

OUR SOURCE & SHIELD

Stop Feeding Fear

I. What does the Word of God say about viruses and plagues? Whatever the word says is what we believe and what we say

- **Ps91:1-10**-¹He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.² I will say of the LORD, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust.³ Surely (certainly) he shall **deliver thee from the snare of the fowler and from the noisome pestilence.**⁴ **He shall cover thee** with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust: his truth shall be thy shield and buckler.⁵ **Thou shalt not be afraid** for the terror by night; nor for the arrow that flieth by day; ⁶ Nor **for the pestilence** that walketh in darkness; nor for the destruction that wasteth at noonday.⁷ A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but **it shall not come nigh thee.**⁸ Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold and see the reward of the wicked.⁹ Because thou hast made the LORD, which is my refuge, even the most High, thy habitation;¹⁰ There shall no evil befall thee, **neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling.**

A. 4 things the word says about viruses and plagues

1. The word says surely he will deliver you from the noisome pestilence-There's confidence in this
2. The words says he will cover you and shield you-It won't come on us because we are shielded from it
3. The word says it will not come near you-What happens to others is no prediction of what will happen to you
4. The word says neither shall any plague come near your dwelling-The coronavirus is an any plague

B. The Word of God is the final authority-Those verses are the end of this matter, this is a closed matter, no longer open for discussion

1. I have nothing else to say about it-I have no additional thoughts, comments, or opinions on this matter; Everything I think, believe and say about this I do it through the lens this Word
2. I don't care what anybody else has to say about it-Politicians, the media, the medical community, social media, their words don't change these words; What's happening in Italy, China, Europe, Timbuctoo; Increase of cases, percentages of people dying – None of it changes these words

C. By choice, by decision we align what we say and what we believe with what the Word of God says

1. This is what we choose believe & says-God will deliver me from the coronavirus. God will cover me and shield me. The coronavirus will not come near me. No plague comes near my dwelling.
2. You can choose to believe and choose to say whatever you want-But choose wisely because what you choose believe and what you choose to say is what you're going to have-Nm13,14, Mk11
3. Settle it right now-You won't be caught saying or believing anything else; We live by the Word

II. Fear is all about access-Fear has a higher purpose than just getting you to feel frightened and uneasy

A. Satan's motive for getting Peter into fear was not just to frighten him, but to get access into his life

- **Mt14:24**-The ship was now in the midst of the sea, tossed with waves: for the wind was contrary. ²⁵In the fourth watch of the night Jesus went unto them, walking on the sea. ²⁶When the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, It is a spirit; and they cried out for fear. ²⁷But straightway Jesus spake unto them, saying, Be of good cheer; it is I; be not afraid. ²⁸And Peter answered him and said, Lord, if it be thou, bid me come unto thee on the water. ²⁹**And he said, Come.** And when Peter was come down out of the ship, **he walked on the water, to go to Jesus.** ³⁰But when he saw the wind boisterous, **he was afraid; and beginning to sink,** he cried, saying, Lord, save me. ³¹And immediately Jesus stretched forth his hand, and caught him, and said unto him, O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt?

1. The perfect will of God-Jesus said come so the perfect will of God is for Peter to walk on the water and reach his destination which is Jesus; We know it's the perfect will of God because Jesus only said what the father told him to say and so if it wasn't the perfect will of God Jesus never would have said it

2. The enemy's will is always in opposition to God's-He doesn't want him to walk on the water reach Jesus
3. Peter was walking on the water and the enemy couldn't get to him-He wanted to get to him, but couldn't
4. Afraid and beginning to sink-His fear and his sinking were connected
5. Fear granted Satan access to bring his will to pass-The enemy wanted him to fall, but without fear there was no entry way to make that happen
6. Satan couldn't do anything with him until he got into fear-God couldn't do anything for him when He got into fear

B. The issue is the fear or faith-The issue is not that the size of the army or the size of the virus because God is big enough to handle both; The issue is fear because it simultaneously creates and opening for the enemy and shuts God out

