

CORONAVIRUS AND THE BIBLE

INTRO: Thursday of this week I wondered if I should do a message on the coronavirus. It is a rather relevant topic, don't you think? Friday morning, about 4:30 a.m. I thought on it some more and decided to do that. Maybe the Lord can get our attention through this virus. When the twin towers went down some years ago, for a week or two churches were filled, and then soon things were back to the usual. Yet in such times, the Lord is sometimes able to get the attention of some. We are in great need of a spiritual awakening. Billions of people need to consider objectively and honestly what life is all about. As long as nothing out of the normal occurs, we seem to think all is well.

Today there is fear all over the world. There come moments in life when all of a sudden we realize that things could easily happen that man could not handle. But rest assured, God created everything and He knows what is going on.

Well, before I began my studies, I caught up with the news and I read David Cloud's update in the *Friday Church News*. He writes:

The global panic surrounding the coronavirus outbreak is breathtaking in its overreaction. Two nations quarantined. Major events cancelled in areas where there is no coronavirus! Airlines going bankrupt. Hotels vacated. Borders locked down. Stock markets plummeting. (Warren Buffett says it's time to invest!) One would think it is the bubonic plague, but it isn't. COVID-19, the virus at the heart of the global panic, is a coronavirus, which is a flu virus."

Now let me assure that the Bible is true, and I can assure you that the coronavirus will by no means be the end of mankind. But I have read that some question whether the Bible has anything to say about coronavirus. The facts are that, yes it does. Will it mean the end of mankind? Not at all. You can rest assured in that. We will look at some of this later.

I. WHAT IS THE CORONAVIRUS?

So just what is the coronavirus? Well, I am not a physical doctor, I am a spiritual doctor. So everything I say about the physical aspect of this virus, I have learned from reading about it and it may not be accurate. Here is what an article on the internet said of coronavirus:

"A [coronavirus](#) is a kind of common virus that causes an infection in your nose, [sinuses](#), or upper throat. Most coronaviruses aren't dangerous.

"What Is a Coronavirus?"

"Coronaviruses were first identified in the 1960s, but we don't know where they come from. They get their name from their crown-like shape. Sometimes, but not often, a coronavirus can infect both animals and humans.

"Most coronaviruses spread the same way other cold-causing viruses do: through infected people [coughing](#) and [sneezing](#), by touching an infected person's hands or face, or by touching things such as doorknobs that infected people have touched.

"Almost everyone gets a coronavirus infection at least once in their life, most likely as a young child. In the United States, coronaviruses are more common in the fall and winter, but anyone can come down with a coronavirus infection at any time" end quote.

Of the covid-19 coronavirus, the article said:

"Covid 19: In early 2020, after a December 2019 outbreak in China, the World Health Organization (WHO) identified a new type, 2019 novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV), which can be fatal. The organization named the virus severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) and named the disease it causes COVID-19. The outbreak quickly moved from China around the world. [Symptoms of COVID-19](#) include fever, cough, and shortness of breath."

<https://www.webmd.com/lung/coronavirus#1>

Though I know next to nothing about doctoring, physically; I have spent most of my life doctoring spiritually. Let me say this, there are two large areas of truth; they are physical and spiritual. Physical doctors work in the

physical realm, but by far the majority of them know less about spiritual truth than I know about the physical realm. It is not that I am smart or wise, it is because I know God, the God of the universe; the Creator of mankind. I know Him, and I have studied spiritual truth for close to 40 years.

But as a spiritual doctor, there is a virus more deadly than the coronavirus. I will call it the sinavirus. Sin is man's greatest problem. No virus, no catastrophe, nothing takes as many lives as the sinavirus. It is %100 fatal and we all have it. What we all need to realized is that we will all die, with exception of those who are caught up with Christ when He comes for the Church, and even their bodies must be changed.

Sin is man's major problem. In the Newsletter I mentioned by David Cloud he has another article with this title:

"GAY CHRISTIANITY" MOVEMENT INVADES MENNONITE CHURCHES"

He writes: "The following is excerpted from *Reformation Charlotte*, Mar. 4, 2020: "Posture Shift is a 'gay Christianity' Conference held by a ministry called Lead Them Home that seeks to change how the church views homosexuality and pushes for full inclusivity of gays, lesbians, and other sexually-confused individuals such as 'transgenders.'" "

He is talking about Mennonites. I am a Mennonite. I am not surprised to hear such things from those who call themselves Mennonites. Today major denominations are changing. It is because of the sinavirus problem. For many years Mennonites have been dabbling with sinful matters. The early Mennonites would be horrified, as I am, about the shifts taking place among those who call themselves Mennonites. It is shameful to the extreme. Where is the cry against this? Even the Church is falling under the onslaught of this sin.

