

PRAY IT AWAY OR...
PRAY IT WILL HUMBLE A NATION

Scripture clearly defines to the follower of Jesus, in **1 John 5:14-15**, that our confidence in prayer, is praying according to God's will.

(1 John 5:14-15) *Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him.*

Concerning this truth, we have a responsibility to ascertain God's will, before we begin to petition. His will can be found in His word, this is an indisputable truth.

What do we do, when we are not clear on His will, even from His word? According to **James 1:5-8** we are to ask for wisdom, and He will give us wisdom; mind you this wisdom is not apart from His word. Once we have this word of God wisdom, we pray accordingly, with no doubt or doublemindedness.

Why this theology of prayer? Because in the last few days, many different denominations and movements have begun to ask that its participants pray for the eradication of the COVID-19 Corona virus.

If you are asking, why would anyone have a problem with that, I understand. The answer is in what is necessary to pray with confidence. We need His will and before we run to God asking for His movement to eradicate this disease, we need to first ask Him some serious questions?

Has He ever eradicated any disease, in short order, for His people in the O.T. period? Well the answer to that is yes, but His eradication or mass healing was always tied to Israel's repentance and obedience after He commanded it; in response to something He allowed or ordained to humble them. This is undisputed.

DISEASE AS A DIVINE CORRECTIVE MEASURE?

Another question, which we have already answered in relation to Israel: Did YHWH every use disease, war, captivity or natural disaster (through ordination or allowance), to humble nations that were arrogant, proud, cruel or perverse (abominable)? The answer is a resounding yes.

For this purpose it is important to consider in prayer, if COVID-19 is a judgment against the world and America—a time where God is humbling people who have eradicated Him from their lives—a virus to make humanity remember the God and Creator, of whom they wish to forget and are not thankful for?

Let us consider only America for the purpose of this discussion. Could this virus be for the purpose of humbling the United States and awakening the church which dwells in this nation?

In all honesty, for as long as I can remember, most conservatives have felt America is sort of a second chosen nation, after Israel. I personally have never bought into that narrative whole heartedly, as it can be debunked relatively easy. But let's dive a bit deeper.

Has America, because of its's constitutional collective and individual freedoms, had more opportunity to know the one true God? No doubt! Yet most would agree with me, that when great opportunity is afforded, there is great accountability. Look at Israel's accountability, of whom God defined as worse than Sodom and Gomorrah **Ezekiel 16:48-50...**

It is interesting that God calls Israel a sister of Sodom and Gomorrah; remembering this was His nation—they are His people—they were about to be completely decimated. Preachers will often use OT passages of scripture in drawing parallels between Israel and America, so let's take a gander.

Does America have pride? Absolutely. Consider politician after politician claiming American exceptionalism, that the U. S. is the greatest ever. Yet pride goes further into being a nation, that does not need God, because it can generate what it needs within itself (or so it thinks).

Does America have fullness of food? Until a few days ago, we would all say yes. The United States is the most obese nation on earth. Again, this is undisputed. Stores are filled with essentials and tons and tons of nonessential food items for every whim, wish and taste preference.

Has America enjoyed an abundance of idleness? Without a doubt. Think for a moment on the hours wasted recreating in sports, athletic and leisure pursuits, entertainment; as well as the money spent on them. America works to recreate, to pursue idle not intentional and necessary desires.

Has America done well to take care of the poor among us? In this country for generations, the poor are kept poor in a welfare system, that does not keep them well. Consider the most poor and vulnerable, babies, then consider our cultural of abortion on demand. Christians ought not to say that it is not their fault, because that abomination is on all of us before a Holy God. Maybe governors should consider shutting down the economy over those poor and precious souls. By the way Israel, God's people did the same, just like Sodom. Listen to YHWH sling judgment down on Israel only a few verse earlier... **(Ezekiel 16:35-39)**

Has America been haughty and committed abomination? Just last month, during the Super Bowl, a commercial debuted for a medication that will supposedly allow homosexuals with HIV to have unprotected sex, without fear of transmitting the disease. What is this but the filth of ABOMINATION. What of the filth of pornography America has pumped into the world—or false religion and apostate Christianity given the world from these United States—or the liberal LGBT and transhuman agenda through entertainment, which lulls billions into a comalike state from Hollywood—or the unabashed pursuit of greed and a desire for more than we need as a habit of life, which influences all nations.