- **Is7:2-9**-*It was told the house of David, saying, Syria is confederate with Ephraim. And his heart was moved, and the heart of his people, as the trees of the wood are moved with the wind. ³ Then said the LORD unto Isaiah, Go forth now to meet Ahaz, thou, and Shearjashub thy son, at the end of the conduit of the upper pool in the highway of the fuller's field; ⁴ And say unto him, **Take heed, and be quiet; fear not, neither be fainthearted** for the two tails of these smoking firebrands, for the fierce anger of Rezin with Syria, and of the son of Remaliah. ⁵ Because Syria, Ephraim, and the son of Remaliah, have taken evil counsel against thee, saying, ⁶ **Let us go up against Judah, and vex it, and let us make a breach therein for us, and set a king in the midst of it, even the son of Tabeal:** ⁷ Thus saith the Lord GOD, It shall not stand, neither shall it come to pass. ⁸ For the head of Syria is Damascus, and the head of Damascus is Rezin; and within threescore and five years shall Ephraim be broken, that it be not a people. ⁹ And the head of Ephraim is Samaria, and the head of Samaria is Remaliah's son. **If ye will not believe, surely ye shall not be established** (CEV-will be defeated).*

1. God's people got a bad report-Armies had allied and were coming against them, they were outmatched
2. The bad report is always designed to sow fear into you-Upon hearing the report they were afraid
3. The Lord sent the prophet to address the fear-The problem is not the allied armies God can handle that; The biggest problem is the fear, because it shuts God out and gives the enemy access
4. Fear and a breach-The enemy's plan was to vex them and make a breach; To vex is to disturb, disquiet, agitate, trouble, distress, torment, to fret;
5. If you'll get in faith and out of fear it won't happen-**TLB-9**-*If you want me to protect you must learn to believe what I say*
6. The enemy pushes fear incessantly-Fear is his way in, fear is yielding to him and it gives him access; He's totally dependent on it; This is God's word references fear not approximately 215 times

C. Faith puts the shield up. fear brings it down

1. Where there is faith and no fear there's no access and that's why it's not coming on him-**Ps91:2-10**-*I will say of the LORD, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; **in him will I trust.**⁵ **Thou shalt not be afraid** for the terror by night; nor for the arrow that flieth by day; ⁶ Nor for the pestilence that walketh in darkness; nor for the destruction that wasteth at noonday.⁷ A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee.⁹ Because thou hast made the LORD, which is my refuge, even the most High, thy habitation; ¹⁰ There shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling.*
2. Fear breaks the hedge-**Jb1:10**-*Hast not thou made an hedge (fence for protection) about him, and about his house, and about all that he has on every side; **Jb3:25**-For the thing which I greatly feared is come upon me, and that which I was afraid of is come unto me. ²⁶ I was not in safety, neither had I rest, neither was I quiet; yet trouble came.*
3. We're shielded through faith-**1Pet1:5-KJ**-*We are kept by the power of God through faith; **CJ**-Through trusting you are being protected by God's power-**NIRV**-Through faith you are kept safe by God's power; **Pr30:5**-Every word of God is pure: he is a shield unto them that put their trust in Him; **Ps115:9-11**-Ye that fear the Lord, trust in the Lord: he is their help and their shield; **Ps18:30**-He is a buckler to all them that trust him; **Pr29:25**-The fear of man brings a snare: but whoso puts his trust in the Lord shall be safe*

