to invest for the interest of these coins. However, they almost act like bonds in your stock portfolio. In "<u>Stocks vs. Bonds</u>", I explain that stocks and bonds usually have an inverse relationship.

With Stablecoins, the reactions aren't as inverse as stocks to bonds because one is flat. Stablecoins stay balanced all the time. However, when times are good in the crypto space, you may think of selling stablecoin to gain quick profits elsewhere. When times are choppy, you may want to enter a position with stablecoins to ride out the wave.



Asset Allocation

I am an investor, so I consider my investment in stablecoins to be a long-term investment. I like the stability it brings during violent times on the crypto market. I also invest for income, even in the crypto world. Receiving a 9% return for relatively no-risk play is almost non-existent on the stock market.

So, keeping 20-25% of my crypto allocation does a couple of things for my crypto portfolio. It gives me a stable resource during the bad times, and it keeps paying me dividends. So I am pleased with Stablecoins. I try to add \$100-\$200/month to my allocation.

Do you like the idea of stablecoins, or are they too dull for you? Would you consider holding a large amount of Stablecoins if the interest rate was to your liking? These are some questions to ask yourself. Good Luck!



06 CryptoCurrency 106: The Importance of El Salvador

On June 9th, 2021, El Salvador officially <u>passed a law to accept Bitcoin</u> as legal tender. Furthermore, the country is also committing to Bitcoin mining that uses renewable sources.

This is a huge announcement and one we need to dissect as we continue to evolve our investment thesis in cryptocurrencies. So first off, what does this announcement mean?

El Salvador is the first country to accept Bitcoin as a legal tender at the country level. Before, it has only been accepted at various stores or outlets. This law brings into effect the first nation that sees the value in Bitcoin.

How to Prepare for Inflation

Part of my original investment thesis in Bitcoin and other altcoins is that they could eventually be used as a reserve currency. A reserve currency is stored and used to balance the amount of fiat money (paper) printed.

Gold used to be the reserved currency to the US Dollar until 1971 when Richard Nixon took us off the gold standard. Since then, the US Dollar has lost much of its value due to excessive money printing.

Many believe that Bitcoin can step in and insert itself as the new reserve currency, taking over for gold many years later. This announcement is the first of many steps that will need to take place for the world to institute a new reserve currency.

What is next? Right now, other countries are looking at what they can do to legalize Bitcoin as well. Inflation is running rampant in many South American countries and even in the United States.

Bitcoin could be a stabilizing force in many smaller countries. However, the price of Bitcoin is still too volatile to become a reserve currency soon (5-10 years). Once the price action becomes more predictable and stable, more countries will follow suit.

Still, this is a special announcement and win for cryptocurrency markets. But, unfortunately, I also feel that other governments are going out of their way to hinder Bitcoins' adoption. Why this is, I have no idea. But it usually involves money.

Love Income? Try Closed-End Funds

There has been no change to my investing thesis. I am still dollar-cost-averaging into cryptocurrencies every month. I am looking for cryptos that receive a good amount of interest payments and see if they make sense to invest. I may as well get paid to wait.

Also, I will keep my crypto portfolio to 1-3% of my total investment account. Crypto has been getting destroyed in the markets recently, and I am down some 33%. However, this is a great time to keep investing.

As I wrote in "<u>Build the Mindset of an Investor</u>," the best time to invest is when the markets are down. This is the calm before the next crypto storm. Let's say a cooling-off period. When the next wave hits, we don't know. All we can do is reconfirm our investment thesis and march on.

High Yield Hijinks: Get Huge Income from the Stock Market

The news from El Salvador is a game-changer and can lead to an influx in Bitcoin and crypto activity. Look for more countries to make similar announcements over the next 2-3 years. However, all eyes will be on El Salvador for the time being.

Ensure you are staying up-to-date with the crypto news. Everything changes so fast in the crypto space that you have to read almost every day. I would like to know why the major forces, like the US government and US Banks, are hindering Bitcoin adoption.

What do they fear? As you continue to invest, you should begin to form your questions as well. I'll keep updating the **CryptoCurrency 101 Series** (<u>101</u>, <u>102</u>, <u>103</u>, <u>104</u>, <u>105</u>) as best as I can. My goal is to leave breadcrumbs of information so that anyone can follow behind. With that, I am off. Good Luck!



07 CryptoCurrency 107: How to Invest in a Downturn

Not every day as an investor is supposed to be amazing. There are going to be times when it is hard to look at your account. However, as investors, these are the times that we need to buckle down and review our reasons for entering the market.

Cryptocurrencies have been having a hard time recently, and there isn't an end in sight. But, unfortunately, it seems that most companies, big businesses, and governments are taking this time to thrash cryptocurrencies thoroughly.

Sorry, I have been rude. Welcome back to the CryptoCurrency 101 Series (<u>101</u>, <u>102</u>, <u>103</u>, <u>104</u>, <u>105</u>, <u>106</u>). If you haven't, go back a check out the prior articles. Okay, back to the show.

Whether it is cryptos lack of intrinsic value or their views on the environment (mining), governments and businesses want to pull out all the punches. As an investor, you have two options; cry about it, or get rich.

I Live Paycheck to Paycheck

That's right; even if we can't control the markets, we can control our investing. Building the mindset of an investor has never been more critical than today. So let's review our investor's code to ensure we remember the guidelines.

Investing and trading are different. It seems like yesterday (a couple of months ago) that everyone was high on the horse with cryptos. I couldn't read an article without someone talking about how much they made on a particular coin. It seems everyone was profiting large amounts.

But with the fall of Dogecoin, most coins also fell. And not just a few percentage points, but 40-50%. And crypto has stayed down for over a month now. I do not hear any more bragging or showboating in the media right now. Why is that?

Because people thought they were just going to pick a winner and ride it to the moon. Investing rarely, if ever, works like this. This is the difference between being an investor and a trader. An investor is looking for a long-term move and ensures they have a proper investing thesis on each security they buy. Traders are looking to obtain capital gains.

Don't get me wrong; traders can make a lot of money. However, over time it is more complex and harder to replicate one's successes. For example, I know many people who got into Dogecoin at \$0.15 and watched it climb to \$0.70. They should have sold, but they never really vetted what they were going to do with their coins.

Dividends vs. Royalties II

Then Dogecoin dropped to \$0.43 after <u>Elon Musk appeared on Saturday Night Live</u>, quickly wiping out tons of unrealized capital gains people had. However, traders kept holding Dogecoin because they didn't know how to move out of it and into something new.

I see it all the time across many different asset classes; people hit the jackpot but are stuck on the next move. They are stuck because they do not know how they hit the jackpot. I know people who have large sums of money in Tesla stock and others who bought homes in Southern California at the perfect time.

When it comes to their next investment, they are waiting for the media to tell them what to do. However, nobody is coming to save them. No one is going to knock on their door and give them their following significant investment thesis. So they have to find it.

How Do You Define "Being Rich?"

I invest for income. I rarely have this problem because I invest from cold hard cash, even in the crypto space. I buy or create things that make my passive income increase—specifically, rents from real estate, dividends from stocks, royalties from books, and interest from cryptos.

That's right; I invest for income within crypto. Over 70% of my crypto portfolio is earning interest, even in a down market. I am not overly concerned about the price action within my cryptos because I am still being paid cold hard cash to hold my money there.

Prices will eventually recover, and all will be right with the world. But, in the meantime, I will continue to invest in cryptos. Why? Because everything is still on sale.

Downturns make millionaires. The best time to invest is when the markets are down. Look at the housing market in 2008-2009. If you had bought a few houses during this time, you would be set for life. Many fortunes were built during the 2008 and the 2020 pandemic.

The Road to Wealth

Crypto is going through a similar phase right now. The big players (governments and politicians) are using this time to scare the crap out of traders. But, unfortunately, people who are looking for easy money are still sitting on the sidelines.

Investors are having a field day. They have already formed their playbook of what coins will be long-term successes; now, they can buy these at a discount. That is why it pays to be an investor.

Retail buyers (mainstream buyers) are waiting for the talking heads on TV and the internet to tell them when and what to invest in next. Robert Kiyosaki says it best. "When the mainstream gives you investing tips, all the profits have already been extracted by <u>insider investors.</u>"

I am happily still investing while this plays out. It may be a year or two before cryptos recover, or it could be a day or two—no one knows. I know that I believe in specific cryptos like Chainlink and will collect my interest while I wait.

It has never been a better time to be an investor. Recent events show that this is the best time to be an investor. There are enough asset classes to find a downturn or slow period at one specific point in time. Currently, real estate and stocks are hot, and crypto is down. So, where should you direct some of your money? That's right.

Hopefully, this has been a good refresher for you. I love to read about investing vs. trading and income vs. capital gains. It always seems to reinforce the principles I hold dear. If you don't know your investing thesis, it is never too late to form one. Read books and learn about the markets. I didn't know much about anything until two years ago. Good Luck!



08 CryptoCurrency 108: What are DAOs?

Can't we all get along? That was a catchphrase in the 1990s, but something we still need to ask ourselves today. When we try to accomplish things in today's society, frequently the human element tends to get in the way.

In Congress, our representatives have the best intentions, but they are humans just as we are. They want to get re-elected just as much as the next person, so they sometimes make decisions that favor what's best for themselves. It is human nature.

So how can we fix this if we are all humans? Well, you keep the voting element of society yet remove the human factors? Huh? Enter **Decentralized Autonomous Organisations** (DAOs), which are another reason for us to be bullish on cryptocurrencies.

High Yield Hijinks: Get Huge Income from the Stock Market

Before we dig into DAOs, I welcome everyone back to the CryptoCurrency 101 Series (<u>101</u>, <u>102</u>, <u>103</u>, <u>104</u>, <u>105</u>, <u>106</u>, <u>107</u>). The goal of this series is for us to obtain a basic investing thesis on cryptocurrencies. Okay, back to DAOs.

What are DAOs? DAOs are member-owned communities without centralized leadership. Sounds funny, but imagine a business without a CEO or a country without a president. Well, you probably couldn't run these without their respective leadership, but there are many things that we can do with a central leader. Let's say we were running a non-profit charity that supports a different African country every month. We would each donate, say \$10 a month, to the charity. Every month we would receive a flyer with available countries to support. Then we would vote. However, the voting took place; smart contracts would execute the plan of action.

Now, how would the votes be weighted? For most DAOs, you purchase coins to become voting members. The person with the most coins has the most weight. So if there were 100 tokens of Josh Coins, and I owned 70 of them, I would have a 70% share of the vote.

The good part is that we can set smart contracts to execute any plan we deem necessary as a collective. In the above example, we can state that we need a 90% majority to implement whatever schedule we are voting on. That way, Josh doesn't win every single vote.

How Much Do I Need for Retirement?

That's right, in DAOs, we also vote on the bylaws of the organization. So, as a collective, we can decide what the rules are from the start and adjust them as required by voting.

DAOs will be vital to the new future of decentralized finance (DeFi) and other charities and venture funding. I believe we will start to remove some of the human-based decisions that have bogged down the political, banking, and business systems across the globe.

DAOs will be vital to deciding how people want to direct their money as a collective, so look for DAOs to extend from the crypto space to the main street. We all do a lot of voting with our dollars, even daily.

When we get a Girl Scouts Cookies catalog, we vote by purchasing the ones we want. When we buy new smartphones, we are deciding what features we want to see the most.

6 Types of Income Streams

What if Samsung released new voting coins that would help users vote on the features they wanted to see on their new phones. For hardcore users, that may be worth the price of the coins to have a voice in these decisions. Once the vote took place, the smart contract would release the money to fund the winning features.

Again, I don't know if this is possible in today's version of DAOs, but a large part of cryptocurrencies is speculating. The more you can dream of a crypto future, the larger your investing thesis should become.

Crypto markets are still down, and we need to remain vigilant in our pursuit of a crypto future. In the 1990s, we didn't know what the internet would become. I believe we are on the same timeline in the crypto-verse.

DAOs will become a more significant part of society once we see the benefits of extracting the human (i.e. political) side of organizations. We want our organizations to be as effective, efficient, and honest as possible.

Using smart contracts, tokens, and bylaws, DAOs will set a precedent of transparency that we currently do not have. For more on DAOs, please read a great article on <u>ethereum.org</u>. Good Luck and see you next time!



09 CryptoCurrency 109: Perform Your Due Diligence

Now we come to the part of investing that separates the true investors from the "weak hands," and that is performing due diligence. Yes, due diligence may not be fun for everyone, but it is a necessary evil. Due diligence is especially vital when investing in cryptocurrency coins.

Welcome back to the CryptoCurrency 101 series (<u>101</u>, <u>102</u>, <u>103</u>, <u>104</u>, <u>105</u>, <u>106</u>, <u>107</u>, <u>108</u>) after a six-week hiatus. Six weeks seems like a long time in the world of writing because I wrote over 60 articles in this timeframe. I started another series in cryptocurrencies called <u>Passive Income</u> <u>in DeFi 101</u> and also finished the book "<u>How to DeFi -Beginner.</u>"

Now, back to due diligence. Performing your due diligence isn't just performing research, it consists of building and confirming your investing thesis. **An investing thesis is the driving force behind making sound investments.** Your thesis may not always work out the way you have planned, but you won't have any regrets if you performed excellent due diligence.

Why Gold & Silver

What does due diligence look like? Each asset class has a different version of due diligence. You also need to look at your individual inputs such as investing time horizon, risk tolerance, and emotional style. For example, if you can't handle downturns in the stock market, you should invest in bonds.

Let's look at some due diligence methods across different asset classes.

Stocks. For dividend stocks you will want to look at dividend performance over time, dividend payout ratio, and how the stocks perform during inflationary periods. You also want to ensure the dividend yield fits into your portfolio targets.

Real Estate. You will want to look at the neighborhood, the condition of the structure, the capital appreciation, and rental rates in the area. You will also want to stress test your wallet by asking yourself what would happen if the tenants didn't pay their rent.

Business. Every business is vastly different. I always recommend starting a business as small, and cheaply, as you can. Once you have a profitable business model, then ramp up production, advertising, etc.

Finally, cryptocurrencies. Crypto is a tough one because it is so new. First, I recommend you read as many books on crypto as possible. Then, start reading daily news in the crypto-verse. I read <u>CoinGecko</u> at least 4-5 times a week.

The Value in Commodities

Eventually, you will reach the point where you want to invest in newly minted coins. Don't follow the hype just yet. Initial Coin Offerings (ICOs) have been going off the chain recently. The coins seem to deflate, after the original coin owners take profits.

These price fluctuations may not be a bad thing if the coins have long-term viability. And that is where performing your due diligence in crypto comes into play. You need to form an investing thesis on your coins and see if they are adding value to the crypto world.

This article came about because one of my favorite coins, Voyager Coin (VGX), is performing an upgrade to VGX 2.0. I am already heavily investing in VGX, so I was interested in what VGX 2.0 brings to the table.

So, like a good investor, I started to perform my due diligence. I found a <u>whitepaper on VGX 2.0</u> and read the full pdf. It wasn't a crazy long read, but it was fascinating. The founders discussed the Voyager Loyalty Program and the rewards we could accumulate as we stake ourselves with VGX.

Why I'm Bullish on Chainlink

I am all in with Voyager and VGX 2.0, and it makes me feel good to have the inside scoop on the happenings with the coin. As you approach new coins, get a feel for the team and the vision even before ICO.

There are many scams in DeFi, and it seems most people want the easy answer. I can't tell you how many times I hear the question, "Josh, what coins do you invest in?" "What is going to be the next hot coin?"

Part of performing your due diligence in understanding your investing goals and habits. I am an income investor through all asset classes. I invest for long-term income, not short-term capital gains.

My investing thesis is always with a long-term (10+ year) outlook. Sometimes my investing thesis can change because of the company or the market, but I understand those risks. I do allocate a small portion of my portfolio for speculative plays, i.e., capital gains.

Knowing yourself is the best way to prevent yourself from going into deep, dark investing rabbit holes. I am thrilled with where I am in life, and I am investing to keep our money growing. If you are chasing wealth via capital gains, you can lose very quickly.

My First Book on Cryptocurrencies

I know a young 20-year old who made \$1 million in FOREX trading. It is a fantastic feat, and he still has the money in his account. He needs to learn how to make his money grow for the rest of his life. He has a lot of education and training to undertake.

Even though this kid has a bigger cash pile than me, I have positioned myself nicely in this life. I am not jealous because he got "lucky." I have an amazing wife and kids, which is already the most challenging part to find in life.

On top of that, I have a military pension, a \$190,000 dividend portfolio, three houses, and a budding book business. I am okay, and I invest in making 5-10% gains over time. I am not trying to 2X, 4X, or 10X my coins.

So, get your mind right before you start buying coins and praying for huge gains. Ensure you locate these whitepapers and follow the team who are building the coins. You do not want to get scammed in the DeFi space.

Investing is such a wonderful place; it is a shame that most people come here only to get rich. You have a world of knowledge and education here, and you will become more intelligent than your wildest dreams here. Protect yourself, your mental health, and your wallet by performing your due diligence in the crypto space, as well as across all asset classes. Enjoy and Happy Investing.



10 CryptoCurrency 110: Wrap Your Coins

Every day we should strive to learn something new and different. I research two ways: new articles and reading books. I like to read my crypto news on the <u>CoinGecko News platform</u>. They always have a mix of education and current events.

Anyways, I was reading some articles, and I kept seeing references to wBTC. I know that the symbol for Bitcoin is BTC, so what was wBTC? Being the <u>lifelong learner</u> that I am, I looked up wBTC.

It turns out that wBTC stands for wrapped Bitcoin. Interestingly, I didn't know we could wrap up a digital coin. Wrapped Bitcoin and all other wrapped cryptocurrencies serve an important role—they allow the coins to operate cross-platform.



Above, I attached an image of all the smart chains (or blockchains, networks, platforms, ecosystems—whatever you want to call them). Each smart chain is its own platform and rarely do they interact with one another.

Orange You Glad that You Have Passive Income?

The biggest and most used ecosystem is Ethereum. The Ethereum network houses most of the decentralized finance apps (Dapps). Bitcoin has its own blockchain but isn't as user-friendly as newer protocol smart chains.

Each smart chain has its Native token where end-users and application developers can pay to access the blockchain. For example, Ehtereum uses Ether (ETH) and Cardano uses (ADA). These Native tokens can trade on centralized exchanges and decentralized exchanges for everyone to purchase and trade.

However, you can't use them on other platforms for Dapps. For example, I can't natively use BTC to power various forms of <u>DeFi passive income</u> on the Ethereum network. That's where wrapping comes into play.

Wrapping is the process of depositing crypto into a holding area and minting a wrapped coin that you can use on a compatible network. For example, I may not be able to use BTC on a Dapp on the Ethereum network, but I might be able to use wBTC.

Don't Gamble with Retirement 3 + 4

I found two great articles that go into more technical details of wrapping coins. One is on <u>Gemini.com</u>, and the other is on <u>Coinmarketcap.com</u>. Read those articles for the nitty-gritty on wrapping and minting coins.

I want to give you an example that may help you better understand the reasoning and process behind the wrapping. Let's say that Cardano is the Playstation Network, and Ethereum is the XBOX Network.

We know that XBOX has the popular Dapp named Halo. We also know that it is exclusive to the XBOX platform. I can wrap Playstation discs (PLAY) and interact with Halo on my XBOX platform using a wrapping technique.

Create a Never-Ending Stream of Content 2

While I am playing Halo with wPLAY, my original PLAY coin sits in a holding cell. When I finish playing, I can convert my wPLAY to standard PLAY.

Hopefully, this example sheds some light on the importance of wrapping. In time, interoperability between platforms will be more ambiguous. Unless you are a hardcore DeFi person, you probably will not need wrapped coins.

However, the more we know, the more we grow. I love learning (and sharing) new things. I know I learned a lot by researching wrapped coins. Now, when I see the wBTC or wETH, I can understand what they entail.



The Magic of Cryptocurrencies -Free PDF Download

We have come a long way on our cryptocurrency journey, and we still have much more to discuss. Stay tuned, and check out my latest book about cryptocurrencies called "<u>The Magic of</u> <u>Cryptocurrencies</u> (<u>article</u>)." Enjoy and Happy Investing.



11 CryptoCurrency 111: Real Estate Tokenization

The world is an exciting place, and every day it grows bigger, at least digitally. I just finished reading my first book <u>on the metaverse</u>, and boy, are we in for a ride. However, it will be where the digital and physical worlds overlap where we will make the most profits.

Currently, there are two main avenues to invest in real estate—<u>real estate investment trusts and</u> <u>rentals</u>. They both have their advantages and disadvantages, but overall, you should grasp how these markets intersect.



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Fresh on the scene is **real estate tokenization** (RET). RET is the process of putting ownership of real estate on the blockchain and then selling shares to investors. The blockchain holds all the essential data, payments, regulations, etc.—no intermediary required.

Let's Get Rich with NFTs

Let's review. If you are new to the world of cryptocurrencies, I have you covered. I started my crypto-journey roughly eight months ago by reading various books to form my investing thesis. Luckily, I have been documenting my adventure and leaving breadcrumbs for all to follow.

First, I recommend you read my entire CryptoCurrency 101 series (<u>101</u>, <u>102</u>, <u>103</u>, <u>104</u>, <u>105</u>, <u>106</u>, <u>107</u>, <u>108</u>, <u>109</u>, <u>110</u>). The article "<u>CryptoCurrency 102</u>: <u>Important Words to Understand</u>" is beneficial because it explains the blockchain.

The blockchain is how crypto separates itself from fiat (real) currencies. Every transaction is written on the blockchain for all to see. When you buy something like Bitcoin, you are not receiving a copy of a Bitcoin. Your transaction is written on the blockchain, like a ledger, documenting your purchase. You receive a receipt of the transaction that stays within your Key or Wallet.

Therefore, when it comes to RET, your ownership of the token is highly secure. Also, smart contracts and <u>Decentralized Autonomous Organizations (DAOs)</u> can prevent the facilitators from creating more coins without prior approval from token-holders.

Types of tokens. The market for RETs isn't huge currently, but expect this to become much bigger in the future. However, don't blindly invest in RET tokens without understanding what you are buying.

Crypto Showdown: Bitcoin vs. Ethereum

I am tracking two main types of RET tokens. Simply, it comes down to debt and equity. I wrote an article called "<u>Real Estate Lifestyles 2: Investor vs. Lender</u>" that holds up well in this situation.

Debt tokens. If you invest in debt tokens, you are loaning money to investors (similar to bonds). They will take your investment dollars and buy property to make a profit. You usually don't share the property's profits (or losses) as you invested in the loan: much less risk, much less reward. Debt holders receive payments in the form of interest.

Equity tokens. Equity is the equivalent of holding shares of a company. Equity holders share in the profits, rent increases, capital gains and usually have some form of governance (voting rights). However, facilitators could dilate (create more) shares if you are not careful. Equity-holders receive payments in the form of <u>capital gains and dividends</u>.

A typical scenario. Let's say that a real estate owner wants to tokenize a 10-unit apartment. She can buy 100 coins and offer 50 to the general public. She retains the lion's share but also takes the majority of the risk.

Is Now a Good Time to Invest in Crypto?

It is important to note that equity stakeholders receive a cut of the profits. If there are no profits, then there are no payments. So, it behooves investors to understand <u>real estate investing</u>. I'm sure as the craze starts to build, everyone will be tossing around huge numbers for dividend yields.

However, using simple <u>cash-on-cash return calculations</u>, you should be able to prevent yourself from disaster. Let's look at our 10-unit example in greater detail.

- 1) If she owned the property free-and-clear, she would be making a nice profit per room. She may be tokenizing to purchase more properties elsewhere. Sort of like a cash-out refinance, but instead of taking on debt, she is selling shares (tokens).
- If she had a mortgage, her profits might be much lower. You would need to see the entire financial statements to see debt service, expenses, property management, and finally, net operating income (profit).

Price Appreciation. Yes, when you invest, the numbers may not appeal to you currently. It's important to understand the real estate market is at a peak right now. Outstanding deals are not jumping out of anywhere.

However, buying tokens now may yield massive results tomorrow. As rents and property values appreciate, so will your tokens. Token-holders can also sell their ownership on the secondary market for a profit or loss.

You'll Need \$20,000/month in Passive Income

I'm willing to guess that RETs will become quite popular in expensive cities like those in <u>California</u> and New York. It is hard for individual investors to gain ownership of housing in these high cost-of-living areas.

Tokenization may also be a great way to <u>invest in housing overseas</u>, especially if you plan to move <u>abroad during retirement</u>. Buying property in a foreign country is challenging and intimidating, so that RET may be an outstanding balance between risk and reward.

Conclusion. Don't get wrapped up in RET until you understand the <u>world of cryptocurrencies</u>. The rules inside crypto differ from traditional finance (TradFi), mostly for the better. However, there are still bad actors among us.

Run a Passive Airbnb Business

If someone is offering RET tokens that earn 10% annually, you should perform <u>deep due</u> <u>diligence</u> on this product. It's hard to achieve these numbers, and they may be banking on capital gains from the secondary market. Be careful.

