

COVID-19

CHRISTIAN COMPROMISE
& THE CAPITULATION OF
THE PROFESSING CHURCH



"Blessed is the man that **walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly.**" (Psalm 1:1)

The so-called COVID-19 'pandemic' of 2019 struck the professing Christian church like a bolt from the blue. Professing Christians, ministers, and entire denominations were caught off guard and, in the mass hysteria and panic that was to mark 2019 and beyond, churches across the globe closed their doors on their people, either by Government edict, or by their own accord. Many bought into the media narrative and alarming medical models warning that millions would die. In response, church buildings were closed, meetings were moved 'online', congregational singing was halted, as well as baptisms, the Lord's table, and the Great Commission. On an individual level, Christians donned face masks, self-isolated, and many have now heralded the arrival of the 'liquid saviours' - the COVID-19 experimental vaccines. In the light of such momentous events in modern church history, we would be wise to ask, were these actions taken by the majority of churches and Christian denominations right or wrong? This booklet attempts to answer this most important question.

Establishing Doctrinal Truth

It has been said that the Bible is like a fiddle - you can use it to play any tune that you want. Today we live in a world full of false doctrine, which can often lead to great **deception** and **confusion** amongst believers. As you read this booklet, it would be wise to ask, 'How do I know what I am reading is true?' As pointed out in Part One of this series, 'COVID-19 In Light of the Bible', it is God and His Word, the Bible, that we turn to first when trying to establish truth about anything. But how then should we interpret Scripture so as to avoid falling into error and false teaching? The following guidelines are intended as an aid:

1. Always view the Bible as your FINAL AUTHORITY: The Bible has the final say at the end of the day, even if what Scripture is teaching goes against what we think is right, or what others tell us is correct. Scripture 'trumps' everything, including all preachers, teachers, denominations, books and commentaries. God's Word is perfect and without error - everything else in this world is corrupted to a lesser or greater degree. So always trust the perfect Word of God over everything else, otherwise you will only ever be discouraged and disappointed when all other inferior authorities fail you.

2. Allow the Bible to shape your beliefs, not your beliefs to shape the Bible. Go to the Bible FIRST, then use your biblical worldview to discern the world around you. Many Christians miss this! They soak up what the media and ungodly government tell them, and then force Scripture into their ungodly mindset. For example, when the COVID-19 'Pandemic' came onto the scene many Christians filled their minds with all that the world had to tell them FIRST, then complied with and bought into what the world was telling them (e.g. stop going to church and meet online), then tried to use the Bible to later justify their actions.

3. Do not 'cherry pick' Bible verses. To arrive at a correct interpretation of Scripture, all verses found in the Bible concerning a certain subject should be taken into account and compared. Use the Bible's own INBUILT DICTIONARY: by using the Bible to interpret the Bible. Do not use a handful of Bible verses that suit a certain agenda to formulate doctrine. This is a classic deceptive approach that the cults use to 'prove' their false doctrines.

4. Be careful of 'INTERPRETING' the Bible: Be very sceptical of anyone that says, 'Well actually that verse doesn't mean that, it actually means...' and then they go on to give you their 'interpretation' of what that verse or passage of Scripture means. Take the Bible as it comes...do not twist the Word of

God to fit in with a certain view. It is also advisable to be cautious of very complicated and confusing explanations of Bible verses and teachings.

5. Take the Bible LITERALLY unless the Bible says otherwise: For example, in Genesis Chapter One, a 'day' is a literal day, not a figurative 'millions of years'. not a figurative of 'millions of years'. God means what He says and says what He means!