This is a sin pandemic today that should have the entire world in deep concern, far deeper than the coronavirus. It is also a spiritually and physically deadly sin. Here is part of an article by LifeSiteNews.com. It says:

WASHINGTON, DC, June 6, 2005 (LifeSiteNews.com) - A new study which analyzed tens of thousands of gay obituaries and compared them with AIDS deaths data from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), has shown that the life expectancy for homosexuals is about twenty years shorter than that of the general public. The study, entitled "Gay obituaries closely track officially reported deaths from AIDS", has been published in Psychological Reports (2005;96:693-697).

Some argue that, but if that is correct, that is only the physical. In the spiritual, it is sin so horrible God made a lesson out of Sodom and Gomorrah. But where is the outcry? Our own Prime Minister is proud to walk in a gay pride parade! His wife is now infected with coronavirus. This is a concern, but sin? No concern. His wife won't likely die any younger because of it, but thousands of people, whose sinful lives he endorsed, may die years prematurely. In our country, if you want to run for Prime Minister, it would take a miracle to be elected if you do not support this sinful pandemic. Where is the outcry? This is man, concerned about coronavirus and unconcerned about such sins as destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah!

Before I leave this, let me say with no fear of contradiction that the majority of those who profess to believe the Bible are not Christians at all. That is the sin problem. Are you a professing believer? Then let me ask you, how do you live? Is sin your major concern, or is it coronavirus? Man's main problem is not coronavirus or anything else, it is sin. As one who works in the spiritual realm, that is abundantly clear to me.

II. WHERE DID CORONAVIRUS COME FROM?

Now let me ask, where did the coronavirus come from? I read that the coronavirus may have been begun by a bat or a snake in China. One article I read said this:

"Where Did the New Coronavirus Come From? It seems it started in Wuhan China. One article said it potentially came from a Bat, Snake, or Pangoli" end quote.

<https://www.healthline.com/health-news/coronavirus-can-be-deadly-but-they-also-cause-the-common-cold-what-to-know>

Well, I do not know for certain where coronavirus came from, but I know where the sinavirus began. The deadliest of all viruses, spiritually speaking, is sin! The Bible tells us where it originated. It was in the Garden of Eden. The Bible tells us how it began. It began by man disobeying God. And who or what induced man to sin, the real origin of this spiritual virus? It was a snake! Or at least it became one after this. And using that snake was Satan, the first the first one to ever have the sinavirus!

Now some may question this stuff about the Garden of Eden and sin and Adam and Eve. Some may question if the Bible is really the Word of God. It is. If some of our listeners may struggle with that, consider listening to our message on sermonaudio/mecl, called, "Is The Bible The Word Of God?"

If coronavirus is a serious matter, it weighs as nothing, in comparison to sin. Sin is 100% fatal. If you are listening to this message, be assured, you will die from the sinavirus. It kills everybody. Nobody survives it. All one has to do is look around. Everybody dies; Everybody! We know that. But death in a myriad of other ways has become so commonplace to us, we hardly give it a thought until something new we didn't know about comes along.

When we get the news that our sickness only gives us a short time to live, all of a sudden, what was important is no longer important. What was not important all of a sudden becomes very important. Ambitions fade and thoughts change, and for many, fear sets in, just like it has for many because of coronavirus. And all the while we carry this deadly spiritual virus that none will escape, and seldom give it a thought.

There is something innate in us that says this life is not all there is. When death is at our doorstep, what becomes most important is what happens after death. And so man develops religions of his own making, to calm his fears. What becomes of utmost importance when death is so near, is the question if there is such a thing as life after death.

Maybe some agnostic or atheist will listen to this message. If you are honest, you know you have a deadly malady. That is why you will die. Sin is the cause of death. It is 100% fatal. And you also know about guilt. And you have squelched those guilt feelings, maybe for so long, their sound has grown dim by now. But sin and guilt are matters of the spiritual realm. It is a realm as real as the physical. Now one can deny those feelings of guilt and one may deny them until they grow very dim or even die. But maybe if you listen carefully, you will still hear their verdict: guilty, guilty, guilty. You can come free from that guilt. There is a cure. That is my work and we will talk about it later.

