

Fresh Fire Ministries
The Expository Teaching Ministry of Jay Duane Driver

“COVID-19”

“And ye shall hear of wars and rumors of wars; see that ye not be troubled: for all these things must come to pass but the end is not yet. For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes in divers places.” Matthew 24:6-7 (KJV)

Jesus gives us prophetic declaration and at the same time, contextual clarification concerning the answer to an inquiry posed by his disciples of that day. Their concern was with the signs of His coming again, and what things would manifest prior to the end of the world. Just as we are witnessing now, real time, there was a plethora of speculation, opinions, and theories relative to the end of time as we know it and how we would know that that time was upon us as it relates to biblical scripture. Jesus then responds by giving a litany of events and circumstances that would be indicators of the end of age but with the caveat, “the end is not yet.” It was Jesus’ desire to ensure that the disciples would not be duped into believing every heresy and wind of false doctrine that would blow across the landscape of that era. And Jesus answered and said unto them, **“Take heed that no man deceive you.” Matthew 24:4 (KJV)**

One of the circumstances that would be present during the times “prior” to the end of this age would be pestilences. The word “pestilences” in its original translation gives us the words “plagues” or “diseases.” These plagues and diseases are not to be dismissed or taken for granted, but along with numerous other instances, would be precursors to the rapture of the church and ultimately the Tribulation Period. The current Coronavirus COVID-19 is one of approximately 15 infectious diseases being monitored by the World Health Organization (WHO) that have the potential to become world wide pandemics. The Coronavirus COVID-19 has been recently designated as such. And the world as we have come to know it will never be quite the same again.

The final redemptive act of Christ on behalf of the church is at hand. Our "salvation" is that part of the redemption process when we will finally be saved from the presence of sin. That day is drawing nearer even at this precise moment, even since we first believed in Christ. So, our response as believers to the Coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic must be measured and without conflict or strife. Our faith must be in cooperation with biblical principles. We cannot get caught up in the hype and agitation of our politics, social media platforms, or prophetic prognosticators who fuel every innuendo and conspiracy theory. Nor should we let our faith evolve into foolishness where we don't take the proper precautionary measures and use wisdom concerning what is recommended by our health care professionals as if it is a violation of our faith. **"The foolishness of man perverteth his way: and his heart fretted against the Lord." Proverbs 19:3 (KJV)**

We must follow the directives of the governing authorities regarding this current health crisis. Resist the words of those who would deem this matter a hoax, fake news, or some other invention from the imagination of those who live to oppose our country or our faith. Refuse to embrace the plethora of heresies and then become a part of the delivery system that allows these untruths to be spread exponentially around the world. It is during times like these that we must know without a doubt what we believe and who we believe in. Remember the spotlight is fixed directly upon the church and many wait to see how we will respond. Will we be the salt of the earth and the light of the world? Will we be that city that is set upon a hill that cannot be hidden? It won't be long before Christ's return, but not quite yet. The troubles of this present world are simply a gateway to the coming of our Lord. Until then stay encouraged. Keep the faith. And keep pressing on until Jesus comes.