6. Reject the PLURALISTIC approach to the Bible adopted by so many. Pluralism is the belief that multiple 'truths' about a certain subject, in this case Bible doctrine, can be held at the same time, even if these 'truths' are totally opposed to each other. Today there is quite often a spirit of 'you have your truth about this subject, and I have mine' amongst many professing Christians, and an attitude of 'well, we will just have to agree to differ' whenever conflict over doctrinal truths occurs. This is not the way to approach establishing biblical doctrine! Just like a detective, tirelessly searching for evidence and clues to help solve his case, and arriving at THE TRUTH of what happened, so too should the Christian's attitude be when it comes to arriving at doctrinal truth. Pick any doctrine you want from Scripture, there is **ONE TRUE interpretation of it**; all other views are in error. Multiple, contradicting interpretations of Scripture, logically CANNOT all be true at the same time. Your task as a Christian is to discern, "the spirit of truth, and the spirit of error" (1 John 4:6).

It can also be added to these points that it is a very wise move to be in the habit of prayerfully reading the Bible every day without fail, and making a point of reading the Bible **from cover to cover** multiple times. This ensures a steady feed of truth coming into your mind straight from the Word of God, as well as helping you to take in truth from the whole Bible, not just the more popular sections. To illustrate the importance of this by way of an example, when the whole COVID-19 situation arose back in 2019, the Christian who had read the whole Bible all the way through multiple times, would have been more aware of what the book of Leviticus has to say regarding Biblical guidelines for disease control. In contrast, believers who have never read the book of Leviticus, and have never heard it preached on at church would be much more likely to be in the dark on this subject, and thus more susceptible to an ungodly world view or false doctrines corrupting their thinking.

1. COVID Doctrine Defined and Refuted

The vast majority of professing Christians, churches, and denominations have bought into the COVID narrative and, sadly, have gone along with all the regulations associated with it. Churches have allowed the state to open and close their buildings, Christians have forsaken the literal gathering together as an assembly of God's people, churches have adopted policies on face masks, government 'track and trace' schemes, the cessation of baptism, congregational singing, and the Lord's table. It should be noted that this monumental disruption to the functioning of church life has not been implemented based on thin air. **Particular doctrines** have been adopted and used as justification for such action - which, so their adherents would stress, are based on the Bible. There are a number of elements that make up this 'COVID' set of doctrines, each overlapping the other. It is the intention of this booklet to define and then refute each of these elements of COVID doctrine that have been used to seemingly justify the actions of the majority of professing Christians, churches, and denominations in recent times. COVID doctrine, or more correctly, COVID false doctrine is made up of the following...

A. An Unhealthy Trust in the World

Part of the package that makes up COVID doctrine is what seems to be an unhealthy trust in what the world would tell us is true. Many Christians tune in to their daily dose of the 'news' on whatever

platform that may be and generally accept what they are being told about the COVID-19 'pandemic'. This is evidenced by the **altered behaviour** observed in many Christians over recent months, putting on masks, self-isolating even if not sick, no longer visiting friends and relatives, sanitising rigorously, and with many too afraid to even leave their own homes. All of this altered behaviour has come about as a result of trusting what **the world is telling them** about COVID-19. The same goes for the actions of the majority of churches and denominations, that now open and close their churches based on 'the latest medical data', or the 'latest advice from the Chief Medical Officer'. Church for them, operates based on truth coming from the world, instead of the Bible (Hebrews 10:25). Are Christians, churches, and denominations right to have become so trusting in the world when it comes to the COVID-19 situation?

It is bizarre in the extreme to see how so many Christians, churches and denominations have become so trusting of the world and its 'science' in regards to COVID-19, when we as believers should know full well that **ungodly governments and media LIE** to their people. Yes, the Bible exhorts Christians to pray for those who rule over us (1 Timothy 2:1-4), and to be a witness in the world, but we are not to trust the world for truth! Christian, EVERYTHING the world tells you should be taken with a healthy dose of **scepticism** - why? Because governments and media around the world LIE to their people all of the time. Governments and mass media constantly tell us that the Bible is a book of myths, that a child in the womb is just a foetus, that a man can change into a woman, that two men can be 'married' to each other. These are all LIES which Christians are (hopefully) aware of, and yet when 'news' and 'facts' are presented to us about COVID-19 it is accepted as truth by so many.