III. You can't walk in victory over fear if you continue to feed it into you

- A. Believers are not supposed to fear any plague, but how do we do it?-**Ps91:5-Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night; nor for the arrow that flieth by day; ⁶ Nor for the pestilence that walketh in darkness;**
1. This is referencing not being afraid in times of great turmoil in the earth-**Ps46:1-3-God is our refuge (shelter from danger) and strength, a very present help (support that delivers from difficulty) in trouble (distress or adversity). Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; Though the waters thereof roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with the swelling thereof; MSG-We stand fearless on the cliff edge of doom**
 2. This decision to not fear is one that you are incapable of making and following through on if you continue to listen to and focus on things that feed fear into you
- B. Belief comes by hearing-There's a principle laid out in scripture that says belief comes by hearing words-**Rom10:17-So then faith (persuasion, conviction, belief) cometh by hearing and hearing by the word of God**
1. Whatever you hear repeatedly you are in danger of believing-Illusory (uh•loo•sr•ree) truth effect or reiteration effect-The tendency to believe false information to be correct after repeated exposure. In 2015 researches discovered that repetitively hearing that a certain fact is wrong can affect the hearer's beliefs
 2. Dr. Lilian B. Yeomans testimony-Faith cometh-She was a **doctor** who practiced medicine and surgery many years ago in one of **New York City's largest hospitals**. She began to take small amounts of dope to **steady her nerves** and **help her sleep** when she felt exhausted from overwork. Eventually **she became so dependent on drugs**, especially morphine, that she became an addict. She daily took fifty times the normal dose of morphine normally prescribed for an adult male plus other drugs. Although Dr. Yeomans took all the celebrated cures of her day and desperately tried to stop taking drugs, she steadily grew worse. A nurse described her as "a skeleton with a devil inside." Her friends considered her case hopeless. Dr. Yeomans had been saved as a young woman, but had backslid. When she found herself at death's door, she immersed herself in her long neglected Bible, got back into fellowship with God, and was **healed in 1898 of the terrible drug habit that had almost claimed her life**. After receiving this healing, **Dr. Yeomans preached the Gospel for forty some years**. When she and **her sister inherited some property**, they turned it into a "**faith home**" **taking people beyond medical help who were seeking healing for their bodies**. Dr. Yeomans said they got nearly all of these people healed by working with them **until they got enough faith built up in their hearts (spirits) to receive healing** from God. In one of her books she gave the following example of building faith in a patient. ---- One day a woman in the last stages of tuberculosis was brought to the home. Doctors had given her up as beyond medical aid. When the ambulance brought the woman in, Dr. Yeomans knew she was dying. Had she still been practicing medicine, Dr. Yeomans would have begun to administer strong drugs immediately. Instead the woman was carried to an upstairs room, and Dr. Yeomans began reading the Bible to her. She spent about two hours reading scriptures concerning divine healing; especially from Deuteronomy 28 and Galatians 3:13. Then she instructed the dying woman to repeat to herself every waking moment, "According to Deuteronomy 28:22, consumption (or tuberculosis) is a curse of the law. But according to Galatians 3:13, Christ has redeemed me from the curse of the law. Therefore, I no longer have tuberculosis." The next morning, Dr. Yeomans asked the woman if she had been repeating what she's instructed her to say. She answered that it seemed as if she'd said it 10,000 times, but she couldn't understand what it meant. Dr. Yeomans read more scriptures to her and asked her to continue repeating the same words. The next day the story was the same. On the third morning, the woman still did not understand. Dr. Yeomans had not even prayed with her yet, even though she'd been in her "faith home" three nights. (I think sometimes we pray for people too quickly. We should instruct them more in the Word first.) On the afternoon of the third day, Dr. Yeomans and her sister were helping prepare the evening meal when they heard a commotion upstairs. Their new patient came rushing down the stairs, shouting at the top of her voice. "Sister Yeomans, did you know? Christ has redeemed me, and I no longer have tuberculosis! It's gone now!" ---- You see, Dr. Yeomans realized that the way into the heart is through the mind. She knew if the woman would say to herself often enough, "According to Deuteronomy 28:22, consumption is a curse of the law. But according to Galatians 3:13, Christ hath redeemed me from the curse of the law. Therefore, I no longer have tuberculosis," the truth eventually would register on her heart.
- C. Fear is belief and so it comes by hearing words
1. Fear is belief-It's actually faith in the devil and his ability to bring destruction and death into our life; The more confident you are it's going to happen the more fearful you are
 2. Heeding and listening to the words of the enemy fed fear into the people of God-It was belief that they were going to be defeated-**1Sm17:8-He stood and cried unto the armies of Israel, and said unto them, Why are ye come out to set your battle in array? am not I a Philistine, and ye servants to Saul? choose you a man for you, and let him come down to me. ⁹If he be able to fight with me, and to kill me, then will we be your servants: but if I prevail against him, and kill him, then shall ye be our servants, and serve us.¹⁰The Philistine said, I defy the armies of Israel this day; give me a man, that we may fight together.¹¹When Saul and all Israel heard those words of the Philistine, they were dismayed and greatly afraid ¹⁶And the Philistine drew near morning and evening and presented himself forty days**
 - a. They are afraid and have no business being afraid because of their covenant with God; That uncircumcised philistine was so small in the light of that covenant; A 17-year old boy with a slingshot and no fighting experience took down this "great" giant

- b. As soon as David stepped on the scene Goliath came out because the enemy knows when faith is present and he fears faith and so when he senses it he immediately tries to get rid of it; The enemy made 4 attempts to get David in fear: 1) Goliath 2) The men of Israel 3) Saul 4) Goliath again

D. You are not immune from fear in you-Don't make the mistake of thinking you can listen to fear-filled words and be immune from any fear getting in you

