



# SWP®

Strategic Wealth Preservation

# Inside the Vault

## A Quarterly Newsletter Featuring Precious Metal Insights

JANUARY 2025

### Gold & Silver Technical Analysis

Technical Analysis Video by Chris Vermeulen, Chief Market Strategist for [TheTechnicalTraders.com](https://www.thetechnicaltraders.com)



[You can follow Chris on Twitter @TheTechTraders](https://twitter.com/TheTechTraders)

Enjoy our new SWP video that gives you a great introduction to who we are as a company and the services we offer. Feel free to share and [subscribe to our YouTube channel!](#)



### Celebrating 10 Years - And We're Just Getting Started!

2025 is a milestone year for SWP as we proudly celebrate our 10th anniversary! A decade ago, we welcomed our very first client, laying the foundation for a business built on trust, service, and integrity. Since then, we've had the privilege of serving thousands more - and we're just getting started!

From day one, our mission has been clear: to put clients first by providing exceptional service and be a company we ourselves would want to do business with. We're not about volume -we're about people. Offering peace-of-mind through unparalleled security, liquidity, and award-winning customer service, we continue to raise the bar in precious metals storage and investment.

To mark this special occasion, we're launching an exciting Friends and Family Referral Program featuring silver coin giveaways and a grand prize of \$10,000 in precious metals!

That's not all -2025 also brings: A brand-new SWP website (coming soon!), exclusive anniversary promotions, more global storage locations through our One Account, One World advantage and much more to look out for.

Thank you for being part of our journey -we can't wait to celebrate with you.

Wishing you a fantastic 2025!



Mark Yaxley, CEO for Strategic Wealth Preservation (SWP). He has been focusing on the diverse needs of retail and commercial precious metal investors since 2006.

**Follow Mark on Twitter @YaxleyYax**



## How Close Should Your Wealth Be?

By Jeff Thomas



Recently, an eminent gold advisor whom I know and have a high regard for, stated that holders of precious metals would be well-served by keeping their metals in a remote location, saying, “distance equals security.” (He lives in the US and recommends storage in New Zealand, as it’s as far away from him as possible.)

Another prominent metals advisor whom I know well and respect, contacted me after the release of this statement to say that he doesn’t necessarily agree with the idea, even though he himself stores gold in a country outside his own.

So, what’s the real answer? Is the investor better off keeping his metals as close to home as possible, or as far away as possible?

Well, the answer should not be defined by distance at all. It should be defined by accessibility and safety.

### Accessibility

Keeping your precious metals as close to you as possible is the ideal. You unquestionably maximize your control over them by having them within arm’s length. But, there’s a caveat - this only works as long as safety can be achieved and maintained.

The old idea of “midnight gardening” – keeping metals in a box buried in the back yard is regarded as primitive, but conceptually, it’s quite a good one. I’ve often advised people to keep a stash of wealth at home. Granted, a box under the rosebushes has its disadvantages and a more sophisticated choice might be a home safe.

A home safe is costly to install, but absolutely worth the expense. Hopefully, you’ll be handy enough to install it yourself, as you won’t wish to trust workmen with the job.

You’ll also want to prepare yourself by having some of your wealth (however great or small) in gold bars or coins, plus some silver coins or rounds. These latter items annoyingly take up more space than gold, platinum, etc., but, should a currency crisis occur, as appears very likely, you’ll have a stash of coins that are worth about fifteen dollars each (at current value) as spending money. In any economic crisis, precious metals quickly rise in popularity as being “real” money and, soon, even your grocer or filling station attendant will know what an ounce of silver is worth.

This is likely to work well in a crisis, but your salvation would be brief, as it would only take a period of weeks before your neighbours, who are holding only worthless paper bank notes, begin to realise that you’re the only guy in town who has something of real worth. They will not think fondly of you as you become the only one in the neighbourhood who repeatedly is able to secure essential goods, when they cannot. Therefore, this security is only a temporary condition.

