

I. Premise of Discussion

- A. The corona virus has moved from a multinational epidemic to a global pandemic. Just in the last few days normal commerce and lifestyle in our country and other nations have been disrupted by closures and other measures to keep spread of disease to a minimum. International work stoppages and travel bans are interrupting imports, exports, and tourism and in turn, world financial markets are becoming incredibly unstable. Speculation, confusion, and fear of the unknown is mounting in our world, nation, and community.
- B. Many questions are coming to the forefront in the church across the earth and I believe that it is the responsibility of all church leaders to communicate truth and give a clear stance theologically, spiritually, and practically to their church families and communities.

II. Theological Truths that must Shape our Stance

- A. We personally feel that we have a greater need for clarity and unity in our stance concerning things like the corona virus because of our mandate to be an area of refuge in a time of global crisis and persecution of believers as we draw nearer to the return of Jesus to the earth.
- B. Theological Building Blocks – In order for us to move forward in our understanding and unity as a people in our prophetic destiny we need to establish a few clear and ultimate truths that help us have confidence in Jesus and position us to partner with Him in any current and future events.
 - 1. Jesus is Sovereign and Omnipotent over all things - Jesus has all authority and foreknowledge over the natural and supernatural realms. There is no being or event that He does not have knowledge of or power over. Jesus increases and limits, guides and governs everything that happens in the creation including all the sinful and satanic dimensions.
 - 2. Under the Sovereignty of God there are 4 causes of suffering
 - a. God's wrath against sin
 - b. Satan's rage to kill steal and destroy
 - c. Groaning of the earth
 - d. Fallen state of man
 - 3. All of His judgments are good, right, merciful, redemptive, eternally focused, and for His glory – In His desire to bring the entire earth to the knowledge of Jesus unto fullness of love, He uses the aforementioned unique cases of suffering by either increasing them or decreasing them.

Through His perfect leadership in these things He bring us to the depths of love for Him and others.

“Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.”(Rom. 8:37)

4. Fearless Partnering and Confidence in all things – We can have absolute confidence and partnership with Him in all things when we understand these truths. In everything, in extremes of negative and positive circumstances, and everything in between, He uses it all for the furtherance of our hearts in intimacy and love with Him and to others.

III. Heart posture and Encouraged Action

A. Gospel of the Kingdom – We believe that in this season of crisis in our land we are uniquely positioned to partner with Jesus to share and display the glorious realities of the coming King and His Kingdom to the earth. We encourage everyone to be intentional with this unique season in the following ways.

1. Pursue Intimacy - We encourage you to prioritize one on one time with Jesus in a focused way concerning how this crisis is effecting your heart and the hearts of those around you. Here are some scriptures that we encourage you to meditate on in this season. (2 Chron. 7:13-14; Ps. 91; Rom. 8:18-39)
2. Partner with Opportunities - There are going to be all sorts of unique opportunities to bring the Kingdom into your relational spheres. Words of encouragement and truth, and to combat fear and panic. Ministry opportunities of prayer for the sick, selflessly serving the needs that arise. (Mk 16:15-18; Acts 1:7-8)
3. Be Gracious as you uphold Godliness – Many people are disoriented right now and emotions are high. Be sensitive to where people are at and be gentle and discerning with your speech and social media comments. There are many who don't even have the capacity for Godliness and faith that you have and many others who simply lack the maturity in Christ that you may possess. (Rom 15:1-6; 1 Thess. 5:14-18)
4. Embrace Disruptions – When faced with disruptions our default heart posture ranges from annoyance to rage but rarely with acceptance and peace. The nature and character of Christ was unendingly gracious to disruptions of His time and schedule responded with patience and meekness to those who demanded of Him. (Lk 10:30-42; Mat. 5:38-42)

What is our stance concerning the Coronavirus?

(Rom 8:18-39)

- B. We encourage you all to follow your own convictions concerning corporate gathering for Sunday services, prayer meetings, and life groups. It is our intention to continue to gather but will submit to governing authorities if asked to suspend corporate gatherings for a season. (Rom. 13:1-7)