Real estate tokenization has a lot to prove. Yes, coins can appreciate in value; however, I can <u>earn 9% interest on my USDC</u> coins with zero risk. What benefit do I receive from investing in RETs, especially if I already own REITs and physical properties?

This article is just a general overview of RET and the future of the real estate. My use-case is for investing overseas, in places like Turkey. That would be the ideal way to invest across country lines. You can read more about real estate tokenization in this <u>article on Scalac</u>.

Please join my <u>Facebook Group</u> if you want the latest articles and free books delivered to your news feed. Also, you can contact me inside the group and ask questions. I also have a <u>Facebook Page</u> where you can see my latest articles.



CRYPTO BASICS

12 Why I Am Investing in Bitcoin

A member of our group (Military Family Investing) asked if I could look into cryptocurrency. With perfect timing, I was finishing up my current book "<u>The Non-Designer's Design Book</u>," so I figured it was time to take the plunge into crypto education.

I am an old-school dude, and I like the idea of business, real estate, and dividends, but cryptocurrency is the wave of the future. It is time to get on board or be left behind. Our children's futures are in the balance, so I bought two Bitcoin books.

I will reveal the books soon enough when I do my five takeaways write-ups, let's just say that I finished 30% of the first book in my first sitting. I will finish it all by tomorrow. Some of the ideas behind Bitcoin investing are things I have never heard of before.

One of the most appealing takeaways is that it is a hedge against money printing and inflation. Everybody can see that assets are inflating at a fast speed. So fast that most people will never catch up. If you don't own assets now, you will miss them forever.

Bitcoin has a limited supply—there can never be more than 21 million mined. While people are trying to use Bitcoin (BTC) to buy and trade items, that is not the purpose. BTC is a store of wealth or value, akin to how you would use gold or silver.

Then the author said my favorite words, buy and hold. A buy-and-hold strategy is what he recommends, and with that, I instantly fell in love. I understand the buy-and-hold method, and I can do this better than anyone.

I do not understand the mentality of being a trader, of trying to "flip" something for a profit. But I do understand the value in holding something and letting it grow in worth and prestige. So with inflation of assets at an all-time high, it is time to move into some alternative investments.

After 2 hours of education, my current plan is to get \$10,000 into BTC before the end of the year. The author says that the price of bitcoin will stabilize when the final coins are mined in 2040. Right now, everyone is in the accumulation phase.

So I may as well start accumulating as well. I don't want this to catch me off guard—or be on the outside of this revolution. Incredibly, the younger generation has caught the attention of prominent corporations, and these companies are starting to buy BTC in bulk.

That is the plan for right now. Kris and I have already met our 2021 dividend portfolio goals, so we have some time to build up our BTC portfolio and knowledge base. I recommend that everyone build their own strategies as well.

As an investor, the reason I never looked deeply into cryptocurrency was because I saw no exit strategy. I didn't want to be a trader—that does not appeal to me. So having a plan that fits my investment style was all I needed.

That is the power of reading. Okay, I am signing off. I hope to have my five takeaways up in the next day or so for the Bitcoin book. Take care.



13 Stocks vs. Cryptos

I know, I know; you don't think that this will be a fair fight. Stocks have been around for a long time, and cryptos have been kicking for about ten years and are only recently becoming mainstream.

However, when it comes to your money, everything is equal. Remember, all these investment sources are fighting for your hard-earned dollars. So, let's do a quick rundown of what each investment brings to the table. Stocks will win; however, we do need to decide what our allocation of each will be. I will give what percentage I have in each at the end. Let's get into the battle of the ages.

Capital Gains. Capital gains are the speed and velocity at which your investments go up in price. Crypto easily wins this battle because it can quickly go up 30% in a day. If you want a wild ride, go with crypto. However, what goes up can come down. Crypto, in its current state, can crash violently at a moment's notice. You've been warned. **Winner: Crypto.**

Dividends. Stocks have the best history for dividends at the moment. For over 100 years, dividends have been making consistent investors rich. Crypto does have some good deals in interest rates. I am currently receiving 9% interest in my investment in USDC, a stable coin. Every month, the interest rates can change, so I do not know how long this particular deal will last. I love the interest in crypto, but I will have to go with stocks on this one. **Winner: Stocks.**

Research capabilities. To make great investments as an investor, you will need to conduct research (or due diligence). Stocks have the most research, safest websites and information,

and longest history. Crypto is starting to gain reputable sources as well. But if you are getting started, I would start with stocks. **Winner: Stocks**.

Ease of starting. Stocks have some of the best websites and apps to get you started. For example, M1 Finance will let you place many stocks into a pie. Let's say a pie of McDonald's, Starbucks, Target, Walmart, and Papa John's (all stocks I own!).

Okay, now that I have my pie, I can set up M1 Finance to withdraw a set amount (say \$300) from my checking account every month. It will then spread my money across the stocks, buying the highest amount of best-priced ones. I am automatically investing in top stocks at the best prices—it is hard not to win!

Crypto doesn't have anything close to this. Crypto, currently, is all about capital gains and not long-term dollar-cost averaging. I believe that over time crypto will stabilize and become more of a buy-and-hold commodity, like stocks. But for now, stocks have it beat with apps like Stash, Cash App, and M1 Finance. **Winner: Stocks.**

Cool Features. OMG, crypto wins this, hands down. There are so many cool things to do in crypto; it is insane. First off, you can trade your crypto with anyone. So I can send some Ether (ETH) to anyone I want. Stocks are locked down under your social security number.

Crypto also has many cool gimmicks, depending on the coin. Some can be mined or staked for extra dividends. Some coins go out and search for more yield. There is a coin that will act as an ETF and invest in stocks. There is so much new stuff in crypto that you will have to read every day to keep abreast of everything. **Winner: Crypto.**

Future Outlook. Stocks will be in the same place today as they will be tomorrow. Nothing new will happen in the stock market space. It is old money but still extremely necessary for businesses to have liquidity.

This crypto timeframe is currently akin to the internet in the 1990s. We have no idea of what will happen, but I will say that it will be huge. The crypto genie has been let out of the bottle, and it will not go back in. However, it will have many fits and starts along the way. Remember, Microsoft, Apple and Amazon were trading at their low points at one time or another. You have to maintain a long-term outlook to ride this wave. **Winner: Crypto**.

Final Allocations. You need to allocate most of your dollars to stocks right now and probably for the next 15-20 years. How much you allocate depends on how bullish you are on crypto and how strong your tolerance is for daily volatility.

If you are investing for capital gains and your stomach turns on crashes of 20% or more, I would keep your allocation at 5%. Right now, crypto is 90% speculation. You can make a killing one day and be killed the next day.

If you are an investor looking at where crypto will be in the next 20 years, you can allocate more. I am thinking about 10%, but only if you can stand horrible crashes. Ensure you are investing in coins that have an actual purpose, and you should be fine.

I am putting about 7-10% in cryptos. I have a nice-sized dividend portfolio now, so I want to grow my crypto portfolio and better position myself for the future wave of technology. Okay, how do you begin your journey in either stocks or crypto? Luckily I have written some articles to get you started. Good Luck!



14 Passive Income in CryptoCurrency

Today is an exhilarating day for me. I found another stream of passive income, and it comes in a unique package. I would have never thought that I would find my next passive income source in CrytpoCurrencies. What a world we live in today.

This article will be short, but I wanted to post my new addition to the site. If you don't know, I write an article every day. I have five topics, and I go down the list each day. The current list is financial mindset, retirement planning, investing, real estate, and business.

But with what I am learning about crypto, it will need to be its own distinct topic. The new list will look like this; financial mindset, retirement planning, investing, cryptocurrency, real estate, and business.

What have I learned that led me in this direction? Holding crypto long-term can be very lucrative. It turns out that exchanges will pay you good interest to hold onto your coins. We will get into more on why in later posts.

I just deposited my first coins into the <u>Voyager</u> app. I moved my money into a stable coin that replicates the USD, and they are paying me 9% interest to keep it there. I plan on stockpiling Bitcoin there as well.

I am a passive income investor, a cash flow maniac. I love buy-and-hold strategies. These methods are right up my alley, and the more I learn, the more intrigued I become.

Yes, I understand that Crypto is all about speculating and getting behind a hot coin. Yes, and I may move a small percentage of my coins into speculative pursuits. But I love the cash flow aspect of this new move.

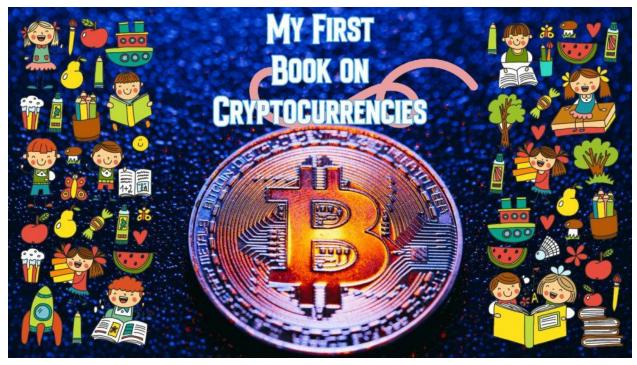
But there is more; there are even bigger passive income strategies in the world of crypto. You can do staking and mining. You can also host nodes where people pay you a fee to mine. There is even a coin that goes to find passive income yield for you. How crazy is that?

And every day, it is getting more extensive and more diverse. I'll try to keep up. I actually have a top expert in the field working alongside me. We can talk for hours on end every day, and I am trying to document what he is telling me. It is like talking in a computer language.

What do I hope to cover? Well, we need to ensure we all have a base knowledge. Knowing the history of coins is essential, and so are terms such as chain link, stable coin, centralized exchanges, etc. It is a whole new language that we will need to learn together. Please work with me, as my old brain takes time to digest and process this info.

A website that I am adding to my daily list of information is <u>CoinGecko</u>. Hopefully, this site will have a plethora of helpful information for us. I learned most of what I know about stocks on <u>Seeking Alpha</u>, so I assume CionGecko will be the same.

Welcome to the world of CryptoCurrency. It will be exciting for all of us. Hopefully, you don't just focus on Crypto. It is just a part of the beautiful world of passive income: pensions, rents, royalties, dividends, and now Cryptos! Good Luck!



15 My First Book on Cryptocurrencies

Well, I am playing catch up with this article. You see, I like to recommend articles and books when someone asks for the best way to catch up on my articles. I have all-encompassing articles and books for all of my topics except for cryptocurrencies.



I released this book, "<u>My First Book on Cryptocurrencies</u>," about a month ago, and it sold pretty well actually. However, I don't have an accompanying article to match the book. I like to offer everything I write with a free option.

So, there is no better time than the present to catch up on everything we have learned about cryptocurrencies thus far. A few months ago, I knew nothing about Crypto—I was an outsider wondering what all the fuss is about.

I began to read about cryptos, finishing the books "<u>Ethereum</u>," "<u>Bitcoin</u>," and "<u>The Nft</u> <u>Revolution</u>" so that I could play catch-up. These books gave me the base of knowledge I need to form my investing thesis on cryptocurrencies.

Now, I am 100% on board with crypto, not because I like to speculate, because they have actually use-cases and will bring technology to a broken banking system. The <u>Cryptocurrency</u> <u>101 series</u> has been my primary means of expressing everything I have learned. The series has eight articles and is still going strong.

I was also able to make some comparisons between <u>Stocks and Cryptos</u> and <u>Bitcoin vs.</u> <u>Ethereum</u>. The more you learn, the better you can build thought processes for future investing ideas. This also includes how to leverage <u>Non-Fungible Tokens</u> or NFTs. NFTs may be the future of collectibles and arts.

Finally, I learned that there is <u>Passive Income in Cryptocurrency</u>. Whether it is from interest or staking, there are many avenues to produce revenues from crypto. Even in a down market, you can get paid to keep your investments steady. In fact, I just read a <u>great little piece on my</u> <u>favorite stable</u> coin, USDC.

There has never been a better time to get into cryptocurrencies. Ensure you allocate the proper amount of crypto to your overall portfolio. I am keeping my allocation at 3% or less of my overall investment portfolio. Don't worry; cryptos will continue to rise as the use case for blockchain grows.

Enjoy your reading on cryptocurrencies and if you want all the articles together in book format, you can <u>follow this link</u>. Find my other all-encompassing article below. Enjoy and Good Investing!

Financial Mindset: Become CEO of Yourself (book) Retirement Planning: Retirement Planning at Any Age (book) Investing: How We Plan to Retire on Dividends (book) Real Estate: Financial Independence through Real Estate (book) Business: Retire Rich, Retire Comfortable with a Business (book) Everything plus way more: The Biggest Book on Passive Income Ever! (book)



16 Crypto Showdown: Bitcoin vs. Ethereum

Often we are presented with a pair of fierce competitors: Coca-Cola vs. Pepsi or Walmart vs. Target. We like to choose sides based on our past experiences or our taste buds. Today, I present the latest competitors to step into the ring: Bitcoin vs. Ethereum. Which one deserves your investing dollars? Let's find out.

I am relatively new to the world of cryptocurrency, and as an investor, it is my job to do my due diligence. Over the last couple of weeks, I have read a book on each of the cryptos. For Bitcoin, I read "<u>Bitcoin: Hard Money You Can't F*ck With</u>," and for Ethereum, I read "<u>Ethereum</u>."

Both books gave me a deeper look into each of the cryptos and allowed me to form an investing thesis. Having an investing thesis, or reason to invest, helps me sleep well at night knowing precisely why I am putting my money into things. Let's look at some of the similarities and differences between the cryptos.

Blockchain. Both cryptos build upon blockchain technology. Think of blockchain as someone laying bricks onto a road. However, each brick has a unique designator or token. To ensure that no one can disturb the order of the bricks, elements of the last brick imprint onto the new brick.

Then all work between the bricks is verified constantly by a legion of computers. All work is verified before the next brick can be laid. It is called "proof of work"—this makes the blockchain decentralized, transparent, and immutable (cannot be manipulated).

Don't worry; I plan to go deeper into the world of blockchain in separate articles. Just know that blockchain is highly secure, and each block is its own unique item. The uses of blockchain are unimaginable at this point.

Rarity. Rarity speaks to how much of these cryptos can be mined and added to the blockchain. Bitcoin is hardwired ever to have 18 million coins mined. Every four years, the amount of bitcoin eligible to be mined is cut in half, making the coins in existence even rarer. Rarity is probably Bitcoins' most remarkable feature. Consider it digital gold.

Ehtereum also has a set limit of coins eligible to be mined each year, at 18 million per year. I believe this number can be adjusted as required, but my understanding of this could be shaky. However, every transaction on the Ethereum network requires a certain amount of Ether, called its gas expense. So we are mining Ether yet also burning through it every year, making Ethereum rare but not nearly as rare as Bitcoin.

Use cases. The use cases for Bitcoin and Ethereum are vastly different, which may be where you start to form your investing theory. Bitcoin's primary use case is as a store of wealth like gold. It may one day become the next world reserve currency if you were to believe the book I read. Ethereum is like the world wide web on top of the internet protocol. It is an application layer on top of the blockchain. Its use cases are too many to even imagine in our brains at this current moment. Let's look at each coin individually.

World Reserve Currency. What is a world reserve currency, you may ask? A long time ago, gold was the currency everyone used to barter for goods and services. Eventually, it became a burden to carry gold around because of the weight and bandits. It was dangerous on the trade routes.

Therefore, traders were given paper to travel with on their routes. When traders arrived at their destinations, the paper could be exchanged for gold. Eventually, it became more prudent just to hold the paper. This scenario was the beginning of fiat currency.

All fiat currency was still linked to the amount of gold that a country was holding—this was called the gold standard. Eventually, all monies were interlinked to the US Dollar, which itself was interlinked to gold.

So, the whole world was tied to the USD, which itself was tied to gold. The USD was considered the world reserve currency, and its trust amongst the world was strong. Then in 1971, US Present Richard Nixon took the USD off of the gold standard. The world changed instantly.

Countries were now allowed to print unlimited amounts of money and put themselves deeply in debt. Money printing became a way to prevent or lessen bad economies. I won't go into the doom and gloom of everything here, but I know this hasn't been a good thing for the world.

Now, back to Bitcoin. Eventually, all this money printing will come to a head (or conclusion). Something will have to give. Because of Bitcoin's rarity and decentralized nature, many believe that it may be considered the next world reserve currency. Please read the book to form your own opinions. I will give my opinion later in the article.

The New Internet. Ethereum is perhaps the most interesting of the cryptos. As I mentioned, it is an application layer above the blockchain, presenting interesting future use cases and an unimaginable road towards future applications.

Attempting to understand what the future holds for the future of Ethereum is like trying to imagine watching Youtube in 1999 when it took 2-3 minutes just to download a JPEG picture over the internet. I remember the days of dial-up internet that you needed a disc to access.

We have come a long way on the internet, and Ethereum is just beginning to identify its uses. I think of Ethereum like the movie ``TheMatrix." A world on top of a world. Here are a couple of benefits we know now.

Smart Contracts. Programmers write smart contracts into the Ethereum blockchain. These smart contracts act as their own entity and, once programmed, can't be tampered with or reset. For example, let's say we write a smart contract for child support payments. Once created, it will transfer the money when certain conditions are met—no need for a lawyer or unique recording mechanisms. Everything is completed and recorded as required, on its own, and can't be messed with by anyone. Now consider car loans or exchanges between giant corporations—Smart Contracts will be the next thing in the world of secure transactions.

Non-Fungible Tokens. NFTs may be all the rage now for their meme value, but they can offer great use in reality. Imagine playing a game and working towards receiving a scarce item, the only one in the world. NFTs are unique items written into the Ethereum blockchain. No two NFTs are the same. I believe we are at the start of something great with NFTs.

My Investing Thesis. Okay, now time for my investing thesis. **Disclaimer**, my theory doesn't have to be your thesis. I give mine out for educational use only. Please form your own opinions.

I view the two coins like this: Bitcoin I view as Gold, and Ethereum I view as Facebook. Back in 2008, we would have never guessed what Facebook would become. The more we interact with Facebook, the more uses that it creates. Today, we move money, chat, video chat, create stories, etc., all on Facebook.

However, gold is even more valuable today than it was in 2008. There will always be a place for gold in this world, as a store of value. Gold is necessary to maintain generational wealth and financial security.

So would you invest in Facebook back in 2008 or Gold? How about both. They are vastly different investment vehicles, but they both would have made you rich. You will have to come up

with your allocation percentages to invest. Currently, I believe we know Bitcoin's use case as a store of wealth and potential world reserve currency. Ethereum use cases are already excellent, but I think more is to come in the future. Ethereum has unlimited potential, and I would invest in it with that mindset.

I hope that helped a little. In investing, there is no easy answer, and nothing is guaranteed. It is best to do your research and pinpoint your investing thesis. Stay invested until something changes your view, at which point you decide to divest or double down. Look out for much more cryptocurrency content as I understand more. Good Luck!



17 Why I'm Bullish on Chainlink

Now is as good a time as any to reassess our investment thesis on various cryptocurrencies. When prices are down, you either double down or hold. I am doubling down on Chainlink (LINK) because I believe in its future on the blockchain.

What is Chainlink? Chainlink is a decentralized oracle network that runs on top of a blockchain. Chainlink is agnostic, meaning that it can run atop the Ethereum blockchain and be modified to run on other blockchains. Seeing as though a new blockchain seems to grow every day, being universal is an essential factor in my bullish thesis.

What does Chainlink do? Being an oracle network means connecting to real-world data sources and combining information to find a solution. Smart contracts can then process the information to decide if it needs to be fulfilled.

My First Book on Cryptocurrencies

Huh? It acts as a medium between the real world and a smart contract. You see, the smart contract is actually dumb because it can't access real-world data. It needs someone or something to tell it the status of the contract.

For example, let's say we have a smart contract; this will pay Josh if The Witcher 3 wins the game of the year awards or Kris if Fallout 4 wins. The contract isn't a yes or no situation—it requires real-time data from the physical world events.

Chainlink is unique because it doesn't just go to one source and grab an answer—in the example, it would be a site like Ign.com. Chainlink gathers multiple data points and gives the best solution to the smart contract from reliable sources and its own data stores.

In the future, smart contracts will become more and more complex as we move into the era of <u>decentralized finance (DeFi)</u>. These smart contracts will need to leverage an oracle network to execute their objective smartly and securely. It may as well be Chainlink.

Investing thesis. If you believe in blockchain, DeFi, <u>decentralized autonomous organizations</u>, etc., investing in Chainlink should be a given. There is nothing glamorous about what it doesn't, but it is vital to smart contracts and their ability to execute orders.

CryptoCurrency 108: What are DAOs?

If you and your friend had a bet between the more popular sitcom, Cheers or Friends, how would you solve it? Would you Google it? But you would also have to define the word "popular" to ensure both sitcoms are compared equally. Congratulations, you just performed Chainlink's job.



My portfolio. Chainlink (LINK) is the token I am most bullish on currently. It has been getting beatdown in the market lately, like everything else. However, I am receiving 4.5% interest to hold my position in Chainlink. This summer, we have been busy adding storm gutters to our houses in Flordia, so money is tight. However, I fully plan on jumping into Chainlink as soon as we complete these projects.

CryptoCurrency 107: How to Invest During a Downturn

Easy day. That is pretty much it for Chainlink. I usually don't have a substantial investing thesis on my tokens. I just need to know what they are and what they do. We are very early in blockchain, DeFi, DAOs, etc. All we can do is make the best case for our future and be smart about our investments.

Yes, I am speculating a little because we don't have annual summaries, budgets, sales reports, etc., as we do with the stock market. But, we are first movers, and we have to make some assumptions and speculate with good intent.

I am not just saying; I expect Chainlink to 3X over the next year. I am trying to form a good rationale for long-term investing. That's the best we can do at this point with cryptocurrencies. Read more about <u>Chainlink here</u>. Enjoy and Happy Investing.



18 USDC for the Win !!

The stable coin USDC is the most versatile investment on the market today. Yes, it is a cryptocurrency; however, there is more than meets the eye.

As I wrote in <u>"CryptoCurrency 105: The Stability of Stable Coins.</u>" USDC is a fiat-collateralized stablecoin. This means that for every US dollar people invest into USDC, they mint a USDC coin. It's truly a one-for-one swap.



USDC for the Win !!

The two advantages of USDC. USDC has two advantages over other investments. The first advantage is that your cash is now in the world of crypto.

Your Retirement Planning Guide 2

Crypto moves at the speed of light. Having a pile of USDC ready to maneuver gives you a massive advantage over someone trying to convert US cash into crypto. Also, if you made a significant profit on some coins, USDC is an excellent place to park your earnings.

This brings me to the second advantage of USDC, the HUGE 9% interest that <u>Voyager (affiliate link)</u> pays you to park USDC. I'll say that again. Voyager will pay you 9% interest to keep your USDC with them.

My 4 Favorite Index Funds

Let's dissect this interest rate. A 9% interest rate is a living wage and a life changer. In "Living Overseas Passively: Cryptocurrencies," I wrote that I could live my entire life overseas off of USDC interest.

Think about it, if you had \$800,000 in USDC, earning you \$6,000/mo in interest. As long as you can live off of \$4,000/mo, you would never run out of money. In fact, your cash pile would continue to grow. I still can't imagine the efficiency of living this life.

A stable 9% interest rate is a huge game-changer. Even better, Voyager is offering a <u>Crypto</u> <u>Debit Card</u> that links directly to your USDC holdings. Again, if you are earning \$1,000/mo in interest and using your debit card for \$600/mo in expenses, you'll never run out of money.

8.94 USDC Jan 2, 12:01 AM Status Complete Annual % Avg daily balance	Туре	Source
8.94 USDC Jan 2, 12:01 AM Status Complete Annual % Avg daily balance	Reward	Voyager
Status Complete Annual % Avg daily balance	Amount	Cleared On
Annual % Avg daily balance	8.94 USDC	Jan 2, 12:01 AM
Annual % Avg daily balance	Status	
	Complete	
9.00% 1,191.85 USDC	Annual %	Avg daily balance
	9.00%	1,191.85 USDC
	Note	or December 2021 Learn More

< USDC Received Details

An advertisement. If this sounds like an advertisement for Voyager and USDC—it is!! I just started digging into USDC since they announced the Debit Card. That's when everything clicked for me.

Currently, I have roughly \$1,500 in USDC, which pays me over \$10/mo in interest. I am trying to add \$300/mo to my USDC holding. Remember, I am here for the long run and in no rush to overstack.

Passive Income from Creativity 101: Music

I like to diversify my income across <u>savings</u>, <u>bonds</u>, <u>dividends</u>, <u>real estate (Fundrise)</u>, <u>and</u> <u>crypto</u>. However, I envision adding more to USDC as time progress—it is just too good of a deal.

USDC's greatest risk. The most significant risk you face with USDC is Voyager changing the interest rates. If this happens, you may just need to look at other options. You can evaluate the other <u>coins that offer interest</u> (and capital gains) or just leave your cash there.

You have more direct options to earn interest on USDC. In "<u>Passive Income from DeFi 102:</u> <u>Borrowing and Lending</u>," I wrote that you could lend money via decentralized finance portals.

