




**I'm In Trouble, Now
Where's God!
2 Chronicles 6:28-31**

Listen to God's Word

2 Chronicles 6:28-31

“When famine or plague comes to the land, or blight or mildew, locusts or grasshoppers, or when enemies besiege them in any of their cities, whatever disasters or disease may come, and when a prayer or plea is made by anyone among your people Israel—being aware of their afflictions and pains, and spreading out their hands toward this temple—



“...then hear from heaven, your dwelling place. Forgive, and deal with everyone according to all they do, since you know their hearts (for you alone know the human heart), so that they will fear you and walk in obedience to you all the time they live in the land you gave our ancestors.”


When Suffering Happens to the U.S. and the Planet in General, We Should Think More Seriously About Our Own Mortality!

As I Speak, Much of Our Entertainment and Usual Lifestyle Has Been Taken Away From Society:

- ▶ **College Basketball playoff games stopped**
- ▶ **Professional Basketball games stopped**
- ▶ **Major League Baseball season postponed**
- ▶ **Restaurants closed across the city (or no in-room dining available)**
- ▶ **Numbers acceptable for assembling drastically reduced**
- ▶ **University and College learning activities stopped on campus**
- ▶ **Shopping Center and Grocery store hours have been minimized**
- ▶ **Stock Markets have fallen, Small Businesses are closing their doors**

Observations

- ▶ **However, if we look at it from a spiritual perspective, it may not be all “doom and gloom.”**
(What’s on the flip side of this?)
- ▶ **Maybe, we will start looking at our own finality and realize that we all need to begin to prepare**
(One day we will all be taken away) Hebrews 9:27
- ▶ **Maybe, the “shortness of breath,” “fever, and chest pain” of, “an invisible disease” that threatens us or our family, will be our wake-up call to begin thinking about eternity**
- ▶ **Maybe, some of us will stop relying on our bank accounts and our health for security, and realize how much we need God (one man was baptized before prostate cancer surgery; that was his wake-up call)(or a serious M.V.A.)**



*Suffering and
Agony Has
a Unique Way
of Digging Into
Our Souls!*

Suffering Also Causes Us to Reflect On Our Sins

- ▶ For example, reportedly, there are 125,000 abortions per day at an average, in the world (W.H.O.)
- ▶ The Coronavirus deaths don't, in any way, compare to that number of murders of unborn babies
- ▶ Now abortion is a choice that we can stop
- ▶ Yet people choose to end the life of that many babies, (125,000 a day) that God has formed in their mother's womb, *(but the world is panicking about the Coronavirus)*
- ▶ There is a psychological component of murdering a child that was growing in a mother's womb
- ▶ Though not as glaring, many other sins are celebrated in our society that used to be shameful

Why Would God Allow Us to Suffer or Even Die?

- ▶ The author C.S. Lewis once wrote, *“God whispers to us in our pleasures, speaks in our conscience, but shouts in our pain.”*
- ▶ Sometimes, I need God to shout at me too!
- ▶ Suffering helps me to appreciate when I have no pain (dealing with a trigger finger right now)
- ▶ Suffering shows me how weak and helpless I am (*I'm in need of God!*)
- ▶ Suffering motivates me to take my sins more seriously and call on God more often
- ▶ Suffering reminds me that death will not be like this, Revelation 14:13 (Rest comes with death)

Listen to Habakkuk 3:5-6 (N.I.V.) Speaking of God!

“Plague went before Him; pestilence followed His steps. He stood, and shook the earth; He looked, and made the nations tremble. The ancient mountains crumbled and the age—old hills collapsed—but He marches on forever.”

God Is the God of the Plagued

- ▶ **It goes ahead of Him, and follows after Him**
- ▶ **Since we live in a sin-cursed world, we might be affected by the different problems in the world**
- ▶ **We all have an “expiration date” because of sin, Romans 5:12**

If God is The God of the Plague, We Can Respond in Two Ways

- ▶ **#1 We can blame Him and hate Him for allowing us to have to deal with plagues, diseases, and death**

Or

- ▶ **#2 We can lean on Him for His mercy and the strength to live upright lives in the midst of this plague.**

2 Corinthians 12:7-9, N.I.V

“... Therefore in order to keep me from becoming conceited, I was given a thorn in my flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me. Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. But He said to me, my grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.”

Paul says he called on God more due to his suffering

Question:

When the three Hebrew boys were thrown into the fire in Daniel chapter 3, where was God?

Answer: In the fire with his children, Daniel 3:25

In Daniel 3:17-18, the three Hebrew boys told the foreign King, “*our God is able to protect us, but if He does not, we will still serve Him.”*”

Observations

- ▶ **Question: If God's children are living in an infected, and fallen world with Corona, Tuberculosis, Pneumonias, C.O.P.D. Arthritis, Cancer, Diabetes, Autoimmune Disease**

Where is God?

He is In the Plague With His Children!

He Promises to Be With Us Always, Even Through The Valley Of Death

What Should Christians Do When There Is a Plague Among Us And God Is In It!

- ▶ **#1 Do your best to live a preventive life (protect yourself and your family from disease and danger)**
- ▶ **#2 Do your best to meditate on God's precepts and arrange your life accordingly (God may be speaking to you about your own sins before Him)**
- ▶ **BUT IF GOD DECIDES TO TAKE YOU (FOR WHATEVER REASON) WHEN YOU ARE LIVING RIGHTEOUSLY, THY WILL BE DONE!**

The Plan Of Salvation

- ▶ **Hear the Gospel** **1 Corinthians 15:1-4**
- ▶ **Believe the Gospel** **Acts 15:7**
- ▶ **Repent Of Sins** **Acts 17:30**
- ▶ **Confess Christ** **Acts 8:37**
- ▶ **Be Baptized** **Acts 8:38**