### Safety

The second concern will be that, your government, if it’s the EU, US or Canada, has already passed confiscation laws. Historically, countries that are in the throes of monetary crisis almost always institute protective tariffs, then currency controls and confiscations.

This means that, if you live in one of the above jurisdictions, you can expect sudden implementation of controls that would disallow your ability to use precious metals as currency and/or result in confiscation.

In the latter scenario, the precious metals you have would be taken from you unless you hid them, making you a criminal. Either way, you’d be robbed of your ability to use your wealth.

Therefore, you’d want to possibly keep a small amount (say \$5000-10,000) in silver for emergency use, but no more. Your real wealth would need to leave the jurisdiction and would have to do so prior to the implementation of controls.

So, does that mean that it’s beneficial to send your wealth as far away as possible? Well, not necessarily. What you’d want to do is find the safest jurisdiction you could find.



There are several in the world, so you'd pick the one that's closest, not the one that's furthest. Well, then, what constitutes the ideal safe haven?

- No direct taxation of any kind. No taxes or duties that apply to the purchase, ownership, storage or sales of precious metals. No capital gains tax; no inheritance tax.
- World-class financial system to provide auxiliary services.

- Stable government with consistent history for economic stability that caters to international investors.
- Minimal wealth legislation and regulation, to assure a minimum of red tape in processing purchases, sales, transfers and shipment of metals.

In such jurisdictions, the wealth and power of political leaders is based upon satisfying international investors. If they were to suddenly betray investors, their power would evaporate in the amount of time it would take for investors to transfer their wealth out of the former haven. (In today's world, that means a keystroke on a computer.)

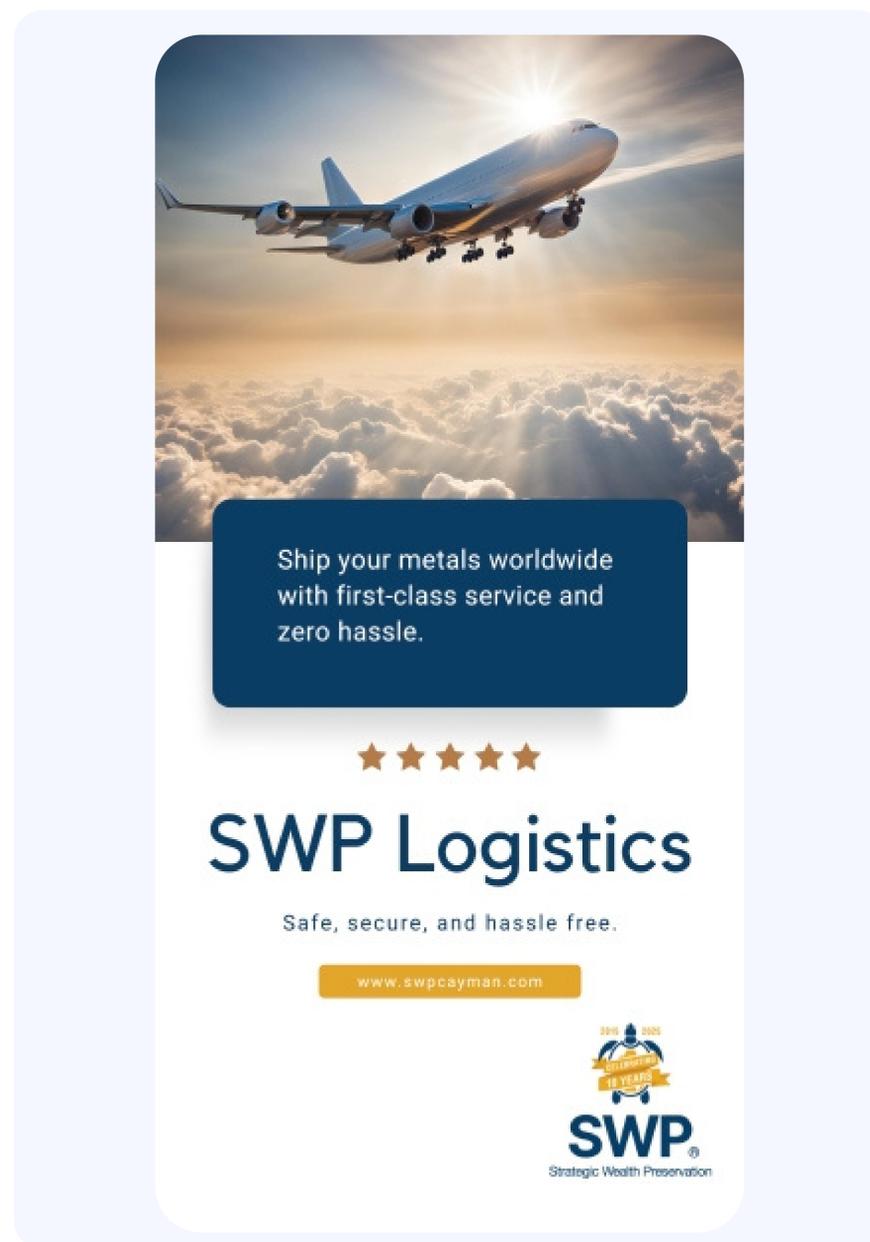
This is not to say that there's a guarantee of safety anywhere in the world. There isn't. The idea is to select the safest of all jurisdictions, where loss is the least likely. The reason for expatriating wealth is as simple as:

