

CHILDRENS SERMON - crown/corona virus named because it looks like crown (doesn't wear one)  
 Jesus is King and wears crown He is in control "Crown Him with many crowns..."

## Matt. 8:5-13 - Christ and the Coronavirus

Intro - asked lately if I ever change what I planned on preaching...Today is here. Our society is abuzz about a virus. Luke 21:26 "men's hearts failing them for fear..." much fear/anxiety about corona.

We are not a people of fear (2 Tim. 1:7) but a people of faith. There is One we fear...we fear God for He wears the crown. Remind us as Christians that Christ is in control of the coronavirus

Sin and Sickness

Responding to Sickness

Sovereignty and Sickness

### SIN AND SICKNESS

- Why is there sickness and why do we get sick?
  - o "just part of the human condition" it was not always so, nor will be so...but is so now
  - o Sin brought sickness into this world (seasonal and terminal)
  - o God put us into Paradise - it was very good Paradise no more after the Fall
- Our environment has been cursed by our Creator
  - o Romans 5:12 Gen 3 - Gods curse fell on family life, work life and all of life
  - o Our rebellion brought - misery, pain, frustration, deterioration, tears, sickness.....death
  - o A "virus" has infected and effected our entire environment - permeates our existence
    - All sicknesses are not personal but they are environmental
    - Not necessarily sick because of "personal sin" but we live in sin stained world
- We must factor in the Fall when we when we wonder about difficulties down here
  - o We can treat/cure one problem but another will always pop up.

### A RESPONSE TO SICKNESS

- Our world is cursed but we are to fight against the curse
  - o My body is in a state of decay. I am confronted with this every morning in my mouth
    - "brush your hogs" if you don't brush them that is what they will smell like
- The bible gives good practical advice (biblical) on dealing with sickness
  - o Drink a little wine for your stomach and frequent illnesses 1 Tim. 5:23
  - o Good Samaritan put oil and wine on the wounds Luke 10:34
  - o Pray and anoint with oil James 5:14-15 prayer and medicine
  - o In cases of an outbreak Deut. 24:8-9 Miriam- outside camp- Numb 12
    - Quarantine (40 days) started in 14 century during plague (CDC)
    - It took western world 3000 yrs to catch up with Bible

- Lev. 13 quarantine 7 days Isolate and evaluate (wisdom)
  - If you are sick. Stay home and don't spread the "joy"
  - Be considerate of others "stop, in the name of love.....personal space"
- Gods law called for "washing" and bathing after sickness or exposure to disease/death
  - o Lev. 14:8 wash clothes, shave and bathe (common sense/biblical sense)
  - o Religious leaders took washing to extreme in NT religious in washing
    - Jesus called them on legalism about eating with unwashed hands Mark 7
- Recap and gospel application
  - o We live in a sin stained world that has been infected with a virus. All of humanity is in quarantine and isolated outside Gods camp. He did not leave us in isolation but came to us and touched us lepers. He washed us by regeneration (baptism of the Spirit). He even commands us to be baptized by water. Though we are clean we still daily fight against the curse washing hands and feet (Jn. 13:10) and taking our "medicine". All the while yearning for that day when there will be no more: curse, pain, tears, sickness.....death

## SOVEREIGNTY AND SICKNESS

- Matt. 8:5-13 is the account Jesus healing the Centurions' servant
  - o The soldier asked for help and Jesus was gracious in being willing to give the help
  - o The Centurion said he was not worthy to have Jesus come to house – just speak word
  - o He understood AUTHORITY. Some ranked higher than him and gave him orders
    - he was over 100 (C=100, c-note) the Centurion ordered his 100 and they went
- Jesus marveled at the mans faith and understanding
  - o Centurion understood that SICKNESS IS BUT THE SERVANT OF JESUS
  - o Jesus controls the germs. Commands this one to come and that one to go....they obey
    - Ex. 15:26- "I will put none of the diseases that I put.. (Deut. 28)
    - Jesus' healing ministry demonstrated his authority (diseases servants of Divine)
  - o God is sovereign over all of His creation. In control. Orders all. Nothing is rogue
- The truth of Gods sovereignty is such a freeing truth
  - o Nothing is left to chance for God controls all. Rom. 11:36
  - o Nothing can happen to me that doesn't first pass through the hands of my Father
    - Satan, demons, sickness, sorrow, difficulties....have to have permission
  - o Psalm 91:4-7
- We are to be people of faith not fear
  - o 2 Tim. 1:7 not fear but spirit of power, love and a sound mind
  - o We fear the ONE that wears the crown
  - o I do not know the "Why's" of life. Or the "what's" or "how comes"
  - o I know the WHO of life (not the world health organization ☺)
    - I know Who wear the crown and it is not the coronavirus
    - The LORD God omnipotent reigns. ( Rev. 19:6,16) Jesus Christ is King of kings

The invitation today will be an invitation to worship "Crown Him with many crowns" (# 52)