You don't lend your money directly to another person; you put your USDC (or Bitcoin, Ethereum, etc.) into a protocol. The smart contract pays you an interest rate based on supply and demand.

Guess what? USDC is the most versatile coin out there. So, the lending rates are roughly 9% in the open market. The borrowing rates are 11% and higher.

Become CEO of Yourself 2

These facts are why I don't believe Voyagers' USDC interest rates are going down any time soon. I think that Voyager pays us 9% and lends to someone else for 11%, turning a small but steady profit. Not a bad deal for anyone.

Do people borrow USDC? Yes, they borrow a lot of USDC. They call this leverage, and everyone is leveraged up to their eyeballs. Investors can sit back and watch the movie while eating popcorn and collecting our 9% interest. Traders will go for USDC loans.

You have to understand the crypto markets to see why USDC lending is a good investment. People don't borrow USDC at 11% because they want to earn 13% somewhere else. They wish to 5X or 10X their cash in a short amount of time.

Investing for Interest 101: What is Fixed Income?

Knowing this, USDC is the perfect medium for us to feed the traders and quick money people while <u>building wealth slowly</u> with 9% compound interest.

Other uses for USDC. You can also use USDC on Voyager as <u>part of your emergency fund</u>. I like to tier my fund between regular saving, high yield savings, Series "I" bonds, and USDC.

Once you have enough in the other accounts, start stacking in USDC like crazy. You are earning 9% interest, and pretty safely at that. I think this is the best investment out there.

I don't go all-in on USDC because Voyager publishes interest rates on coins every month. If they guaranteed 9% USDC for at least a year, I would put \$2,000/mo in there instantly.

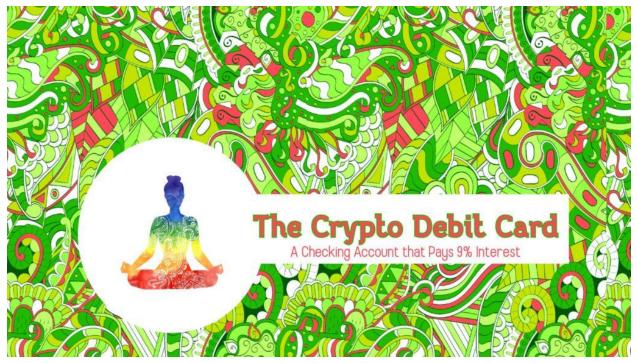
Your Income Should Increase Ever Year

The bottom line. Crypto and DeFi is the wave of the future. We know that <u>the Metaverse</u> is also coming, and it will rely on crypto heavily. You are not doing yourself a favor by hanging on the outside of the crypto-verse.

USDC is an excellent way to invest in crypto, learn the ropes, grow confidence in the system, and prepare for the future. All this while earning 9% interest. Sign me up (out wait, I signed up)!

If you sign up using my link, we will both earn \$25 in Bitcoin once you invest \$100 on the <u>Voyager platform</u>. I have roughly \$9,000 invested in Voyager across six coins. However, I am digging much deeper into USDC this year.

I believe USDC and it's 9% can change lives. You can earn a safe, livable wage and start your passive income journey without too much fuss. If you want to learn more about cryptocurrencies, read my free book "<u>The Magic of Cryptocurrencies(pdf</u>)." Good Luck, and I'll see you on Voyager!



19 The Crypto Debit Card

My favorite centralized exchange announced launching a debit card that ties directly to the USDC in your crypto portfolio. I signed up immediately. I am beyond excited and think this could be a major catalyst in the long term.



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My favorite centralized crypto exchange is Voyager (<u>affiliate link</u>). I have been a fan of Voyager since April 2021, and I even hold 43 shares of the company on the stock market (VYGVF on Toronto Stock Exchange).

Interest rates. There are many reasons why I am excited, but the biggest reason is <u>the 9%</u> <u>interest</u> we receive on <u>USDC stable coins</u>. This interest is roughly 900 times more than a standard checking account that serves 0.01%.

10,000 Hours to Build an Income Stream

At 9%, this is a massive amount of interest and can lead to some significant life changes that I will get into later. For now, you just have to learn to trust your money in a USDC account.

All US Bank checking accounts have the backing of the US government in the form of FDIC insurance. The FDIC insures up to \$250,000 per depositor, per bank. Insurance leads to more trust and safety, but that comes with a price.

As I explained in "<u>Investing for Interest 101</u>," the greater the safety, the lower the returns. With <u>inflation currently at 6.8%</u>, you are losing a lot of money for the protection of an FDIC checking account.

Becoming comfortable with crypto just takes time and understanding. Once you know why crypto will be the next hot thing in banking, you will feel more secure investing in USDC. I recommend reading "<u>How to DeFi -Beginner</u>" to get started.

The Magic of Income Investing

Life changes. The most exciting part of having a 9% yielding checking account is the freedom. You can pay all your expenses from your checking account and still grow your portfolio. Can you <u>imagine the freedom</u> of your account growing on its own? Let's explore.

Let's say we decide to <u>move overseas</u> on income from cryptocurrencies. We need \$2,000/month in revenue for expenses. We do all our math at a 4% interest rate. At 4%, we would need \$600,000 in our crypto checking account.

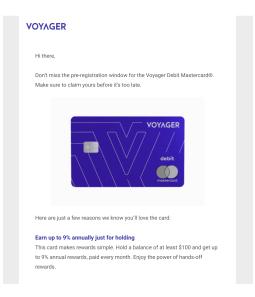
However, we would be receiving 9% interest on our \$600,000. That would provide us \$4,500/month in passive income from interest. So by preparing for a 4% yield but receiving a 9% yield every month, you would have a large amount of residual income.

As we know from the <u>power of compounding</u>, that extra income would grow our wealth rather quickly. You would have roughly \$2 million in 11 years. This debit card could be a life-changing event across the board for many households.

The assumptions. Now, my plan takes into account a few assumptions on my end. First, you would need to <u>save and invest \$600,000</u>. You don't need to move overseas, but you would need to live off of <u>\$2,000 worth of expenses</u>.

Be Smarter than the Average Bear (Market)

Most importantly, you would need to reinvest the residual interest income. That would be the most challenging part of the scenario for most people. I believe for those serious about living a <u>passive income lifestyle</u>, the laptop life, and <u>a cash flow retirement</u>, this plan is very achievable.



The Voyager Debit Mastercard. My new card has not shipped, but I am excited. Currently, I have \$1,208 in USDC coins. This will pay me roughly \$9/month. That means I can spend \$4/month and continue to grow my account.

Of course, I have no plans to spend that \$4, but it sounds cool enough. I will make more effort to put \$200+ a month in USDC.

The future. This debit card is one of the first ways crypto can go mainstream. Once people feel comfortable with USDC coins and receive 9% interest, it will spread like wildfire.

Annuities vs. Dividends

Having \$10,000 in USDC would pay you \$75/month. So you could <u>spend \$45-50/month</u> and still grow your account. Once people understand the numbers, I think this will get many new people into crypto and onto the <u>Voyager app</u>.

I am in the position to reap the benefits of the card and the Voyager stock. So, I am excited for this card to become the new hotness. We can all dream, right?

Conclusion. What do you think about the <u>Voyager Debit Mastercard</u>? Are you excited about the 9% interest rate? Do you have any money on the centralized or decentralized exchanges?

There has never been a better time to be an investor. Technology and information have opened the doors for us to take advantage as insiders. I hope you use this knowledge wisely. Enjoy!



20 Inflation vs. Crypto

Inflation is currently a hot topic, and it will probably be for the next 4-6 years. The Federal Reserve and Treasury Department printed a lot of cash that will slowly enter the money circulation.



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I previously wrote a few articles about assets and inflation (<u>royalties</u>, <u>dividends</u>, <u>rents</u>, <u>passive</u> <u>income</u>), but today I wanted to focus on cryptocurrencies. We don't know how crypto will handle itself against inflation because it is still in its infancy. But, as investors, it's in our nature to make educated guesses, so let's try to make some predictions.

Let's start our journey with <u>Bitcoin</u>, the granddaddy of all cryptocurrencies. Many people equate Bitcoin <u>to gold</u> because of its scarcity. I understand this comparison and think it holds weight.

Passive Income for Christmas

Inflation happens when there's too much money chasing too few assets. So, when there are scarce assets, the same dollars chase them, causing the prices to rise. This phenomenon just occurred during 2020-2021 in the <u>US housing market</u>.

Housing prices and rents went through the roof, and those who own real estate were the net winners. Luckily, I own three homes and caught this wave. In 2008, I was on the opposite end of the spectrum.

So, how will Bitcoin, a scarce asset, react to inflation? I believe that it will do exceptionally well against the backdrop of inflation. The <u>first Bitcoin ETF</u> was just approved, and <u>El Salvador</u> has officially started to use it as a national currency. Things are looking up for the young coin.

You'll Need \$20,000 Month in Passive Income

The things you will hear about Bitcoin are "if it is a store of wealth" or "if it has intrinsic value?" Those are questions you have to understand yourself. After reading the book "<u>Bitcoin: Hard</u> <u>Money You Can't F*ck With</u>," I appreciate my investing thesis. I believe Bitcoin will go to \$1 million eventually (20-25 years), but you have to read, digest, and create your thesis.



In the meantime, <u>Voyager</u> is paying me 5.75% interest (<u>plus rewards</u>) to hold my Bitcoin assets with them. That 5.75% will help beat inflation, which was around 5% during the summer of 2021. So with interest and capital gains, Bitcoin is earning its keep during this inflationary period.

Altcoins vs. Inflation. I spoke about Bitcoins first because where Bitcoin goes, Altcoins follow. I believe Altcoins will do just as well against inflation as Bitcoin. If you like to speculate, there is always a new coin that is about to pump.

If you don't know what Altcoins to invest in, look at the interest chart above. You can't go wrong with those coins because they are well-established. I am about to get into Polkadot because they will become a tremendous smart chain, plus the 12% interest.

Passive income in DeFi: Staking

Cryptocurrencies vs. Cash. I think many people have lost faith in cash after all this money printing. We are due for a <u>stock market crash</u> in the next 2-4 years, so many people are starting to understand the concept of diversification. This will help cryptocurrencies rise with inflation.

In the article "<u>Stocks vs. Bonds: Is 60/40 Still Effective?</u>" I wrote that bond yields were too low to protect you against inflation. Crypto now presents livable interest rates, at least for now. However, I would not allocate 40% of my investment portfolio to crypto. I can understand <u>how younger folks</u> find this appealing, but that would be overkill.

I currently have 7% of my portfolio in cryptocurrencies, which will increase a little as I add Polkadot. With the <u>stable coin USDC</u> yielding 9%, there isn't a need to hold more than \$2,000-\$4,000 in cash on hand.

Cryptocurrencies vs. Gold. Bitcoin and Gold will always be in some form of comparison. Call it old money versus new money. They are both scarce resources, so they merit a comparison. Gold costs money to store or brings physical risk to your home. Bitcoin floats in a digital wallet that can be compromised. They both carry some form of risk. Pick one, or even better, invest in both.

Retirement Planning for the Average Person 2

Conclusion. I believe Bitcoin and Altcoins will outperform inflation. Centralized exchanges like Voyager are paying large amounts of interest to hold your crypto assets. You can curb inflation with interest alone; the capital gains will just be a bonus.

As we saw with the housing market in 2021, inflation affects assets. Yes, food and other <u>commodities inflate</u>, but assets such as real estate, stocks, and collectibles have reached extreme highs.

There has never been a better time to get into crypto. It is becoming a household name, and if you stay on centralized exchanges, your money is safe. I would be more concerned with holding cash versus holding cryptocurrencies when it comes to inflation.

Please follow me on <u>Twitter</u> and <u>my Facebook Page</u> for more investing knowledge. I love writing about cryptocurrencies, so we can all grow wealthy together. Enjoy and Happy Investing.



21 Is Now a Good Time to Invest in Crypto?

We always believe we have missed the boat when it comes to investing. Yesterday is always the best time to invest in any particular asset. However, don't give up so easily—the markets still may have some life left in them.

When it comes to cryptocurrencies, most people do not know how to invest. They hear the word crypto, and they feel that they should be investing; however, it's not so simple to invest your money.



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There are tons of different altcoins (coins not Bitcoin) in which to invest your money. There are various centralized and decentralized exchanges to choose between—each <u>offering additional</u> <u>rewards</u>. How does one decide how best to allocate their resources in today's crypto world?

Stocks vs. Cryptos

Well, no need to get overwhelmed. Let's start with some of the basics, and then we can get you heading in the right direction. **And yes, it is a great time to invest in crypto!**

Investing goals. The most important part of any investing adventure is knowing what end state you plan to achieve. I like to say, "<u>What is your rich life?</u>" If you could be anywhere or with anyone, where would you be and with whom?

These are important questions because they drive your investing thesis. How you invest is just as important as the products you choose. Life is not a game, nor is investing. The more seriously you take your initial investment thesis, the more tremendous success you can achieve.

Why invest in crypto? Now, why invest in crypto inside your overall investment and <u>cash flow</u> <u>plan</u>? I wrote a similar article about the stock market titled "<u>Why Do I Need to Invest in the Stock</u> <u>Market?</u>"

Crypto lies in its own asset class, and <u>diversifying your passive income</u> is vital to long-term success. You have to decide the total allocation of crypto you would like to have in your portfolio.

Most people go with roughly 1-3%, but you can add more if you decide to invest the time and energy needed to learn about crypto. I have approximately \$8,000 of my \$200,000 portfolio invested in various crypto assets—so roughly 4%. I plan on sticking with this number for a while.

Can You Achieve Work-Life Balance 2

Crypto Education. Now, don't get too excited and run off and start investing. You'll need to educate yourself first. Yes, you can always put money in Bitcoin and get decent results. But, anything more than that, I recommend reading a couple of books to understand the world of crypto.

The first book I recommend is "<u>How to DeFi -Beginner.</u>" This book will walk you through all the terms of crypto, and more importantly, give you a look into the future of this asset class.

The following books will be books that I have written myself. The books "<u>My First Book on</u> <u>Cryptocurrencies</u>" and "<u>My Second Book on Cryptocurrencies</u>" will cover everything I learned about crypto over the last eight months. A few months ago, I was just like you. I did not know one thing about crypto, but I made it a priority to learn as much as possible; these books result from my efforts.

Prepare for Inflation

Further education. I can also break down my articles into a couple of series I wrote along the way. The <u>CryptoCurrency 101 series</u> covers essential knowledge about crypto. The <u>Passive</u> Income in Defi 101 series talks about earning income in crypto outside of capital gains.

"<u>The Magic of Cryptocurrencies</u>" talks about how crypto can be a significant part of your portfolio and your future. Another hot topic in the crypto-verse is NFTs or Non-Fungible Tokens. These allow the creator to build unique items that may hold value over time. Read the article "<u>Let's Get</u> <u>Rich with NFTs</u>" for more information.

Retirement Planning for the Average Person

The right time. Yes, now is a great time to invest in crypto. Just like the stock market has been around for over 100 years, crypto will be around for a very long time. You will need to put your long-term glasses on as you invest.

Sadly, if you are looking to make a quick buck, I may not bet the author for you. I believe in <u>making our families rich</u> over time—building generational wealth. Crypto can be a vital hedge in our portfolio along with business, royalties, retirement income, rents, and dividends.

Together they form a great path to long-term wealth and generational success. So take it slow, learn as much as you can, and think about your future as you invest.

It is an exciting time to be an investor. Never have we had access to so many ways to invest, and all from our cell phones. Don't follow the crowd; build your own investing thesis, execute your plan, and you will find great success.

Thanks for reading. For more on crypto, please follow me on <u>Twitter</u> and <u>my Facebook Page</u>. Enjoy and Happy Investing.



22 The Magic of Cryptocurrencies

I'm in a magical mood today. My wife and I are brainstorming how to buy our fourth house and life is just altogether good. Let's make it even better by talking about the magic of cryptocurrencies.



The Magic of Cryptocurrencies -Free PDF Download

My "The Magic of" series keeps expanding seemingly every other day. But I love that we can appreciate these passive income sources for what they are. Let's look at the earlier articles in the series.

- 1) <u>The Magic of Dividends</u>: Guilt-Free Money
- 2) The Magic of Royalties: Random Riches
- 3) The Magic of Rents: Consistent Wealth
- 4) <u>The Magic of a Roth IRA</u>: Tax-Free Dividends
- 5) The Magic of a Military Retirement: Active Service, Passive Income (free pdf)
- 6) The Magic of Passive Income: Your Money Works for You

Now we need to welcome cryptocurrencies to the fold. Crypto is fairly new to the world (roughly ten years) and most people invest in crypto for the chance to earn capital gains. I invest in crypto for passive income.

Let's Get Rich with NFTs

For me, the magic in cryptocurrencies lays in its options, or choices, for passive income. When we find a source of income, we want to exploit it for everything it is worth. In crypto, once your money is on the blockchain, your options expand exponentially.

In my first series on cryptocurrencies, the Cryptocurrency 101 series (<u>101</u>, <u>102</u>, <u>103</u>, <u>104</u>, <u>105</u>, <u>106</u>, <u>107</u>, <u>108</u>, <u>109</u>), I got familiar with some of the terms and functions of crypto. One of the main takeaways was knowing the difference between centralized and decentralized (DeFi) crypto investing.

Having the option to dive deeper into the world of crypto by going the DeFi route can work wonders for your passive income. That's why I started my next series, the Passive Income in DeFi 101 series (<u>101</u>, <u>102</u>, <u>103</u>), to highlight the possibilities in Decentralized Finance.

Right now, in my opinion, the best passive income you can make in crypto is with interest from Stablecoins. I invest in USDC, which is a stablecoin pegged to the US Dollar, and I receive 9% interest on my holdings.

Can You Achieve Work-Life Balance?

This is amazing, and a return you cannot find anywhere else in the world of investing. Think about it, if you trust stablecoin, then you are almost 100% risk-free. To me, stablecoins are like the high-yield savings accounts of the crypto-verse.

When I first started investing, back in June 2019, I opened a high-yield savings account with Discover bank. I still use this account, as I have roughly \$4,300 in there. In 2019, the interest rate was 2%, but today it is 0.4%. For the year, I have earned \$9.60 interest on my cash.

Savings			
ONLINE SAVINGS	Current Balance \$4,344.50 View Activity	Interest Year-to-Date \$9.60 Current APY: 0.40%	

I started investing in USDC in April, and I currently have \$850 in my position. I have earned \$16 from my \$850 since April. Do you see the ridiculous difference? My money is doing the same in both, **but I am earning 22X more interest in USDC,** freaking crazy, right?

USDC	6	830.31	16.34
USD Coin	U	000.01	10.04

Again, that is the magic of cryptocurrencies for me currently. I started a series on Living Overseas Passively (<u>101</u>, <u>102</u>), where I will look at the possibility of living off of 2,000/month from crypto.

Why Do I Need to Invest in the Stock Market?

To earn \$2,000/month from interest on USDC at 9%, I would need to have \$264,000 in my position. That is not bad at all and very achievable in 4-5 years of hard work. Of course, the interest rate on USDC may fall by then, but it could also rise. Either way, having a relatively safe way to earn a 9% return is unheard of today.

Of course, you also have capital gains from investing in Bitcoin or Altcoins (coins not Bitcoin). I am not a massive fan of capital gains (maybe in real estate) because they are fleeting. Here one day and gone the next. But, there are pleasant opportunities to grow your net worth, especially if you get into a coin community early in its' cycle.

That covers the centralized finance route—meaning "over-the-counter" crypto. What about passive income in DeFi? I am glad you asked. DeFi is set to explode over the next few years, so we will need to learn everything we can about the future of DeFi.

Planning for Retirement in Your 40s

Luckily, there is a book I highly recommend titled "<u>How to DeFi -Beginner.</u>" Yes, there is also an advanced edition that I haven't had the chance to dig into thus far. Passive income in DeFi includes peer-to-peer lending (via the blockchain), staking, farming, yield-chasing coins, and stablecoins.

What's crazy is that there are always new ways to earn yield in DeFi, which is the true magic of DeFi. We have no idea what the new big thing will be in DeFi passive income. People are already working on yield-chasing coins and coins that act like banks.

Teams are also working on coin ETFs on DeFi that will gather the best of the coins and diversify your crypto exposure. So indeed, we need to keep up-to-date with the world of crypto by reading the news and books.

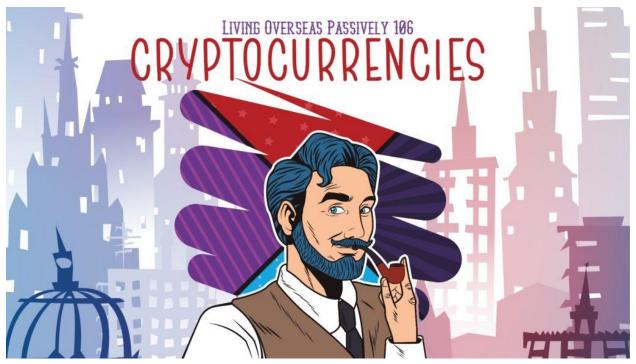
Dividends vs. Royalties part II

Crypto is moving so fast that you can get left behind if you aren't keeping up with the latest information. That may be a hindrance, but for us, that is what makes us the best of the best—our devotion to passive income and the world of investing.

Conclusion. The magic of crypto lies in its split personality. In the centralized world, we have stablecoins that yield 9% and are relatively safe. In the DeFi space, we have staking, farming, and lending, plus whatever is the new hotness.

The world of crypto is just so vast one can get lost. Don't get overwhelmed. Focus on what you need from crypto and try to extract that first. Then, when looking around, if you see something you like, explore some more—no need to get frustrated.

Please read the article "<u>My First Book on Cryptocurrencies</u>" for more from a beginner's point of view on crypto. I love the world of crypto and wish I had more time to dedicate to educating myself more. It's okay; for me, becoming a <u>Well-rounded Millionaire</u> is my path to wealth and happiness. Enjoy and Happy investing.



23 Living Overseas Passively 107: Cryptocurrencies

Retiring overseas on cryptocurrency income will be very interesting because crypto has only been around for 10-12 years. We have no idea how crypto will fare over the next 20 years, so all we can do is hazard a guess.



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If I had to guess, crypto would be even stronger tomorrow than it is today. Every day, crypto's adoption rate ticks upwards as more people realize the benefits of the blockchain. There has never been a better <u>time to invest</u> in crypto.

Welcome back to the Living Overseas Passively series (<u>101</u>, <u>102</u>, <u>103</u>, <u>104</u>, <u>105</u>, <u>106</u>), where we discuss living overseas on passive income. Today, we will focus on setting ourselves up for success with income from crypto.

Multi-Generational Investing

First, let's talk about our required monthly budget. We have been using \$2,000/month in passive income for each source of income, and we will continue with that number. So, we will aim for \$2,000/month from crypto.

Our security layer. The first thing I want to do is establish a security layer of income. For our dividend portfolio, we used cash or bonds. For cryptocurrencies, we use <u>stable coins for</u> <u>stability</u>.



My favorite stable coin, USDC, pays us 9% interest on our holdings. That is a livable wage with minimal risk. Indeed, <u>interest from coins</u> is a very appealing proposition in the crypto space.

We have no long-term data on how these interest rates will hold up over time, but I assume they will remain similar to today. With the <u>borrowing and lending protocol</u> within decentralized finance, it's in everyone's best interest to keep money flowing into these accounts.

New Year's Passive Income Resolution 2022

How much would I keep in stable coins? I would aim for the entire \$2,000/month from interest from stable coins. Why? Because at 9%, there is no need to take an additional risk with the income you need for expenses. Let's see how much we need to invest to receive \$2,000/month.

\$2,000/month equals \$24,000/year. (24000/0.09) gives us a total of \$266,666 that we would need to invest in our favorite stable coins. That is very achievable, especially over a ten-year window.

Other Crypto investments. We have safely given ourselves a living expenses budget, but we have more crypto investing to perform. We still want to ensure <u>we are beating inflation</u>, and that number can be higher overseas.

Looking at the chart above, we want to invest in other significant coins because of the <u>crypto</u> <u>rewards</u>, plus the ability to grow faster than inflation. I believe that the major coins, like Bitcoin, Ethereum, Polkadot, Cardano, etc., will hit major inflow numbers.

What Type of Home Business Should You Start 2: Outside

Inflow means that since these coins have their own smart chains (except Bitcoin), many users will be using their coins to interface with their networks. The more users, the higher the price goes.

I am currently receiving interest on six coins, and I will continue to invest in new up-and-coming coins that pay me interest. Why not receive interest and capital gains?

Passive Income in DeFi. I wrote an entire series on Passive Income in Decentralized Finance, including <u>yield farming</u> and <u>staking articles</u>. Those will be fun ways to add income after paying all our bills with stable coins and major coins.

We will have a lot of time to invest during retirement, so we may be able to catch the latest and greatest coin. It pays to be current on the news with crypto. I just wrote an article about <u>getting</u> <u>rich slowly</u>, and crypto is almost the exact opposite. The fastest mover receives the prize.

