

Outline – May 31, 2020

Psalm 20:1-2

What Have We Learned

Hebrews 12:3-7

What Is Happening

What Has Happened During This Pandemic

I. The answer to these questions

- A. Some believe this has been predicted
- B. Some believe no one saw this coming
- C. Some believe this is a natural pattern
- D. Some believe this was created in a lab
- E. Some believe this is God's judgment
- F. Some believe this is (at least) a wake up call to the world

II. The areas we can agree

- A. We are in the middle of a unique crisis/pandemic
- B. It has affected all of us differently
- C. It has gotten our attention

III. The alternative questions

- A. What can be learned from this
- B. So what is, and how we manage the new normal
- C. What is God's message to us

IV. The age old dilemma is the "problem of pain" CS Lewis writes

- A. As I am going through life...
- B. Disease or destruction happens...
- C. Overwhelmed by circumstances
- D. Happiness is like my broken toys
- E. I create a new frame of mind
- F. A frame of mind with a need for God
- G. I realize my hope, my strength is in Him
- H. But when the threat goes away
- I. I drift back to my old ways
- J. I embrace my old toys

V. The attestation (We've all done this)

- A. In a marriage
- B. In a crisis
- C. "Like a puppy just bathed, we go back to the mud pit"
- D. Human nature to return to bad habits once the pain is gone

VI. What is God teaching us

- A. That this world is being prepared for the return of His Son
- B. That this world can change in a matter of moments
 - 1. Economically
 - 2. Business
 - 3. Schools
 - 4. Entertainment
 - 5. Orders/freedoms
 - 6. Shortages
 - 7. Church closure
- C. When our world changes (When a crisis hits), "cracks" are revealed, due to neglect
 - 1. Cracks in relationships
 - 2. Cracks in finances
 - 3. Cracks in priorities
 - 4. Cracks in our world view
 - 5. Cracks in our faith
- D. That our faith, His Word, and the church are what have always lasted
 - 1. Our faith
 - 2. His Word
 - 3. The church is essential

VII. What have we learned on a personal level

- A. What is really important
- B. What personal disciplines are needed
- C. Will faith, hope and love be more than mere words

VIII. How do we process all of this

- A. Review what God has revealed
- B. Recognize where we are
- C. Reconsider going back to the old ways
- D. Remember what God has brought us through
- E. Return to Him who loves you

**Are We Paying Attention
To What God Is Saying
Are We Waking Up**