1. It is spiritual law: Any thing you feed on will get in you-What you listen to and look at gets into your heart
 - a. How do words get into the midst of your heart?-You can't keep them in the midst of your heart if they're not first in there and they get in there through the eyes, ears, mind-**Pr4:20**-*My son attend to my words; incline your ear unto my sayings. Let them not depart from your eyes; keep them in the midst of your heart*
 - b. What you eat gets in you-What you put your mouth gets in your belly, what you put in your ears gets in your heart-**Jb34:3**-*For the ear tries words as the most tastes meat*
2. Feed on words of fear and it'll get in you-To think that you can feed on words of fear and not have any fear get in you is to think wrong and to think crosswise of the word
3. You can't live free from fear if you continue to feed it-You are free from fear, you do not have the spirit of fear, and you are not supposed to fear, but you can't live free from fear if you feed it into all the time

IV. Block out the noise - The Word is all that matters

A. Feeding on the bad report put them in fear-The bad report is the one that was in contradiction to the Word

- **Nm13:25**-*They returned from searching of the land after forty days.²⁶ And they went and came to Moses, and to Aaron, and to all the congregation of the children of Israel, unto the wilderness of Paran, to Kadesh; and brought back word unto them, and unto all the congregation, and shewed them the fruit of the land. ²⁷ And they told him, and said, We came unto the land whither thou sentest us, and surely it floweth with milk and honey; and this is the fruit of it. ²⁸ Nevertheless the people be strong that dwell in the land, and the cities are walled, and very great: and moreover we saw the children of Anak there.²⁹ The Amalekites dwell in the land of the south: and the Hittites, and the Jebusites, and the Amorites, dwell in the mountains: and the Canaanites dwell by the sea, and by the coast of Jordan. ³⁰ And Caleb stilled the people before Moses, and said, Let us go up at once, and possess it; for we are well able to overcome it. ³¹ But the men that went up with him said, We be not able to go up against the people; for they are stronger than we. ³² And they brought up an evil report of the land which they had searched unto the children of Israel, saying, The land, through which we have gone to search it, is a land that eateth up the inhabitants thereof; and all the people that we saw in it are men of a great stature. ³³ There we saw the giants, the sons of Anak, which come of the giants: and we were in our own sight as grasshoppers, and so we were in their sight. All the congregation lifted up their voice and cried and the people wept that night*

1. Feeding on facts that contradict the Word feeds fear-Everything they stated except the grasshopper line was just natural facts
2. We don't speak the facts, we speak the Word-Joshua and Caleb didn't speak the facts, the spoke the Word

B. Natural facts, natural reports don't change the Word

1. What did the Lord say about that Land and the giants in it?-**Ex33:1-3**-*And the LORD said unto Moses, Depart, and go up hence, thou and the people which thou hast brought up out of the land of Egypt, unto the land which I swear unto Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, saying, Unto thy seed will I give it: ² And I will send an angel before thee; and I will drive out the Canaanite, the Amorite, and the Hittite, and the Perizzite, the Hivite, and the Jebusite: ³ Unto a land flowing with milk and honey*
2. So what that doesn't change the Word-Practice that phrase; The size of the giants, the walled cities, their personal feelings of inadequacy, none of it changes that Word (Ex33); News reports, statistics, numbers none of it changes what the Word says
3. Talk the Word, not the evil report-You can talk the size of giants/walls but that's just noise and doesn't change the word; Or you can block out the noise & talk the word

- C. Who are you letting preach to you?-Everybody has a pulpit now or a platform, and so you better be on guard against who you allow to preach to you because they're putting stuff into your heart
1. Cut off the news and social media-They best they'll do is give you the natural facts that contradict the world; Others are in the enemy's palm being used by him to lie and spread fear
 2. Informed or infearred-Words are containers and it's not just the words, what's in the words; So maybe it is just the media reporting the facts, but if fear is in the words then fear will fill you
- D. In a time of panic there will always be two voices-Fear and faith; What voice will you be? Woe is me or We are well able
- E. Faith frustrates fear and fear frustrates faith-There's this contention between the two
- **Num14:7-10**-*Joshua the son of Nun, and Caleb the son of Jephunneh, which were of them that searched the land, rent their clothes: ⁷ And they spake unto all the company of the children of Israel, saying, The land, which we passed through to search it, is an exceeding good land. ⁸ If the LORD delight in us, then he will bring us into this land, and give it us; a land which floweth with milk and honey. ⁹ Only rebel not ye against the LORD, neither fear ye the people of the land; for they are bread for us: their defence is departed from them, and the LORD is with us: fear them not. ¹⁰ But all the congregation bade stone them with stones. And the glory of the LORD appeared in the tabernacle of the congregation before all the children of Israel.*
1. Fear won't be happy until you are panicking with it-They'll accuse you of putting your head in the sand of not taking this seriously