

Fast start.....

This new decade is racing ahead! Here we are April 3, 2020! Closed borders, flights cancelled, home confinement, Stock Exchange in a panic, businesses and industries closing everywhere on the planet! More than a million infected with the Covid-19 virus and more than 50,000 deaths. And all this is continuing and amplifying! For those who know the Lord Jesus and are waiting for His return, consider the following:

- The confinement measures and the limited moving about offer an ideal environment for the disappearance of the believers without affecting too much those around. «*The Lord Himself... will descend from heaven ...and we shall be caught up ...to meet the Lord in the air; and so shall we ever be with the Lord*» (1 Thes. 4:16 »-17).
- Many businesses no longer accept cash but only electronic transfers and card payments. In times of crisis, we submit to special measure from the authorities and so it will be with what is on the horizon as prophesied: «*He causeth all... to receive a mark...and that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark*» (Apoc. 13:16-17)
- When men find the solution to what creates anguish and fear among them, God will trouble their false sense of peace: «*The Day of the Lord comes as a thief in the night, when they shall say, Peace and safety: then sudden destruction shall fall upon them... they shall not escape*» (1 Thes. 5:3).

It is noticeable that in the list of most afflicted countries with this current pandemic, the top four are Western countries, countries formerly of Christian profession now in apostasy or having officially forsaken the simplicity of faith in Christ. Is there not a message from God for us in all this? We can forsake what God has committed to us but it will have a sorrowful outcome. The nation of Israel is a striking example of this. It is time to repent and to come back to the Lord who abundantly pardons. «*Let us search and try our ways, and turn again to the Lord. Let us lift up our heart with our hands (pure hands according to 1 Timothy 2:8) unto God in the heavens.*» (Lamentations 3:40-41). «*Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord, ...for he will abundantly pardon*» (Isaiah 55:7). Let's share the message!

The current events convince me that the coming of the Lord draws near. What we are going through now is a severe warning and even perhaps leading up of the judgments detailed in the book of Revelation ending with the glorious reign of the Lord Jesus Christ, the King of kings and the Lord of lords. May we continue to enjoy peace in these times of testing and with one heart say« *Amen, come Lord Jesus* » (Rev. 22:20), He who *delivers us from the wrath to come* (1 Thes. 1:10).

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