Now the term coronavirus is a broad term. There are all kinds of coronaviruses. Sin is a broad term. There are all kinds of sinaviruses. If I mention a few, every listener will identify and say: If that is a sin, I am guilty. Let me list a few: lying, stealing, cheating, fornication, adultery, disobedience to law, and I could go on and on. These are all sinaviruses. And for any listener who is honest, when you ponder those, you know they are wrong. Maybe the mention of these brings guilt to you. You know why that is? By guilt God puts us into a spiritual prison. Conviction sets in. It says: guilty, guilty, guilty. This is caused by sinavirus. If we do not heed that whistle, the siren stops, we die and go to hell.

But the good news is there is a way to be set free from sin and guilt. There is a way to live clean. It is not by suppressing guilt. It is by dealing with the sinavirus.

The problem with physical viruses is curing them. I read this about viruses:

"Viral diseases are a big part of life, they can affect you greatly. So you ask, is it possible to cure a viral disease? Viral diseases can be difficult to treat. This happens because the viruses live inside the body's cells where they are protected from medicine which is carried in the bloodstream. Though some viral diseases can be cured. These viral diseases can be cured, using enzyme inhibitors. Some viral disease (s sic) cannot be cured regardless of treatment. The most famous example is the HIV virus. Regardless of using inhibitors on 4-5 stages of its reproductive cycle; the virus still kills its host with 100 percent efficiency."

<https://sites.google.com/a/fivestarschools.org/is-it-possible-to-cure-a-viral-disease/>

Well, I don't know about those things. But I know this, the sinavirus kills its host with %100 efficiency. Man cannot cure sin. You can look at how education and civilization has failed to bring peace to this world. Education and civilization have failed to feed a hungry world when there is sufficient food for all. Why? Sin! But there is good news. God found a cure for sin, and we will look at it later.

III. WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY ABOUT CORONAVIRUS?

So we ask, does the Bible have anything to say about coronavirus as relates to our present time? Oh yes it does! Here is what I know: Coronavirus is not the end of mankind. Does the Bible forewarn about the coronavirus? Yes. Turn to Matthew 24. Jesus foretold many things just before He was crucified. In Matthew chapter 24 He tells us how things will be before the great tribulation time, which is to come, begins.

In the time in which we are now, the tribulation has not yet begun. The tribulation is what Bible teachers call the seven year period of time when God will pour out His wrath

on the world. If the coronavirus is big to us, it is nothing compared to the time known as the tribulation. You can get an overview of those seven years by reading Revelation chapters 6-19.

But back to what Jesus said in Matthew 24. In my understanding, what I will read for you happens before the tribulation begins. It speaks of our time. We begin in Matthew 24:3:

3 *Now as He sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately, saying, "Tell us, when will these things be? And what will be the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?"*

4 *And Jesus answered and said to them: "Take heed that no one deceives you.*

5 *"For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and will deceive many.*

6 *"And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not troubled; for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet.*

7 *"For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places.*

8 *"All these are the beginning of sorrows.*

Here is what Jesus said would take place in the time in which we are. There would be wars and rumors of wars. Should man, by now, not have educated himself out of wars? Of course he should have. But he hasn't and these words are true. He said nation still rises against nation and kingdom against kingdom. That is also still true. These words were given 2,000 years ago. Then Jesus said there would be famines. Have you seen the grasshopper invasion in southern Iran and parts of Africa recently? This is still true. Should we not have educated ourselves out of famines yet? If you study

earthquakes alone, you will find an amazing increase. Yes, these are the beginnings of birth pangs, sorrows.

But Jesus said, there will be pestilences. What is that? HIV! Coronavirus! And you can put all other kinds of deadly maladies right here. This is what Jesus is talking about here. What is happening right now is exactly what Jesus said would happen! It is no surprise, but it is not the end of mankind. Mankind will never end.

Now what of the future? What lies before us? Well, let me tell you first what has led up to the future. I read an article titled, "The Ten Deadliest Epidemics in History." In 165-180 AD Antonine plague; 541-542 the Plague of Justinian; 1334, the Black Death, 60% of some European countries wiped out and some whole cities; 1576 Cocolitli, 13% of world's population died; 1852 23,000 in Brittain alone; Third Plague, 1856, 10 million deaths; 1918, the Great Flu, 20-40 million deaths; 1945, Typhus, 3 million in Russia alone; 1957, Asian Flu 1-2 million; 1960, HIV 25 million deaths, 65 million infections. This is not to mention the recent ebola, swine flu and H1N1 diseases.