The Metaverse and NFTs. Now we will go into the speculation phase of our investments. I have been researching the <u>Metaverse</u> recently, and it will be huge.

The 8-Hour Mindset Destroys Wealth Creation

The Metaverse is a digital world atop our current world, and crypto will be a major player inside. Anything that we can do to involve ourselves in the Metaverse, we need to do now. <u>Non-Fungible Tokens</u> will also play a massive role in the Metaverse.

Imagine owning one-of-a-kind digital artwork inside your digital world. You can hang up your artwork for all to see. Sounds unrealistic? It is already happening in various digital worlds. If we want to set ourselves up for huge gains during retirement, the Metaverse and NFTs are the waves of the future.

Conclusion. We have no idea how crypto will fare over the next 20 years. However, if the last ten years are any indication, it will do amazingly well. I would want all my living expenses to come from interest on stable coins. That would give me the maximum amount of security.

Retirement Planning for the Average Person 2

On top of this security, I would add layers of interest from big coins. Then I could speculate with newer coins on DeFi.

Finally, for making huge gains, I would jump into NFTs and the Metaverse. I would find a way to make my content viable in this virtual world.

The world of crypto is fast-paced and exciting. When it comes to living overseas passively, you don't want to <u>gamble with your retirement</u>. Stay in stablecoins, and <u>speculate with house</u> <u>money</u>. Please follow me on <u>Twitter</u> and <u>my Facebook Page</u> for more investing knowledge. Enjoy and Happy Investing.



24 Let's Get Rich with NFTs!

The cryptocurrency craze is currently in a mania. Everyone is all in, and the next minute, everyone is scared to death that central governments will ban them.

There is still a lot of money to be had in cryptocurrencies. We have not seen all the applications for smart contracts and smart chains. One area that has a lot of room to grow is Non-Fungible Tokens or NFTs.

NFTs can be any digital product with a unique token or key written onto the blockchain. Once registered on the blockchain, it is one of a kind—no one else on Earth has that particular NFT.

Let's try to understand what this truly means. When you send a pdf to your friend via email, your computer creates multiple copies as you transfer the file. There is one on your desktop, the one you upload to Gmail, the copy Gmail sends to your friend, and finally, the one they download to their desktop.

All these copies are suitable for historical records but bad for keeping items unique. The blockchain is different because everything stays on the blockchain. When things are written onto the blockchain, they stay there. The only thing that transfers is ownership of the digital items.

NFTs can be anything that you want them to be. People are even tying physical assets to NFTs by giving their items unique keys on the blockchain. I believe that there is still much to be seen inside the world of NFTs.

Imagine a digital world where you can shop for digital real estate and buy digital oceanfront homes. Once you own your unique digital home, you can purchase unique digital artwork to place inside your house. This world already exists.

Video Games are also going to be a place where NFTs become a huge deal. We already know that each year the video game market becomes bigger and bigger, now imagine genuinely unique items that no one else in the world has. These items can now be certified unique via the blockchain.

Celebrities have already begun to make tons of money by creating and selling NFTs. Now that we can verify who created something and trace its origins, famous people can transfer their celebrity status to the digital world.

And they have been making money hand over fist selling things like unique artwork, writings, and music. But as the title of the article alludes, how do **YOU** make money from NFTs?

After reading the book "<u>The Nft Revolution</u>," the best way to sell you NFTs is by building an audience. Yes, the very topic I have been preaching about for over six months now comes back in full force.

No matter how unique a piece of artwork you can create, you will need an audience that knows you to buy it and run up the price. Anyone <u>can make an NFT</u>. The thing that makes it truly unique is you.

Now is the time to start building our audiences in the content creation arena. We have many options such as YouTube, Facebook, books, blogs, music, artwork, etc. I wrote an article about <u>becoming a content creator</u> at the beginning of 2021. And it has never rung more true.

In today's society, having even a tiny audience is vital to moving into the digital age. People want to see the face behind the products and services they buy. And yes, there is room for everyone to succeed, at least those who want to succeed.

If I can somehow become a writer, I am sure you can become a musician, YouTuber, or blogger. You will just have to commit the time and effort to become great at your niche slowly. It will be worth it to have a fanbase moving into this new digital age.

Now, there are some other ways to move into the NFT space. If you know how to navigate the NFT and cryptocurrency world, you can help other people create, market, and sell their NFTs.

Not everyone is an eager participant in NFTs. Many people already have audiences but do not know how to even get into cyberspace or crypto—this is where you can come in and start building NFTs.

This market will be huge moving forward because cryptocurrencies are leaving us, old-timers, behind. People do not like change, but vast sums of money will sway their minds. Learn how to build, create, market, and justify NFTs, and you will make large sums of money along with the original artist.

You can also get involved with the new digital worlds of cyberspace that host NFTs. I don't know what these worlds hold for the future, but no one does at the moment either. If you want to be on the spear of the transition, you need to insert yourself there. There is money for anyone willing to get involved and learn what the future holds.

NFTs are not going anywhere. Yes, there may have been a bubble around them recently, but they will continue to grow in popularity. And once they become helpful, then their popularity will sky-rocket.

No one knows what use-case or application will make these digital goods mainstream, but whatever it is will be huge. If you are interested in the world of NFTs, jump in today. Start reading, following bloggers, and creating your masterpieces. You never know if your creations will someday go for millions of dollars one day. Good Luck!



25 What is Decentralized Finance?

The world of cryptocurrencies is massive and can be overwhelming. However, many people confuse cryptocurrencies and decentralized finance. Today, I will attempt to calm everyone down, separate these two different economies, and give you a way forward to start investing.



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Cryptocurrencies Basics. Let's review the basics of cryptocurrencies. We can consider cryptocurrencies money, stores of wealth, tokens, fees, etc. There are so many different use-cases for crypto, but you truly just need to focus on the basics.

The simple basics of crypto are to open an account on a centralized exchange such as Coinbase or Voyager (<u>my favorite</u>). Then buy and hold L1 coins (major coins like Bitcoin and Ethereum) while collecting interest.

How to Retire in California

Decentralized Finance Basics. DeFi aims to co-exist with traditional finance (TradFi) by allowing trustless banking, lending & borrowing, options trading, insurance, etc. Trustlessness is a good thing and means that you don't have to convince a banker or loan officer to facilitate a loan.

The primary way DeFi works is by over-collateralization. This term means that you can put up a certain amount of assets on the blockchain, then take a loan, trade options, and register insurance against this money.

The world of DeFi is vast and changes every day. To be up to speed inside this universe, you need to follow the news for at least 1-2 hours a day. The stock market moves slow compared to DeFi.

I have read two books on DeFi titled "<u>How to DeFi -Beginner</u>" and "<u>How to DeFi -Advanced</u>," and I still need to read more to grasp this world.

The basis of this crypto investing. This article is to help newcomers separate the noise from the truth. Yes, people make a ton of money with cryptocurrencies. Yes, people lose a lot of money with cryptocurrencies.

Stocks and Bonds: Is 60/40 Still Effective?

Cryptocurrencies are very similar to the stock market. You can go with the slow money like boring blue-chip stocks—these include McDonald's and Starbucks. In the crypto-verse, the blue

chips are Bitcoin, Ethereum, Polkadot, Chainlink, etc. These are the major smart chains that can double every year.

However, most people would instead become day traders and pray their tiny coins can 10X (go up 1000%) in a couple of months. The same happens in the stock market with growth stocks. Growth stocks haven't even made a profit yet trade at huge multiples because of rampant speculation.

Enter DeFi. Compounding most people's angst to get rich quickly from cryptocurrencies is the world of DeFi. Everything you can do on centralized exchanges becomes even riskier in DeFi.

Inflation vs. Crypto

You are now in control of your own crypto-wallet, and people want to steal your information. There are chances to earn huge yields on new products and coins. However, there are also chances to "get the rug pulled" and have the liquidity snatched from under you. No liquidity means that someone took your money and left you with empty coins.

I don't mean to scare you, but DeFi is a platform for adults. If you don't know what you are doing, please stay away. I have been studying cryptocurrencies and DeFi at least ten hours a week for almost a year, and I still don't have a decentralized wallet.

I know I will get my ass handed to me if I go into DeFi and start yield-farming random coins. I am focusing on my business right now, but once I retire, I will have more time to scout for great investments in DeFi.

The opportunity costs. The opportunity costs in crypto and DeFi are huge! These costs create FOMO and JOMO (<u>fear of missing out</u> and joy of <u>missing out</u>). Traders may spread their money across twenty coins, and one may earn 10X. All the others may lose money.

Why Is Talking About Money Bad?

However, all you hear about is the one that 10Xs (grows in value ten times). From the outside, it looks like everyone is succeeding in crypto and Defi. In reality, everyone is leveraged to their eyeballs trying to make plays.

A little secret. My most important advice for traders is first to become investors. Investors buy and hold with an investing thesis. Their thesis may require them to buy-and-hold for 6-8 months or 6-8 years; however, they have an end goal.

More importantly, you'll need to understand the following concept once you are thinking like an investor. In "<u>Rich Dad's Guide to Investing</u>," Robert Kiyosaki says that you are either <u>an insider</u> <u>or an outsider</u>.

Outsiders are investing in big companies and coins, waiting for good news. Insiders create companies and coins and make decisions that directly affect their wealth.

When I rent rooms and my rental properties, I am an insider. I can raise the rents and add <u>additional streams of income</u>. I can add <u>mobile homes, RVs, and storage units</u> to my land in Florida.

I started Military Family Investing because I want to control the outcome of my business. I am an insider. If I want to create an MFI t-shirt for residual income, I can do this because I am the CEO.

You're an outsider. For crypto and DeFi, you are an outsider. That doesn't mean to avoid investing, but don't attempt to become rich from the outside. I am an outsider for my crypto and stock market investments. I am okay with that, and it gives me solace.

The Passive Income Grind 2: Relax

I know I am not attempting to get rich from these platforms. In fact, I make the ultimate return by renting rooms. I make 100% profit (called <u>an infinite return</u>) and then invest that money directly into crypto and the stock market.

Your investing thesis. When investing in crypto or getting into DeFi, understand your investing thesis. If you are using leverage, you better understand the risk involved.

Don't take lightly using leverage (borrowing money to earn a profit). When crypto was ski-high in April 2021, everyone in my office was screaming from the rafters.

Once the bear market hit, now everyone is quiet. Yet, I am here, still earning <u>royalties</u> on my books and receiving <u>dividends</u> and <u>rents</u>. My monthly passive income <u>continues to increase</u>, despite both the stock market and crypto markets being a crapshoot.

How I invest. I haven't got a decentralized wallet yet, and I haven't played inside DeFi either. I am a buy-and-hold crypto investor on the centralized exchange, <u>Voyager (affiliate)</u>. I invest in six major coins, and Voyagers pays me interest to hold these coins.

I am not trying to earn a fortune in crypto. I believe in blockchain, <u>the metaverse</u>, <u>NFTs</u>, and Defi, so that's why I can still invest with a long-term mindset.

What Type of Home Business Should You Start 2: Outside

I don't lose any sleep when the crypto market (<u>or stock market</u>) is down. I don't hold any risk assets in DeFi. I understand that investing in myself, my business, and growing an audience is the long-term path to true wealth and happiness.

The end game. Let's say you bought 1 billion little coins and made \$1 million profit in three months— age 30. How do you use that money to make yourself comfortable for the rest of your life?

I can use this money to buy a rental home, build an income portfolio, and start a rental car business. I would never have to work again with this \$1 million. Can you invest your crypto earnings into long-term success?

How Would You Invest \$5,000?

Or will you try to 10X your winnings again by spreading it across 30 coins? Do you genuinely want to spend the next 40-50 years trying to chase <u>capital gains</u>? The better way is to build wealth slowly, understand how money works and how to create more income.

Once your money creates more money, you can speculate and play with riskier assets. If you didn't convert your major winning into a stable, <u>cash flow retirement system</u>, I would remove myself from the market for now.

To summarize, Crypto and DeFi can create massive amounts of FOMO and illusions of gangrene. Crypto investing can be simply buying and holding Bitcoin and Ethereum. DeFi is significantly more challenging to understand. DeFi requires much more time, trust, and risk management.

Don't get swept away in the hype; most people aren't making a ton of money in crypto. Learn how to invest \$1 million safely into stable products, then put your money into the casino (crypto). I have many articles on <u>Cryptocurrencies</u> and <u>DeFi</u>, so feel free to start learning! Be safe.

PASSIVE INCOME IN DEFI



26 Passive Income in DeFi 101: Interest from Coins

Another day, another series. I love writing mini-series because they challenge me to think outside the box and focus on the subject. Today I will be doing a deep dive on my favorite topic, Passive Income.

This will be a little different because I will discuss passive income opportunities inside of Decentralized Finance (DeFi). I am fresh off reading the book "<u>How to DeFi- Beginner</u>," and I am pumped to explore more of this world.

In traditional banking (TradFi), there are not many ways to earn interest on your cash. You have savings accounts, high-yield savings accounts, and certificates of deposits. Without getting into bonds or dividend-paying stocks, those are some of the main ways to earn passive income in TradFi.

Why I'm Bullish on Chainlink

DeFi looks to shake this up by offering many ways to earn passive income. Some ways include interest from coins, staking, lending, farming, and lotteries. Understanding these different methods will help lower risk and increase profits. Let's jump into the least complex of all of these methods, interest in coins.

Is it possible to earn a 9% return on an almost risk-free investment? Absolutely. I know because I have been earning 9% on my USDC coins for the last four months. You don't truly understand how much 9% is until it starts hitting your account every 1st of the month.

I invest in my interest-paying coins through a centralized wallet on Voyager. You can just as easily open a decentralized wallet and earn interest on your coins as well. Remember, to open a <u>decentralized wallet</u>; you will need to follow a <u>step-by-step guide</u>.

When you open a decentralized wallet, you, and only you, will be responsible for protecting the keys to your wallet. Many people keep these keys offline to avoid online hackers gaining access to their keys. You will want to do your due diligence before you open your decentralized wallets.

For now, I am on Voyager, a centralized wallet. They have great rates on coins, including 9% on USDC and 7% on their own coin, VGX. The cool part is that they base their interest rates on the number of coins you invest in the platform.

My First Book on Cryptocurrencies

So, if I have 100 VGX coins, I would earn seven coins annually. It doesn't matter how much the coins are worth. I just experienced how important this is because the price of VGX just doubled in a week. However, I am still earning interest on my 895 coins. Now, the value of the coins I earned from interest has doubled as well.



Back to USDC, it is a stable coin pegged to the US Dollar. It stays at the value of a dollar. I have \$830 on Voyager, and I've earned \$16 since May. If this money were sitting in a high-yield savings account at 1% interest, it would have accumulated \$3 of interest over four months. 9% interest is huge.

To understand why stablecoins pay so much, you will need to understand the value of peer-to-peer, borrowing, and lending on the blockchain. I will go more in-depth into borrowing and lending in a future article of the series.

CryptoCurrency 108: What are DAOs?

Let's just say that a borrower can put up collateral via coins, say 6 ETH, and they could then borrow 3 ETH. They could ask to receive their 3 ETH via USDC at an 11% interest rate. Your 9% would come from the borrower paying back the loan.

The borrower gets to keep their 6 ETH once they fully pay back their loan. This is important because the price of ETH could continue to sky-rocket over time. They may not want to sell, just

to find some new investments. Think of this as a home equity loan—where banks use the home (the asset) as collateral for the loan.

The main risk to your investments is that the interest rate may drop from 9% (or whatever) it starts with. Stable coins will remain in high demand because they can move freely throughout many DeFi functions. Other coins' interest rates may fluctuate; however, their prices have a chance to appreciate.

Conclusion. That's all I have for interest from coins. You can open a Voyager or Coinbase account and start earning interest today. If you want to go the DeFi route, you can as well. We will need a decentralized wallet for everything else we cover in this series. Enjoy and Happy Investing.



27 Passive Income in DeFi 102: Borrowing and Lending

Wouldn't it be nice to borrow \$20,000 against your house in 15 minutes? You would just have to prove you were the homeowner, the home's value, and wham, you have your collateralized loan. This may not be the case in TradFi—but, welcome to DeFi 102.

Before I get started, please check out <u>Passive Income in DeFi 101</u>, where I talk about stablecoins. Stablecoins are vital to the framework of everything that happens in decentralized finance.

Thank you, back to borrowing and lending in DeFi. When you get a home loan in TradFi, you use your future home as collateral to the loan. If things should go bust, then the bank will happily take your home.

The Future of Decentralized Finance

In DeFi, if you can provide the collateral for your loan and take the money instantly. This loan speed is possible because your crypto assets are already on the blockchain, available for all to see (your identity is hidden). Let's walk through a scenario.

Josh wants to get a quick loan to invest in a hot new coin. He puts 3 ETH (currently worth \$3,200 each) into a liquidity pool to collateralize his loan. He takes \$4,000 USDC stablecoin for his loan. He pays interest on his loan until he pays it off.

Why would he take a loan against this ETHER? If he expects the price of ETH to continue to rise, taking out cash against it is a great idea to keep his assets. We can use this analogy for homes, Pokemon cards, gold, etc.

If you want some liquid funds but want to keep the asset, taking a collateralized loan may be the answer. The best part about DeFi is that it all happens on the blockchain via smart contracts. Everything happens quickly, as you may have your loan money in less than 15-20 mins, or faster. No middle-men (banks) required.

But we are here to talk about passive income, right! We are not worried about taking out loans and paying interest; we want people to pay us interest. Remember I said something about a liquidity pool?

Let Get Rich with NFTs

The borrower puts his collateral in a liquidity pool that protects the lender. The lenders (us) also have a liquidity pool—this is where the borrower withdrew the USDC from. We can add our own crypto to the liquidity pool and start earning interest immediately.

In fact, you don't even need to have an account at some of the DeFi apps (Dapps). You just connect your decentralized wallet and place the amount of crypto you want into the pool. You will start earning interest immediately.

Algorithms control the interest rates on the different coins, such as Bitcoin, Ether, Tether, and USDC. The algorithms base the rates on how much of each currency is in the pools. However, my favorites, stablecoins, are always in high demand.

Stablecoins can quickly move in and out of DeFi transactions, so many borrowers prefer them over other assets. This is an excellent time to give you an important reminder.

I just talked about the DeFi version of borrowing and lending. However, if you haven't gone full DeFi yet, you can take advantage of lending by using your centralized wallet, i.e., Voyager and Coinbase. I am getting 9% interest on my USDC on Voyager as we speak.

Let's Invest in Crypto Together!

Why go the decentralized route then? The centralized path is great for standard, safer investments, but how do you make out-sized returns? If there is a new coin that people want to borrow against, then the interest rates will be ridiculous.

Having some of your cryptos in DeFi will allow you to be a first-mover in first-come-first-serve situations like this. I know people that were getting 40% interest by staking their cash in a starter coin.

We will get more into yield-chasing mechanisms as we progress through the series. For now, you can safely earn good yields on centralized wallets, but I would look into moving a small number of your assets into DeFi wallets.

I am a hypocrite because I don't have any assets on DeFi, **YET**. But I plan to get this done once some of my crypto recovers from the great crash of April 2021. In the meantime, read "<u>How to</u> <u>DeFi-Beginners</u>" to get the step-by-step guide on borrowing and lending in DeFi Dapps.

What do you think about borrowing and lending in DeFi? Would you lend your money to collect interest? Do you prefer the centralized route or the DeFi route? Let me know in the comments! Enjoy and Happy Investing.



28 Passive Income in DeFi 103: Staking

Man, talking about passive income is so exciting; I guess that is why I do it every day. Today, we are back to talking about passive income in decentralized finance or DeFi. The world of DeFi exists deep inside the realm of cryptocurrencies. Please read previous posts in the Passive Income in DeFi series (<u>101</u>, <u>102</u>) to get caught up.

Now, for the main event—**Staking**. Staking is the process of "locking" up your cryptocurrencies on a smart contract for certain rewards and interest rates. Staking is akin to purchasing a certificate of deposit (CD) from a traditional bank.

When you buy a CD, you lock up your money for a certain period, and the bank presents you with a fixed interest rate for that period. Staking in cryptocurrencies is very similar; however, you can earn more rewards in addition to the interest rate or APY (Annual Percentage Yield).

Happy Cash Flow Retirement 2

Remember, I am talking about staking in decentralized finance, not centralized finance. In the centralized world, exchanges like Voyager and Coinbase will pay you a yield for holding specific crypto for over a month.

This process is similar to staking, but it is more of an incentive to keep your coins locked in their ecosystem. Voyager has its native utility token called VGX 2.0, which brings some extra benefits and yields 7%.

After staking enough VGX 2.0 coins, you will begin to earn the 7% yield. However, if you stake more, you will begin earning more yield on other coins as well. Holding VGX also makes you eligible for other incentives such as lower fees when cashing your coins.

These rewards are all in the realm of the centralized crypto space. When you jump in the DeFi world, things get juicier, if not a little riskier. I say risky because you can stake with new coins, and earn huge interest rates.

Art Edition: The Biggest Book on Passive Income Ever!

Once you get a decentralized wallet and link it to a DeFi exchange such as Binance, you will have many more ways to stake coins. The rewards for staking in DeFi can be more appealing than in centralized finance and traditional banking.

The world doesn't pay you huge interest yields for super safe products though. You will have to research what you are getting yourself into before staking. I found a great article with some examples of <u>staking in DeFi here</u>.

When staking in Defi, coins may present stakeholders opportunities to share the growth of the coins. For example, stakeholders may share some of the revenue from fees inside liquidity pools.

So the potential rewards, on top of interest, can be high. The world of DeFi staking is fluid, and you have to stay alert to new possibilities sprouting up at any moment. I have a friend in Japan who was paying 45% APY. The event lasted for four days, and he made a good bit of money in that timeframe.

Passive Income for Christmas

He found this opportunity by being involved with coins, crypto groups, and chat rooms. So going deep into the realm of DeFi is necessary to get the best rates. While you are down there, you can also find young coins before they become famous.

There is a lot to learn with DeFi, so don't feel too overwhelmed. I read the book "<u>How to DeFi</u> <u>-Beginner</u>" to help me sort through the rubble. I recommend that book if you are genuinely interested in getting into the world of DeFi.

Staking is a great way to earn nice interest and also participate in the growth of new coins. Another good thing is that many of these coins are not on centralized exchanges yet. So if you stake a coin early, build up a good amount of coins, and the coin goes onto Voyager, you may see your assets exponentially grow in value.

That is part of the risk/reward portion of DeFi and something you need to understand. Right now, I am a <u>Voyager Loyalty rewards</u> (affiliate) member because I have 895 VGX 2.0 coins (at

\$3.58 each today). I plan to hold them, grow them with 7% interest, and wait as Voyager takes over the world. Lol.

Anyways, find a coin you are passionate about, <u>perform your due diligence</u>, and have some fun. The world of DeFi may be the most exciting part of any investing scene today, so jump in—just be safe.



29 Passive Income in DeFi 104: Yield Farming

One of the most exciting parts of passive income on decentralized finance is the sheer amount of options. I'm trying to cover as many of these techniques as possible during the Passive Income in DeFi series (101, 102, 103). Today, we are looking into one of the more complex techniques called yield farming.

Other names for yield farming are "liquidity farming" or "liquidity mining." Yield farming is the act of "staking" (or lending, loaning) your crypto assets to earn more crypto assets. In <u>Passive</u> Income in DeFi 103, we talked about staking. Yield farming is similar but more complex than staking.

Staking was relatively simple. If I had 300 USDC, I could stake it with a platform holder and earn interest in USDC. Staking was almost like buying a certificate of deposit at your local bank. The bank would then use your money to make higher returns on the cash.

Orange You Glad You Have Passive Income?

I am going to try to break down yield farming as simply as I can. I will then refer you to some more in-depth articles on the topic. It is truly fascinating; however, it can be hazardous as well.

With yield farming, you are staking your crypto assets within a crypto pair. The decentralized platform usually pairs your well-known crypto (ETH, BTC, USDC, etc.) with an up-and-coming crypto asset.

When new coins arrive, liquidity is the number one way for them to survive. Liquidity provides investors the means to move in and out of the coins with ease. You can see the amount of liquidity in the spread.

What Is a Bid-Ask Spread?

A bid-ask spread is the amount by which the ask price exceeds the bid price for an <u>asset</u> in the market. The bid-ask spread is essentially the difference between the highest price that a buyer is willing to pay for an asset and the lowest price that a <u>seller</u> is willing to accept.

The spread is the difference between the bid/ask price. The bid represents demand, and the ask represents supply. See more about the <u>bid/ask spread on Investopedia</u>. When there is a vast difference between bid/ask spread (demand and supply), the transaction cost may outway the need to deal business with this particular coin, meaning they are too expensive to trade.

The Pros and Cons of Dividend ETFs

That's where yield farmers come into play. By staking their coins into liquidity pools, they make the currencies more attractive for other investors to trade. Would you buy a coin knowing you would lose money when you attempt to deal it away?

Now, the DeFi platform establishes your crypto pair with the young crypto—what's next? Now, you inject your crypto into the pair's liquidity pool. You will then earn interest on your crypto assets. However, this is where things get interesting.

