

VIDEO TRANSCRIPT: Sean Tesoro's 2025 Economic Outlook

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Speaker: Sean Tesoro

Channel: [YouTube](#)

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[00:00] [Opening Music – upbeat instrumental background]

[Visual: 2025 Economic Outlook text and Logo of Salem Five Wealth Management & Trust appear on blue screen. The screen transitions into a bank vault background. Sean Tesoro is standing, facing the camera.]

[Visual: Sean Tesoro is standing, speaking directly to camera. Blue banner slides on screen with text “Sean Tesoro, President, Salem Five Wealth Management & Trust”.]

[00:06] Hi, I'm Sean Tesoro, President of Salem Five Wealth Management and Trust. Here's what you need to know about the markets in 2025.

[Visual: Sean Tesoro is standing, speaking to camera.]

[00:13 – 1:13] With 2025 underway, investors are wondering: Will 2025 be as strong as 2024?

As in sports, repeats are tough, particularly when you consider the outstanding returns we had in 2024.

In fact, last year marked the first time since 1997–1998 that the S&P 500 enjoyed back-to-back gains greater than 20%.

But remember, last year didn't start off so optimistically.

The list of worries among stock market bears included high valuations, narrow leadership by the largest technology stocks, rising long-term interest rates, election uncertainty, deficit spending, and more.

But stocks rallied through all of that—without so much as one 10% correction.

The stock market's surprising ascent in 2024 offers some important lessons for investors.

First, the herd is often wrong. Wall Street underestimated the S&P 500's year-end price by about 15%.

[Visual: Camera zooms in on Sean Tesoro. Sean Tesoro continues speaking not directly at the camera.]

[00:14 – 1:18] Remember—positive years for stocks are about three times more likely than negative ones.

[Visual: Camera zooms out Sean Tesoro. Sean Tesoro continues speaking directly at the camera.]

[1:19 – 1:47] Second, the trend is your friend.

Employing technical analysis can help investors avoid mistakes in an upward-trending market, don't take a detour because of some bearish narrative that the market may not care about.

Third, bull markets typically run for a while.

They last more than five years on average—and rarely end when the U.S. economy is growing, especially when the Federal Reserve is cutting interest rates.

[Visual: Bar graph of S&P 500 performance after start of fed rate cutting cycles]

[Visual: Sean Tesoro speaks directly to camera.]

[1:48 – 1:58] The current bull market is only about 27 months old.

Fourth, earnings drive stock prices.

The fundamental value of stocks comes from a company's earnings.

[Visual: Bar graph of S&P 500 earnings growth: +10% in 2024; projection for 2025 continues upward.]

[1:59 – 2:07] The S&P 500 companies will likely grow earnings 10% in aggregate in 2024—and may do so again in 2025.

[Visual: "Sean Tesoro speaks directly to camera.]

[2:08 – 2:17] And finally, focus on the long term.

Don't get scared out of the market by the headlines.

If you're a long-term investor, time in the market beats timing the market.

[Visual: Bar chart showing S&P annual returns since 1980.]

[2:18 – 2:29] Waiting it out through down periods is the best approach for nearly all investors.

Since 1980, the annualized return for the S&P 500 is 12.1%.

[Visual: Sean Tesoro speaking directly to camera.]

[2:30 – 3:03] These are good lessons to remember as 2025 gets underway.

But, as we look at expectations for this year's market, there are reasons to be cautiously optimistic

Cautious Because:

- Inflation pressures could reemerge
- Geopolitical threats are always potentially around the corner

Optimistic Because:

- Economic growth remains steady
- There's a healthy job market
- Corporations continue to grow profits
- Long-term investments in artificial intelligence; also
- Potential changes to tax policy and deregulation in 2025 could provide a bit of an economic tailwind

[Visual: Sean Tesoro speaking directly to camera. Blue banner slides on screen with text "Sean Tesoro, President, Salem Five Wealth Management & Trust."]

[3:04 – 3:21] So, while growth may not be as robust as 2024, the ingredients are certainly in place for another profitable year for investors.

[Closing Music – same instrumental theme from the opening plays softly]

[Visual: Salem Five Wealth Management & Trust logo reappears with 2025 Economic Outlook text.]

[Visual: Salem Five Wealth Management & Trust logo reappears with disclosures: Not Insured by FDIC or Any Other Government Agency, Not Bank Guaranteed, Not Bank Deposits or Obligations, May Lose Value.]