The counter argument from many believers is, 'well the majority of scientists support the COVID-19 measures, and the official narrative of what is going on...so it must be true'. This faulty line of reasoning has been used before. Christian, think about the LIE of evolution theory. This is presented to us on a daily basis in the media and from the state as truth supported by the 'majority' of the world's scientists. So according to this line of reasoning it must be true, right? No! WRONG! Christians (should) know this! When they flick on the TV and hear 'millions of years ago...', they should know what they are hearing is nonsense, no matter how sincerely it is presented by those who believe it. Why then, when the 'news' is presented, do Christians accept what they are being told is the truth in regards to COVID-19?

As we read the New Testament we often find Jesus battling with others over the subject of truth. He concluded this as he spoke to the Pharisees (the religious leaders of that day), "Ye are of **your father the devil**, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: **for he is a liar**, and the father of it." (John 8:44) Scripture warns us about the unsaved world, "The god of this world hath **blinded the minds** of them which believe not" (2 Corinthians 4:4). Christian, are we wise to accept as truth what we are told by such people? "See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, Redeeming the time, because the days are evil" (Ephesians 5:15-16).

There is also another point worth mentioning here. Not only does the world lie to us, but it also **CONSPIRES against truth**, and against God's people. Yes the powers that be should be witnessed to and prayed for, but as Christians we should also understand that, "The whole world lieth in **wickedness**" (1 John 5:19), and that, "we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the **rulers of the darkness** of this world, against spiritual wickedness **in high places**" (Ephesians 6:12). Think of Queen Esther and wicked Haman's plan to destroy the Jews, think of the Philistines conspiring against Samson, and even the religious leaders of Christ's day conspiring to crucify Him. Evil men with evil agendas **plotting in secret** to destroy God's

people - a very common theme that runs throughout the Bible and into church history. Is anything different today?

"The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, **against the LORD, and against his anointed**" (Psalm 2:2).

Of course, not everything is a conspiracy - that is not the point that is being demonstrated here. But rather, dear Christian, at a minimum, treat what you hear from ungodly media and government with a healthy dose of scepticism. Always ask yourself, is what I am being told on the TV actually true? Is it exaggerated? Why am I being fed this information? Am I being manipulated into believing a particular narrative (or story line)? Discern the world around you, don't follow after its hysteria. "Be sober, **be vigilant**; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour" (1 Peter 5:8).

B. Unbiblical Submission to the Powers That Be

Another key element of COVID doctrine has been the wholesale acceptance of all government Coronavirus measures imposed on the Church by the powers that be. Examples of state interference with the functioning of church include the actual closure of church buildings for prolonged periods, the outlawing of any literal assembly of God's people in ANY setting indoors, the cessation of singing, baptism and the Lord's table, mandatory wearing of face masks, and implementation of social distancing. According to those who hold to this element of COVID doctrine, all such requirements are perfectly reasonable and should be obeyed out of our Christian duty towards those in authority.

However, despite the seemingly Bible-based argument for such compliance (leaning heavily on Romans Chapter 13), the question is, should believers and churches obey the higher powers and go along with any and all government regulations imposed upon them? Or is there a point where it is scripturally right to **not comply**?

To answer this question, let us first lay a foundation. Romans 13:1-7 gives a clear demonstration from Scripture when it is **right** for Christians to obey the civil authorities.

*"1. Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: **the powers that be are ordained of God.***

2. Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation.

*3. For rulers are not a terror to good works, **but to the evil.** Wilt thou then not be afraid of the power? do that which is good, and thou shalt have praise of the same:*

4. For he is the minister of God to thee for good. But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; for he beareth not the sword in vain: for he is the minister of God, a revenger to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil.