If you study the dates of those epedemics, you will note the same thing you will find when you study earthquakes. Killer quakes have increased exponentially. The last five of the ten most fatal diseases have happened in just over the last one hundred years. This earth is preparing for something big. So we ask, what of the future?

Well, there is no more privileged person in all the world than the Bible believer who believes the Bible for what it says. Here, in brief is what lies before all of mankind regarding that which will take many lives. In the very near future, we believe, the Lord will remove Christians from the earth, in the great catching up of 1 Thessalonians 4.

That will be a great blessing to this world, but it will bring in the most catastrophic time this world has ever known. In this time, not millions, billions will die in various ways. We find many of the things that will happen in that time,

which is seven years long, in Revelation 6-19. If coronavirus is scary, without doubt, it will pale in comparison to this time. It is the time of God's wrath.

One of the things that causes the present panic is fear of the unknown. What will coronavirus do? How far will it spread? How will it affect the world, or my family or me? May our fear of the unknown drive us to the fear of God. May we learn to fear Him enough to flee to Him for salvation from sin, so that we might be freed from our sin.

Yes, Jesus foretold of such things as coronavirus in our time. Such things come as no surprise to the true Bible student. But they come as a shock to those who do not know what is coming. But let me say this, if we find the coronavirus fearful, it is nothing compared to what is coming yet.

In the tribulation time before us a man will stand up and he will make peace in the world. Isn't that wonderful? Oh, how mankind will rejoice that somebody has been able to do what no one could do up until then. And for a very short while the world will be lulled to sleep by this man.

And then he will show his true colors and the tribulation will have begun. This subject is big, but let me give you a brief look at it from one book, the book of Revelation. Here is a brief overview of this time we know as the tribulation time. It will be a time such as the world has never yet known.

Consider Revelation 6:7-8:

7 When He opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth living creature saying, "Come and see."

8 So I looked, and behold, a pale horse. And the name of him who sat on it was Death, and Hades followed with him. And power was given to them over a fourth of the earth, to kill with sword, with hunger, with death, and by the beasts of the earth.

Now for anyone listening that thinks like one man I knew years ago thought: If the tribulation happens, I will know the Bible is right and I will turn my life around then. I don't have time to explain, but if you think that, read 2 Thessalonians 2 very carefully.

If I understand 2 Thessalonians 2 right, those who hear the Gospel before the tribulation and do not believe, God will send them strong delusion, and they will not believe in the tribulation either. God will send such people strong delusion and they will believe the Antichrist's lie.

Now, during the tribulation many things happen that will make the swine flu or H1N1 or the coronavirus look very small. Consider Revelation 8. Seven angels sound their trumpets. Here is the first one in Revelation 8:6-9 says this:

6 And the seven angels which had the seven trumpets prepared themselves to sound.

7 The first angel sounded, and there followed hail and fire mingled with blood, and they were cast upon the earth: and the third part of trees was burnt up, and all green grass was burnt up.

8 And the second angel sounded, and as it were a great mountain burning with fire was cast into the sea: and the third part of the sea became blood;

9 And the third part of the creatures which were in the sea, and had life, died; and the third part of the ships were destroyed.

Well, you can read the rest of these. There is so much we can't take time for. I have no doubt that when the coronavirus is over, and it will come to pass, it will seem as little compared to what will yet happen.

Let me read chapter 11:14-19:

14 The second woe is past. Behold, the third woe is coming quickly.

- 15 *Then the seventh angel sounded: And there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!"*
- 16 *And the twenty-four elders who sat before God on their thrones fell on their faces and worshiped God,*
- 17 *saying: "We give You thanks, O Lord God Almighty, The One who is and who was and who is to come, Because You have taken Your great power and reigned.*
- 18 *The nations were angry, and Your wrath has come, And the time of the dead, that they should be judged, And that You should reward Your servants the prophets and the saints, And those who fear Your name, small and great, And should destroy those who destroy the earth."*
- 19 *Then the temple of God was opened in heaven, and the ark of His covenant was seen in His temple. And there were lightnings, noises, thunderings, an earthquake, and great hail.*

According to one passage, some of the hailstones will weigh up to a talent. It is not certain which talent weight is meant but those will be between 50 and 100 pounds. It will be hard to escape those. Here we are in a time not comparable to anything that has ever happened yet.