You will most likely not earn interest in the form of the asset you stake. So if you insert USDC, you will not make interest in USDC. There are many ways that the platform can pay your interest.

Don't Gamble Your Retirement Away 4

Most platforms have a governance (or platform) coin. So you may need to convert your USDC (or ETH, BTC) into a governance coin before inserting it into a liquidity pair. Your interest may

be in the form of the governance token. Here is an excellent <u>article on Coinmarketcap</u> explaining yield farming and also provides us with a list of ten popular DeFi Yield Farming protocols.

Okay, so now you are earning interest, usually in the form of a platform's governance token. This still seems like staking, right? Things get **EVEN** more interesting from here. As your crypto is sitting in liquidity pools, it may also be eligible to partake in a percentage of the transaction fees that the platform earns from your pair.

Even better, your percentage of the fees may come as the new crypto that is part of the pair—this is where the term "mining" comes into play. So not only are you staking your crypto assets, but the more transactions people conduct with the new coin, the more new coins the platform mints and pays to liquidity providers (LPs). LPs are the yield farmers.

<u>Therefore, you could be earning interest on your assets in the liquidity pool AND a percentage</u> of the fees in the form of newly-minting coins in the liquidity pair. I know, super confusing. It will take you some time to understand these concepts because they are brand-new.

Let me give an example to help illustrate this phenomenon. Let's say the JOSHUA Platform is offering a liquidity pool for the new coin KING. The governance token for the JOSHUA platform is JOSH.

You'll Need \$20,000/month Passive Income

First, we would have to exchange our USDC for JOSH tokens. Then we deposit our JOSH tokens into the liquidity pool between JOSH/KING. I will earn a yield on this pair; for this example, it will be 15%.

In addition to my 15% interest, I may also earn rewards in the form of KING tokens. When I extract my crypto, the platform will pay me in JOSH tokens, and I will also have a wallet full of KING coins. Depending on how popular KING coins are on other centralized/decentralized exchanges, they may be worth more than my USDC or JOSH coins over time.

Getting a bunch of newly mined coins is never a bad thing. I have no guarantee that KING coins will become popular, but they can be highly lucrative if they do. That is one of the benefits of yield farming. You can see some examples of the <u>marketplace on Curve.Fi</u>.

Welcome to Stress Freedom

What are some of the pitfalls of yield farming? As you can see, yield farming can be complex. Also, the crypto you stake can have substantial price swings. The crypto you lock into the liquidity pool may suffer colossal price swings; therefore, the pair may become unstable or unequal.

There is also the risk that someone will pull the liquidity from the new coin. There is no guarantee that someone has vetted the new coin. A liquidity pool could open, have tons of interest, gather lots of funding, and then the coin holders disappear—with all of the liquidity. It has happened before.

This risk is why I wrote the article "<u>Due Your Due Diligence.</u>" You need to gather as much information about your coin as possible. Yes, one power move into the right new coin can set you up for life, financially. But, on the other hand, it could also destroy you.

Conclusion. Yield farming is a fantastic way to gain yield on your coins. It can be complex, but it can be a great, fun passive income tool in moderation. However, it is incumbent on you to conduct your due diligence, control yourself, and provide safety measures for yourself.

Decentralized finance is the land for adults; no one is going to hold your hand. I highly recommend reading the book "<u>How to DeFi -Beginner</u>" to ensure you know as much as possible before you even consider yield farming. "**There are no risky investments, only risky investors.**"



30 Passive Income in DeFi 105: Crypto Rewards

Nothing feels better than receiving dividends! Imagine waking up to find "fresh" money in your bank account—no work required. In the world of crypto, there is a similar feeling that presents itself as **crypto rewards**.

Welcome to the Passive Income in DeFi series (<u>101</u>, <u>102</u>, <u>103</u>, <u>104</u>), where we talk about getting rich with cryptocurrencies. If you are new here, please go back and read the other articles in the series, as they all tie together.

Now, back to crypto rewards. Crypto rewards are the bonuses that your centralized or decentralized exchange pays you when you meet specific requirements. I will be talking only about <u>Voyager</u>, a centralized exchange because I hold all my crypto assets there.

The Magic of Cryptocurrencies

This article may sound like a love letter to Voyager, but most exchanges offer similar perks to join and build your portfolio. I recommend researching the perks before joining any exchange.

Voyager now has a perk system called the **Voyager Loyalty Program** (VLP). Here is a link to the full <u>blog post description</u>. I joined Voyager before the VLP, but man, it has been nice to see these rewards staking.

VOYAGER LOYALTY PROGRAM				
REWARD TIER	ADVENTURER	EXPLORER	NAVIGATOR	
Eligibility: VGX hold quantity	500	5,000	20,000	
TOKEN UTILITY REWARDS				
VGX Staking Rewards	7%	7%	7%	
Earnings Reward Boost	+0.5%	+1%	+1.5%	
Crypto Back Rewards	1x	2x	3х	
Refer-a-Friend	\$30	\$35	\$40	
COMING SOON				
Crypto Withdrawal Discount	10%	20%	30%	
Crypto Back on Debit Card	0.10%	0.20%	0.30%	
Debit Card Fee	No Fee	No Fee	No Fee	
Desktop	Free Access	Free Access	Free Access	

To become a VLP member, you must hold a certain amount of the Voyager Tokens (VGX). To reach the lowest tier, Adventurer, you'll need 500 VGX in your account. Luckily I have 850, so I am an Adventurer level member.

First, you'll get 7% interest on your Voyager tokens. You receive the interest based on the number of tokens, not the amount they are worth. So now, when the token is worth roughly \$2.50, I am staking them up. If the price were to jump to \$10, you could see the value in investing today.

Don't Gamble with Retirement 3 + 4

Second, you'll get an earnings boost on Bitcoin, Ethereum, and USDC. The boost for my tier level is 0.5%. It doesn't sound like much, but they pay it separately, around the middle of the month. So, first, you'll get your ordinary interest on your coins. Then around the 15th, you get another tiny paycheck of crypto. Trust me, it's incredible!

I don't get any crypto-back rewards yet, because of my tier. However, once I reach Explorer, I'll start to receive some cashback from the trades I make on the platform. Sounds interesting.

Refer-a-friend is also a great way to bring in some passive income. Non-VLP members get \$25 in Bitcoin for referring a friend. VLP members get the same \$25, plus a boost of VGX coins. My tier receives an additional \$5 in VGX. My mother joined Voyager while I was home on leave, and we both received \$25 in Bitcoin, and I got my boost of VGX as well.

If Voyager sounds cool, please follow <u>my referral link</u> so we both can earn some rewards. I have come a long way since investing my first \$300 in the platform. I now have roughly \$8,000 invested on the platform across various coins.

Cryptocurrency 110: Wrap Your Coins

Another benefit of Voyager is the standard interest on coins. I love seeing the interest rates. If I am close enough to earn interest, I may purchase some more of a particular coin. I recently did this with the coin Cardano (ADA).

Here is how all of these crypto rewards look on my transaction history. When you see all of these transactions, it'll blow your mind. All I can say is **PASSIVE INCOME!**

Crypto Received	+0.000007 BTC	
10/03/2021	+0.000007 BTC	
Crypto Received	+0.35 USDC	
10/03/2021	+0.35 USDC	
Reward		
10/02/2021	+0.5 ADA	
Reward	16.00 1100	
10/01/2021	+6.28 USDC	
Reward	+5.82 VGX	
10/01/2021		
Reward	+0.101104	
10/01/2021	+0.10 LINI	
Reward	+0.000078 BTC	
10/01/2021		
Crypto Received	+2.04 VGX	
09/18/2021	+2.04 VG	
Crypto Received	+0.53 VGX	
09/18/2021		

You can see the transactions here. I have the crypto rewards from my mother joining at the bottom. I received interest from BTC, LINK, VGX, USDC, and ADA. I also have my interest boost on BTC and USDC at the very top. This statement was just over a couple of weeks. I love it.



The last thing I love about Voyager is the emails because they are all helpful. They email you the current interest rates every month. They also attach their new blog posts so you can get a heads up about the crypto community directly in your inbox.

What is Passive Income?

Conclusion. I love Voyager so much that I also invest in the stock. Crypto rewards genuinely add another dimension to the world of crypto, one that can help you accumulate wealth over time.

Again, if Voyager sounds interesting to you, follow <u>my referral link</u> to get started. However, there are many fish in the sea, so explore the ocean, looking for the best passive income rewards you can receive. Everyone is fighting for your hard-earned dollars; make them pay you.

If you like this content, please follow me on <u>Twitter</u> and also <u>my Facebook Page</u>. I also have a free book on Crypto titled "<u>The Magic of Cryptocurrencies.</u>" Go ahead and give it a free download. Enjoy and Happy Investing.



THE METAVERSE

31 The Metaverse 101: Enter the Metaverse

I have completed many written series over the last year I have been blogging. However, none may be more vital to investors than the one I am writing today about the metaverse. We are still

in the very early stages of Web 3.0, and we will need to leverage everything we have learned about investing, cryptocurrencies, real estate, and business to find success in this brave new frontier.



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Today, I will give a brief overview of the Metaverse, but more importantly, I will ensure we have the proper tools to take advantage of Web 3.0. Just because we are moving into a digital world doesn't mean throwing everything we learned out the window. The same rules apply, but instead digitally.

The Metaverse. The metaverse has been a hot topic among investors recently. The parent company of Facebook changed its name to Meta last month and described its aspirations for the future.

Real Estate is a Mindset (Advanced)

This story brought metaverse hype to the forefront of the news cycle. But what is the metaverse? I began watching some videos, but I decided to read a book next. Always read books to gain an overall investing thesis of a topic.

I just completed "<u>The Metaverse</u>" by Terry Winters, and it changed my mindset about the future. First, the metaverse is a digital world that we can access through various equipment in our physical worlds. The metaverse will allow us all to socialize, work, and invest in its digital worlds.

The two main ways to access the metaverse are virtual reality (VR) and augmented reality (AR). VR has been around for a while, with a renewed focus recently because of the Metaverse. We can access VR through virtual reality headsets that cover our faces and ears.

AR has become popular as a digital overlay to our physical world. AR uses cameras and computers to show us information on top of the physical world as we navigate. I used to play Pokemon Go until it became too expensive for me. However, Pokemon Go is an excellent example of AR in today's space.

Web 3.0. Web 3.0 will help usher in the metaverse. Web 1.0 is what I used growing up with the internet in the 1990s. It was a basic interface with mainly text websites. Web 2.0. is what we

currently use. It features user-generated content, video, and social media. It also has rich websites and visuals.

CryptoCurrency 109: Perform Your Due Diligence

Web 3.0 will incorporate peer-to-peer applications and blockchain technology. Please read the above book to get a deeper take on the future of the internet. What I took away was things are changing, and we need to get on board.

Features of the metaverse. Many movies and books have featured versions of the metaverse. However, we don't know what the future will bring in regards to killer applications. Currently, there are multiple worlds where users can interact, build, and invest.

Using our VR headsets, we will be able to go to work, malls, attend movies, concerts, travel to destinations, gamble, spend time with family, etc. The metaverse will allow us to replicate our physical world in the digital space.

It is important to note that no one company or person controls the metaverse. There will be multiple worlds, and building tools that allow us to access our personas, or "avatars", across multiple worlds will be vital.

The Value on Commodities

Here lies the rub. If there are multiple worlds, multiple companies, multiple metaverses—how should we spend our time, money, and resources? That's where our investing background plays an essential role in the future.

The metaverse won't just be some free-for-all where everyone is making money hand over fist. Nope, the same investors that are successful today will be successful in the metaverse. Of course, there will be a gold rush at first, but as the markets mature, actual investors will begin to shine.

That's what I want to focus on in my metaverse series. We need to understand what is happening in the metaverse, how it relates to the physical world and our current education, form a new investing thesis, and execute our plan.

Let's take buying virtual land, for example. Sure, you can go and buy a vast plot of land on Decentraland today. However, buying and holding a plot of land may not guarantee the returns you seek. Property values in the metaverse depend on "foot traffic"—how many virtual avatars cross your land. So buying a plot of land closer to big cities or attractions will yield better results.

Sustainable Riches: Return to Earth. Make Green.

So to have great results in virtual real estate investing, you will need to understand how to invest in real estate. Guess what, that's just like real life. There will be no easy win button in the metaverse—we will still need to be investors.

So let's take the time to refresh our investing mindset across multiple asset classes. There is no better time to form great investing habits before the gold rush. We are in the calm before the storm, so let's take the time to build our financial mindset in preparation for this brand new world.

Employment. Yes, <u>there are jobs</u> in the metaverse. If I were to buy a virtual plot of land today, I would need to hire a designer or programmer to build an attractive home or business. As more and more people migrate to the metaverse, these professions will be in demand. If you always wanted to have a web-centric career, now could be a great time to start learning a new trade.

Retirement Planning. The <u>average person</u> can't afford to retire in the United States. What will the metaverse bring for these senior citizens? Will they be able to gather virtually? As an investor, I would want to keep my eye on this development.

My First Book on Cryptocurrencies

Investing. In the physical world, we use <u>dividends</u> to profit from big corporations. How will we invest in companies in the metaverse? Remember, I said there would be more peer-to-peer connections, so corporations may not control what's "inside" the metaverse. They may maintain the infrastructure but maybe not the daily virtual operations.

Each metaverse world will have an economy of its own. As investors, we will need to understand each economy and make investment decisions to add value and profit. It won't be one size fits all.

Cryptocurrencies. Blockchain is a huge part of Web 3.0 and the metaverse. The blockchain is where we will record all of our transactions and ownership in the metaverse. If you don't understand blockchain technology or crypto, please take the time to read through my <u>CryptoCurrency</u> series.

Also, the book "<u>How to DeFi -Beginner</u>" is a solid read that can help you gain the appropriate knowledge. Virtual worlds are creating coins that their visitors can use to buy land and make transactions. Investors and speculators can buy some of these coins on centralized exchanges.

For example, Decentraland uses MANA as their platform token, and you can buy this coin on <u>Voyager</u> (affiliate link). So if you don't understand the metaverse, you can still invest as an outsider. This is one example of how the digital and physical worlds will overlap.

The Biggest Book on Passive Income Ever!

Real Estate. Digital real estate and buying virtual land is going to be the next boom. However, creators can build an unlimited amount of digital land; how will you tell which will become valuable? Again, that's why we are investors. The basics of <u>real estate investing</u> still apply. Location, location, location.

To find and buy valuable land, you have to understand the world where you are spending money. Is the world going to survive against other metaverse worlds? Where are the popular attractions in this world? What do the market prices look like compared to last month or year?

I would love to say that you can jump into any world and start buying land, but that may not be the best tactic. You will also need to develop your land with housing or business. Will there be <u>ways to tokenize</u> your land to make it more affordable to purchase? There are many questions to ask and answer in metaverse real estate.

CryptoCurrency 108: What are DAOs?

Business. There are two main questions to ask about business in the metaverse. What new types of business will excel in the metaverse? How do I transfer my current physical business into the metaverse?

First and foremost, ensure you know the basics of <u>being an entrepreneur</u>. The metaverse isn't going to change your mindset or make you smarter. You still have to understand <u>how to run a</u> <u>business</u> and add value.

There will be various ecosystems in the metaverse that you need to understand. You could become a virtual real estate agent, showing people new digital lands. How about a tour guide for people new to a particular world? The possibilities are endless; however, we cannot rest on our laurels. We need to engage with the metaverse daily and see where the economies take us.

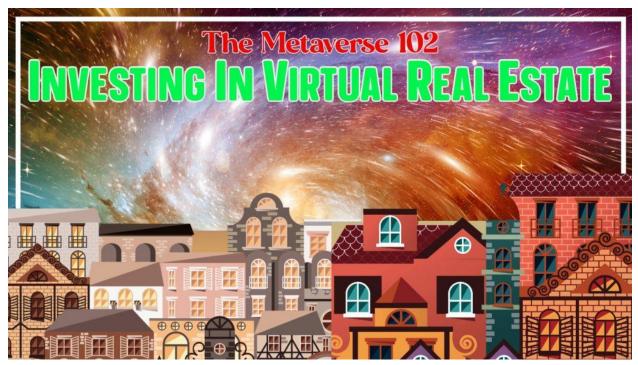
Read These 10 Books BEFORE Buying Your First House

Conclusion. I'll have to wrap this up. That's why I love creating series so that I can return to important topics. There is still much to discuss in the metaverse, including NFTs, gambling, education, etc. We have barely scratched the surface of the possibilities.

We must always keep our bearings in new investing scenarios. We know what made us rich in the physical world, so we need to keep that same mindset. There will be tons of new gold rushes in the metaverse, but the windows of opportunity will close fast. Don't take the fast money if you do not entirely understand the game.

As is always the case, the investors with the long game in mind will come out ahead. Stay tuned for more metaverse coverage. I am super excited to transition our investing knowledge into the digital space.

Please join my <u>Facebook Group</u> if you want the latest articles and free books delivered to your news feed. Also, you can contact me inside the group and ask questions. I also have a <u>Facebook Page</u> where you can see my latest articles.



32 The Metaverse 102: Real Estate in the Metaverse

Let me be clear; I was very intentional with the word "investing" in the title of this article. I didn't write "buying, flipping, selling" for a reason. The metaverse is the new gold rush—lots of investors will make millions, but more people will go home in tears.



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As investors, we need to mitigate risk at all costs. We understand that all investing (even not investing) carries some form of risk/reward analysis. However, rushing off to purchase virtual land in a metaverse economy we know nothing about isn't investing; it's gambling (or speculating). But we can overcome the urge and make solid decisions.

Welcome back to The Metaverse 101 series (101), where we discuss entering the metaverse as investors. Today we have a great topic, so strap in and put on your thinking caps.

Prepare for Inflation

Bird's eye view. First, I want to give you a bird' eye view of your investment portfolio. Before you enter the metaverse, you should have a dividend portfolio (<u>dividend growth or income</u>), a <u>cryptocurrency portfolio</u>, <u>physical real estate or REITs</u>, and <u>royalties or a business</u>.

In the article "<u>Multi-Generational Investing</u>," I wrote that we should first get rich by doing what has proven to work. Many millionaires use the above items to make their money; therefore, you can follow right behind them.

I reference the bird's eye view because you should already have a path to great wealth. Now, moving into the metaverse should be a way to diversify or accelerate your plan. If we enter the metaverse with the pure intention to make tons of money, we are more likely to make rash decisions.

Our traditional portfolio should allow for a bit of speculation (maybe 2-5% of our total). Investing in metaverse real estate should fall into the speculation category. So if we have \$3,000 to invest in virtual real estate, then we have \$3,000.

Run a Passive Airbnb Business

We must frame our investing goals before we enter the virtual marketplace. Going into the new frontier trying to get rich isn't such a good idea.

In the mid-1800s, the California gold rush was in full effect. Everyone rushed in to get a piece of the action, buying all the equipment necessary to dig for their freedom. However, the gold rush left most diggers in tears. On the flip side, the entrepreneurs selling shovels made significant profits. Who do you want to emulate, the diggers or the salesmen?

Traditional Real Estate Investor. Sorry for the introduction, but we must prepare the correct mindset when moving into the metaverse. When it comes to real estate, whether traditional or virtual, it still will follow the same basic rule—location, location, location.

I highly recommend everyone become a <u>real estate investor **BEFORE** buying their first property</u> (traditional or virtual). When I buy a home in, say, <u>California</u>, I need to understand the market.

I have to ask questions like:

- 1) What are the rents?
- 2) What kind of appreciation can I expect?
- 3) What are the major attractions near me?

- 4) What amenities are near me, such as schools, malls, restaurants, etc.?
- 5) What businesses are near me?

When it comes to virtual real estate, you need to ask the same kind of questions. You may have to frame them differently, but they are strikingly similar.

The 8-Hour Mindset Destroys Wealth Creation

As an <u>outside investor</u>, you may not know much of the virtual land you are reviewing. Whose fault is that? The three main metaverse worlds today are Decentraland, Sandbox, and CryptoVoxels. You can read more about their virtual real estate on <u>Coinflow News</u>.

Have you visited these worlds before? I haven't had the time to see any of them yet. I have a job, a family, and a business. Hopefully, one day I'll retire and have more time to explore the new world.

Now, would you go and buy some expensive land in these worlds because everyone else is doing it? I hope not. Plots on land in these worlds are selling for high prices, in the \$100s of thousands.

My first recommendation is to spend a ton of time in these worlds. Learn the language, make friends, involve yourself in chat rooms, Facebook groups, Twitter feeds, Discord groups, etc.; we shouldn't have to ask others for investing advice. We should extract the proper investing thesis from our own research.

How to Create Passive Income 103: For Advanced

Stability in the Virtual World. The central question you need to ask yourself is, "How do you know if your virtual world will survive?" Everyone and their mom will be starting a metaverse over the next few years.

Your job is to pick a winner, and it will prove to be complicated. However, remember that \$3,000 from earlier? This amount of money will keep us grounded in reality. If you only have \$3,000 to invest in virtual land, you need to find an up-and-coming virtual land.

That means you will need to research, read, join a community, and wait. There is absolutely nothing wrong with this, and I'd say that this is the most brilliant method. If you take your time, learn about new worlds and opportunities, and invest early, your chances are pretty high.

Think about the cryptocurrency craze. Who made more money, the people who bought Dogecoin at \$0.0001 or the people who bought at \$0.60? You have to think like this for all of the metaverse transactions.

Financial Independence through Real Estate 2

You may miss the trend in one virtual land, but other new methods will populate. The metaverse will open up brand new opportunities for everyone involved, and no one knows the magnitude yet. Don't rush so much that you make bad decisions.

Unlimited Land. Another thing we need to consider is that virtual land is infinite. In reality, land is scarce, so it carries value. In the metaverse, creators just need to add another hard drive to produce more land. So how do we derive value from virtual land?

The answer is traffic. **Virtual traffic,** that is to say. This phenomenon is similar to <u>search engine</u> <u>optimization</u> or SEO. SEO brings visitors to someone's website directly from Google or other search engines. The more organic (free) traffic you bring in, the more your website is worth.

Virtual real estate will be the same. If you buy a plot of land and don't develop it, who will visit? You can buy land near hot spots in the virtual world, but it will be costly. You can't just buy and hold a plot of land that is ten virtual acres from the city. It carries no value.

Start a Passive E-Commerce Business

<u>Real estate is a mindset</u>, and that goes twice as much in the virtual space. Because now you need to think about <u>business and entrepreneurship</u> as well.

In the book "<u>Dirt Rich</u>" Mark Podolsky talks about buying cheap land for pennies on the dollar. However, he also looks at the map as well as the city's growth. He has to predict how the towns will expand over time. Will there be new apartments, freeways, or shopping centers—and where will the city locate them? Buying land that intersects with growth makes it very valuable.

You need to think about the expansion of your virtual world. Is the world for gamers, casuals, entrepreneurs, or shoppers? In the book "<u>The Metaverse</u>," Terry Winters talks about hopping in the metaverse of your choice. Then you stand in an area for an extended period. Observe how much foot traffic is walking around your virtual plot of land? What brought these visitors to the site?

Inflation vs. Passive Income 2

Conclusion. Buying virtual lands is complex but not difficult. You just need to understand the virtual world, the real estate market, the land, the attractions, and the people. You need to join the community and learn about its future.

I know you may want the easy answer or the "win button," but it doesn't exist. As an investor, my job is to mitigate risk with knowledge. "There are no risky investments, only risky investors"—<u>Robert Kiyosaki</u>.

My recommendation is to build your traditional portfolio, determine how much speculation money you can afford, and spend a year in a few virtual worlds. Not sexy, but you will make a great buying decision in the end.

Hopefully, you have more questions now than when you started, which means I did my job. You're welcome. Please join my <u>Facebook Group</u> if you want the latest articles and free books delivered to your news feed. Also, you can contact me inside the group and ask questions. I also have a <u>Facebook Page</u> where you can see my latest articles.



33 The Metaverse 103: Business in the Metaverse

The world as we know it is about to change. We can either accept our fate or get left behind. But, there is a third option—we can profit from this change. The change I am referring to is the metaverse.



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Yes, the metaverse is the new buzzword around town, but it carries enormous implications. Previously, I discussed the metaverse in general and <u>buying virtual land</u>. Today, I want to focus on the concept of business in the metaverse.

Of course, we are too early to know what the business in the metaverse will look like in 10 years. I grew up in the early days of the internet, and I could not have imagined today's social media platforms.

What Type of Business Should You Start 3: Online

That means we need to take our best guess and prepare ourselves and our businesses for the future. So, let's take a stroll into the future and see how we can profit as entrepreneurs.

The future of business. Two of the major components of the metaverse are virtual reality (VR) and augmented reality (AR). Imagine VR as a headset that takes you into a brand new virtual world. Envision AR as glasses that produce a heads-up display, or overlay, on top of the real world.

Understanding these concepts is vital to the success of your business. VR may have the ability to covert your standard <u>e-commerce website</u> into a virtual store. Customers could pick up your wares, try them on, and look into the virtual mirror.