5. Wherefore ye must needs be subject, not only for wrath, but also for conscience sake.

6. For for this cause pay ye tribute also: for they are God's ministers, attending continually upon this very thing.

7. Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honour to whom honour."

Verses 1-2: Christians are NOT anarchists. Law and order in a country, whether the powers that be are Christian or not for the most part **is a good thing**. In fact, when law and order breaks down in a nation, it is often the Christian community that suffers the most (e.g. in recent times, consider the

plight of Christians in countries such as Syria and Iraq in times of war/breakdown of government). Verse two also emphasises the seriousness of the sin of sedition. Never in the New Testament did the Apostles or early believers try to forcibly topple the Roman government and foment any kind of 'revolution', despite the wickedness of the Roman Empire. Their battle was a spiritual one.

Romans 13 emphasises the whole point of government for us, as repeated multiple times in this passage: the **execution of justice and the punishment of the evildoer** (see also: 1 Peter 2:12-17 which reinforces this theme). Other responsibilities for the Christian towards the powers that be are detailed in verses 5-7, even detailing how Christians should pay their taxes, in line with what Jesus told His followers in Matthew 22:21, "Render therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's; and unto God the things that are God's". As Christians we are to do what God wants us to do, and do what the powers that be require of us also. In an ideal world, the two should never be at odds with each other, after all, "the powers that be are ordained **of God**".

Upon reading the passage in Romans 13 alone, it almost seems as if the Bible is teaching that the Christian ought to obey the civil authority no matter what. But are there any **exceptions** to total obedience to the powers that be found in the Bible? The answer to that question is, yes! There are many examples to help us arrive at a correct understanding and APPLICATION of this doctrine. It is **error** to conclude that Christians should ALWAYS obey the powers that be, NO MATTER WHAT the state may ask them to do. The following are examples of when it is right for the Christian NOT to obey the civil authority.

1. Christians should disobey government when the powers that be require them to obey a civil law which would then result in them breaking God's Law.

In most circumstances, in our Western culture (founded upon generally Christian values), this rarely is an issue. For example, God's law says, "Thou shalt not steal" (Exodus 20:15), and civil law mandates that theft is a criminal offence. God's law and civil law are in agreement in this case. Sadly, however, there are times when the laws of the land and the law of God are in conflict with each other. What is the Christian (who wants to please God, and also honour the powers that be) to do? To help answer this question, let us consider the example of the Hebrew midwives found in Exodus 1:15-21. In this passage, Pharaoh King of Egypt desires to reduce the Hebrew population in his land, and so commands the Hebrew midwives to kill any male children as they are born. In this situation the powers that be (Pharaoh) is asking the Hebrew women to kill unlawfully and go against God's law. The passage goes on to say, "But the midwives **feared God**, and **did not** as the king of Egypt commanded them, but saved the men children alive." These godly women, at great risk to their own lives chose to obey God rather than Pharaoh. They did so by **totally disobeying the civil law** regarding what really could be termed, post-birth abortion.

2. Christians should disobey government when the powers that be require them to worship another god, or when the worship of the true God is hindered in any way.

There are two elements to this point: 1. **Forcing the believer** to do wrong (worship a false god), and 2. **Restricting the believer** from doing right (worshipping the true God). This is a form of government control we are not accustomed to in our Western culture. For centuries (thanks to the sacrifices made by our forefathers) Christians have enjoyed a great measure of religious freedom, with the functioning of the Western New Testament Church largely being left unhindered by the state. This is in direct contrast with many other nations of the world, where state control and persecution of Christians is commonplace. Sadly though, as our Western culture becomes progressively decadent and **post-Christian**, an increasing state censorship and interference with church affairs is becoming more and more apparent. Many Christians in the West can sense the noose of state control

tightening! To help guide us in regards to this aspect of Christian civil disobedience, let us consider other examples in Scripture: that of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, and Daniel, four men who found themselves in a state transitioning over from religious tolerance, to **religious intolerance**.

