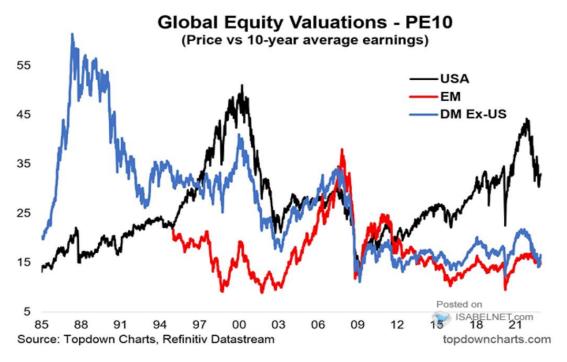


- China, second biggest economy is re-opening after having been on a lockdown for three years. Over past 3 years, China's household savings have increased by 50% to 15.5 trn. Excess savings along with record low mortgage rates will be one of the main drivers of pent up consumption demand driven inflation in 2023.
- But, as covid hits China you could see shortage of workers in next few months. Most of workforce still lives in dormitories where virus is rampant. So next quarter is going to be all about increase in demand on one hand & production dislocations on other. We have seen this playbook in West when they begin re-opening.
- While we could have seen peak hawkishness; but, we haven't yet seen peak inflation & China's reopening could further push back peak inflation. If we draw reference from 70s playbook, inflation rises due to base effects leading to wages spurt; which then slows down until you get another spurt. *Coming decade we could see Inflation shoot up to 7% & then fall back to 3% & then up to 9% & then back to 4%.*
- One way to play this theme is to own assets in countries beneficiary of Chinese demand boom like EMs & Japan. Brazil, India, Mexico etc. were outperforming in 2022 when they were facing macro headwinds, now these headwinds are turning into tailwinds: China is reopening, \$ is rolling over & the Fed is pretty much done tightening. EMs are hugely under owned asset class & may see a long journey upwards from here.



⁽Source: Louis Vincent Gavekal; Chart Source: Topdown charts)

Hopes of Inflation fading in 2023 could be overdone. If inflation holds and power shifts to EMs, will we see a repeat of 2003-2007 golden era?



Charts that Matter!



This chart highlights the correlation between global liquidity (as a lead indicator) and corporate profitability (as a trail indicator) with a lead time of 18 months.

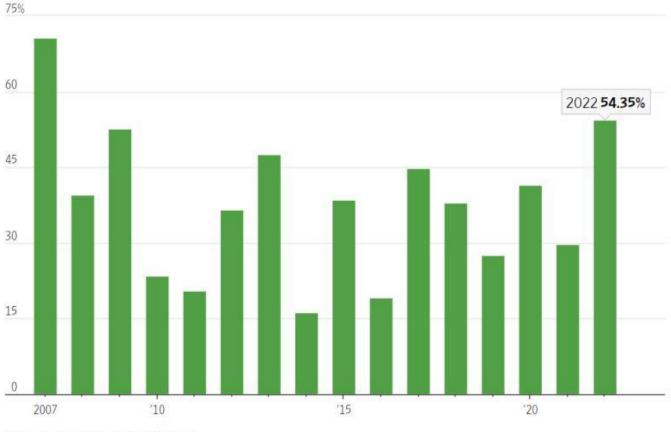
Will this correlation hold in 2023 as well? And if yes, does that mean market corrections have just begin (assuming here markets will follow the earnings reporting and have not bottomed out yet).

(Chart Source: Mikaelsarwe)

Charts that Matter!



Percentage of large-cap U.S. mutual funds beating benchmarks



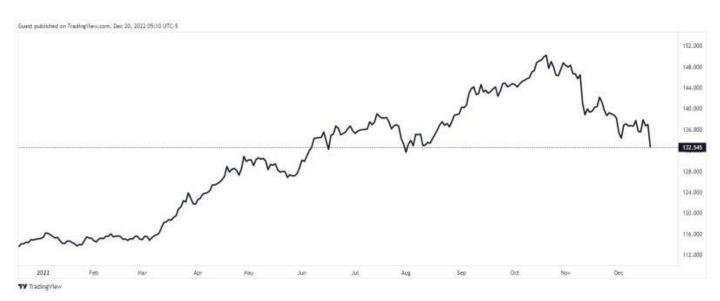
Note: Data for 2022 through Nov. 16 Source: Goldman Sachs

Something is changing in active vs. passive....

About 55% of actively managed large-cap mutual funds are on pace to beat their benchmarks this year. 2022 was highly volatile year and during volatile times active management outperforms passive.

(Chart Source: WSJ)





Powell is Hawkish... Lagarde turned hawkish last week...Here comes Kuroda!!!!

Few Central bankers are making moves suddenly showing that they are 'concerned' about inflation. US 10Y is UP 20 bps this week, because now JAPAN is worried about INFLATION.

Bonds market discounted much of Powell's hawkishness and actually understood the seriousness only when retail data was out. Now, Japan 'Tightening' is like hitting below the belt.

Yen was the worst performing major currency for the year (-16%) until today; when BOJ reversed course. Will USD get crushed under Yen? With Japan getting yield again, should that drive funds back to Japan?



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Co-Founder

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