Let me show you how fearful it will be for those still alive when the tribulation comes to a close. I will read Revelation 6:12-17:

- 12 *I looked when He opened the sixth seal, and behold, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became like blood.*
- 13 *And the stars of heaven fell to the earth, as a fig tree drops its late figs when it is shaken by a mighty wind.*
- 14 *Then the sky receded as a scroll when it is rolled up, and every mountain and island was moved out of its place.*

15 *And the kings of the earth, the great men, the rich men, the commanders, the mighty men, every slave and every free man, hid themselves in the caves and in the rocks of the mountains,*

16 *and said to the mountains and rocks, "Fall on us and hide us from the face of Him who sits on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb!"*

17 *"For the great day of His wrath has come, and who is able to stand?"*

Now if anyone thinks I am trying to scare them into become a Christian, forget that. I am not trying to scare anybody into anything. If you respond because of fear, when the coronavirus is over, so will your fear be. What I am telling you is what is yet to come. One needs to face reality whether there is a present threat of danger or not, because we will all die. And those who enter the tribulation will face the worst this world will ever experience.

IV. WHAT IS THE CURE FOR CORONAVIRUS?

Last we ask, what is the cure for coronavirus? As far as I know there is no cure. The Israeli's think they have a cure but it may be months before it could be used because of the testing that has to happen first. Here is what I do know, there is a cure for sinavirus. Here is the biblical truth about sin. It will kill all people except those who are caught up and even they have to undergo a change in their bodies.

Then, those who do not find or accept the cure while they live, will go to hell forever. If ever anything should put the fear in us that should. But we may fear coronavirus more than that. Oh that God could get our attention as to how serious life is.

But last, there is good news. God found a cure for sinavirus. And through that cure He is redeeming a people for Himself today. They are the true Christians. And oh, if only I had

time to describe just that which I know about what lies before the true Christian. It is hard to believe that not all scramble for what the true Christian will experience forever. But we have a huge enemy who blinds our minds so that we do not understand the significance of life. But I must tell you the cure. It is real. It works. It gives peace to the true believer in life.

We have already said what it is that causes us to be lost to God. It is sinavirus. It is fatal. But here is the cure. Two thousand years ago, the second Person of the Triune God became man. He was born in a barn in Bethlehem and grew up in Nazareth and began to preach when He was 30.

Because He lived by the truth and exposed people's sins, the thing we all fight, therefore sinful man killed Him. But before He was killed, He was in the Garden of Gethsemane and there God gave Him a cup to drink. In that cup were all my sins and all yours. And Jesus Christ pled with God for three hours if there was not some other way to save us. When the vile fumes of our sins reached Him, He could not bring Himself to drink the cup. When it was clear there was no other way to save us, He drank the cup. What that means is that He took the responsibility for your sin and mine. And because He now had drunk this cup of sin, He had to die, and He died for us.

But taking the responsibility for our sins does not save us. What Christ did is He made a way for us to be saved. He did not save us to leave us in our sins. He saved us to deliver us from our sins. And the very first thing sinful man must do to make Christ's death count for him, is he has to repent from his sins. Oh how we fight true repentance. It means confessing our sins. That means if I have wronged others, I must confess those sins and seek forgiveness. Whatever God brings to our mind, we must clean up. Oh, how we hate this. But it is the only way. If I am living in adultery, I have to leave that relationship. Repentance has

to happen. But those who come by this path find true and real peace with God.

Then the one who repents has to commit his or her life to Christ to live by faith. Living by faith is trusting in the One we cannot see. We cannot see God. But we can learn to trust Him through His Word. And the new believer must live his entire life by faith. Believing in Jesus means lifetime commitment. If there is something hard for millennials, more so than some other generations, it is lifetime commitment.

The Lord's salvation is first and foremost from sin. That means if I was a liar, I should lie no more. And if I do, I must go and confess my sin to the one I lied to. If I am an adulterer, my adultery must be overcome. All of this is salvation from sin. The Christian is to gain victory over all sin, big and small.

But second, when God saves us, He saves us from the wrath to come. That is the tribulation we spoke of earlier. Let me show you this from the Bible. The Apostle Paul had brought the Gospel to the city of Thessalonika. They were heathen and practiced every kind of sin. And then Paul brought the Gospel and told them about the coming tribulation and that the Lord saves believers from the wrath of God, which is what the tribulation is.

9 *For they themselves (that is others who had heard of the conversions of the Thessalonians) declare concerning us what manner of entry we had to you (that is the Thessalonians), and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, (they were converted and got saved)*

10 *and to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, even Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.*

The Thessalonians had gotten saved and were now waiting for Jesus Christ, whom God had raised from the dead, the One who saves believers from the wrath to come. So the true

believer is saved from sin, here and now; he is saved from the wrath of God, and last, he is saved from hell fire.

