

WHY DO VIRUSES AND DISEASE EXIST?



Concern is sweeping our nation as the world deals with the coronavirus epidemic. This is not new. It has happened before. When I was young, a Swine Flu outbreak happened in 1976. Serious epidemics in years past include smallpox, polio, Spanish flu, and others.

Such things can cause widespread panic, as people try to avoid being infected, especially those most vulnerable to sicknesses. Have you wondered why viruses and diseases exist?

We live in a cursed world, cursed by sin. God created the world “very good” (Gen. 1:31), therefore there was no infectious diseases in the original creation. But after Adam sinned he was told, “Cursed is the ground for your sake; in toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life. Both thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you...” (Gen. 3:17, 18). A cursed, deteriorating world not only has thorns and thistles, but germs and disease. Man is now born to die, whether by old age, accident, or disease. Disease and sickness is a part of life on this earth. Modern medicine is a blessing that helps the natural abilities of the body to fight disease, but it will never eliminate all sicknesses.

People in the Bible struggled with sickness and disease. Job was afflicted with painful sores from his head to his feet compliments of Satan himself (Job 2:7-8). Hezekiah suffered from a fatal sickness (2 Kgs. 20:1) as did Lazarus (Jn. 11:1) and Dorcas (Acts 9:37). Naaman was a leper (2 Kgs. 5:1).

Jesus healed the sick, such as Peter’s mother-in-law (Mk. 1:30-31), the paralytic man (Mk. 2:1-12), and a woman who had a flow of blood (Lk. 8:43-48). Healing the sick fulfilled Isaiah’s prophecy that Jesus “took our infirmities and bore our sicknesses” (Matt. 8:16-17). His power over physical disease was a sign of His power over sin and the devil.

While our bodies are susceptible to sickness, our souls can remain strong in the Lord. We long for that eternal city where there will be no more pain or death (Rev. 21:4). No more viruses to fear, only eternal life with God. MWG

A Medley of Matters

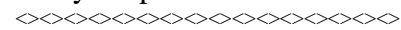
Faith Healing Canceled

I came across an interesting, yet confusing news report recently. See what you think...

“Bethel Church, the controversial megachurch in Redding, California, that also runs a school of supernatural ministry, suspended their ‘faith healing’ ministry at local hospitals where they are known to lay hands on the sick, due to the new coronavirus”
(www.christianpost.com/news/bethel-church-suspends-faith-healing-work-at-hospitals-amid-coronavirus-outbreak.html)

Do you see anything oddly strange about this? A church that claims to practice faith healing suspending their healing ministry at a hospital due to a virus that may cause some people to get sick and go to the hospital to get healed?

Some are so invested in error that they can’t see how foolish this makes them look. Maybe others will have their eyes opened. MWG



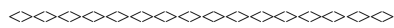
Some Good Thoughts...

Trust God when you don't understand. Submit to God even when you don't agree.

Trust is not that meaningful when we have to understand every decision and action.

Submission is not meaningful when we have to agree with everything being done.

God's ways and thoughts are not ours. He knows what He's doing. *by Doy Moyer, via Facebook*



Bloomberg and Heaven

Michael Bloomberg, the very wealthy former mayor of New York City and recent ex-candidate for president, said the following back in 2014 about his work for more gun control and his anti-smoking and healthy eating campaigns:

“I am telling you if there is a God, when I get to heaven I’m not stopping to be interviewed. I am heading straight in. I have earned my place in heaven. It’s not even close.”

First, there is a God, Mr. Bloomberg, and all should listen to Him. Second, you do not “earn” your place in heaven. Salvation cannot be earned. It is the free gift of God to all who seek Him in faith and obedience. Any sinner trying to “earn” a place in heaven will fail. Humbly seek His grace. MWG