Home jurisdiction – loss highly likely;  
 Selected jurisdiction – loss highly unlikely.

In moving your wealth to relative safety, you pick the closest jurisdiction that's satisfies all the bullet points above. Then, you find the best facility in that jurisdiction. In Asia, that might mean Singapore or Hong Kong. In The Western hemisphere, that might mean the Cayman Islands. In Europe that might mean Austria or Switzerland.

To sum up, ideally, you want all your metals at arm's length, where you can grab them if necessary. You only push them further away to attain greater safety, but no further than necessary. After all, you still want to get to them as quickly as possible.

Once a crisis is underway, it quickly becomes impossible to expatriate wealth. However, if you've previously successfully expatriated you wealth, all you need do is move to where you wealth is waiting and sit out the crisis. END



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★★★★★

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SWP Strategic Wealth Preservation

## Gold in 2024 Outperforms Most Asset Classes

By [Jeff Clark Paydirt Prospector](#)

The dollar spiked higher after Trump's election victory in November and led to a weaker gold price, investors preferring equities and crypto. But gold and silver both outperformed most asset classes in 2024, due to a variety of factors including geopolitics that drove demand higher around the world.

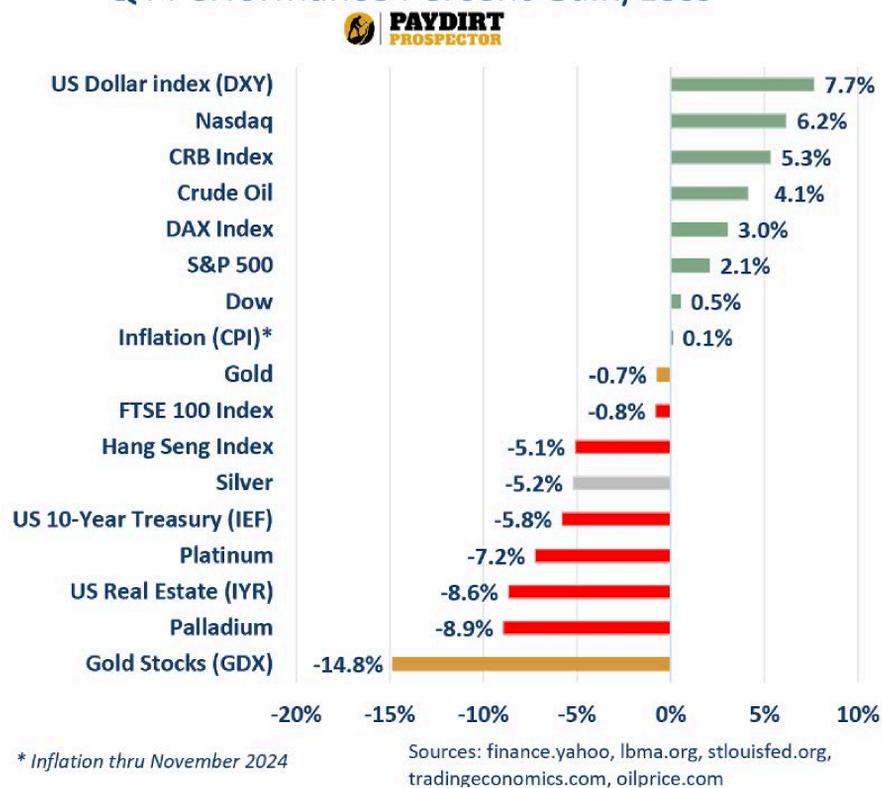
Our ITV quarterly report summarizes how gold and silver performed in the fourth quarter and full year of 2024, vs. other major asset classes. We also take a look at the major catalysts that could continue to push them higher in 2025.

### **GOLD IN Q4: Trumped!**

Gold was up 35% in 2024 before the US election, then abruptly sold off on Trump's win. It gained much of it back by year end, ending the quarter down just 0.7%. Silver fared worse, while most of the money plowed into common stocks. But the big winner was...



### Q4 Performance Percent Gain/Loss



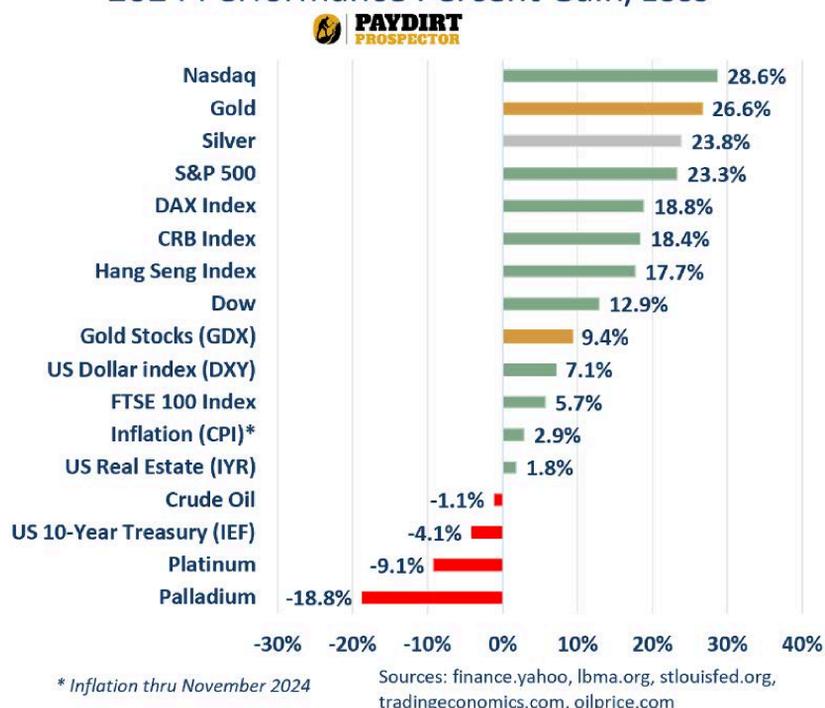
The US dollar gained more in Q4 than any other major asset class, outperforming stocks and oil and everything else. Except bitcoin (not shown), which sprinted ahead 47.5%, largely on President-elect Trump’s positive comments about it.

The biggest losers were gold stocks, platinum and palladium, real estate, and Treasurys. Silver also lost ground.