The book "Artificial Intelligence, Blockchain, and Virtual Worlds" talks about a virtual bookstore where authors could display their entire back catalog. What if you sell travel books, and you can give the reader a walk through a virtual town.

Which brings up a great question, how will we get the older population involved in the metaverse? Someone will have to help them set up their headsets, internet connections, profiles, avatars, and <u>crypto-wallets</u>. There will be a vast market (<u>and business</u>) assisting the 40+-year-olds into the metaverse.

Living Overseas Passively 107: Cryptocurrencies

How will dating occur in the metaverse? There is currently a massive market for online dating, but it may be running thin. How can an entrepreneur usher in virtual dating, movies, coffee, and dinners?

With the outcome of the pandemic still unknown, we still frown on group events. However, the younger generation will always urge to meet and greet each other. Can the metaverse bring concerts, conventions, sports, and conferences into the virtual space?

Parenting and family are a huge deal to most people. I am currently sitting in a barracks room in Japan, away from my family. How can the metaverse allow me to connect to my family in a

meaningful way? Zoom calls are great, but sharing a virtual home may be a better way to bond with my wife and kids. What new interactions can an entrepreneur bring to the virtual world?

Board games, card games, and video games all have their own followings. Can we turn a board game into a more visual experience? How about card games you play like video games but finish with new cards in your deck?

How will <u>non-fungible tokens</u> play a role in the metaverse? NFTs allow us to claim sole ownership of a digital product by writing the transaction <u>to the blockchain</u>. Can I create unique books that only have a print run of 100 copies? If everyone can produce NFTs, how will they maintain their value?

How to Create Passive Income 104: For the Average Person

How will education fare in the metaverse? Can a standard consultant build her own education empire by hosting virtual courses? How hands-on will the metaverse allow us to teach our lessons? Can we train electricians, plumbers, and contractors through interactions in the metaverse?

Food and <u>wine</u> are a huge part of the dining-out experience, but will this carry over into the metaverse? Can an entrepreneur build a business where they can deliver food to two homes, and the customers can eat together virtually (and physically in two separate locations)?

Vacations, road trips, getaways, etc., are mega enterprises that will need conversion into the metaverse. How realistic do we want our virtual getaways? Will it only be for a couple of hours or days? How can you ensure every family or couple has a unique experience?

Or do we want to go the crazy, out-of-this-world route? Do we want to travel to Mars, space, or the bottom of the ocean? Is there room for all types of experiments and experiences?

Fashion is another hot topic where most people cannot involve themselves. We watch the runways from afar, but what if we could get much closer? How can we bring high fashion to the main street?

My Experience Running Facebook Ads

Finally, what business-to-business applications will maximize the metaverse? Collaborations, teams, meetings, and group events may occur in the metaverse. The businesses that solve their problems through the metaverse will have a solution for others.

Much more. These ideas were just off the top of my head. I cannot even imagine where we are heading with the metaverse. But, entrepreneurs need to prepare themselves now for the future. If you are waiting until the metaverse unfolds before jumping in, you're already too late.

How to prepare for the metaverse as an entrepreneur. First and foremost, you need to build the <u>mindset of an entrepreneur</u>. An entrepreneur solves other people's problems at a profit. They only receive payment by adding value.

10,000 Hours to Build an Income Stream

Understanding these <u>principles of entrepreneurship</u> will assist you in the metaverse. Ask questions like, "who needs access to the metaverse but doesn't understand it?" "How can people connect in more meaningful ways within the metaverse?"

Content Creation. We don't know how people will consume content in the metaverse. Will I put on my VR headset and read a book or watch YouTube? Therefore, if you are a <u>content creator</u>, continue to produce as much <u>content as possible</u>.

The goal then becomes to get your back catalog to the masses through the metaverse. Producing content is challenging; however, it is much easier to convert it to new formats. Remember watching Star Wars on VHS, Laserdisc, and Blu-ray?

Online shops. If you own <u>an online shop</u>, start envisioning what it would be like in virtual reality. If you could form a physical store, what would it need to separate itself from every other store?

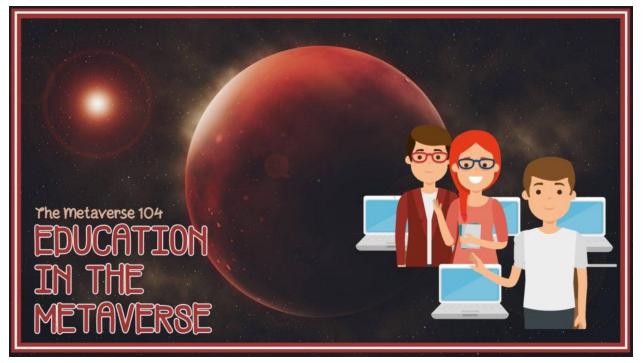
Physical shops. If you own a physical store, restaurant, <u>brewery</u>, etc., how can you utilize the metaverse to increase real-world attendance? How about using AR to show how meals or clothes look before buying

Start a Small Machine Coin-Op Business

Renovations. What if you are a <u>general contractor</u>? Can you use VR or AR to show clients exactly how their renovations would look? Will clients be able to walk through your past works virtually?

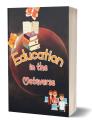
Conclusion. Whatever we believe the future to hold, it will be ten times as grand. Today, we can learn about business, cryptocurrencies, and technology. We should be on cutting-edge websites gathering as much information as possible.

We can also join online metaverses already running, such as Decentraland and even Fortnite. These will give us a glimpse into the future. The future will be bright for those who embrace it—and prepare for it.



34 The Metaverse 104: Education in the Metaverse

The internet and technology brought a considerable shift in educating our children. I remember going to the computer lab to access the "Oregon Trail" and other games. There was a separation between the classroom and the computer.



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Today, my kids got issued Chromebooks that they can take back and forth. They have the internet at their disposal, and they can check their grades on a whim. They may not appreciate everything the internet brings, but I see the magic.

Welcome back to the Metaverse 101 series (<u>101</u>, <u>102</u>, <u>103</u>), where I discuss various aspects of the metaverse. The series aims to brainstorm and make us more aware of the possibilities and opportunities moving into internet 3.0.

The 8-Hour Mindset Destroys Wealth

But not all changes are very positive. We now depend on pdfs to do most of the teaching. I hate these damn pdfs because they do not motivate children. Our kids don't have textbooks to read and follow for remediation.

The metaverse to the rescue. I believe the metaverse can close the education gap in many ways. Let's look at three main pillars I predict the metaverse will change inside the education landscape: accessibility, interactivity, and creativity. Afterward, I will do a quick look at how we can profit from these innovations. Let's begin.

Accessibility. The cost of getting into the metaverse is high currently. You need a headset and the software. Only top-tier schools will be able to afford these expenses at first. But, just like computers, costs go down over time.

Remember, almost every child has a Chromebook they can take home. Heck, I believe they even take them home over the summer. Eventually, a Chromebook-like device will allow children to access the metaverse.

Many kids have cell phones, so maybe that is the quick answer. However, others do not have access to cell phones, which would exclude them from participating.

SEO and Your New Business

Luckily, I believe software will be accessible from the start. Can you believe we used to pay a lot of money to access Microsoft Word, Powerpoint, Excel, and cloud storage? Now, I can use Google Drive to <u>run my entire business</u> for free! What a world we are blessed to call ours.

Interactivity. I hate these freaking pdfs schools use today. We can do better, and the metaverse is our path to greatness. Parents and teachers need to engage with our children, which means they need engaging software.

Can you imagine our children traveling to a world of math aliens that each can "show" them a math topic? Each topic could be its own planet. Now, the child can associate terms and concepts with places and people. It will be a great way to learn.

I noticed that reading comprehension is not as important as growing up. I am not blaming teachers and the school system on this because I see it every day across the board.

Even in the Marine Corps, I see adults that can't truly comprehend the words they are reading. We can address this in the metaverse by teaching people "how to learn." The book "<u>Limitless</u>" is about building your brain to learn better and faster.

Multi-Generational Investing

The interactiveness of the metaverse allows us to understand concepts, ideas, technology, and education at a more in-depth level. Imagine a plumber being able to troubleshoot a piping problem from his desk at home. We can get "the reps" without expending the money to prepare physical hardware.

Creativity. Finally, we can build creative software and worlds that keep our children's attention. This also goes for colleges, military, and vocational schools. Every level of education can use unique software to train, teach, and mold students and workers.

The sky's the limit as far as learning goes, and children might not even know they are in a learning environment. I believe <u>creativity will separate</u> us from robots, so the metaverse will be a great place to extend that philosophy.

Speaking of robots, artificial intelligence is a massive part of the metaverse, and therefore education. The book "<u>Artificial Intelligence</u>, <u>Blockchain</u>, <u>and Virtual Worlds</u>" explains that authors can already write books with AI as co-authors.

Using that information, we can ascertain that AI can act as a tutor to our kids. If my child is struggling with fractions, he may be able to visit a fraction planet in the metaverse. From there, he can meet up with an AI that can learn his needs on the fly. This AI can give him the one-on-one guidance that he truly needs. Amazing.

The Magic of Passive Income

Education is a business. Education is a business—a big one. Those entrepreneurs who see the potential to add value will extract massive wealth.

First, understand that you don't have to be a programmer or coder to become successful in the metaverse. Remember, those with the content win; that is why I always <u>stress becoming a</u> <u>content creator</u>.

For example, I have 300+ short books on Amazon. I can repurpose those into all sorts of educational materials, textbooks, and manuals. In fact, I could work with a team to build a financial freedom planet.

My planet can have different neighborhoods for <u>dividends</u>, <u>royalties</u>, <u>real estate</u>, <u>business</u>, <u>and</u> <u>even military</u>. Building these worlds from scratch would be time-consuming, but having pre-built content will expedite the situation.

Happy Financial Independence Day

Killer apps. There will be huge applications in the metaverse, and these will change everything we know. When I first gained access to the internet in 1996, I could have never imagined having YouTube on my phone. We used to have to download pictures to view them.

Again, you don't have to be a programmer; you just need to create content or envision what you want your concept to look like in the metaverse.

But what if you have a skill that you want to teach? We won't leave everything to the robots. You can become a teacher, consultant, trainer, etc. Everything you are doing today can help you establish yourself as a subject matter expert tomorrow.

I just wrote a couple of articles on how NOT to use credit cards and USE credit cards. How can I turn these scenarios into a valuable resource in the metaverse? Can I create a shopping center application that people can use to learn how to resist spending temptations?

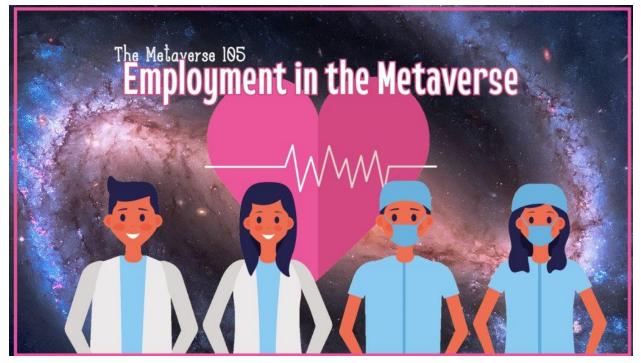
Compounding: The 8th Wonder of the World

Combining ideas. Combining multiple ideas under one roof creates genuinely unique content and programs. I learned how to start meshing ideas together from the book "<u>How to Take Smart</u> <u>Notes.</u>" I wrote more about my experiences in "<u>How to Create a Never-Ending Stream of Content.</u>"

Conclusion. The metaverse will be about creativity and utility. Education is the most vital resource on Earth, outside of love and time. The education space is ripe for a shakeup.

If you can create a fun experience that children "want" to engage with, you can become wealthy beyond your dreams. Currently, there is a separation between video games and education software. The person who can combine those two entities will win.

I hope you are enjoying the Metaverse 101 series. If you want to learn even more about finances, please join my <u>Facebook Group</u>, where I post multiple times a day. Enjoy your day.



35 The Metaverse 105: Employment in the Metaverse

I'm sure we were all ecstatic when our bosses told us to return to work after working remotely for over a year. NOT! Every time I leave to go to work, I have a deep sinking feeling because my physical body doesn't need to be there every day.



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Disclaimer. I am sick as a dog with the flu as I write this. I am alone in my barracks room (in Japan), with no NyQuil in sight. I miss my wife so much...

Welcome back to the Metaverse 101 series (<u>101</u>, <u>102</u>, <u>103</u>, <u>104</u>), where I attempt to predict the future. My goal is to help bring in the metaverse at a profit.

Mothers as Entrepreneurs

I grew up in the Marine Corps as an Air Traffic Control Technician, working on fancy radars, navigational aids, radios, and weather equipment. Doing that line of work would require me to be physically present. That makes sense, right?

However, over the years, I transitioned to a more paperwork and meetings role. I can accomplish 90% of the daily functions from home. That's where, hopefully, the Metaverse comes to the rescue.

Two types of work. I believe there will be two types of labor in the metaverse; physical jobs conducted inside the metaverse and metaverse only jobs. Each will bring lucrative opportunities for the savvy entrepreneur.

Physical jobs. Let's start with physical jobs we can perform while in the metaverse. At first, we will begin our metaverse work in earnest.

The daily routine will be like current remote work setups—Zoom calls, Microsoft TEAMs meetings, Google Docs collaboration, etc. However, instead of stopping what we are doing to attend a meeting, we can all work together in real-time.

Have you ever noticed how much time meetings waste? That will be one of the employment goals in the metaverse, group multi-tasking.

What is a Sales Funnel?

The metaverse will allow companies to build entire worlds dedicated to productivity. We shouldn't have to wear our virtual reality headgear all day. Hopefully, we can allocate two hours of hyper-productive time to log into the metaverse and make team harmony.

Current issues. <u>As an entrepreneur</u>, this is where we solve problems for profit. The main point today is that employers don't trust employees to perform at their highest levels without management leading them.

Mass productivity is a huge problem that corporations need to solve as soon as possible. Each employee needs to form a little entrepreneurial awareness. They need to ask, "What can I do today that will give me the most productivity gains?"

If you are <u>a content creator</u>, this will be the elephant in the room. I would start reading books and <u>putting together content</u> with ideas such as remote teamwork, being productive as a single person, and earning trust from remote employers.

Choose Your Wealth Generator

With the virus hovering around for a long time and the rise of the metaverse, employers will need to shift their focus to remote teams. <u>Entrepreneurs will step up</u> to the plate.

Metaverse-only jobs. Now let's look at jobs that will only exist in the metaverse. Entrepreneurs, business owners, and content creators will have a huge leg up on the competition—at least at first.

The reason is that 1) they create their own jobs 2) or they already have a reputation for solid work in the metaverse.

It's almost like hiring <u>a freelancer</u> from <u>Fiverr.com</u> today. If I hire someone to create me a book cover in five days, I expect them to accomplish this task promptly. I'm not going to micro-management this person for five days.

Similarly, in the metaverse, freelancers, content creators, and entrepreneurs will be around to fill the specific needs of their clients. If this sounds interesting, start learning everything you can about the metaverse.

Basics of Design 104

Example of metaverse workflow. In <u>The Metaverse 102</u>, I discussed buying virtual real estate. To purchase virtual land from someone else, you may need a <u>virtual real estate agent</u> and someone to write your deed to the blockchain.

Now, you have an empty plot of digital land; you need to design either a home (with entertainment value) or a business. If you are not a coder, you will need to hire someone to create your vision.

Finally, you will need to set up payments, audit trails, bookkeeping, inventory, etc. It will be just like <u>a business in real life</u>. You will need digital freelancers to assist you. Those struggling with our blog sites and YouTube today will have more advanced knowledge than the layperson.

The best way to earn money in the metaverse. If you have no intention of building a large business in the metaverse, learn the business flow for each business category.

For example, we know that rich people will eventually want to move into the metaverse space, at least digitally. Do they need a tour guide, explanations of land prices and values, or assistance hanging their NFTs?

I bought a Kindle Oasis

If your brain currently doesn't function as an entrepreneur, no worries—you can learn. For the majority of people, entrepreneurship is something we learn. <u>Read these ten books</u> before you begin your journey into the metaverse.

The importance of NFTs. I think NFTs will be huge in the digital workplace. If we all have our avatars wearing regular clothes, the person with the fancy outfit wins.

I believe people will spend more money on their digital NFT outfits than they spend on clothes in real life. That is just my prediction. How else will people stand out from one another? If you are an <u>art & design content creator</u>, start looking into this now.

The 8-Hour Mindset Destroys Wealth

Conclusion. If you are a standard worker, you can sit back and wait for the shift into metaverse employment. If you want to get ahead and add value to your company (or <u>Company of One</u>), then jump into the metaverse today.

Remember, the huge question companies are asking is, "How can I ensure my employees are productive when remote working?"

Start your search from that point, and you will see the fruits of your labor very quickly. Being able to write on a resume something like "Metaverse certification, or own a business in the metaverse" will pay huge dividends to your market value.

Thanks for reading the Metaverse 101 series. Hopefully, you have some fresh ideas floating around your brain. When I read, all I want to capture is one new concept—and that's what I aim to provide you.



36 The Metaverse 106: Relationships in the Metaverse

We have come so far in The Metaverse 101 series (<u>101</u>, <u>102</u>, <u>103</u>, <u>104</u>, <u>105</u>), but we still have much more to cover. Today, I want to explore the possibilities of relationships and dating in the metaverse.

I will discuss this topic into two categories: couples and singles. I belong to the couples category because I have been married to my lovely wife for 16 years. Let's start there.



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Couples in the Metaverse. I have been a US Marine for close to 23 years, 16 of those years being married. Over this timeframe, I have been away for at least eight of the sixteen years. That, of course, is 50% of the time.

The Passive Income Grind 2: Relax

So, how could the metaverse assist couples where one person is constantly traveling or away? I think the first thing the metaverse will bring is consistency.

The only way to talk to my wife is through Facebook Messenger—I am in Japan, and she is in Florida. I envision a world where we can pretend to be in the same time zone. Let me explain.

Currently, we have a vast disparity between timezones. I am going to work, and she is coming back from work. But on the weekends, maybe we can both get into our beds at the same time. She can jump in during the evenings, which would be my early morning.

Inside the metaverse, we can be in the same setting. Maybe it is a huge hotel room with a fireplace. We can listen to the same music or put on a movie together. Perhaps we just hop in bed and read our books and magazines separately, as we do in real life.

The idea is that now all we can do is talk to each other. We can't create experiences with one another. I think the metaverse will allow couples the ability to still create experiences with one another while they are far apart.

Heck, it can even help couples who are together in the same location. Sometimes money or children can hinder the couple's ability to getaway. How about taking an all-expenses-paid trip to the Bahamas—metaverse style?

How to Create Passive Income 104: For The Average Person

Couple's finances. The metaverse can also assist couples with one of the most challenging aspects of marriage, finances.

I believe we can make finances fun and motivational for both spouses with the right software. I have read multiple books that explain the philosophy of money, including "<u>I Will Teach You to be</u> <u>Rich</u>," "<u>Smart Couples Finish Rich</u>," "<u>Think and Grow Rich</u>," and "<u>Effortless Money</u>."

The information is out there; sadly, most people have no interest in reading. So maybe we can convert this information into a game. How about we meet with an artificial intelligence money counselor who can assist us? There are many ways to skin this cat, and the <u>entrepreneurs</u> who can solve these issues will win big.

Dating in the Metaverse. Singles today are in a hurt locker. Dating apps have changed the dating landscape for better or worse.

If people are looking for quick hook-ups—life is good. If you are looking for a long-term relationship, marriage, and children—you are hurting. I recently read "<u>Otherhood</u>," a book about a 40-year-old childless, career woman. It's regrettable that people want relationships but can't find them.

10,000 Hours to Create an Income Stream

How can the metaverse assist singles? First, it can provide simple, clean first dates. Maybe, they can even prevent people from looking at each other's true faces. Today, people want their spouse to be perfect.

They want them to have great looks, height, personality, be great in bed and have a fantastic job. That is a lot to ask—too much, in my opinion. Something's got to give.

People are no longer asking great initial questions. Today, people want to see tax returns on the first date, looking for income levels.

How about in the metaverse, we can send an <u>Artificial Intelligence</u> (A.I.)chaperone to assist the young people? It's evident that most people can't date on their own, so why not get some help from a computer that can help them ask great questions and laugh together?

A.I. personas. I was thinking about this on my run yesterday. What if I had an A.I. persona that followed me around all day, every day. It knew I liked Pokemon and eating peanut butter M&Ms. It knew I loved running and writing books.

Automation Can't Replace Creativity

My A.I. persona could go on the dating marketplace and find other personas with similar interests and traits. These two personas could interact, maybe even simulate dating each other, all in milliseconds, of course.

If they both felt they could be a match, they would convey this information back to their owners, and we could start a conversation. We could then go on a virtual date that best suits us. I imagine if we are both runners, we could hop on our respective treadmills and go on a virtual run through London. This could be a great way to find suitable partners, not just hook-ups.

How will dates look in the metaverse? Okay, so we can do virtual dating, but how do we make that more special than just floating around together. Here is the opportunity of a lifetime for entrepreneurs—shared physical dates.

Start a Home Business

Imagine, you and your date both love great beer from <u>local breweries</u>. With a bit of planning (maybe a week out), you arrange for your brewery to deliver a 12-pack of various beers to your date, wherever they are located. They also provide a plastic set of cups so you can each pour a flight of beer.

You both follow the instructions on which beer to pour into the flights, and you go into the metaverse. The setting is of the local brewery. You can talk, eat (they also delivered snacks), and drink beer together. Did I mention you were 200 miles apart? Would that be a perfect date?

Companies could do this with restaurants. Imagine your local Italian diner in New York can deliver fresh food <u>to California overnight</u>. The two of you would be able to experience a great local meal over 3,000 miles apart.

Of course, the mark-up in price would be extreme. That meal would cost at least \$300. However, this is for the upper class and people who have done well with their money. Sometimes higher profit margins are in this <u>category of consumer</u>.

Print Your Own Money

I think the main thing the metaverse will prevent is hook-up culture. It's hard to hook up if you are miles apart from each other. Dating used to be about talking and experiences. I never expected to have sex after a first date, and I paid for all my dates.

The metaverse will help us reset some of the misgivings that social media brought into town. It could also screw things up worse, so let's roll with the punches.

Conclusion. The metaverse will usher in a new way for <u>established couples</u> to keep things fresh. We can now travel anywhere in the virtual world while at home safely with our children.

Singles will also find solace in the metaverse if that is what they seek. I believe there are enormous opportunities for artificial intelligence and physical establishments to find ways to enhance distance dating. The entrepreneur who jumps on these will create a new form of relationship. Good Luck!



37 The Metaverse 107: Friendships in the Metaverse

Friendships change as we get older. Things we once found fun and interesting, like going to the bars and staying out late, now seem less exciting or engaging. Some of this has to do with <u>getting married</u> and having kids, but those aren't the only reasons.



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I am 40 years old, and my best friends live thousands of miles away. We also share different hobbies, careers, and lifestyles. Very rarely do we feel the urge to call and catch up with someone, especially as men.

If only there were a way to attend events and join activities together. But, perhaps there will be with the expansion into the metaverse!

USDC for the Win !!

Welcome back to the Metaverse 101 series (<u>101</u>, <u>102</u>, <u>103</u>, <u>104</u>, <u>105</u>, <u>106</u>), where I make predictions about the metaverse. My goal is to get your brain moving towards the shift into the metaverse <u>as an entrepreneur</u>.

Friendships over time. The most considerable value of the metaverse and friendships is in rekindling relationships through activities. I wrote an article titled "Losing Friends? You're Doing Something Right" because you will lose friends over time.

Over time, we all start to drift apart because of various factors in our lives; our jobs move us apart, our families take more time, money differences, and our interests diverge.

We rarely want to pick up the phone and catch up because there has been such a massive gap in the relationship. Women are a lot better than men in maintaining relationships over time. But, even that is difficult.

It becomes challenging for someone with children to relate to a single or childless woman. Some mothers spend every waking moment with kids; others are more hands-off with their children.

Saving vs. Investing

Helicopter parents don't usually understand the more hands-off types—this causes stress and misunderstanding amongst friends. It's just a lot to handle during our <u>limited amount of free</u> time. So, how can metaverse help reconnect friends?

The metaverse's most significant advantage will be creating events among friends. These events will solve many barriers amongst friendships. I want to tell a quick story, and then we can look at a few ideas.

A quick story. My friend Terry invited me to a New Orleans Saints playoff game a few years ago. I live two hours away from New Orleans, so it wasn't too much of a stretch. He flew in from the west coast. We had a place to stay for free, and he had many friends around town to help us along the way.

The price of the tickets was \$300/each, and we bought some drinks at the game. It was a fantastic experience (Saints lost, though), and we had a great time hanging out.

The Passive Income Hero 2

My friend Terry and I have known each other since 2002 when we served together. We have always remained close, and we didn't have a vast time gap to catch up over the event.

This event was a good case for both of us because 1) our families didn't mind us hanging out, 2) we both had the money for travel and food, 3) he had connections in town, 4) and we remained super close friends. So, let's look at how the metaverse can help in not-so-ideal situations.

