

Coronavirus Update No. 4

Shalom all.

I believe the Lord has put on my heart to send another update on the COVID-19 pandemic.



Coming out of the lockdowns and self-isolation.

While many are rejoicing with the ending of lockdowns and self-isolation, this is a good time for us to reflect on the past few weeks. Were we like Apostle Paul who continued to live in joyful liberty for His Christ while imprisoned in Rome, awaiting his trial? Paul wrote in Philippians 4:8 – *“Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things.”*

Paul in prison, under the strictest of lockdowns found true liberty, more so than most believers on the outside in the world.

Did we too experience joyful liberty during lockdown or self-isolation?

Is religious freedom necessary for true spiritual liberty?

I believe that where the Spirit of God is, there is liberty. I further believe that true liberty does not come from religious freedom in this world, it comes from intimacy with the Lord, from having true fear of the Lord.

The Welsh revival during the early 1900's illustrates this, especially as Welsh miners spent much of their waking hours deep in the confined surroundings of the dark bowels of earth.

The freedom that those of the world desire, including church goers, is very much like the state of Wales before the revival. Where there is religious freedom, there is also satanic freedom, as worship of Satan is a religion, e.g., freemasonry. I quote from Rick Joyner's book, *“The Power to Change the World: The Welsh and Azusa Street Revivals.”*

“At the time, the overall spiritual condition of Wales was as dark as it had ever been. Bars flourished. Football (soccer), cockfighting, prize fighting, gambling, and prostitution seemed to have completely captured the soul of the working class. Murder, rape, and other violent crimes were

common and increasing at a dramatic rate. It seemed that the authorities were close to losing what control they had. The dark tunnels of the Welsh coal mines seemed a fitting symbol of what was happening to the country.”

But when God revived Wales, virtually the whole nation was impacted.

Even the most powerful politicians, statesmen, intellectuals, and rival religious leaders had difficulty denying the impact of the revival on the entire principality of Wales. Debts were paid, stolen goods returned, and the taverns were forsaken and closed. A serious problem developed at the mines because the horses had been trained to respond to commands that were curses from the drivers, and since drivers did not curse anymore, the horses could not understand their commands! Political meetings were postponed because the members of Parliament were in the revival meetings. Theatrical companies quit going to Wales because no one would attend their shows. Magistrates were presented with white gloves in many towns to signify that there were no arrests. The prisons were emptied. Revival scenes swept the universities day after day for months. Over seventy thousand names of new converts were reported in the papers in just two months.

Even the miners experienced transformation while in the dangerous mines.

During the lockdown / self-isolation, many of us spent more time in prayer, especially as a family. But ...

Were we practising spiritual warfare during our prayer time?

Were we focused on what was happening around the world, or what was happening in the heavenlies? Were we struggling to understand the biblical worldview or determining what was happening in the heavenlies? Ephesians 6:12 is clear on this *“For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of*

this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.”

The bible tells me that believers are seated with Christ in heavenly places, far above all powers and principalities of darkness (Ephesians 2:6). So, from this position, if we look earthwards, the first thing we should be seeing is what is happening in the principalities of darkness, before we see further out what is happening on earth. A church cannot be triumphant unless it routinely experiences victory over the principalities of darkness.

What is the church to do about COVID-19?

The church is to disciple the nation, not vice versa. We, the church - the ecclesia, should be setting the conversation, not the media. Moving mountains is our task, not the world's. We speak to it, using the measure of faith God had given us. We bind and loosen.

This is emphasised in Ephesian 3:10-11 (NLT) which states: *“God’s purpose in all this was to use the church to display his wisdom in its rich variety to all the unseen rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was his eternal plan, which he carried out through Christ Jesus our Lord.”*

Our war is against principalities over the media and other spheres of influence, not against people. We war against the likes of the spirit of Jezebel and Leviathan.

As God created all things, visible and invisible, I believe that he created the coronavirus for good, not for evil. It was sin and curses that rendered the virus harmful. I read of an interesting experiment by a Japanese scientist, Masaru Emoto, who claimed water exposed to positive speech and thoughts would result in visually "pleasing" crystals being formed when that water was frozen and that negative intention would yield "ugly" frozen crystal formations. Thoughts do have power (Isaiah 55:9) as does blessing and curses. So believers can affect structures of viruses.

So, in my daily prayers, I have been binding those genes that rendered the virus harmful, and casting them out, and I then loosen the harmless genes from the heavenlies to render the virus harmless. I sensed I was not to be concerned by the number of positive cases as most could have been from the virus rendered harmless through prayer, and focused on those reported sick and dying.

In conclusion

Philippians 4:5-7 (NKJV)

Let your gentleness be known to all men. The Lord is at hand. Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God,

which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

With brotherly love and blessings

George

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