#### Gold in 2024: Asset Class Leader

Gold and silver gained more in 2024 than almost any other asset class, save the Nasdaq which continued to get a boost from ongoing AI obsession among investors.

### 2024 Performance Percent Gain/Loss



2024 was gold’s strongest annual gain since 2010. It set 41 new closing highs, the clear sign of a bull market. The biggest losers on the year were palladium, platinum and US Treasurys.

Bitcoin (not shown) gained 121.1% in 2024, roughly half of which came after Trump’s election victory.

#### The Watch List

What will gold and other asset classes do in 2025? Numerous risks abound in the economy, markets, and geopolitics. This list highlights the need to maintain our strong position in mankind’s oldest form of money.

**Sticky Inflation:** Perhaps a surprise that our first entry is inflation, when it’s been coming down for a couple years now. But the Fed said they only see two rate cuts in 2025 because they think inflation is actually going to rise again.

This presents the Fed with a choice: accept inflation rates above their target or attempt to bring it down and risk tipping the economy into recession. Many analysts say inflation will be “persistent” in 2025.

Meanwhile, food prices could be higher this year, as commodity prices rose 7% last year. Rabobank says there will be continued supply constraints in wheat throughout 2025, and that US-China trade relations will significantly influence global food commodity flows and prices.

**The Fed:** It cut rates a total of three times in 2024, the rate now 4.25%-4.5%. The Fed forecasts two more rate cuts in 2025, fewer than many thought at the time. How many rate reductions we see will depend on the strength of the economy and how much fiscal policy increases inflation and deficits. But with rates still targeted to come down this year, it strengthens the bullish case for gold.

**Geopolitical Tensions:** Russia vs. Ukraine, Israel vs. Hamas, rumblings from North Korea and Iran... the world remains a global hot spot. Gold is the ideal hedge against such madness.

**Monetary Easing:** It won’t be a big step to see the money printers start up again this year. If so, the “opportunity cost” of holding gold would be lower than dollars or Treasurys and make it a more attractive asset.

**Fiscal deficits:** The result of increased government borrowing and spending, it produces an array of conditions that favor gold, including currency depreciation, elevated inflation, and uncertainty about

the government's ability to fulfill its debt obligations. Combine this with monetary easing and you have the perfect storm for a higher gold price.

**US Dollar:** Many analysts believe that “economic fragmentation” (nationalism) will continue and push some countries to continue to diversify their reserves away from the US dollar. We don't know that the greenback is ready to begin its last leg down, but dollar weakness generally leads to gold strength.

**Banks and Credit Cards:** The FDIC has warned that a growing number of banks are on the brink of insolvency, to the tune of \$364 billion. Meanwhile, credit card defaults in the US have surged to their highest level since the 2008 financial crisis.

**Stock Markets:** Analysts predict the S&P 500 will gain between 7% and 19% this year. We'll amusingly point out, however, that Wall Street has never predicted a down year for stocks. A stock market decline, especially one that's a surprise, could see investors turn to gold amidst the uncertainty.

**China:** China's net gold imports through Hong Kong more than doubled from October to November last year, the highest level in eight months. China is the world's biggest gold consumer so its purchasing activity can significantly impact global gold prices. And Hong Kong is not the only source of imports; gold is also imported via Shanghai and Beijing.

Meanwhile, consumer demand in China (and India) is growing. Local gold mutual funds and ETFs are proliferating, and government regulations encourage gold ownership.

**New Jersey:** Another win for precious metals investors, this time in the Garden State. As of January 1, 2025, there is no sales tax on gold, silver, and precious metals, making it one of the more attractive states for precious metals trading.

**Gold and Silver Predictions:** Goldman Sachs predicts gold will rise to \$3,000 this year. JPMorgan says the same, \$3,000 by year end. A number of analysts also see higher silver prices in 2025; UBS has a target of \$36-\$38.