If one prayerfully and honestly assess the situation, then read **Revelation 18:2-3** (as well as the rest of the chapter), one would see that every characteristic of Babylon exists among us in the United States (I am not saying the U.S. is Babylon, but its characteristics are present).

I realize that what I am writing will anger some, if that is you, please correct me by the word of God, if you can and I will repent. Until then, it is very possible that COVID-19 was either ordained or allowed by God, to humble a nation and call it to repentance, to stave off judgment for a time.

DISEASE TO AWAKEN THE CHURCH?

Interestingly, the church must be careful in considering this truth, because the NT has precedent for a free society, to so influence the church that the church no longer relies on Christ. Consider Laodicea.

(Revelation 3:14-21)

When considering this Church, we must begin with the city name Laodicea, which is a derivative in the Greek of for whom the city was named... Laodice, who was the first wife of the founder of the city. Her name means “***rights of the people***” more specifically “***rights of the common man***”.

Laodicea was a free society, a democracy if you will. With their democracy they had a free economy (capitalism), and with that economy they had great wealth.

It boasted of a rich clothing and textile trade, because of black wool among the sheep native to that region—they also had a cure for ophthalmia, in an eye salve created in the city. From this they had, self-sufficiency and freedom to be idle whenever it struck them.

How did this effect the church? You’ll notice Jesus was not calling the city to repentance, but the church. They were wealthy because of the prosperity of the city. This prosperity caused the church to lose its fire for Christ and His work so much so, that Jesus declared, that those who were in Him, He would expel, without repentance and pursuit of true faith, righteous works and letting Him back into their midst.

The Church mirrored the city in which they dwelled, because they depended more on the city's culture, commerce and government than the Lord Jesus Christ. Because all was good with the city, they had no need for heavenly treasure, in their viewpoint.

This is exactly where the church in America is at. Is it possible COVID-19, with all the fear a lack of food, water, protection and essentials, is to awaken the church to its need to repent and trust God alone? (**Philippians 4:19**)? YES, it is more than possible.

Please consider why we want to pray away this virus. Is it fear of contracting it? Sure, but for those who know that absent from the body is present with the Lord, why is there a fear of contracting it? Perhaps we are afraid of death.

Is there a lack of commitment to Christ's great commission and call to assemble regardless of risk? Certainly, many do online church without a pandemic situation, thinking it is justified in the word of God. It is not, especially if it is continual without other believers' present.

In light of these possibilities, is it potential that YHWH using COVID-19 not only to humble the United States, but also awaken the church? Absolutely. Let me ask within the context of asking for the LORD to eradicate this disease.

Why has the church in America not convened a fast, called a solemn assembly for the eradication of persecution against world-wide? All over the world His children through Jesus shed blood are martyred, in the multiple thousands every year.

In the first place, these are not Americans and their plight does not affect our bottom line, so every now and again we'll throw up token prayer, but we aren't generally alarmed over their deaths for the most part. In fact, we don't really care that our government has alliance with some of the most wicked regimes and governments, against our brethren.

It seems to me; the word of God declares their plight of highest importance to any Christian in any nation **Hebrews 13:1-3**; important enough for all Christians to pray & advocate for.

Why has the church in America not convened a fast or perpetual grieving prayer over 640,000 children slaughtered (abortion) on the alters of Baal under the guise of feminism every single year in America. Consider that on average 1766 children are barbarically murdered in the womb **daily** in this nation.

Since the outbreak of COVID-19 hitting America, there are 10,442 cases of the virus, with **150 deaths**; the first case was on January 20, 2020. By way of comparison, in those same **59 days**, calculating our average of **1766 abortions**, there have been **104,194 murdered unborn children**.

Where is our Christian out cry over those numbers? Where is our fear of God, who hears the cries of their blood and feels the pain of their last moments? Where is our denominational tears, grief and constant pressure of the government to see that scourge eradicated?

Truth be told, we ought to thank God for how this virus has ground a nation to a halt. With none of our favorite idle past times and diversions and selfish political arguments, we Christians ought to be rejoicing for the silence to clearly hear God—the opportunity to live with hope and fearlessness before a hopeless and freaked out nation—an opportunity to trust Him as the Healer and protector of those who walk in His will.

COVID-19 is another alarm to His church, where Jesus is knocking loud. Will we let Him in to clean His temple or hit the snooze alarm again.

Ephesians 5:8-20

Romans 13:11-14