

The Message Notes

NOW WORD Covenant Church

Series: The Cross over Crisis

Today's Message: *Christ over Corona Crisis*

Sunday, March 22, 2020



Introduction. We want to thank you this morning for joining us for our online service. Our online services help us to stay close while staying away. This morning, we want to look at what God's Word says about handling the Corona crisis through Christ.

I John 2:15 (NLT)

Do not love this **world** nor the things it offers you, for when you **love the world**, you **do not** have the **love** of the Father in you.

Fallen world: Romans 5:12

Fallen World – the cosmos and people have been broken off from relationship with God. They're now under crisis of sin and God's judgment.

Love the world: St. John 3:16

Peace in the world: St. John 16:33

"Whatever crisis we face, it's because we live in a **fallen** world. A fallen world generates crisis after crisis. We're **always** going to be going from crisis to crisis."

Our Message: *Christ over Corona Crisis*

"**Crisis** means you're under a **difficult** or a **dangerous** time in which a **solution** is **urgently needed**."

1. The crisis: What's going on?

Fear of the unknown (outcome):

- **Healthcare** – epidemic – pandemic – death
- **Economic** – recession – depression – poverty

Why did Corona happen?

- God's the origin – God sent the plague
- Natural origin – Human factor sent the plague

"God will use **natural crises** to get the world's attention or the churches attention, to see the ultimate spiritual crisis, which is acknowledging our **sin** and relationship with Him."

References: 2 Peter 3:9, 2 Chronicles 7:14, Job 1:8-11

2. The cure: God's Redemptive Plan

There are two races for the cure:

- Natural cure – vaccine
- Spiritual cure – repentance and forgiveness

“God is interested in people knowing His **redemptive plan** to reconcile the world to Himself through Christ over crisis.”

References: Mark 16:15, Ephesians 1:7, 1 John 1:7, Luke 24:47, Hebrews 12:11

“If we do not see spiritual awakening of epic proportion, then we know this was a natural crisis and once it is over, people will go back to loving the world more than they love God.”

3. The closeness: Overcomers in Christ

I John 5:4 (ESV)

For everyone who has been **born** of God **overcomes** the **world**. And this is the victory that has overcome the world - **our faith**.

How do you make it through the Corona crisis? Philipians 4:6-8 (NLT)

Application:

- a) Pray – v.6a. **Don't worry** about anything; instead, **pray** about everything. Tell God what you need.
- b) Praise – v.6b. and **thank him** for all he **has done**.
Reference: Revelation 12:11
- c) Peace - v.7. Then you will **experience God's peace**, which exceeds anything we can **understand**. His **peace** will guard your **hearts** and **minds** as you live in Christ Jesus.
- d) Positivity - v.8. And now, dear brothers and sisters, one final thing. **Fix your thoughts** on what is **true**, and **honorable**, and **right**, and **pure**, and **lovely**, and **admirable**. **Think** about things that are **excellent** and **worthy of praise**. Reference Romans 10:17

Next Week's Message: *Purpose of the Cross*