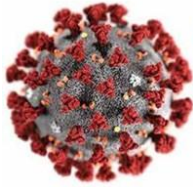


God is in Control!



Planting for a Kingdom Harvest

1



Novel Coronavirus, 2019-nCoV
is now officially called
COVID-19
CO - Corona
VI - Virus
D - Disease
World Health Organization

A “Global Pause” An Unprecedented Time

- Affecting virtually 100% of the globe; *God has allowed it!*
- God is in control, working even sinful choices out for good
- Our focus; how God will use this to advance His Kingdom!
 - God is dealing with our *attitude* toward government at this time
 - Pandemics have often preceded revival and awakenings!
- God plows the soil of our hearts to *plant* during difficult times
 - He breaks up the clods (hard soil) to better receive the seed...
 - He turns over the soil – head start on weeds; nutrients; oxygen

2

The Danger and Exposure of Evil

- People questioning why we are extending “stay at home”
 - Doctors being pressured to inflate covid-19 deaths...
 - Who determines what is essential services (worldview of priorities)
 - Are we heading for a forced vaccine with a tracking chip?
- Dangers of Centralism – *government “equality” of everything*
 - Using the coronavirus for an excuse to centralize power
 - There is a new (old) push now for a one world government
- Government money will cause inflation and dependency
 - Panic and fear begin to replace rational measures of preparation
 - Employees in some cases would rather stay home and not work

3

The Larger Kingdom Goals God has in Mind

- A global wake-up call for the Church – *will she arise?*
 - We cannot serve God’s purposes without deep repentance
 - We will be given a crash course on applying the Bible to everything
- As God forces power to the bottom – *will we serve?*
 - Though the enemy wants to centralize, God is in control!
 - Top-down control will fail and influence will be great at the bottom!
- *A lesson from God’s Judgment on Judah – 725 B.C.*
 - Prophets declared truth in decline of Israel (pointing out priorities)
 - *Isaiah declared God’s priorities (hope) during a time of Judgment*

4

Planting for a Kingdom Harvest – Is. 28:25

- Matthew 13 – a kingdom parable of the soil of our heart
 - Hard soil (unplowed) does not receive seed – *stolen by the enemy*
 - Shallow soil does not allow deep roots – *does not endure trials well*
 - Soil filled with weeds – *cares of the world choke off its growth*
- Isaiah gives a parable - God plants to *harvest* during Judgment
 - “... *When he has leveled its surface, does he not sow the black cummin and scatter the cummin, plant the wheat in rows, the barley in the appointed place, and the spelt in its place?*”
 - Cummin, wheat, barley and spelt – grains/spices in the Middle East
 - *God’s purpose in strategic sowing is to reap a harvest for His kingdom*

5

God plants strategically with a harvest in view

“Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap.” – Galatians 6:7



- Hosea 10:12 - *Sow with a view to righteousness, reap in accordance with kindness, break up your fallow ground, for it is time to seek the Lord, until He comes to rain righteousness on you.*

6



The Farmer Plows

- *The Farmer plows through fields of green, and the blade of the plow is sharp and keen (repeat)*
 - *But the seed must be sown to bring forth grain, and nothing is born without suffering and pain.*
 - *And God never sows in the heart of man without intention, purpose and plan.*

7



The Farmer Plows

- *So when you feel the plows sharp blade, let not your heart be sorely afraid (repeat)*
 - *For like the farmer od chooses a field, from which He expects an excellent yield.*
 - *Rejoice though your heart is broken in two, God seeks to bring forth a rich harvest in you.*

8



God *strategically plants* in order to reap a harvest for His kingdom

- “whatever a man sows... sows to the flesh / Spirit... let us not grow weary... for in due season we shall reap” – Gal. 6:7-9
- Farmers / gardeners strategically sow – harvest is a result of...
 - ... what you sow – the kind of seed must match the fruit we want
 - ... where you sow – the kind of soil must match the fruit we want
 - ... how you sow – sparingly or liberally? (2nd Cor. 9:6)

9

What you sow... that shall you reap - decision

- Seeds are like the Word of God – ideas, thoughts (Mt. 13)
 - Two key weeds are doubt (no confidence) and pride (synthetic)
 - *Carnal thoughts* (enhanced by enemy) – *pity, envy, jealousy, etc.*
- Seeds are also Worldviews – thought-patterns (2nd Cor. 10:5)
 - A worldview is how we *apply* root premises – seed to harvest
 - What is the role of the individual, home, church and state?
- Believers are seeds planted for a *kingdom* harvest (Mt. 13:24ff)
 - Believers are placed in the world (field) as God sees fit
 - The enemy plants people in the same field to oppose what God does
 - We grow together until the harvest which exposes wheat vs. tares

10

Where you sow... you shall reap - discretion

- Sowing to the flesh reaps corruption (Galatians 6:8a)
 - Soil of chaos, accusations, bitter envy, self-seeking (James 1:14-16)
 - Soils of earthly (carnal), sensual (how I feel), demonic (enhanced)
- Sowing to the Spirit reaps eternal life (Galatians 6:8b)
 - Soil of pure motives, peace, gentleness, willing to yield (Ja. 1:17-18)
 - Fruit of righteousness is sown in a peaceful atmosphere...
- Cultivating a discipline of discerning the soil (Gal. 6:1-5)
 - Is my heart right? *You who are spiritual; in the right spirit*
 - Is this the right time/place to say or do this? (a view to be received)
 - We bear one another's burdens so we each can bear their own

11

How you sow... you shall reap - diligence

- He who sows sparingly shall reap sparingly (2nd Cor. 9:6a)
 - Don't preclude who you think is worthy for a harvest (isolate)
 - However, *be discerning of the soil*, not casting pearls before swine
- He who sows liberally shall reap liberally (2nd Cor. 9:6b)
 - Be kind and be *willing* to give money/gospel (with forgiveness)
 - However, *purpose in your heart before God how you will give...*
- A cheerful planter of seeds reproduces the same (2nd Cor. 9:7-8)
 - Don't give or plant seed out of necessity or a grudge (duty only)
 - God has given to us, we are thankful, therefore we give cheerfully
 - God gives grace that is sufficient for all and in abundance!

12



- You have to work to dig them out;
- *It takes a sensitive heart to be convicted by sin*

- Just when you think you have them all; you missed one!
- *Sin avoids confession; hiding through deception*



15



- They reproduce quickly;
 - *So apologize right away to others*
- There will be dandelions
 - So accept God's forgiveness and love
- You can lime your lawn;
 - *You can be cleansed from sin*

16



Daily Confession

- *If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. – 1st John 1:8-9*
 - Yield to the Spirit's conviction – spiritual eyes
 - Confess your sin – name it specifically
 - Apologize to others if necessary
 - Accept His forgiveness and love
 - Believe that you are cleansed; move on