

A Message to Christians on Coronavirus

from **R. Stanley** (74), 10 March 2020

(A Building Engineer turned Bible Teacher from Tamilnadu, India)

The widespread Coronavirus which has so far claimed over 3830 lives and affected over 1,10,034 is the talk of the town. Questions without answers abound as to the why of this pandemic. On behalf of the Indian Christians I send hearty condolences to the bereaved and the sufferers worldwide. We pray to God Almighty to have mercy on all of us whichever nation we may belong to. Jesus, referring to the goodness of God the Father in Heaven, said, "He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust" (Matthew 5:45, *the Bible*).

Let us Christians in India not pass on remarks of judgment on any nation. It's wrong to comment that this is a curse on China because of its anti-Christian attitude. How do we then explain that a Christian nation like South Korea, which has the largest Church in the world and maximum number of prayer warriors and prayer mountains, stands second in the list with over 7380 confirmed cases? How do we explain a Roman Catholic Christian nation like Italy, with the Pope's seat, stands third registering over 7370 confirmed cases? Even if any nation is like the city of Sodom with its sin "very grievous," we must plead for mercy before God like Abraham so He would spare it from destruction (Genesis 18:20-33, *the Bible*). Referring to a tower which fell in Jerusalem and killed 18 persons, Jesus warned the newsreporters, "Do you think that they were worse sinners than all other men who dwelt in Jerusalem? I tell you, No; but unless you repent, you will also likewise perish" (Luke 13:4,5 *the Bible*). The message is clear: "There is no man or woman, no Christian or non-Christian, no clergy or laity, no preacher or listener, who does not need to repent (Acts 17:30, *the Bible*). Life is uncertain. Anything may happen to anyone anytime. Let all of us walk in obedience to God's Word with reverential fear."

May God's hand be on the leaders of all Nations and the volunteers and medical personnel who do whatever they can to treat the affected and prevent further spread! "Almighty God, You are the Father of Love, the Father of Mercy and the Father of Comfort. Be gracious to us this generation. Forgive us for worshipping science and technology instead of You the Creator God. In the Name of Jesus the Healer, we pray. Amen!"