

# COVID-19

***It's not what you think it is!***

**Quarantine** – to prevent the spread of the disease

A **lockdown** is a requirement for people to stay where they are to eliminate the spread of the virus.

**Quarantine** and **lockdown** are both described by the word **isolation**.

## **THE IRONY OF THE TIME WE LIVE IN...**

The things that are happening now in this world is full of contradictions.

They are ironic in such a way that things that are happening are contrary to what is expected.

Ex. People clean and sanitise their hands but are banned from shaking someone's hands.

God uses ***isolation*** (and ***solitude***) to get our attention so He can accomplish His plan and purpose here on earth.

## **POSITIVE IMPACT OF PANDEMIC**

Ex. Traffic is almost gone.

Fuel/Petrol has become affordable.

Kids are spending quality time with their parents.

Parents are home, taking care of their children.

Fast food is replaced by home cooked meals.

We finally listen to authorities and become law abiding citizens once again.

It seems like this pandemic – COVID-19 – is **God's reset button for us all.**

God has a ways and means committee to rearrange the affairs of humanity to set our priorities right.

**1 Cor. 15:19** - <sup>19</sup> *If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men the most pitiable.*

**Mark 36-37** - <sup>36</sup> *For what does it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul?*

<sup>37</sup> *Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?*

We can only have a glimpse of what God will do during and after this pandemic by looking into the BIBLE (**B**asic **I**nstructions **B**efore **L**eaving **E**arth).

Ex. **Jonah** was in total lockdown for 3 days and 3 nights in the belly of the whale.

While in lockdown, God changed his heart and with boldness Jonah preached at Nineveh and wrought one of history's greatest revival.

Some of the reasons why isolation is part of God's plan:

- **Isolation is a time of preparation**

For Moses, David, Joseph and others, they used their time of isolation in the wilderness and in prison cells to prepare themselves for what

God was about to do. For them, waiting time was not wasted time but a preparation time.

- **Isolation is a time of insulation**

The Bible encourages us on how to protect ourselves.

a. Follow godly counsel – *Psalm 1:1-6*

b. Not to conform to the patterns of the world –  
*Romans 12:2*

c. Do not partner with those inconsistent with your faith – *2 Corinthians 6:14*

- **Isolation is a time of decision**

The prodigal son was in isolation, far away from his family and true friends. During this time, he realised what matters most in life.

- **Isolation is a time to remember God's love and His mighty deeds in the past**

*“And you shall remember the LORD your God, for it is He who gives you power to get wealth, that He may establish His covenant which He swore to your fathers, as it is this day. Deut. 8:18*

## **Jesus is our great example.**

Jesus was placed in isolation and solitude.

The Holy Spirit took Him in the wilderness for 40 days and 40 nights. His time of solitude was a time of preparation, a time insulation, a time of decision, a time to remind Himself of God's love and His

abiding Presence that will project Him to fulfil the greatest call – to be the Saviour and ruler of the whole earth.

**Isaiah 9: 6-7** – <sup>6</sup> *For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and **the government shall be upon his shoulder**: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.*

<sup>7</sup> *Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. **The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.***

Only those under His government will experience true peace.

Peace is not the absence of fear and chaos but the **PRESENCE OF JESUS.**

It is having peace in the midst of fear, chaos, lockdown, quarantine and pandemic.

## **GOD'S ANTIDOTE TO THE DEADLIEST VIRUS**

**Numbers 21:7** - *“And the Lord said to Moses, “Make a fiery serpent and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten, when he sees it, shall live.” So Moses made a bronze serpent and set it on a pole. And if a serpent bit anyone, he would look at the bronze serpent and live.”*

God gave them an antidote. Everyone who is bitten,

when he looks on that pole, shall live.

**As followers of Christ what does it mean for us today?**

More than 2,000 years ago, Jesus came and gave us the answer, the antidote to the virus called SIN.

**John 3:13-14** - Jesus said *“No one has ascended into heaven except he who descended from heaven. The Son of Man. And as Moses lifted up the bronze snake in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in he may have eternal life.”*

When SIN came, death was pronounced upon us all.

God gave us His Son, as an antidote to humanity's biggest problem.

He died our death, took our sin upon Himself so that we could now be forgiven and live eternally with God our Father.

**C.O.V.I.D - Christ Over Virus & Infectious Diseases**

19 is the 19<sup>th</sup> verse of Philippians chapter 4 - *My God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.*

**The finished work of Jesus on the cross is the antidote for the sin of humanity.**

***God meets all our needs in the person of Jesus Christ.***