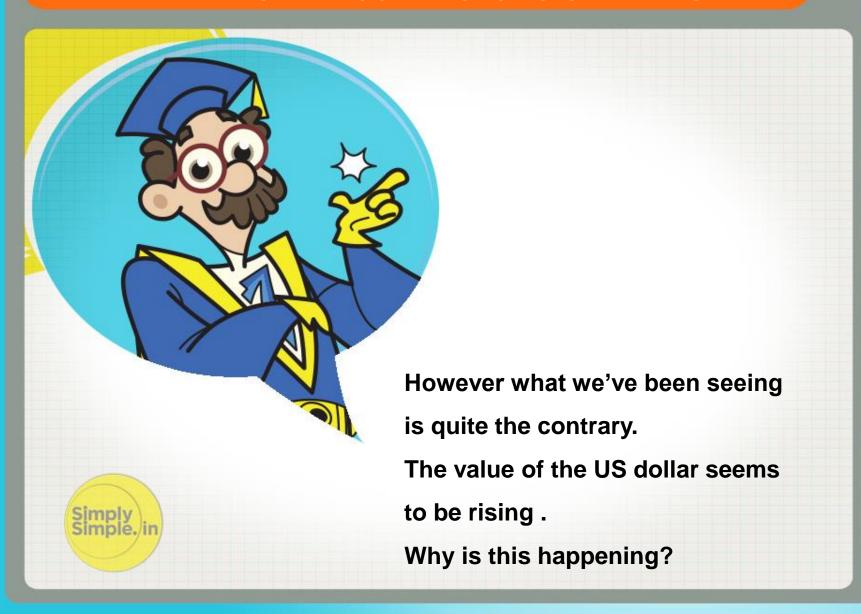




Recently Standard & Poor a renowned rating agency downgraded the US bond from AAA to AA

Usually one would expect that such a move would adversely affect the value of the dollar (the currency of the country whose bond has been downgraded)





To get an understanding of this we need understand the global economic context.

Several European countries appear to be on the verge of defaulting on their debts. Hence the "euro" is under pressure.

Emerging economies too are facing high inflationary pressures which is having an adverse effect on growth. Both China and India are expected to grow at a lower rate as compared to the recent past.

Commodity prices too have gone up too fast and appear expensive



In this environment many investors seem to have maximum faith in the stability of the dollar and are showing the tendency of selling other asset classes and investing the proceeds in US Dollars.

The idea for them is to have enough US Dollars for an opportune investment at a future date.

Investors also expect that the US on account of its rising fiscal deficit and recent downgrading is unlikely to print a large amount of US Dollars and hence they expect the value of the US Dollar will remain strong



Here one must understand that for an investor sees the US Dollar too as an asset class just like any other asset class.

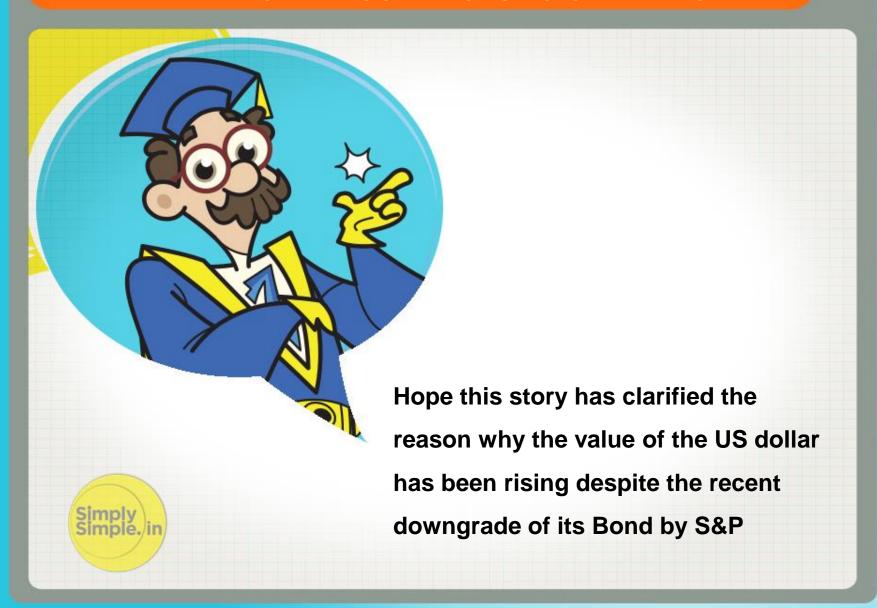
Thus by staying invested in US Dollars, the investor can gain from the rise in its value.

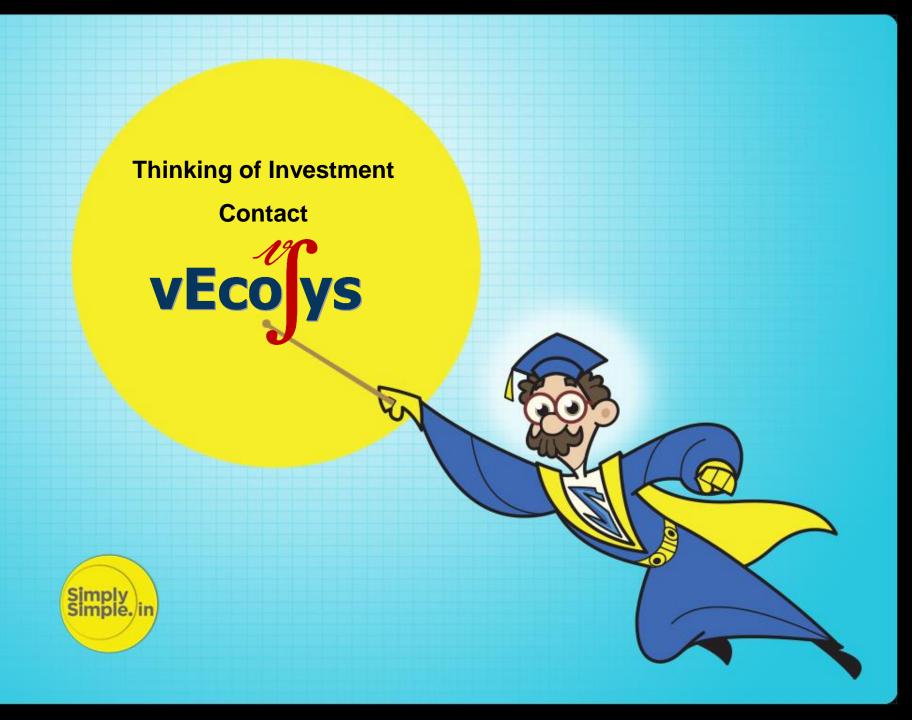
Secondly when the value of the US Dollar rises it helps the investor to buy other asset classes cheaper at an opportune time in the future.



These are the reasons for which the value of the dollar has risen despite the recent downgrade of US Bonds







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