Firstly, we read in Daniel Chapter Three of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, who found themselves caught up in a government edict from Nebuchadnezzar the king, commanding that **ALL people** at the appropriate time should bow down and worship the image he had set up, "in the plain of Dura, in the province of Babylon" (Daniel 3:1). Desiring to obey God's law, "Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image...Thou shalt not **bow down** thyself to them, nor serve them" (Exodus 20:4-5), these three Hebrew men **openly defied the authorities** and refused to bow down to the image of gold. In their own words, "Be it known unto thee, O king, that **we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image** which thou hast set up" (Daniel 3:18). We then read further of the king's fury, the death sentence passed upon the three men, and the great miracle of their delivery from the flames of the fiery furnace. With the choice before them, of either obeying the powers that be and bowing down before the false god, or obeying God's law not to worship false gods, these three brave young men chose to obey God rather than men.

Secondly, we read in Daniel Chapter Six of an unrighteous decree made law by King Darius of the Medes and Persians. It forbade praying to any god other than the king for the space of **thirty days**. Notice that in this example Daniel was not being forced to pray to a false god, but rather that his worship of the true God was to be **limited**. This very short term decree was deliberately passed by the enemies of faithful Daniel who was in the habit of daily prayer to the true God. Upon learning of this new law, notice how Daniel **did not change anything in his daily routine** before the Lord: "Now when Daniel knew that the writing was signed, he went into his house; and **his windows being open** in his chamber toward Jerusalem, he kneeled upon his knees three times a day, and prayed, and gave thanks before his God, **as he did aforetime**" (Daniel 6:10). **No change whatsoever in Daniel's worship** - despite the danger of death for doing so!

3. Christians should disobey government when the powers that be require them to cease preaching the gospel, or when the preaching of the gospel is hindered in any way.

Numerous times in the book of Acts the civil and religious authorities tried to hinder and, as much as they could, shut down the preaching of the gospel of Christ. We read of instances of the apostles being detained (Acts 4:3, 5:17-18), threatened (Acts 4:17), and of attempts to ban them from preaching (Acts 4:18). In response to the growing pressure not to preach and teach in the name of Jesus, "Peter and John answered and said unto them, Whether it be right in the sight of God to hearken unto you more than unto God, judge ye. For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard" (Acts 4:19-20). In Acts Chapter Five the apostles were further interrogated: "Did not we straitly command you that ye should not teach in this name? and, behold, ye have filled Jerusalem with your doctrine, and intend to bring this man's blood upon us." In response to this charge, "Peter and the other apostles answered and said, **We ought to obey God rather than men**" (verses 28-29).

The common theme found here in all three of these points is that when man tells us to do one thing, and God tells us to do another, **we OUGHT ALWAYS TO OBEY GOD RATHER THAN MEN**. In other words, we should obey those in authority (for the powers that be are ordained of God), but when the powers that be require us to go against what God tells us to do, we obey the Lord despite the consequences. Obviously this is not the easiest path to follow, but it is the right one, with the Hebrew midwives, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, Daniel, and the Apostles being great examples to us. Let us now apply these principles to the various aspects of church life in the light of COVID-19 government restrictions.

1. Have the COVID-19 regulations (forced or voluntarily adhered to by many Christians and churches) resulted in disobedience to what God wants us to do?

Consider Hebrews 10: 23-25, "Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;) And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: **Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together**, as the manner of some is." Does this exhortation for God's people to meet together to worship the Lord sound like a suggestion in this passage? Or more like a command? The pattern for Christian worship for the last two thousand years has been the **literal gathering** of God's people to worship God as an assembly of God's people upon the first day of the week. Despite this clear instruction from Scripture, plus two thousand years of Christians obeying this command in a LITERAL sense (whatever the risks involved for doing so), many modern Christians, churches and denominations have now **forsaken** this commandment in the New Testament, excusing their **disobedience** because of the apparent 'pandemic' and in order to honour the powers that be.