1) **Time.** Most people can't escape from the rat race and family commitments to "<u>go have fun</u>." It is a lot to ask any family man or woman to let their spouse leave for 2-3 days for a reunion or "boys/girls trip."

The metaverse can allow us to travel in an instant to an event where we can all hang out for 2-4 hours and be right back with the family. This will encourage more bonding and relationships to continue throughout life.

2) **Money.** Money is the main topic of my channel (with the other being <u>the financial mindset</u>). Money is probably the biggest divider between friends. Some people love to <u>increase their</u> <u>income</u>, <u>invest in dividends</u>, and <u>prepare for retirement</u>.

Living Overseas on Passive Income

Others don't take <u>life as seriously</u>. They are more than happy staying in the same job and waiting for social security to save them. Neither method is inherently bad or good, but we decisively fall into one of the categories.

Therefore, some people will be left to the wayside if friends attempt to arrange a trip to Las Vegas for the NCAA Final Four. In <u>some households</u>, friends may not be in charge of the finances.

If you live <u>with a saver</u>, and you aren't in control of the finances, it will be tough to sell a random trip with friends. The metaverse can reduce the costs of these events by 90-95%.

3) **Closeness.** When we fall out of touch with friends or grow apart, it becomes hard to close the gap. We feel things have progressed too far in different directions.

The metaverse will give us the ability to share events. Sharing events and building experiences is the best way to <u>maintain relationships</u>. For example, what if a group of Marines who served together could walk through the Marine Corps Museum together virtually?

Now, we remove the need to catch up and focus on talking about our current events. Then, we can make it a more regular meeting, as we visit different locales together over the metaverse.

The Crypto Debit Card

What types of events will be successful? It is time to put your <u>entrepreneur hat</u> on and start critically thinking. I just give us one type of event—national treasures.

1) **National treasures.** These can be landmarks, national parks, museums, etc. This will be huge and a great introduction to the metaverse for many people. As an entrepreneur, think of ways to add additional value to these locations.

Can we add virtual tour guides, friend quizzes or trivia, challenges, or speed runs? Think of "overlays" on top of the experiences.

2) **Live sporting events.** Can you imagine watching the game from front row seats? The metaverse gives us this ability. The overlords of the NBA, NFL, NHL, MLB, etc., will likely control these cameras' positioning and any revenue.

So how do we add value? These overlords still need to account for commercial breaks, timeouts, and replays, so let's explore what we can add.

What is Fixed Income?

We want friends to catch up in the slow moments of the game. Maybe we can add friendship trivia and games. How about custom replays of game moments from their college days? Can friends play a game like Fortnite together during breaks? We need to flesh out the bonding experience.

3) **Custom metaverse experiences.** As the metaverse grows and becomes a world staple, new experiences will form. Think of the escape room craze from a few years ago. If we thought escape rooms were fresh, the metaverse would blow our minds.

The only thing that can stop us is a lack of imagination. We can create new movie experiences. Do you remember the "<u>Choose Your Own Adventure</u>" Series? We can do the same with movies, letting friends choose the path through the film.

Have you seen the Harry Potter experience at Universal Studios? The metaverse will add ten times the level of realism and experience.

Don't Gamble with Retirement 5

We, as small entrepreneurs, may not have the capital to build out these experiences altogether, but we have options. People are still going to need to learn how to navigate the metaverse. Not all friends will be equally savvy.

The bigger picture. As we learned in "<u>music</u>," <u>renting equipment</u> can be a great way to make passive income. What if we rented virtual reality equipment to friends who didn't have it and wanted to share in the experiences.

Not everyone will want to buy a \$400 headset to have one experience. Metaverse equipment rentals, software explanations, and tour guides are where we can make <u>a niche business</u>.

We can also create content like "rebuilding connections" and other low-cost experiences more focused on people than experiences.

The 8-Hour Mindset Destroys Wealth

For example, I could create a <u>money mindset course</u> that friends can take together. Or how about a business partnership course we can take before signing contracts. There will still be room in this space for the little fish.

Conclusion. Think about your friends from high school, college, the military, and your 20s—how often do you interact with them? The metaverse will help you reconnect with like-minded friends that don't fit into your schedule or budget.

As an entrepreneur, I still feel that <u>creating content today</u> will help you succeed tomorrow. We can always repurpose content to different mediums, so having the base information is the most valuable resource for now.

With each passing article, I become more excited about the metaverse. Hopefully, you are preparing for the future, taking notes, and creating. Good Luck!



38 The Metaverse 108: Fitness in the Metaverse

<u>Health, wealth, and relationships</u> are the three top niches in content creation, branding, and consumer goods. Most content we consume will somehow fit into these categories.

Of the three, I believe health is the biggest because it affects everyone. Inside the health category, we have fitness, dieting, healthy living, etc.



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Welcome back to the Metaverse 101 series (<u>101</u>, <u>102</u>, <u>103</u>, <u>104</u>, <u>105</u>, <u>106</u>, <u>107</u>), where I explore entrepreneurship in the metaverse.

The Best Way to F.I.R.E.

Fitness will be massive in the metaverse because most people have been trying to solve this problem for a long time. Throughout the years, programs and courses have come and gone, trying to keep people motivated to increase their fitness level.

Motivation is the issue. The main problem with people's fitness is motivation. I wrote an article titled "<u>Do Fitness and Finances Correlate?</u>" to explore discipline.

I set my <u>daily routines</u> in stone and follow them religiously. I also have written closer to 100,000 words over the last 18 months. Most people aren't me.

The first fitness issue the metaverse can help people solve is daily motivation. If people can find like-minded users in the metaverse, that could be the first step towards a new life.

Imagine you wake up and go into the metaverse. The world is different every day, and you can explore new regions like Rome, Spain, Brazil, etc., while you walk on your treadmill.

If entrepreneurs can combine <u>learning</u>, <u>education</u>, <u>fun</u>, <u>camaraderie</u>, <u>and exercise</u>, that would be a huge win. Many people do not like training because it is mundane. The monotony of the same treadmill, elliptical, or running route scares most people away.

I love monotony because it allows my mind to drift and create new ideas. Again, most people don't maneuver through life like me.

S.E.O. and Your New Business

Groups for the win. Peloton bikes do an excellent job interacting with groups in the fitness space. However, the metaverse can take this to the next level.

The difference is that groups can also form outside the realm of exercise. Let's take our traveling group again.

We can create a group of people who enjoy traveling to Europe. We can narrow it down to people who want to increase their fitness levels in that group. Maybe they even want to perform a 10K in real life in Europe.

This subgroup of Europe-loving fitness people can explore Europe together while they exercise. They don't even all have to be on the same exercise machine. Some could be running, others walking or biking.

Within our lives, we have so many things we love. But currently, there is a barrier, or separation, to how we interact with them.

Be Smarter than the Average Bear (Market)

If you read my articles, you know that I am a massive fan of Pokemon. The Pokemon worlds are vast and ever-changing. I also love to run—I do it every day. But why can't I run through a Pokemon world?

I think the metaverse will give us the ability to travel to places we love, with fellow hobbyists, and explore. We need to integrate fitness into the mix.

Dieting in the Metaverse. They say 80% of fitness comes from dieting, and I tend to agree. No matter how much I run, it will be the Peanut Butter M&Ms that finish me.

Many people do not know how to cook, forcing them to eat processed foods. I admit I don't cook much either. So, how do we get the motivation to cook?

Using augmented reality (AR), we can create games and prizes for our cooking habits. Imagine you put on your AR glasses and begin to cook. The glasses record the entire process, compress the video into a two-minute clip, and share it with your cooking group.

Your group can then send you positive reinforcement to keep up the cooking habits. The group can then meet up in the metaverse later to travel and exercise.

Retirement Planning for the Average Person 2

With more and more people choosing to go their own way (read "<u>Otherhood</u>" and "<u>Free Agent</u> <u>Lifestyle</u>"), we will need these metaverse social interactions to keep our sanity. What to do today? In all of my metaverse conversations, I express the need to <u>create content</u> today. Yes, there will be ways to make money without creating content; however, that will be for software engineers, information technology, and coders.

For instance, you can start recording a <u>fitness podcast</u> today. Maybe someone will build a fantastic podcast metaverse app that combines worlds and words in a few years. Now, your podcasts have new life in a different medium. But, you will need to have the content ready.

Same thing if you create <u>cooking videos</u> today. When we go into our AR cooking world, maybe the group can watch your video together. Whoever has the best results wins a prize. But, it would help if you had the videos created already.

Can You Live the Laptop Life?

The metaverse will not turn you into a media darling—if you are not a <u>content creator</u> or <u>entrepreneur</u> now. You can go on YouTube today and watch your favorite commercials from your childhood (for me, that's 40 years ago). Your content can transition over multiple years and formats.

Fitness, Health, Dieting. These niches are the biggest out there, and there will be a lot of money for those who can keep people on their <u>New Year's resolutions</u>.

We will probably see a revival of P90X and Billy Blanks (Tae-Bo) style group workouts. Start establishing yourself as a subject matter expert.

Many of you are already creating diets for people, serving as personal trainers, and teaching meditation. You are <u>already entrepreneurs</u>. So, how do you automate these businesses?

Are You Too Old to Start a Business?

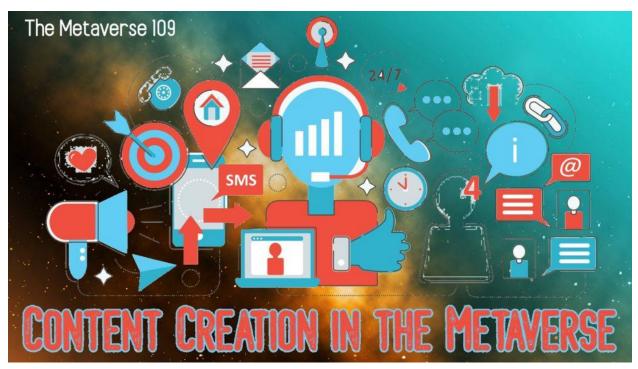
How do you capture the essence of what you do and replicate it into the metaverse? Can you create an <u>Artificial intelligence</u> clone of yourself? This isn't that far off, I presume.

An <u>automated business</u> can serve as your wealth generator if you begin thinking about the process now—using the metaverse as a catalyst to reach even larger audiences.

Conclusion. We don't know where the metaverse will take the fitness and health niches tomorrow. However, you will need to establish <u>your brand</u> before the metaverse becomes mainstream.

I genuinely think that virtual traveling and exercising will be the primary application of the metaverse, at least at first. Would it motivate you to exercise if you could travel to an exotic location with new friends every day? It would motivate me for sure.

Thanks for reading the Metaverse 101 series, and I will see you next time. What will you do today to progress your business in the metaverse?



39 The Metaverse 109: Content Creation in the Metaverse

As we delve deeper into the metaverse, there will be an evolution of the content we will consume. When I first started playing around on the internet at home in 1996, I could have never imagined the rich content of YouTube and Facebook.

We are at a similar point in time in the metaverse—no one knows what the future holds. However, that doesn't mean we just standstill. We need to create today if we want to succeed tomorrow.



Free 51-Page PDF Download (\$2.99 Value)

Welcome back the Metaverse 101 series (<u>101</u>, <u>102</u>, <u>103</u>, <u>104</u>, <u>105</u>, <u>106</u>, <u>107</u>, <u>108</u>). Today, we will discuss content creation in this new digital revolution.

Living Overseas with an Automated Business

Three types of content. I will divide content into three different types and briefly discuss each one. **Structural content** pertains to world-building, **How-To content** assists people in getting into the metaverse, and finally, **Niche content** will be its version of YouTube-style information.

1) **Structural content.** Structural content will be vital to world-building around the metaverse. The average person isn't buying land in the metaverse and building digital homes.

Similar to <u>real estate</u> in the real world, there will be a market for digital homes and businesses. If you want a unique-NFT style home, you will pay much more than standard off-the-shelf homes.

Think of this dynamic in today's terms. <u>As a blogger</u>, I can quickly go into WordPress and buy a standard website theme for cheap. However, if I want a custom webpage, I will pay much more money.

Structural designers will be coders, web designers, and engineers. The market will be huge for homes, businesses, furniture, cars, etc. Think of the game "<u>The Sims 4</u>," where there was a never-ending stream of new clothes and homes.

There will also be structural content for the world's proper. Games like Fortnite, Minecraft, and Roblox, allow users to create world content using in-game tools.

How to Thrive in the Gig Economy

If you want to become a designer, hop into these games today. It <u>takes 10,000 hours</u> to become great at something, so start today. The worlds may be different moving forward, but your vision and skills can adapt quickly to changes.

2) **How-To Content.** How long did it take for older people to transition to smartphones? I would wager that most people don't use their phones to their full potential.

The transition to the metaverse will leave many folks behind. The will be a considerable market for how-to guides, books, and tutorials. Each new shift in technology brings its own barriers, causing separation between the ages.

I know that cryptocurrencies intimidated me so much that I decided to learn and write about them. I wanted to take power into my own hands. Most people will wait until the last minute before converting to the new world order.

Don't miss the boat on the metaverse. This will be where we will meet, eat, and work for the next 20-30 years. Learn everything about the metaverse and teach others in a simple format.

The Magic of Being a Content Creator

Inside the metaverse, we will need tour guides, real estate agents, payment coordinators, etc. The metaverse will mimic the real world, but everything will be slightly different. Terms will change, and money will flow uniquely.

The more you learn about the metaverse, the easier you can teach others. There may also be a physical component to this, for example, helping folks set up their accounts, hardware, and software.

3) **Niche content.** We consume Niche content today with <u>music</u>, <u>podcasts</u>, <u>blogs</u>, and <u>videos</u>. There will always be a place for niche content; however, we don't know how we will consume content.

When J.R.R. Token wrote *the Lord of the Rings* in the 1930s and 1940s, he couldn't imagine the future for this franchise. He created great books and let the rest happen over time.

So today, we need to continue to create great content. The metaverse will slowly shift the way we consume content. If fewer people commute to work because of telework via the metaverse, what does that mean for podcasts?

My Experience Running Facebook Ads

Do we think that podcasts will go away? Of course not; we will change how we listen to them. Maybe we can sit at the virtual table with our podcast host. The future looks bright for all forms of media.

Evolution of content. As technology evolves, individual content producers gain more direct access to their fans and audiences.

There was a time when gatekeepers held the keys to the music industry, movies, and books. Today, content creators can release these forms of media directly to their audience via podcasts, YouTube, and <u>Kindle publishing</u>.

Content creators have also become their <u>own advertising platforms</u>. Once they build a strong audience, they can venture into sponsorships, brand deals, and <u>affiliate marketing</u>.

I expect this to continue into the metaverse. I envision rudimentary tools for people to create their own metaverse worlds. So I can create MFI World (Military Family Investing), where I display all of my books and cover art. I can sell unique NFT books and do virtual book signings. This is the next frontier in content creation.

Sell Your Creativity for Passive Income

Over the years, these world-building tools will become so good that end-users can't tell the difference between companies and individuals. Once you have a successful, widespread metaverse, large brands will pay you to set up billboards and other ads.

Conclusion. The main takeaways should be to start <u>creating content daily</u> now. We don't know what the metaverse holds, but we know a few things.

We know someone has to build the world and assist others with adding individual features. There will be a vast group of people who the transition will leave behind unless they receive help.

Finally, each new shift in content creation gives the creators more freedom to reach their audience directly. The metaverse will provide us with our own planets, but it's our job to fill these planets with content.

Start creating today, and you will be ready for what tomorrow brings. Stay tuned for more on the metaverse over the following days, months, and years. I am here for the long run.



40 The Metaverse 110: Life in the Metaverse

The metaverse will change our lives, but it won't be all at once. If you are old enough to remember, the internet didn't change our lives in a few years. It took more than 10-20 years for us to reap the rewards of the digital age.



Life in the Metaverse

Some significant internet milestones were gaining access to modems (versus dial-up) and the iPhone release in June 2007. Having the internet in our pocket was the true game-changer.

Once we were always connected, that's when social media began to take shape. Sending photos to each other via phone messages was taboo until the iPhone. Heck, I remember backing up my photos to a physical spinning hard drive in 2008.

Dividends vs. Royalties part III

Get to the point, Josh. Okay, okay. I am reminiscing, but for a reason. The rollout of the metaverse will be very similar to the internet. Things will start small, then the killer application (its version of the iPhone release) will hit.

That doesn't mean that we have to wait until mainstream adoption before involving ourselves. As a matter of fact, it's quite the opposite. As <u>entrepreneurs and investors</u>, this is the time to strike.

Involving ourselves in the metaverse doesn't mean buying risky virtual land or creating crappy NFTs. No, we need only learn, then make small, calculated moves.

As I wrote in "<u>Multi-Generational Investing</u>," the things that made others rich are still viable today. You can become wealthy from <u>dividends</u>, royalties, and rental income.

Keep doing what you are doing, but keep an eye out for new investments and categories. Opportunities like <u>real estate tokenization</u> might be good to invest a small sum of money.

The 5% speculation rule. You should have a nice investing regime that includes <u>dividends, real</u> <u>estate, and business</u>. You can also keep 5-10% of your overall portfolio for speculation. Today, the metaverse falls into the speculation category.

USDC for the Win !!

Yes, if you go all in, you could make a huge fortune. Or, you could lose a huge fortune. Remember to protect your capital at all costs. Keeping the 5% speculation rule intact, let's look at life in the metaverse. **Life in the Metaverse.** Luckily, I have been writing about the metaverse over the last three months. I have been reading books about the metaverse, cryptocurrencies, and decentralized finance. Here are my prior articles in the Metaverse 101 series.

- 1) The Metaverse 101: Enter the Metaverse
- 2) <u>The Metaverse 102: Real Estate in the Metaverse</u>
- 3) The Metaverse 103: Business in the Metaverse
- 4) The Metaverse 104: Education in the Metaverse
- 5) <u>The Metaverse 105: Employment in the Metaverse</u>
- 6) <u>The Metaverse 106: Relationships in the Metaverse</u>
- 7) <u>The Metaverse 107: Friendships in the Metaverse</u>
- 8) The Metaverse 108: Fitness in the Metaverse
- 9) The Metaverse 109: Content Creation in the Metaverse

Whew, as you can see, we can live our entire lives in the metaverse. But how will the metaverse look daily?

The daily routine. It's far too early to see how the metaverse will shape our daily lives. The main reason is that technology won't support our lifestyles in the next 3-5 years. We can't wear these heavy goggles for more than 1-3 hours at a time.

Saving vs. Investing

My son has an Oculus Rift, and he can play for about an hour before he has to take a break. For the metaverse to become mainstream, we will need to survive inside for at least 4 to 5 hours.

If our work, entertainment, relationships, and fitness all take place inside the metaverse, we will need light, flexible, inexpensive equipment.

I'm sure companies are already working on these new peripherals as we speak. So, let's assume that we have lightweight glasses that transport us into the metaverse; what's next?

The future of our metaverse lives. We will spend 4-6 hours a day in the metaverse. It may sound like a lot of time, but remember, we can forgo our commute times. Today, we drive everywhere: the gym, work, and vacation.

We can cut out the commute and spend that time in the safety of our own homes. Will our jobs transfer over to the metaverse? Yes, jobs will move over to the metaverse (sort of).

We will still have to attend work physically from time to time, but it will be very intentional. Today, we don't value our time with other humans in physical space. After the metaverse, each time we meet in person will be a celebration.

Use Automated Business as Your Wealth Generator

Togetherness. I think the main draw of the metaverse will be the importance of our physical presence. Today, we go to work and gyms like zombies. We don't want to be at work, deal with other people, or add value—we just want our paychecks.

Soon, all of our zombie work can be done in the metaverse. We can meet our friends to watch the game inside the metaverse. However, on the rare occasion that we attend the game together at the stadium, we truly appreciate each other.

As much as we think we don't need each other, the metaverse will put us on a course back towards unity and togetherness. It sounds counter-intuitive, but this will be the case.

3 Steps to Live Entirely on Passive Income

Commodities. We also have to understand that our interactions in the metaverse will make us commodities. Our information and personal data are precious to giant corporations.

I hope you know that we are already commodities in the social media and internet spaces. That's why Facebook and YouTube can offer us these excellent services for free; they are collecting our data.

The metaverse will bring even more data transfer to the corporations. Everything we say and do will be on their servers. This will create a paradigm of security in real life. If you need to talk to someone secretly, you will do it in person.

Embrace metaverse life, but be your own person. The metaverse will make you a zombie if you let it. The next time you go to the doctor's office, do me a favor. Look around at all the zombies staring at their phones?

Net Worth vs. Passive Income

Have you ever seen a couple on a date playing on their individual phones? They aren't even talking to each other. That's how big corporations want you to conduct yourselves.

The metaverse will be a massive transfer of wealth between the producers and consumers. If you are a content creator, you stand to make a good chunk of change in the metaverse. If you consume content, ensure you have your digital wallets ready.

If you buy NFT clothes, shoes, and furniture, you will spend a lot of money. This will be "<u>The</u> <u>Sims 4</u>," but in real life. As cool as it is to buy digital goods, ensure you have a tight budget for spending.

The NFT craze shows us that these things can quickly get out of hand. I just finished a book on keeping a tidy home called "<u>The Life-Changing Magic of Tidying Up</u>." We will have to keep our new digital homes clean as well.

SEO and Your New Business

Conclusion. We are moving into the digital age, and people must use this to their advantage. There has never been a better time to <u>make money from home</u>.

The metaverse will change the shape of humanity, but will it change your life? If you want to jump in and buy expensive NFTs and wear cool clothes, perhaps it won't change your life.

If you jump in and create unique content and experiences by adding value to others, you will have a prosperous life ahead of you. We have had the information at our fingertips for over ten years now. Did you use it to better yourself?

Now, we will be able to travel the world from our living rooms, how will you use it to improve your lifestyle? What innovation will **YOU** bring to the metaverse?



41 The Metaverse 111: Transfer of Wealth in the Metaverse

Between 2008-2014, we thought we witnessed the most significant transfer of wealth in the last 200 years. During the housing bust, those with assets and cash could buy homes for pennies on the dollar. People who were financially and educationally positioned took a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to build more wealth.



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Then in 2020, the pandemic hit, and we had another chance to grab wealth for cheap. In March 2020, you could buy stocks and crypto for pennies on the dollar. The following two years would give you more equity than you could imagine if you owned a home.

Welcome back to the Metaverse 101 series (101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110) where we focus on the digital future and Web 3.0.

4 Years of College vs. 4 Years of Content Creation

It's not just for the rich. These wealth transfers aren't just for the rich; they are for those who educate themselves. It's not about how much money you put into the markets because it is all relative to your situation.

Excentional XOM	\$736.86	+\$294.54	17.2%
Exxon Mobil Corp.		▲134.41%	13%

You may have invested \$10,000 into the markets in March 2020 and turned that into \$30,000. If you believed that oil prices could recover, you could have bought Exxon Mobil and been sitting pretty in February 2022.

Understanding investing, leverage, debt, taxes, commodities, and the boom/bust cycle is critical. If you take the time to study these pillars of the economy, you will <u>have some luck</u> during the right moments.

The next transfer of wealth. The next transfer of wealth is upon us, and it's not a calamity, recession, or pandemic. The subsequent wealth transfer will happen in the metaverse, and it will be a silent transfer.

Saving vs. Investing

Nobody will see it coming and hear about it on the news. It is a slow burn and will take the general public by storm. We saw a small preview of it with meme crypto coins like Dogecoin and meme stocks like AMC.

The next wealth transfer will be the digital transfer of cash from the general public to <u>content</u> <u>creators in the metaverse</u>. The fact that an individual can create an NFT or digital item for \$5 and sell it for \$100,000 will change the world forever. Let's explore the transition to digital media for a minute.

It's all digital. The move to digital goods was slow and effective. It helped us hoard more digital goods (pictures, emails, videos) than ever before. I grew up with VHS cassettes, and they were a pain to collect.

Then I moved to CDs, along with the rest of the world. As iTunes became more prominent, I bought an iPod in 2005 (I believe). Then we started to upload our photos to the cloud. We no longer had them printed at the photo store (remember that?).

Dividends vs. Royalties 3

I just bought the new James Bond movie, "No Time to Die," via a digital store. I paid \$20 and got my money's worth, while it cost the studio at least \$200 million to make this film.

Society conditioned us to accept digital goods as equal to physical goods. I bought the latest Pokemon game, Pokemon Legends Arceus, as a \$60 digital download. I can buy the physical game cartridge for the same \$60. Again, it cost Nintendo millions of dollars to produce this game.

The bait & switch. Now, the real bait & switch is coming to a metaverse near you. We already spend a crap-ton of money on things we don't need or wear. Let's take Jordan basketball shoes, for example.

We buy Jordans as collector's items. I have a Marine at work who didn't even know you were supposed to wear them. Nike pays money to engineer and test the shoes and then produce and ship them.

Now, moving into the Metaverse Age, they can digitally engineer them. Nike can add some form of rarity or limit the amount of a particular release. This creates scarcity (<u>a form of advertising</u>) which goes hand-in-hand with Non-Fungible tokens (NFTs).