When the true believer dies, he immediately goes to heaven. When the unbeliever dies, he immediately goes to hell. Now we are afraid of coronavirus, how is it that we are not afraid of hell?

CONCL: So we conclude. How serious is coronavirus? Let me quote a little more from David Cloud's article. He writes:

"COVID-19 is the flu. It kills some people, mostly elderly over 70 in poor health and small children, but it is not particularly deadly in the broad scheme of things in this dying world. The vast majority of people who contract it have flu symptoms of varying degrees and go on with their lives. The death rate is 1-2%. (The death rate on the *Diamond Princess* was 1%, all over 70 years of age, and in South Korea, where statistics are candid, the fatality rate is 0.6%.) William Schaffner, professor of preventive medicine and infectious diseases at Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, warns, "There's a large epidemic of coronavirus *anxiety*" ("Early mortality rates for coronavirus are likely misleading," *ABC News*, Mar. 9, 2020).

Then he says: "To put this business in right perspective, while a few thousand have died of COVID-19, MILLIONS have died of other things. About 3 million people die of all causes in America every year, and 56 million worldwide. That's MILLION. Leading causes of death in America are, in the following order, heart disease, cancer, accidents, lower respiratory diseases, stroke, Alzheimer's, and diabetes. Those are the first seven. Number eight is influenza (the flu) and pneumonia. About 39 thousand died of the flu last year in America. Worldwide the annual number of flu deaths is about 200,000. Where are the constantly-updated, red-blotched charts tracking those deaths? **In part, it is irresponsible media entities and omnipresent social media that have stirred up the frenzy by focusing 24/7 on fear-mongering.** There are warnings that 70% of the world will contract COVID-19; 20% of Americans could die; it

is an escaped Chinese bioweapon; Trump is lying.... Quacks and nutcases are in "hog heaven." Everyone has become an expert."

"As for death, the fact that multitudes are in panic mode from a flu virus with a small fatality rate proves that men are terribly afraid of dying." Isn't it interesting how fearful we are of this virus, but we are not afraid of dying when we don't have such a virus or some calamity. Then we live as though we will live forever. But we see all around us all the time that we may die at any moment from a hundred different things."

So Cloud writes further: "And CNN, MSNBC, Fox News, BBC, UPI, Yahoo, Bloomberg, etc., are not giving the most important warning, which is that "it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment" Hebrews 9:27), and they are not giving the most important information, which is how to be saved from eternal judgment. If you are not ready to die, you better get ready, because the mortality rate is 100%! According to the world's most authoritative history book, only two men have left this world without dying, and that was Enoch and Elijah, and those were special cases personally superintended by God. That same book tells us the fundamental reason for death, and it is not COVID-19. It is sin, and all are sinners. The good news, in that same book, is that the compassionate Creator sent His Son to be the Saviour of the world. "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord" (Romans 6:23)" end quote.

So Scripture says, "It is appointed to men once to die." Well, we know that is true. Nobody escapes it. That means I will die. Should I not search what life is all about? A number of times I taught a course called GBI. It covers how the Bible came into being. And here is how I began the first class:

"Try to think of life for a moment, as to how it would be without the Bible. No divine direction in life. No personal relationship with God, as Paul describes us before salvation, "...having no hope and without God in the world" (Eph. 2:12). That's how it was with the great Greek thinkers in the past. The following is a discussion of Socrates with some of his students

regarding immortality. 'In the course of the conversation one of them, Simmias, made the following statement: 'I think a man's duty is one of two things: either to be taught or to find out where truth is, or if he cannot, at least to take the best possible human doctrine and the hardest to disprove, and to ride on this like a raft over the waters of life and take the risk; unless he could have a more seaworthy vessel to carry him more safely and with less danger, some divine doctrine [or, as Jowett translates it, 'some word of God'] to bring him through.'" (The Bible: The Living Word of Revelation pg 13).

We have such a book. Every thinking person needs to consider what life is all about. One must think and search objectively. One must seek for truth. If one studies the Bible, one will find spiritual truth there. One can find salvation there and be assured of going to be with God when one dies. Whether one dies from coronavirus or anything else, if one is in a right relationship with God, when one dies all will be well forevermore. There is no greater word than that.

Maybe some listener is not a true believer in the Lord Jesus Christ according to what the Bible teaches. Today is the day to be saved, tomorrow we may die, coronavirus or not.