Some feebly point out that gathering to worship God 'online' is a reasonable substitute for the literal gathering of God's people. But are we really to believe the Holy Spirit would class Zoom meetings, and live broadcasts in the same category as the **literal physical gathering** of God's people? Or has the internet become a **convenient excuse** for Christians and ministers to disobey this clear command in Scripture and avoid any trouble with those in authority? **What if there was no internet?** What would the church do then? Not meet at all?

'Online' church raises further serious issues. The ordinances of baptism and the Lord's table cannot be administered online. These are perpetual commandments to be fulfilled by the New Testament Church until Christ returns (Matthew 28:19, 1 Corinthians 11:20, 24-25). Another area tragically forsaken when it comes to 'online' church is **congregational** singing. Many of God's people have now ceased singing praise to their God in the context of the assembly of believers together. Granted, we can watch Christian teaching online, but does this count as a church gathering together? Rather, New Testament Christianity is the **literal gathering** of God's people PLUS the **full programme** of what a New Testament Church should be (congregational singing, prayer, preaching, Lord's Table, baptism etc). **'Online' church IS NOT full New Testament worship**; it falls short of that.

Some cite 'drive-in church' services as reasonable substitutes for gathering to worship the Lord. Whilst preaching and prayer is possible at these meetings, they again fall short of a full New Testament gathering of God's people. Most 'drive-in' church meetings abandon congregational singing, as well as the ordinances of baptism and the Lord's table. Therefore, drive-in church is another poor substitute for a fully functioning New Testament Church meeting.

A further attempt to justify the stoppage of church meetings is to claim that it is merely the church buildings that have been shut down, not the actual gathering of God's people. This counter argument is a **half-truth**. In fact, during the various lockdowns forced upon the UK so far, it was gatherings of **any kind** that were outlawed, not just assembly of God's people in church buildings. It is true that many early church Christians met in their homes, with this being a setting where full New Testament worship could take place (congregational singing, prayer, preaching, Lord's Table, baptism etc). However, during the lockdowns, gatherings of such nature were outlawed (as evidenced by reports of various house church meetings being broken up by the authorities).

The bottom line is this: during the unscriptural lockdowns imposed on the UK, and indeed across the globe, the literal gathering of God's people was made **illegal**, and therefore in order to obey Hebrews 10:25 to forsake not the gathering together of God's people, Christians would have been

right to **openly disobey the powers that be and gather anyway** despite the restrictions. Some Christians and churches in the UK did seek to obey the Lord in this, and they are to be commended for obeying God rather than men.

Dear reader, **by what authority** do MEN (whether in or out of the church) have to stop and start Christian worship? By what authority does a minister have to stop and start the ordinances of baptism and the Lord's table? Surely there are some holy things that God has ordained that are **not to be touched or interfered with!** What if Christ were to return to earth during one of the 'lockdowns', to find His ministers hiding behind computer screens instead of occupying their pulpits? What if Christ were to find His people not meeting to worship Him, not singing His praise, not remembering His death at His table, not baptising His new converts, and not evangelising this lost world? Did not He say to His followers, "Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh **shall find so doing**" (Matthew 24:46)? Do we really grasp the magnitude of what many in the professing church have done? Two thousand years of New Testament Church history now **marred** by professing Christians who should have known better than to obey men rather than God. Sadly, in recent times we have witnessed the **utter weakness** and **cowardly capitulation** displayed by the vast majority of those in the role of **church leadership**.

2. Have the COVID-19 regulations forced Christians to worship a false God, or hindered the worship of the true God in any way?