**Gold-Silver Ratio:** It ended 2024 at 88. This is in stark contrast to its 30-year average of 67 and 50-year average of 55. Combine that with the fact that silver is roughly half its 1980 high while gold is almost triple and the bargain for silver is obvious. UBS says a ratio above 90 is unsustainable unless we get a recession.

**The Ultimate Hedge:** We'll leave you with this note from Citi analysts, which we think sets the stage for what we might see from gold in 2025.

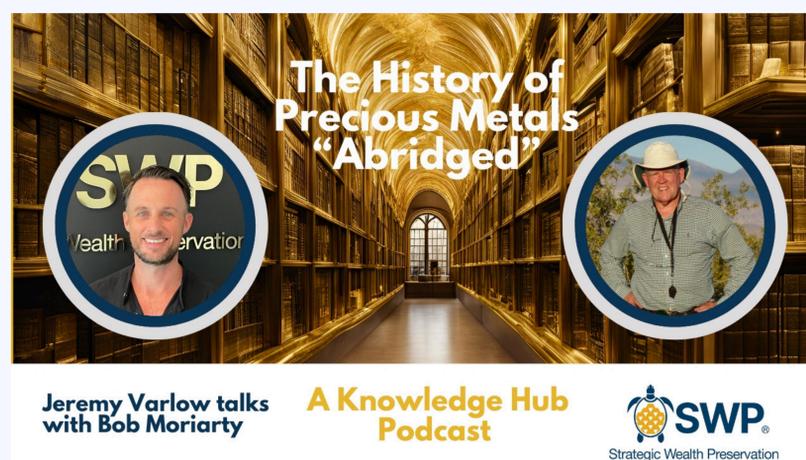
Gold prices that have risen by at least 20% in one year tend to rise again the following year. This occurred in five of the last six years where futures averaged at least a 15% gain (the only exception was 2021). Other factors that could push it higher this year include lower interest rates, geopolitical uncertainty, a weaker dollar, and central bank buying. Furthermore, unlike other commodities, gold isn't typically affected by industrial demand events such as trade wars, so fears of a US-China trade war shouldn't affect it. It primarily serves as a store of value. END

## NEW Knowledge Hub Podcast

We're excited to launch our brand-new Knowledge Hub podcast series, where we dive into everything related to investment strategies, wealth protection, and the key financial topics our clients ask about most.

Our goal? To build an exclusive SWP video library packed with expert insights from top professionals in their fields—your go-to resource for staying informed and ahead of the curve.

[Subscribe to our YouTube channel](#) to be the first to access new episodes and never miss a wealth-building insight!



## Trust the Turtle for Your Self-Directed IRA



### Diversify Your Retirement Portfolio with Precious Metals at Preferred Trust with an exclusive discount!

Strategic Wealth Preservation clients, are you looking for ways to diversify your retirement portfolio and potentially hedge against inflation? Look no further than investing in Precious Metals with a Self-Directed IRA at Preferred Trust!

For many years, Strategic Wealth Preservation (SWP) has trusted Preferred Trust to provide secure and reliable solutions for precious metals investing within SDIRAs.

To celebrate SWP's 10th anniversary, we're offering a special incentive for all new SDIRA accounts opened at Preferred Trust in 2025! We'll be waiving the first year's administration fee (a \$300 value). That's right, you can start investing in precious metals with your retirement dollars with significant savings!

#### Benefits of Investing in Precious Metals with a SDIRA:

**Diversification:** Precious metals can help diversify your portfolio and potentially offer a hedge against inflation.

**Tax Advantages:** Enjoy the tax benefits associated with a traditional (tax-deferred) or Roth (tax-free) SDIRA.

**Security:** Your precious metals are stored securely in a fully insured depository.

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Don't miss out on this exclusive offer!



An important reminder to you, your loved ones and friends: **please only buy metals for your Self-Directed IRA through a reputable dealer.**



## NEW Storage Location in Dubai!



We're excited to announce that SWP now offers secure storage in Dubai, one of the world's most important precious metals hubs. Known as the "City of Gold," Dubai is strategically located at the crossroads of Asia, Europe, and Africa, providing seamless access to global gold markets.

