



MARS HILL

VIEW FROM THE HILL

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A Disease Far Worse than COVID-19

by Fred Carpenter

The world is gripped by the spread of COVID-19.

- Normal daily life has been put on pause
- The sociological consequences have thrown the global economy into a tail spin
- Major news channels work feverishly to provide us with the latest updates 24/7
- Government, private and academic entities around the world are racing to find a cure, at a cost of billions of dollars.

It is estimated that over 50% of the world's population may ultimately become infected with COVID-19. The director of the White House response team has said that, even if we follow the recommended protocol perfectly, as many as 200 thousand Americans could die from this disease. And yet, there is another disease far worse than COVID-19. It has infected all of humankind, and it ends in certain death for all. It is the spiritual disease of sin.

"... just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men . . ."

- Romans 5:12, ESV

The story of the Bible is the story of a personal God who entered a world infected with this disease. He lived among sick people. He wore no protective mask. He did not practice social distancing. He breathed our air, ate our food, touched our bodies and felt our pain. And then, to secure for us the cure to this deadly disease, He gave His life in our place.

"I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die (physically), yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die . . ."

- John 11:25-26, ESV

In light of this truth, Christ-followers would do well to ask 2 questions . . .

Question #1 - Are we racing to get the cure for sin, the Gospel, to a dying world with as much fervor as government leaders and health organizations are racing to find a cure for COVID-19?

Question #2 - If not, why not? And what must we do to change that?

A prayer in the midst of this pandemic - Father, people everywhere are being confronted with their mortality, a reality they may often be able to ignore. Many who do not know where they are going when they die are gripped with fear. This is a great opportunity for Christians to step up, and with ***"gentleness and respect"***, give ***"... a reason for the hope that is in us ..."*** (1 Peter 3:15 ESV.) May we respond to their pain with compassion, and to their fear with hope.

While any loss of life is tragic, our brief history with COVID-19 indicates that the majority (as many as 95% or more) of those infected will survive, most (80%) without the requirement of hospitalization. Life on earth will go on.

A prayer for when the pandemic has passed -

Father, let us not be lulled back into life as usual. May it remain on our hearts and in the forefront of our minds that all humanity has been infected with a disease far worse than COVID-19, and may we do all we can to lead as many as possible to the cure!

- If you are reading this, and you are not confident about where you will be when you pass from this world, please visit the [Knowing God](#) section of our HOPE website.

For over 40 years, Mars Hill media has been used around the world to introduce hundreds of thousands of people to Jesus Christ. Our current mission emphasis, The HOPE, is an 80-minute motion picture presentation of God's redemptive story as revealed in 36 Biblical events from creation through the promised return of Christ - www.thehopeproject.com.