Thankfully for us as Christians, the COVID-19 regulations forced upon us have not included any directives to worship false gods. This omission from government restrictions has been interpreted by some to mean that the church has not in any way undergone any form of persecution. However, if we consider the question, 'Has the worship of the true God been **hindered** in any way?' surely the answer to that question is a resounding 'YES!' As detailed in the previous point, lockdowns outlawed the literal gathering of God's people in ANY setting, and even when churches have been allowed to reopen, restrictions on the worship of God (such as no singing, baptism, or Lord's table) have remained in place. To see all this disruption take place before our eyes and then conclude that the worship of God has not been hindered in any way is to be **wilfully blind**. The motive for this self-imposed blindness? "The **fear of man** bringeth a snare" (Proverbs 29:25).

Some argue that the disruption to church worship is only a **temporary** measure, and that all will go 'back to normal' once the restrictions have eased. This argument may have had more clout when the measures were first brought in, and were promised to only last a matter of a few weeks. However, as each fresh round of lockdown measures were imposed, and the months have dragged on, the naivety of such wishful thinking has become apparent. Interestingly, when Daniel faced the prohibition on the worship of God, the measures signed in to law were **only to last for thirty days** (Daniel 6:7). Daniel could so easily have reasoned to himself that in order to keep the peace and respect the powers that be, a **temporary** cessation of prayer would have been the easiest solution. However, this was not to be his course of action: "He kneeled upon his knees **three times a day, and prayed**, and gave thanks before his God, **as he did aforetime**" (Daniel 6:10). Not only did Daniel openly disobey the powers that be, he also made sure to **change nothing in his routine of worship**. He simply prayed, "as he did aforetime".

'Ah' but some say, 'the virus is the reason the government gave for closing the churches and banning Christians from gathering'. This has been the official excuse used by the powers that be to impose these measures, but as said by William Pitt the Younger in his observations concerning tyrannical government, "**Necessity** is the plea for every infringement of human freedom. It is the **argument of tyrants**; it is the **creed of slaves**." We do well to learn our lessons from world history. **History never**

repeats, but it often rhymes. As for the severity of COVID-19, this we hope to discuss in a further publication.

As the old saying goes, **'If you give an inch, they will take a mile'**. This principle is so clearly true in the spiritual realm. That's why the Bible warns, "Neither give place to the devil" (Ephesians 4:27), and that just, "A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump" (Galatians 5:9). Freedoms are often taken away from a population in an **incremental** fashion (a little at a time), and so to prevent this erosion the wisest counter to this is a **zero tolerance** of giving ground to the enemy (with Daniel and the others we have considered being great examples of this). **Compromisers always end up retreating!** With initial promises at the start of these lockdowns of churches only needing to close for a few weeks in order to 'flatten the curve', churches and denominations were **naive** in the extreme to think that by **handing over control** of the functioning of their churches **from Christ to the state**, that such a move would only be a very temporary one. Now, the enemy has come in like a flood, and the wholesale disruption to the functioning of the New Testament Church in the UK, and across the globe, by the hand of the church's new masters has taken place. We have given the Devil an inch, and he has taken a mile!

3. Have the COVID-19 regulations resulted in the shutdown of preaching the gospel, or hampered the preaching of the gospel in any way?

We must have our heads in the sand to say that the preaching of the gospel has not been hampered in any way by the COVID-19 restrictions imposed in the UK by the powers that be. What has been the primary means whereby the gospel has been preached for centuries in this country? The answer is of course the church pulpits. And what was shut down and prohibited during these draconian national lockdowns? Preaching from church pulpits.

