



UNBOUNDED WEALTH

— STRATEGIES. INSIGHTS. BUILT TO WIN. —



The Best Investing Decision I Ever Made Had Nothing to Do With Stocks

Years ago, I realized something.

The people who spent the most time talking about the market weren't necessarily the people making the most money from it.

That observation changed the way I consume financial news.

In fact, these days I watch no financial television at all.

Some investors are surprised when they hear that. After all, I make my living in the investment business. Shouldn't I want more information?

Not necessarily.

One of the themes I discuss in my book, *Unbounded Wealth*, is that too much financial news can be harmful to both your financial health and your physical health. There are studies showing that a constant stream of negative news increases stress and anxiety. Anyone who has spent an afternoon watching financial television during a volatile market already knows this intuitively. Every market decline becomes a crisis. Every economic report becomes a breaking news event. Every market prediction is presented as though the future depends on it.

The business model rewards attention, not patience.

Unfortunately, successful investing often requires the exact opposite.

At some point, financial television stopped treating investing as a process and started treating it like a sporting event. Every day features new winners and losers. New predictions. New scoreboards. New experts explaining what just happened and what will supposedly happen next.

It's remarkably similar to watching pregame coverage before an NFL game.

The difference is that investing isn't a sport.

The goal isn't to predict what happens this afternoon. The goal is to build wealth over years and decades.

That's a very different exercise.

Sometimes I think financial television has more in common with entertainment than investing.

The irony is that many of the most successful investors I've known spent surprisingly little time making forecasts. They focused on process. They focused on risk management. They focused on probabilities. They understood that nobody consistently predicts the future, but disciplined investors can consistently make good decisions.

That's where long-term success comes from.

A good investment process doesn't eliminate uncertainty.

It helps you manage it.

Financial television often creates the illusion that someone, somewhere, knows exactly what's about to happen. If you simply listen to enough experts, watch enough interviews, or consume enough market commentary, certainty will somehow emerge.

In my experience, that's not how investing works. The future remains uncertain. It always will. That's why process matters more than prediction.

The older I get, the less interested I become in the latest market forecast and the more interested I become in how investors behave. Human nature drives markets far more than most people realize. Fear. Greed. Optimism. Overconfidence. Those forces haven't changed in hundreds of years, and they aren't going to change anytime soon.

Markets will always give us something to worry about. Financial television will always give us something to watch. Neither is required to build long-term wealth.

Sometimes the best investment decision is turning off the television, ignoring the noise, and trusting a sound process.

That's certainly been one of mine.

P.S. One reason I designed my Real Money Portfolio the way I did is because I don't want investment success to depend on correctly predicting the next headline, Federal Reserve decision, or market narrative. The portfolio is designed to respond to changing conditions as they occur. In my experience, investors tend to do better when they focus less on forecasts and more on following a disciplined process.

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