

The Cure for **CORONAVIRUS** *Anxiety*

Americans are facing a national crisis. The spread of the coronavirus COVID-19 has resulted in the disruption of our normal lives unlike anything we have ever experienced. State of emergency declarations have been issued at both federal and state levels.



Suddenly we are faced with curfews, food shortages, restricted travel, restricted gatherings, and for many, the loss of jobs and income. Our medical professionals are overtaxed, our care givers overworked and all of us carry the weight of concern for our children, our grandchildren, and our aged parents. You can see the strain on people's faces as they ponder an uncertain future.

Why Are Christians Reacting Differently?

Yet, while so many people are being overwhelmed, there are a group of Americans who still possess a positive outlook and an undaunted spirit despite this national crisis. What is it they know that the average person does not? What do they understand that gives them hope and peace when so many are nearing despair?

Christians Were Forewarned: Last-day calamities are no surprise to a born-again Christian. Jesus predicted that shortly before His second coming, *"And there shall be... upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity... men's hearts failing them for fear..."* (Matthew 21:25-26) The Bible also warns, *"This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come."* (2 Timothy 3:1)

Christians Are Not Alone: If you are facing these dark days by yourself, you are doing something God never intended you to do. When a person receives Jesus Christ

as their Savior, God adopts them into His family. You literally become a child of God.

"But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name." (John 1:12) "Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God...." (1 John 3:1) It is wonderful to know that God is your Father, and that He always takes good care of His children.

In addition to becoming a child of God, you also gain an entire family of brothers and sisters in Christ. To be saved, baptized and to join a local Bible-preaching church gains you a wonderful support group of people who love and care about one another.

Christians Understand What God is Trying to Do: All through the Bible, when a nation strayed away from God and when its people would no longer listen to His message, God often sent some national calamity to get their attention. What is the message that God is trying to get America to hear? Is it bad news? Is it a declaration of doom or a pronouncement of irreversible peril? Neither! Here it is:

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." (John 3:16)

Christians Are Prepared to Die: Don't get me wrong - we don't have a death wish! But if worse comes to worse, a Christian has the promise of eternal life. You can't scare us with Heaven!

Isn't It Time YOU Became a Christian?

When will this crisis end? How will it end? Will our world ever be the same again? How many will be thrust into eternity? No one knows the answer to these questions. But you can know the answer to two questions: If you were to die today, would you go to Heaven? How can a person know for sure they are ready to die and stand before God?

Allow God's Spirit to Convict You of Your Sin - Every member of the human race has one thing in common - we have all sinned. *"For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God."* (Romans 3:23) Our sin stands between us and God, and our sin stands between us and eternal life.

As Jesus prepared to leave this planet, He promised to send the Holy Spirit to earth. The Spirit would come for this specific reason: *"And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment."* (John 16:8) If we allow the Holy Spirit to do His work in our hearts, He will reprove us of our sin, compare our sinfulness to God's righteousness, and then warn us of judgment.

Understand That We Deserve Hell, Not Heaven – *"For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."* (Romans 6:23) *"And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire."* (Revelation 20:14-15)

Realize Jesus Loves You So Much He Died for Your Sins – *"But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."* (Romans 5:8) YES! Jesus wants you to come to Heaven so badly that He died on the cross for your sins. He has paid your sin debt.

Repent and Receive Jesus Today as Your Savior – Turn from your sins to Christ. Believe today that Jesus loves you, that He died for you and rose again. Accept the free gift of eternal life that He has provided for you. *"That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved... For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."* (Romans 10:9-13)

Would you like to be saved right now? Pray this prayer with heart sincerity to God: *Dear God, I know I am a sinner and I am sorry for my sin. I want to be saved right now. I believe that Jesus died for my sins, was buried and rose again the third day. Please forgive me and make me one of your children. Thank you, God, for saving me!*

If you trusted Christ, let me know so I can rejoice with you. Welcome to the family! -Pastor Jerry Ross

BLESSED HOPE

BAPTIST CHURCH

(812) 665-3282

WWW.BLESSEDHOPEBAPTISTCHURCH.NET