

## CORONAVIRUS – TRIBULATIONS and FAITH

April 6, 2020

Coronavirus - an interesting yet fear driven problem. We have for several weeks heard, and some have seen the ongoing effects of this sickness. New York and other northern states have suffered greatly. We heard first of how it came about from bats to a Pangolin creature. The trauma of it has surpassed many epidemics in the past. Blame for its origins and effect has been massive. No one at this point has a cure, yet many safeguards are in place from handwashing to wearing masks, and social distancing. With some of us, political motivations are suspected. From a prophesy standpoint some have seen this as a sign of the end times.

While many of these assertions and precautions have merit, I want to insert another line of thought. The scripture holds within its pages the idea that pain, trauma and disaster are warning signs of the final day or God's rebuke. We can read through the story of Israel from Egypt to and throughout the promise land that God used calamity and destruction of their nation to draw them back to him. In Hebrews, warnings are given to keep men from falling away. II Timothy, Chapter 3 tells of the deterioration of morality in the last days. Man has always fallen, and God does everything in his power to bring him back.

However, the thoughts I want to suggest are two questions:

1) What is God up to?                      and                      2) What is Satan up to?

With this thought we can discern many answers. God's supreme purpose is to do as stated in Romans 8:28 – "WE KNOW THAT IN ALL THINGS GOD works for the good of those who love him and are called to his purpose." God has a supreme plan even in suffering. But, there's always the "but" Satan has a plan too. He is the father of lies and seeks to destroy any thing God has done. So, we are in a battle.

Eph. 6:10:...A spiritual warfare. We need to be equipped and ready. And while the enemy knows his day is coming and will do as much as possible to warp God's plan, God is the victor through his Son. So even in trauma, disability, conflict and Coronavirus, GOD is the VICTOR. Trust in him and endure the race.

Hebrews 10:36: "You need to persevere so that when you have done the will of God, you may receive what has been promised." Vs. 38: "For in a little while he who is coming will come and not delay."

I hope this finds help for you in these troubled times.

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DOING FOR THE LEAST MINISTRIES