

## 19 Covid 19 Comments

HBC 5/13/20

Selected Scriptures

Now that we are a couple months into an unprecedented time in human history, I want to make some observations. Lord willing, putting some things into biblical perspective will help you be wise and evangelistic.

1. This is **not** the beginning of the events of the book of Revelation.
2. This shows **how quickly** in our modern world that **chaos can erupt**.
3. This shows how quickly a **police state** could develop.
4. This is proving to be a useful practice exercise for how the nations of the world might be persuaded to buy in to a **one-world government** authority.
5. **This is a first** in international events.
6. This continues to fit the scenario of **setting the table** for the events of the Tribulation.
7. **About those masks . . .**

8. Our ***Christian duty is to pray*** for those in positions of authority over us. 1 Timothy 2:1-8 isn't ambiguous.
9. ***Social media are terrible sources of information.***
10. ***Wanting to re-start the economy does not make a person evil.***
11. ***Wanting to opt for an abundance of caution is not a bad thing.***
12. ***News flash***
13. ***Fear and anxiety are non-Christian responses.***
14. ***Faith healers have all been exposed as frauds.***
15. This shows how susceptible people are to ***conspiracy theories.***
16. ***We are not theological wimps who have caved in.***

17. ***Be about the business of preaching Christ***, and rigorously avoid promoting political agendas.
  
18. This has brought out ***some of the best*** and ***some of the worst*** in people.
  
19. This prompted ***the Pope*** to speak in a way that confirmed his anti-Christian beliefs.

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A little about conspiracy theories:

The *Oxford English Dictionary* defines conspiracy theory as "*the theory that an event or phenomenon occurs as a result of a conspiracy between interested parties; spec. a belief that some covert but influential agency (typically political in motivation and oppressive in intent) is responsible for an unexplained event*".

It cites a 1909 article in *The American Historical Review* as the earliest usage example, although it also appears in journals as early as April 1870. The word "conspiracy" derives from the Latin con- ("with, together") and spirare ("to breathe").

There are actually competing theories about when the term "conspiracy theory" was coined!

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>God is in control!</b> <b>Satan is a defeated rebel king,</b> <b>still fighting with all his might</b> <b>to attack God, His word, and His people.</b></p>
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Stick to what is important, and let the world chew itself to pieces over the ultimately irrelevant details.

Ephesians 6:10–12: *Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might. Put on the full armor of God, so that you will be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places.*

1 Corinthians 15:58: *Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your toil is not in vain in the Lord.*

Back in 1527, a deadly plague hit Martin Luther's town of Wittenberg and he wrote a letter to a friend (Volume 43, Pg. 132: Whether One Should Flee From A Deadly Plague – To Rev. Dr. John Hess), explaining how churches should deal with such complicated circumstances.

“I shall ask God mercifully to protect us. Then I shall fumigate, help purify the air, administer medicine and take it. I shall avoid places and persons where my presence is not needed in order not to become contaminated and thus perchance inflict and pollute others and so cause their death as a result of my negligence. If God should wish to take me, he will surely find me and I have done what he has expected of me and so I am not responsible for either my own death or the death of others. If my neighbor needs me however I shall not avoid place or person but will go freely as stated above. See this is such a God-fearing faith because it is neither brash nor foolhardy and does not tempt God.”