Let's say it takes Nike \$100,000 to produce a digital form of Jordan 2022. They can then auction them off in the metaverse for 50X times this amount, if not more. If they limit the batch to 1,000 digital shoes, people will be bidding for these shoes like no tomorrow.

10,000 Hours to Build an Income Stream

Even scarier, they can set a royalty modifier on each shoe. This means that every time these shoes transfer hands on the blockchain, they can receive a royalty payment of 2-15% or more.

So, now, even large corporations will be <u>receiving passive income from NFTs</u> and the metaverse.

How the transfer of wealth starts. We saw it with Dogecoin. People buy into Dogecoin at \$0.0001 and become millionaires when it hits \$0.70.

These stories ripple through the everyday grinders who have no plan to <u>build wealth slowly</u>. They feel it's better to gamble with their money with meme coins and stocks. We saw the same thing with AMC stock.

I just finished the book "<u>How to NFT.</u>" and these stories of everyday people striking it rich are becoming more prevalent. The digital world wants you to believe that your digital Jordans will be worth more in the future—that's how they get you.

Why You Need a Job

As more stories of people selling NFTs for large amounts of money abound, the general population feeds into the narrative. Before you know it, everyone has 100s of NFTs, and the price of each plummets or stays the same.

Unlike physical goods, NFTs won't become more scarce over the years. They may become rarer, but they will always exist in the metaverse.

I have a ton of Gamecube games I bought in 2002. If my house gets hit by a hurricane, it will wipe them off the map—gone forever. That's why physical goods retain value and increase throughout the years—they get lost in translation.

Future unknown. We don't know how NFTs and digital goods in the metaverse will hold up over the years. I know that content creators and corporations are looking forward to the immediate gold rush—as they should.

Never has there been this large of separation between content creators and consumers. The world has always distinguished between producers and consumers, but now the transfer of wealth will reach new heights.

Selling Covered Calls for Passive Income

Before, producers needed to spend millions of dollars to get in front of consumers with a product that cost millions of dollars to produce. Producers paid for research & development, shipping, testing, and advertising.

Today, a young producer can create a digital T-shirt (for only the cost of his time) and sell it for \$1,000—all in two hours. We need to be aware of this phenomenon and make grounded buying decisions.

What to do moving forward. First, figure out a way to control your collecting and spending habits. The book "<u>The Life-Changing Magic of Tidying Up</u>" gives us a way to organize our physical homes. Let's start there.

Next, we need to organize our digital homes. Most of us don't have a home in the metaverse or an avatar, so we have the chance to control our spending from the start. Ask yourself, "<u>How</u> <u>much stuff do I truly need?</u>"

Finally, understand that <u>FOMO</u>, or Fear of Missing Out, drives the NFT craze. You have to defeat the urge to involve yourself in these shenanigans.

Don't Gamble with Retirement 4

Sure, as an investor, we can allocate a small percentage (2-5%) of our wealth to speculation plays—there is some fun in "gambling." However, if you are an average joe with no investments, avoid buying fancy digital shoes.

Conclusion. The ability to create things cheaply and quickly sell them for lots of money will help increase the transfer of wealth. Mainstreet consumers will buy into the hype and FOMO of meme NFTs and get left with the bag. Please reference Dogecoin for a recap of how this looks in real life.

I am 100% excited for the metaverse, but I am going into it with my eyes wide open. I like digital goods, but only the ones that add value. I am not opposed to buying a \$5 Pokemon shirt in the metaverse, but you probably won't see me buying a \$50,000 one.

BOOK TAKEAWAYS



42 "How to DeFi -Beginner"

"<u>How to DeFi-Beginner</u>" by the Coin Gecko team is a crash course in everything relating to decentralized finance. If you don't know, decentralized finance is becoming the main form of finance globally.

Yes, yes. It may take 50 years, but the pros of the decentralized system will outweigh the cons. Right now, DeFi is in its infancy. There are many things to work out, improve upon, and iterate on. However, every human could access decentralized finance, ensuring entrepreneurs continue to build out the DeFi system.

What is DeFi exactly? DeFi is a word that encompasses many types of services across banking, investing, insurance, and governance. The old, traditional banking system is called TradFi in the crypto-verse. So what would you consider TradFi? Savings, financing, insurance, stock market, bonds, payments, etc.

All of these "services" will carry over to DeFi. The main difference is that DeFi apps write everything on the blockchain, which means that the need for a middle-man is either reduced or non-existent. The middle-man is Wells Fargo for savings, Charles Schwab for investing, Geico for insurance, and Visa for payments, for example.

With DeFi, you connect your decentralized wallet to the service you want to interact with, and there you have it. Yes, that means there are some risks, but you no longer have a gatekeeper telling you what to do and how to do it. Amazing stuff. Let's get into my five takeaways.

1) Borrowing and lending are done using collateral. Instead of credit scores and loan officers, you just put up a large amount of collateral and take the coin you need. For example, you put up 6 ETH to borrow 2 ETH. This keeps your 6 ETH on the blockchain and gives you fresh capital.

2) Payment streaming allows payments to be handled in real-time—down to the second. For example, if my employer pays me \$60/hr, I can watch each minute as they deposit \$1 into my account. Payment streaming will be great for people who live paycheck to paycheck.

3) Governance involves coin holders being able to vote for initiatives and the future of different protocols. Voting is all done on-chain, and no one can manipulate the blockchain, unlike other archaic voting systems.

I Bought a Kindle Oasis

4) Yield-farming coins are coins that seek out the best place to store your crypto. Yields change almost daily, but instead of searching by yourself, have your yield-farming coins do it for you.

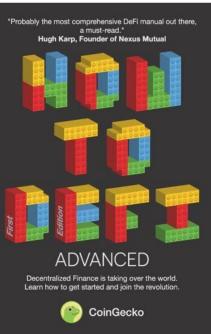
5) As people can borrow money by using collateral, others can earn yield by providing liquidity to the borrowed. The lender gets gains by allowing others to borrow money. No names and faces are required. You only need to deposit your desired coins and let the interest accumulate.

DeFi is the wave of the future, and it has never been a better time to invest in crypto. I still need to get my decentralized wallet and get started on DeFi. I have been hyper-focused on my eBooks, but I will get there.

In the meantime, I am learning so much about cryptocurrencies and DeFi. If you want a one-stop-shop on all things DeFi, then "How to DeFi" is your book.

This is a link to an Amazon Kindle. Physical products help the channel remain free. Thank you.





Book #89



43 "How to DeFi -Advanced"

"<u>How to DeFi -Advanced</u>" by Paula Robinson is the second book (<u>part one</u>) exploring decentralized finance and the world of cryptocurrencies. The world of DeFi is complex and moves at the speed of light, so one must constantly study to stay up-to-date.

Decentralized finance aims to replicate many of the staples of traditional finance (insurance, options, lending) but remove the middleman. By using smart contracts, DeFi eliminates the need for bankers, agents, and lenders.

There are many positive results from removing competent entities, but there are some trade-offs. To navigate DeFi effectively, you need to understand the concepts and techniques. Things like yield farming and yield aggregators can present unseen risks.

There seems to always be a "shiny new thing" in DeFi. To draw investors into the new protocol, creators usually offer high yields. Once these yields lower and stabilize, an outflow of money can leave the protocol hurting the liquidity. Events like this happen every day, so it is good to exercise caution. Read, read, and read some more. Let's get into my five takeaways.

1) Fixed-Interest Rate Protocols are the DeFi version of bonds. These items caught my attention, and I will keep an eye on them moving forward. Of course, they are much more complicated than bonds, but I predict they could supplement your bonds in the future.

2) Yield aggregators are similar to hedge funds. You put your money in a basket, and automated routines seek the highest yield. However, many yield farming opportunities could be risky, so your money may be in unstable positions.

3) Almost all DeFi protocols require liquidity. Liquidity comes from investors who eject money into the system, usually for rewards, yields, or coins. Liquidity is the heart of DeFi.

4) Borrowing and lending protocols use the over-collateralization method. This means you can borrow against your own money. For example, if I eject \$1,000 into the liquidity pool, I may be able to borrow \$500 against it. We call a trustless loan because the smart contract doesn't need your credit history, job status, etc.

5) Insurance in DeFi is under-explored. As of the writing of this book, only 2% of assets are insured. To become more mainstream, DeFi will need to offer more insurance options.

Something I found interesting is flash loans. Flash loans are loans that open and close at the same time—you have to pay the loan as soon as you open it.

The opening and closing have to be one transaction on the blockchain; however, you can have many "events" inside this transaction. You can use flash loans for arbitrage (using price differences to profit).

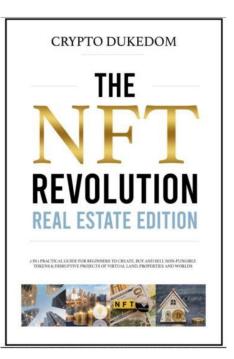
For example, let's say you can buy 1 ETH for \$1,000 on exchange ABC and 1 ETH on exchange XYZ for \$2,000. In one transaction, I could buy the ETH on ABC and sell it in exchange for XYZ. I closed my flash loan with a \$1,000 profit. The book has a complex transaction that resulted in \$360,000 in profit.

Decentralized Finance is the wave of the future. The more crypto books I read, the more I envision a trustless world (a good thing). However, DeFi needs to become more mainstream and easier to navigate.

This book can be challenging to follow for average crypto-people, so prepare yourself. I highly recommend you read "<u>How to DeFi -Beginner</u>" first. In about a year, I intend to reread this book to understand the protocols better. This is a must-read if you are serious about the metaverse and cryptocurrencies.

This link is to a physical product. The link above is to the digital book. Sorry. I get no credit for digital product links.

5 Takeaways





44 "The NFT Revolution"

You may have heard of NFTs on the news or from conversations around the watercooler. I have heard of them but wanted a deeper look into what they were and how an investor could leverage them to accelerate wealth.

"<u>The Nft Revolution</u>" by Crypto Dukedom gives the reader a deep dive into the digital world of NFTs and how we are just in the beginning stages of their world takeover. Let's dive into a small definition of NFTs before we get into my takeaways.

NFT stands for Non-Fungible Tokens. For simplicity's sake, Non-Fungible means unique. As in the only one in existence. NFTs creation is tied to individual blockchains on the Ethereum platform. Please read "<u>Bitcoin vs. Ethereum</u>" for more background on the blockchain.

Using the Ethereum network and blockchain, creators can build digital assets that are unique to the world. The blockchain holds the creator's name, new buyers, and other data. Think of NFTs as digital Picasso artwork. Everyone can see Picasso's paintings online, but only one person can own the original.

NFTs have lead to the creation of digital marketplaces that sell artwork, games, items, and other digital goods. Even digital real estate is becoming a hot trend. Needless to say, the more we learn about this trend, the more we can position ourselves to leverage it to our advantage as investors. With that, let's get into my takeaways.

1) NFTs are a continuation of the blockchain, which first started with Bitcoin. Blockchain is important because it is secure, and the network continuously verifies its integrity by utilizing "proof of work." These concepts are essential when you start talking about million-dollar pieces of digital artwork.

2) We are just getting started in the NFT space. Many people think that the hype is over; however, there is much more to come. People are creating whole digital worlds that contain real estate for people to buy and own. We haven't even scratched the surface of what's to come.

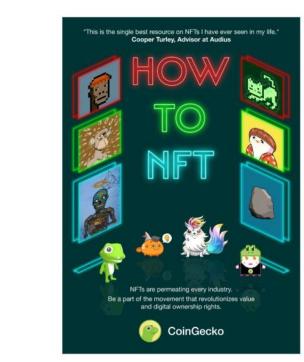
3) Anyone can create NFTs. The book lays out the step-by-step procedures to open the correct accounts, wallets, and auction houses. However, the book highly recommends that you have some kind of audience to sell your NFTs to. Just as in real life, those with an audience get the most attention.

4) Look for video games to be one of the most extensive frontiers in the NFT space. Games are already known to house unique items, and this will accelerate that trend. What if you were the only person in the world to own a particular gun in a first-person shooter? That would be pretty awesome, right?

5) Find ways to get into the NFT space now. I believe we still have 2-3 years before NFTs go mainstream. Use the next few years to familiarize yourself with the process and auction houses. Even if you don't sell anything, you will find tons of people new to the process. You can make money by just "tokenizing" other people's work. You can also ask for royalties for each sale—passive income for everyone.

As I read through this book, I understood how early we are in the NFT space. Now is the time to jump in and learn the process. Take the time to understand what is unique about the high-value NFTs. Yes, celebrities may have sold them, but there may be more to learn.

When I think of NFTs, I think of the movie "The Matrix." A world inside a world. Both planets are tangible, and to be truly whole, you will have to understand both. We are quickly moving in this direction with Cryptocurrencies, blockchains, and NFTs. There is no place to hide. You cannot close your eyes or cover your ears to hide from it. You will need to learn this new digital world if you want to become a successful investor. Good Luck!





Book #91

5

TAKEAWAYS

45 "How to NFT"

"<u>How to NFT</u>" by CoinGecko, gives us a future-focused look at Non-Fungible Tokens (NFTs). NFTs are all the rage now because of the ability to sell simple pictures for millions of dollars.

But there is more under the hood of NFTs, as they can function in many different environments and situations. Some use-cases include art, music, collectibles, games, sports, metaverse, utility, and financial.

With so many use cases, NFTs are here to stay. After reading this book, I feel the market will become oversaturated. However, this isn't necessarily a bad thing. NFTs, give creators the chance to "brand" their metadata onto the project.

With this immutable (cannot be changed) stamping, NFTs can provide "proof of original" vindication that is lacking today. Imagine you write a will that you make into an NFT. There is proof of the blockchain that this will is the most current and valid will in your possession. No one can challenge its authenticity. With that, let's get into my five takeaways.

1) Collectibles are the largest market for NFTs by far. When people think of the NFT craze, they think of people drawing meme artwork selling for large amounts of money.

2) These collectible artworks are actually communities forming a community around the owners. It becomes an entry into a deeper world and sometimes allows early access to future projects.

3) Expect large corporations to use NFTs egregiously (they already are doing so). Everyone wants into the craze, and it creates hype for the company when they make or buy NFTs. I expect there to be a total onslaught of brand NFTs over the next couple of years.

4) Sports NFTs can become very popular. Instead of playing Fantasy football with a bunch of random numbers, you can own football player NFTs. Your cards can level up each week as you play more games. This will lead to more significant and more competitive battles between real-world players.

5) NFTs allow creators to earn "lifetime" royalties from future transfers (via sales) of their project. Before, an artist would create a picture and only receive payment for the initial sale. Now, they can settle royalty amounts for each subsequent deal. This allows more artists to develop NFTs to create passive income.

I found Lego NFTs to be the most exciting use of NFTs. With Lego NFTs, creators build a universe from the bottom. It's almost like creating a sandbox game like Fortnite or Minecraft but not releasing the game.

You would release the tools and see what people can create. Lego NFTs act similar to a sandbox game. Creators can have something like a bunch of car types and colors. Then, they release these various colored cars to the NFT community.

The community would then build out a world around the cars by creating different forks for the projects. Some may make a world of workers who drive cars, and others can create worlds where the vehicles are the inhabitants.

Basically, it's like creating a Pokemon game but only releasing the Pokemon images. The community can then decide on various worlds where the Pokemon inhabit, battle, have relationships, or families.

This type of originality will lend itself to large user-generated worlds and communities. It is exciting, and it is part of the larger NFT space. NFTs are much more than meme artworks and simple logos.

The communities that form around these projects are solid and vibrant. NFTs will be even more valuable in the metaverse, where everything is digital. Proof of creation and ownership is vital to have a trustworthy digital world. You don't want someone to copy your digital couch or pet, do you?

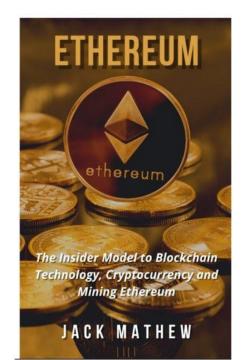
If you are interested in the future of the digital age, then this is the book for you. It can also give you some ideas of becoming an NFT content creator. Creation is vital to success in the metaverse and beyond.

This link is to a physical product. The link above is to the digital book. Sorry. I get no credit for digital product links.

5 Takeaways



46 "Ethereum"



"<u>Ethereum</u>" by Jack Mathew reads like a magazine for Information Technology (I.T.) coding or programming. That is to say that it is a tough read for us regular folks. However, I am glad I powered through it, and it was only 46 challenging pages.

Ethereum is currently the second leading cryptocurrency, only trailing Bitcoin. I wondered about the main difference between the two, and I got the answer in this book. I will go into the difference in a separate article, but I will say Ethereum has more use cases than Bitcoin.

Ethereum is an application layer over a blockchain. Again, I will go over Blockchain more in my Cryptocurrency series. Users can create smart contracts via the Ethereum layer. Creating applications such as smart contracts uses Ether (ETH). When you pay your gas expense in ETH, it goes to fund the miners for their work.

I will attempt to break it down in a way that we all can understand. Think of Bitcoin as a block of Gold, a store of wealth. Think of Ethereum as a social network, let's say Facebook. On Ethereum (Facebook), users can create posts and interact with each other. That will be extremely valuable in the future. However, gold will still be valuable in the future as well. I hope that helps a little. Now let's get into my takeaways.

1) Smart contracts are self-governing. When a user creates a smart contract and releases it to the Ethereum network, they are no longer in control of its code. It now has a formal mission set, and no one can change it. It would be very difficult, or impossible, for users to manipulate smart contracts in their favor.

2) Ether is mined and consumed. Bitcoin is mined but not consumed. Ether is mined and used as a currency to build/create applications on the Ethereum network. There is a limited amount of Ethereum allowed to be mined every year, roughly 18 million.

3) We are just starting to discover Ehtereum use cases. We are still early on in Ethereum, blockchain, and applications. Imagine being able to create your own entity that can settle lawsuits, payments, and such. For example, a smart contract for child support payments. That is where the world is heading.

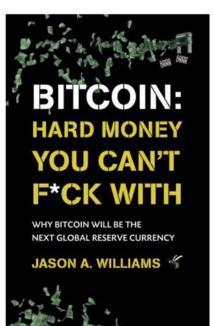
4) Ethereum is currently set in a proof of work architecture. Proof of work means that the computer network uses its massive computing power to verify everything on the blockchain. It requires large amounts of energy. Ethereum is moving to a proof of stake architecture that will need much less computing power and energy.

5) Everyone can see everything on the blockchain and Ethereum network. There is no place to hide smart contracts or transactions, leading to ultimate transparency and a new age of digital agreements.

I am incredibly bullish on Ethereum. We have just begun to see the extent to which to use these applications. We may get to the point where our grandkids are programming these smart contracts in school. I am jumping into the Ethereum and cryptocurrency world. I am old, but I have to look to the future and set my children up as best I can.

"Ethereum" is a tough read but also a must-read. If you are looking to get into the cryptocurrency space, you must understand in what you invest. Look to the long-term to decide what investments to hold. Good Luck!

5 TAKEAWAYS





47 "Bitcoin: Hard Money You Can't F-CK With"

"<u>Bitcoin: Hard Money You Can't F-CK With</u>" by Jason Williams is an in-your-face, no-holds-barred assault on why Bitcoin will be the next global reserve currency. For reference, the US Dollar is currently the global reserve currency.

The US Dollar is involved in almost every international transaction that takes place. Because of this level of usage, the USD enjoys global reserve currency status. However, as the US continues to print money, we devalue the USD and our hopes of keeping this status.

Enter Bitcoin. Bitcoin can't be messed with or printed by governments. Bitcoin miners mine it. There is a set schedule of bitcoins that can be mined per hour. Every four years, Bitcoin mining is cut in half.

In the end, there will only be 21 million bitcoins ever mined. This makes bitcoin scarce and controlled—very similar to gold in this sense. Gold was once the global reserve currency until the USD replaced it. When the USD and gold were tied together, the USD overtook gold as the global reserve currency. Then in 1971, we removed ourselves from the gold standard. Money printed then became something that governments were able to do without anyone's permission.

There is so much to talk about but for now, let's get into my five takeaways.

1) Bitcoin was created in the wreckage of the 2008 financial crisis by an anonymous source. It was made so no one (or government) could mess with it. The idea from the start was for it to be scarce and also released over time.

2) Bitcoin is currently a store of wealth, not for daily transactions. Right now, bitcoin is in the accumulation phase. The current price (April 22, 2021) is roughly \$54,000 per BTC. In time, bitcoin will be worth millions per BTC. The best investment strategy, for now, is buying and holding.

3) Money printing has always ended badly. Over the years of government-controlled fiat currencies, money printing has destroyed these currencies. We are currently printing more money than ever in the US.

4) Fiat currencies can still exist with Bitcoin as the global reserve currency. The dollar, Euro, Pound, etc., can still live next to Bitcoin. However, their values will be tied to Bitcoin, just like the dollar was once linked to gold.

5) Bitcoin still has a long way to grow. The Bitcoin total market capitalization is roughly \$300 billion—gold is \$10.9 trillion, stock market \$90 trillion, and real estate \$280 trillion. These assets behave like stores of value, a category that bitcoin finds itself in as well. It can slowly start eating into these market shares. As this happens, Bitcoin's price will skyrocket.

It is not too late to get into Bitcoin accumulation. I know that I am getting started right now. Maybe I will be able to get 1 BTC before it reaches \$100,000. I will have to move fast, though. I enjoyed how the book goes into the history of Bitcoin and fiat currency, and money printing. The author did his research and presented a strong bull case for Bitcoin. I understand so much more about global currencies, and I am on board with this new vision. I highly recommend this book if you are on the fence about Bitcoin and cryptocurrencies.

5 Takeaways

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48 "The Metaverse"

"<u>The Metaverse</u>" by Terry Winters is a critical book to all investors. I grew up in the 1980s and 1990s, so I watched the rise of the internet. The metaverse will have a similar effect on humankind, and as investors, we need to get ahead of the movement.

The media identifies the metaverse as Internet 3.0. Widespread knowledge considers Internet 1.0 as the initial web pages from the 1990s and Internet 2.0 as today's user-generated social media-driven world. So what do the metaverse and internet 3.0 offer humans?

The metaverse is a world inside the "real world." Think the Matrix trilogy, but in digital worlds. You may laugh, but the digital world will be where people spend most of their time in the future. Here are a few things to anticipate from the metaverse.

1) **Employment.** The metaverse will host full-on employment opportunities. You will put on your virtual work clothes and meet the avatars of real-life co-workers—all inside the metaverse world. I don't envision people working while wearing a VR headset all day, so that meetups may be for a couple of hours daily.

2) **Real Estate**. Virtual real estate is already a huge deal. However, just buying and holding may not be a viable investment solution in the metaverse. For a property to have value, it needs to have avatar traffic. No one will visit if you have barren land plots; thus, your land will be of low value. You'll need to build businesses or attractions to garner attention. Don't worry; I have planned a lot of virtual real estate content so we can learn more together.

3) **Shopping.** Can you envision going to an Amazon digital world with your mom? Together you can virtually touch and preview items and then buy them. Virtual shopping will be huge in the metaverse.

4) **Virtual worlds**. The metaverse isn't just one world but an unlimited number of digital planets—the worlds with the most user-generated content and foot traffic win. You can speculate from the outside by investing in cryptocurrencies of the digital world, i.e., MANA and LAND are the currencies of Decentraland.

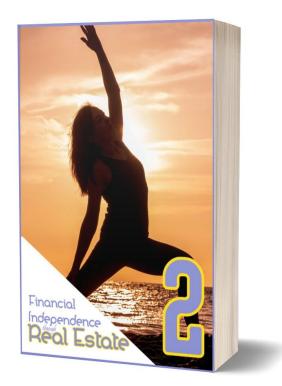
5) **Gaming**. There may be no real difference between gaming and being inside the metaverse. There will be gambling, awards, prizes, and virtual sports. People are rising and fighting digital animals for real currency already. The metaverse will be ripe with gaming action.

Many of the issues that affect the human world will affect the metaverse. For example, there is a housing crisis in America because of a shortage of homes and builders. When you buy a home in the metaverse, you will need to hire a digital builder and designer to plan and construct your home or business.

If there is a gold rush to the metaverse, these digital professions will be in high demand, thus driving up the price for their services. These scenarios will play out across advertising, virtual land, currencies, and services.

The central concept is to experiment with the new worlds. We don't know which new project will become the Facebooks and YouTubes of tomorrow. Your best bet is to continue reading books, following blogs and podcasts, and playing around with as many worlds as possible.

I will have to reread this book in 2-3 months to absorb more information. There is so much to learn because we are entering a whole new digital world. Don't get left behind—start by reading this fantastic book.



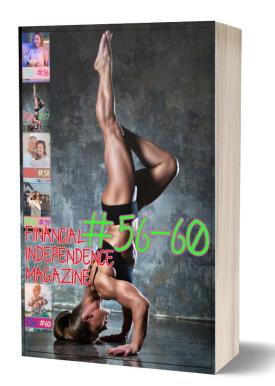
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