

THE CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

We are at war with an invisible enemy which can be compared to death. Like death, this enemy cannot be satisfied. This formidable adversary does not discriminate and will destroy anyone in its path if they are incapable of putting up a fight, regardless of how rich or poor you are, gender, size, race and age. The nations of the world has been brought to its knees by this powerful and relentless foe, totally exposing our vulnerable lives. Ironically, this enemy is targeting only human life, which should set alarm bells ringing in our minds, but we are more interested in stockpiling toilet rolls, what ignorance!

Like death, our so-called intelligent weapons, technology, innovation in medicine, in fact everything man has made has been no match to this adversary so far. There is no discharge in this war, neither is there trading of punches. Innovation in technology has facilitated the spread of this virus and it will not be tamed unless it has served its purpose. There is a purpose for why this is happening now. Will the world ever recover from this episode or is there more to come after this?

There are a few questions we need to ask ourselves, but the reality is, most of us will not like the answers to these questions because it will challenge the inner most core of our belief system. These questions we must ask:

- Is the Coronavirus the beginning of the end of age?
- Why the coronavirus?
- Why is it happening now?
- Is there a purpose for our lives?
- Why are we here and why are we in this generation?

The simple answer to the first question is a straightforward no. This virus is not the beginning of the end of this present age, but it has something to do with it. Every event that has been prophesied to occur at the end of age has already been given to us in great details, and the coronavirus is not one of them. This is not the pestilences prophesied in gospels of Matthew chapter twenty-four, Mark chapter thirteen, and Luke chapter twenty-one. So, why the coronavirus and why now? These are very good questions which need some foundation and at the end of this study, you will surely be enlightened of the reasons why this little-known virus has crippled the entire earth. We must make life changing

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decisions now because what is coming after this episode is not pleasant by any stretch of our imagination.

We live in a world which was created by a God who has chosen not to be visible to us during this age. If you do not believe there is a God, rest assured you will surely come face to face with Him in the future. We must understand that:

John 4:21-24 New King James Version (NKJV)

²¹ Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe Me, the hour is coming when you will neither on this mountain, nor in Jerusalem, worship the Father. ²² You worship what you do not know; we know what we worship, for salvation is of the Jews. ²³ But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. ²⁴ God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."

God is Spirit and He seeks those who must worship Him in spirit and truth. Astonishingly, most of us alive today are ignorant of the fact that we all have a small part of the mighty God dwelling in us. The composition of man is spirit, soul and body. The spirit that gives life to the soul and body is a small part of God. We are supposed to keep that spirit clean by obeying the laws and commandments of God and live by faith. When we sin, we tarnish our spirits which eventually leads to death. Sin is the transgression of Gods laws and commandments.

1 John 3:4-6 New King James Version (NKJV)

⁴ Whoever commits sin also commits lawlessness, and sin is lawlessness. ⁵ And you know that He was manifested to take away our sins, and in Him there is no sin. ⁶ Whoever abides in Him does not sin. Whoever sins has neither seen Him nor known Him.

God had already said every soul belongs to Him and the soul that sins shall die. We all have an appointment with death, but assuredly, God has promised a resurrection into eternal life for all those who repent of their sins. We don't want to be part of the Great White Throne Judgement. Everyone, who does not repent of their sins, will face judgement at an appointed time in the future:

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Ezekiel 18:4 New King James Version (NKJV)

⁴ “Behold, all souls are Mine; The soul of the father As well as the soul of the son is Mine; The soul who sins shall die.

The root cause of all our tribulations and anguish on earth today is sin. Regardless of what we believe, if we could totally eradicate sin from the earth today, all our anguish and tribulations will also pass away. But many will not turn from their wicked ways, even if the Lord pleads with them face to face. We have been given an opportunity to live forever in peace and prosperity. All we must do is repent of our sins and start living in obedience to God’s laws and commandments. Some will ask what connection has sin with the coronavirus? It has everything to do with it. The earth is about to reject its inhabitants because the sins of its inhabitants is weighing heavy on it. We have defiled the land with our abominations as our forefathers did in the past:

Leviticus 18:24-30 New King James Version (NKJV)

²⁴ ‘Do not defile yourselves with any of these things; for by all these the nations are defiled, which I am casting out before you. ²⁵ For the land is defiled; therefore I visit the punishment of its iniquity upon it, and the land vomits out its inhabitants. ²⁶ You shall therefore keep My statutes and My judgments, and shall not commit any of these abominations, either any of your own nation or any stranger who dwells among you ²⁷ (for all these abominations the men of the land have done, who were before you, and thus the land is defiled), ²⁸ lest the land vomit you out also when you defile it, as it vomited out the nations that were before you. ²⁹ For whoever commits any of these abominations, the persons who commit them shall be cut off from among their people.

³⁰ ‘Therefore you shall keep My ordinance, so that you do not commit any of these abominable customs which were committed before you, and that you do not defile yourselves by them: I am the LORD your God.’ ”

The previous verses of this chapter outlines some of the abominations that defiled the land, bloodshed is one of them. The apostle Paul was inspired to write, emphasising the fact that all men everywhere have been called to repentance, which therefore includes the whole world. We must remember that the Lord compared our generation to that of the days of

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Noah and Lot. Before we go any further, we must seriously consider what the Lord our God has said:

Isaiah 45:5-7 New King James Version (NKJV)

⁵ I am the LORD, and there is no other; There is no God besides Me. I will gird you, though you have not known Me, ⁶ That they may know from the rising of the sun to its setting That there is none besides Me. I am the LORD, and there is no other; ⁷ I form the light and create darkness, I make peace and create calamity; I, the LORD, do all these things.

