




# **Christians Managing the Pandemic Romans 14:7-9**



# Observations

*As New Testament Christians respond to the Pandemic across the world, I feel the need to remind my spiritual family of some spiritual ideas of coping with this, “New Normal” that are already in scripture*



# #1 Don't Panic! In Times Like These God's Word Still Makes Sense!

*"According as His divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and Godliness, through the knowledge of Him that has called us to glory and virtue." 2 Peter 1:3*

## Draw Strength From God's Promises

**Psalms 91; Daniel 3:17-18 (Serve Him regardless of Results)**

*"For God hath not given us the spirit of fear, but of power, and of love, and a sound mind (self discipline)." 2 Timothy 1:7*

# What Do Christians Know?

- For the Christian, every crisis is a call to seek God (Illness, job loss, financial misfortune, accidental injury, children's issues )

David said, *"Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the Lord our God."*

*Psalms 20:7(not, don't ride in a chariot but what are you relying on in your heart)*

- For example, If I'm sent \$1,000 from the government, I'll keep it; but I won't rely on the government to take care of my basic needs, Philippians 4:19, 2 Thessalonians 3:10
- Science and Spirituality were both created by the same being, God, Hebrews 11:3
- Researchers, right now, are racing to find medicines that will work against the virus, particularly anti-viral agents and anti-inflammatory drugs (a vaccine may be available in the near future)
- Researchers are looking at the blood of people who have had the disease and are over it, and extracting their immunoglobins to see if the immunity they now have can be shared with other people



# **Our Leadership Has Decided to Work With the Local Government for Our Family's Well-Being (Social Distancing, Hand Washing, Sanitizers, Face Masks)**

**We are Following God's Delegated Authority**

*“Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God. Consequently, whoever rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgement on themselves. Roman 13:1-5*

**We Invite God's Authority in our Small Groups**

*“For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there I am in the midst of them.” Matthew 18:20*

# #2 Act On Credible Information That God Has Already Given You!

- We know that the Coronavirus is highly contagious (10x the virulence of Influenza)
- We know that social gatherings are a prime avenue of passing this virtually unseen enemy to others
- We know that those who already are fighting chronic illnesses are most prone to get infected with it
- Doctors, nurses, health care providers, on the front lines have been afflicted by this disease, and have been concerned about contracting it and passing it on to their families (customer service representatives)
- COVID 19 has been documentedly passed through church services whose leaders were going to congregate “anyway,” in spite of the information that had already been revealed to them




***During This Pandemic  
Christians Should  
Continue To Exercise  
Christian Virtues and  
Common Sense***

***2 Peter 1:5-10***



# **Love Thy Neighbor As Thyself Means:**


- **Setting limits - You can't go anywhere at anytime**
  - **Quarantining yourself when sick or are more susceptible to disease**
  - **Physical distancing in public places**
  - **Closing down large gatherings where transmission is likely**
  - **Work to slow viral transmission**
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## #3 Don't Put God to the Test!

- In Luke, chapter 4, Satan tempted Jesus by asking Him to jump off the top of the temple, or “display yourself”
- Jesus countered that temptation by saying, “*You shall not tempt the Lord your God,*” or “*Do not put the Lord your God to the test*”
- The point is, to force God’s hand by acting foolishly and presuming His protection, is to tempt or test God.
- Don’t mislabel that as faith. Trust doesn’t employ tricks to find out if someone is trustworthy

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- ▶ You see, it's one thing to take a bold step in obedience to God; but it is another thing to initiate a bold step for our own purposes as Satan suggested that Jesus ought to do
  - ▶ It was well said by Isaiah the prophet:  
*“ ...the leaders of this people cause them to err; And they that are led of them are destroyed.”*

*Isaiah 9:16*



# Some Leaders Have Misapplied Scripture to Their Own Detriment

- Some religious leaders and their followers in this country have died by presuming God's protection, and mislabeling their faith for Pride and Arrogance, and Ignoring Common Sense
- Historically, the Classic Misapplication of Scripture is the "Snake Handler's" use of Mark 16:17-18

*"And these signs shall follow them that believe.....*

*....They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them;....."*

*(Please Don't Drink Lysol As One Of Our Country's Leading Officials Suggested)*



# **There Also Is a Zeal That Is “Backwards in Theology.”**

*“Brethren, my heart’s desire and prayer for Israel is that they might be saved. For I bear them record that they have a zeal of God, but not according to knowledge. For they, being ignorant of God’s righteousness and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God.”*

*Romans 10:1-3*

*The Jews Needed To Submit to the Gospel  
Of Christ And We Should Too!*

*Acts 2:22ff*



# The Plan Of Salvation

**Hear the Gospel**

**1Corinthians 15:1-4**

**Believe the Gospel**

**Hebrews 11:6**

**Repent of Sins**

**Acts 17:30**

**Confess Christ**

**Acts 8:37**

**Be Baptized**

**Acts 8:38**