- World-Class Infrastructure – With the Dubai Airport Freezone (DAFZA), Dubai Gold & Commodities Exchange (DGCX), and Dubai Multi Commodities Centre (DMCC), Dubai is a major hub for gold trading, investment, and secure storage.
- Tax-Efficient, Business-Friendly Environment – Dubai's zero-tax policy on gold, strong regulatory framework, and growing regional demand make it a key location for precious metals investors.
- A Thriving Gold Market – From wholesale trading to the iconic Gold Souk, Dubai plays a central role in the global gold supply chain.

Dubai is now part of SWP's global storage network, offering clients more options for secure, strategically located storage. Contact us today to learn more about our newest location!



## Leverage Existing Assets - Don't Sell Them

**You can borrow US\$50,000 plus and keep your metal holdings, at current rate of 9%!**

1. Get your money within 10-days.
2. No monthly payments of interest and/or principal.
3. Interest rate is fixed for the entire term of the loan.
4. Renew the loan at the end of the term.
5. Make bulk principal payments or pay the loan off at any time.
6. The interest charged is competitive to most Lenders.

SWP Capital is here to provide flexibility and convenience for our clients who prefer a loan structured using their precious metals, by a company they can trust.

SWP clients can borrow up to 75% of the market value of their stored precious metals while retaining ownership.

We remain transparent and responsive at all times and are standing by to assist. Terms range from 3-months to 12-months (renewable) with a minimum PMML/PMBSN of \$50,000.

Talk to your client representative or contact Jeremy Varlow at [jv@swpcayman.com](mailto:jv@swpcayman.com) for more information.

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## Win \$10,000 in precious metals with our NEW 2025 Friends and Family Referral Program!



**Starts  
February 1**

Introducing the 10 FOR 10 SWP Friends and Family Referral Program – Our Biggest Prize Yet!

In honor of our 10th Anniversary, we're rolling out an exciting new way to reward YOU for spreading the word about secure precious metals storage with SWP!

Here's how it works:

- Refer a friend, family member, or colleague to SWP.
- After a qualifying account opening you both **receive 5 FREE 1 oz silver coins** as a token of our appreciation.
- Successfully refer 10 new clients, and you'll be entered into our **\$10,000 Grand Prize Draw!**

This is your chance to share the benefits of wealth preservation with your network while stacking silver and competing for the biggest prize in SWP history!

**Further details available online February 1**



Three winners have recently been notified for our Cayman Gold Rush Competition with one lucky client on their way to the Cayman Islands!



## FREE Webinar with Jeff Clark Thursday February 20, 6pm EST

**Save the Date:** Next Golden Turtle Social Club Webinar with Jeff Clark!

Mark your calendars for our upcoming Golden Turtle Social Club Webinar, featuring our esteemed friend and regular contributor, Jeff Clark. Expect valuable insights and expert perspectives you won't want to miss. This is your chance to ask your important precious metals investment questions to the experts.

Stay tuned - full details and the registration link will be sent to your inbox soon!





Strategic Wealth Preservation

## About Us

Strategic Wealth Preservation (SWP) is an international precious metals dealer and secure storage provider headquartered in the Cayman Islands with US\$1B+ assets under management. We specialize in the acquisition and secure storage of precious metals for individuals, companies, trusts and wealth management professionals on behalf of their clients.

We deliver precious metals worldwide to homes and businesses and offer secure storage in vaults located in the Cayman Islands, Canada, the United States, Switzerland, Singapore, UAE (Dubai) and New Zealand. We also offer corporate disaster recovery services for businesses located in the Cayman Islands.



### One Account, One World

Benefit from SWP's global reach under one single account. Store with SWP in the Cayman Islands, Canada, the United States, Switzerland, Singapore, Dubai or New Zealand.

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