There is only one God and one truth. Nothing happens here on the earth without the Lord's knowledge and as we have just seen, it is the Lord our God who makes peace and creates calamity. In the book of the prophet Amos, we are given more information about what God means. We must understand that these are not the words of the prophet Amos. These are the words of God. The prophet Amos is not capable of bringing calamity in a city, but God can do whatever pleases Him:

Amos 3:5-8 New King James Version (NKJV)

⁵ Will a bird fall into a snare on the earth, where there is no trap for it? Will a snare spring up from the earth, if it has caught nothing at all? ⁶ If a trumpet is blown in a city, will not the people be afraid? If there is calamity in a city, will not the LORD have done it? ⁷ Surely the Lord GOD does nothing, Unless He reveals His secret to His servants the prophets. ⁸ A lion has roared! Who will not fear? The Lord GOD has spoken! Who can but prophesy?

The Lord qualified what He wants us to understand by giving us simple earthly examples before saying if there is calamity in a city, will not the Lord have done it. We should be under no illusion of the fact that what is happening on earth today has been authorised by the Lord for good reasons. Consider this passage of Scripture:

Matthew 28:18-20 New King James Version (NKJV)

¹⁸ And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. ¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen.

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The Lord Jesus Christ has authority over everything in the heavens and on the earth. Not a single thing happens on earth without His knowledge and authorisation. Would you not be led to believe that this virus has everything to do with the Lord? Here is the evidence. Throughout the last six months, the world has suffered from uncharacteristic weather conditions. Some have passed it for global warming, creating a tumult. We have had an unprecedented number of floods, droughts, bush fires, earthquakes, locusts' infestations, storms and more, which has affected almost every nation on earth. But why? Here is the reason why:

Amos 4:6-13 New King James Version (NKJV)

⁶ *"Also I gave you cleanness of teeth in all your cities, And lack of bread in all your places; Yet you have not returned to Me," Says the LORD. ⁷ "I also withheld rain from you, When there were still three months to the harvest. I made it rain on one city, I withheld rain from another city. One part was rained upon, And where it did not rain the part withered. ⁸ So two or three cities wandered to another city to drink water, But they were not satisfied; Yet you have not returned to Me," Says the LORD.*

⁹ *"I blasted you with blight and mildew. When your gardens increased, Your vineyards, Your fig trees, And your olive trees, The locust devoured them; Yet you have not returned to Me," Says the LORD.*

¹⁰ *"I sent among you a plague after the manner of Egypt; Your young men I killed with a sword, Along with your captive horses; I made the stench of your camps come up into your nostrils; Yet you have not returned to Me," Says the LORD.*

¹¹ *"I overthrew some of you, As God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah, And you were like a firebrand plucked from the burning; Yet you have not returned to Me," Says the LORD.*

¹² *"Therefore thus will I do to you, O Israel; Because I will do this to you, Prepare to meet your God, O Israel!"*

¹³ *For behold, He who forms mountains, And creates the wind, Who declares to man what his thought is, And makes the morning darkness, Who treads the high places of the earth— The LORD God of hosts is His name.*

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This passage of Scripture is describing what has been affecting the world, but the gravity of these events has been intensified bringing the world to its knees. Most of us will still not heed these words. It is the Lord who creates the wind and gives rain. It is the Lord who has made the stench of death to come up to our nostrils everywhere in the world, but we will still not heed. As the Lord has said, we should prepare to meet our God. If you study the book of Amos chapter five you will conclude that this prophecy is addressing the period in time, just before the day of the Lord, which is now.

To summarise, we are about to enter a period in time this world has never witnessed and will never again witness in successive generations. This can be compared to the series contractions of a pregnant woman before the beginning of actual labour pains. The root cause of these calamities is sin. It makes no difference, whatsoever, if you agree or not, but be sure of this one thing; what God has said He will do will come to pass exactly as He has proposed.

No one can state that they have been too busy anymore to realise what was happening. We have all been given ample amount of time to consider and reflect on our lives. Why are we here and where do we go from here? We must take this opportunity to diligently search the truth with all our might. There is only one truth and understanding the signs of the times will be critical for our wellbeing and peace in the days to come.

Unlike Noah's generation and the people of Sodom and Gomorrah who were overthrown in a moment, our plight will be prolonged because we have not heeded the word of God, considering all the advantages we have in technology and history. We have not learnt from what has happened in the past.

Ecclesiastes 12:13-14 New King James Version (NKJV)

¹³ Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God and keep His commandments, For this is man's all. ¹⁴ For God will bring every work into judgment, Including every secret thing, Whether good or evil.

Fear God and keep His commandments, for this is the whole duty of man. We have been brought to our knees throughout the world to keep us quiet, so we can find out the truth about life. Make good use of this time because what is to come is totally dreadful. Don't be deceived.