As we read about the prohibiting of preaching the gospel in the book of Acts, the context of the type of preaching the Apostles were doing was that of open air preaching. They had, by this means, turned the world upside down with their doctrine (Acts 17:6), much to the irritation and dismay of the religious leaders of the day. Now, these religious leaders sought to shut down this specific area of gospel preaching because of the effect it was having on the local population. Private/secret preaching and teaching would not have alarmed them so much, but rather the bold public proclamation of the gospel had to be stopped. When the command to cease preaching in the open air came, the Apostles could easily have obeyed the local authorities and temporarily halted open air preaching, and moved all their meetings to a private setting. This would have pleased the religious leaders, and the Apostles could have consoled themselves that at least preaching could continue in some setting. However, their response was to **ignore the authorities** and keep the open-air preaching going. They knew that to surrender this arena of preaching the gospel, the result would have been a **limiting and hindering** of the preaching of the truth. Can the same not be said for the COVID-19 regulations that forbid preaching to the literal assembly of God's people in any setting? As discussed earlier, preaching was moved 'online', but this has proved a poor substitute for preaching to the literal gathering of God's people.

It is true that many hear the word of God online in this modern world, but this form of spreading the truth has already met with great success over the last few years anyway, long before COVID-19 restrictions came along. There is another point worth mentioning here: the real fruit of 'online church'. The reality is that many tune in to online church and then tune out again, or don't bother tuning in at all. How many actually sit and listen from start to finish we will never know. Many, due to the natural disruption and settings of sitting at home do not pay attention to what is being said, as opposed to real church which is a more ideal setting for paying attention, keeping children in good order, and a place with less worldly distractions. It should also be mentioned the disastrous

impact online church has had on the good habit of routine church attendance. Good habits take years to form, and sadly for many, regaining this habit may never happen. Sunday schools closed, young people missing out with youth fellowships forsaken, meetings moved 'online', starvation of fellowship - far from being a blessing, lockdown 'substitute church' has been a miserable disaster.

Finally, some argue that the COVID-19 regulations imposed upon the church should not be counted as persecution because the measures have not been specifically targeted against Christians. But persecution it is nonetheless! When the prophet Daniel was commanded to pray to the false god, so too were **all the citizens of that land**. It was a universal removal of religious freedom - **not just a law targeted against Christians**. The same with the unrighteous decree imposed on all the people of the land by Nebuchadnezzar at the time of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego - ALL citizens had to comply. These unrighteous laws were much **broader in their scope** and were not targeted only towards these faithful men. In the same way, the COVID-19 regulations imposed in the UK were not specifically targeted at Christians, but Christians have found themselves **caught up in the broad net** of these unrighteous dictates. Regulations that across the land have in total or in part removed freedom of assembly, freedom of movement, freedom of association, freedom of religion, freedom to protest and so on. These rights, bought in blood, have been **given away largely without a fight**. Will the enemy be so keen to give them back?

C. The 'Love thy Neighbour' Excuse for Compliance

This is one of the key COVID doctrines used by many professing Christians, churches and denominations to justify their compliance with any and all of the COVID-19 regulations and 'new normal' forms of behaviour. Churches have been closed out of 'love' for their neighbour because of the level of perceived risk from the virus. Face masks are worn at church out of 'consideration' and 'love' for one's neighbour, and now many believers have even used this false doctrine to justify taking an experimental vaccine made with, and/or containing, aborted foetal tissue out of 'love' for their fellow man. Interestingly, it is this **exact same doctrine** that has been used by governments and media to coerce citizens to comply with the COVID-19 rules. 'Stay at home -save lives', 'I wear a face mask because I care for others', 'Look me in the eye and tell me you did all you could to follow the guidelines', are examples of the COVID-19 mantras filtered through to us in this great **psychological attack** upon the minds of the public.

Regardless of the perceived level of danger posed by COVID-19 (which has been grossly exaggerated by governments and media), it is a fact that in the Bible, and down through the centuries Christians have still met at church, and/or literally assembled together **despite** the sometimes very high level of danger posed to their lives. Think of the disciples gathering in fear just after the resurrection. They were wanted men, and feared arrest and possible execution by the authorities, just as had happened to the Saviour (John 20:19). Despite this danger they still met! What a sorry story it would have been in the New Testament if we read of the disciples 'staying home' to save lives. Think of the early Church Christians, who still met and functioned as a New Testament church despite the huge danger to life from the various Christian-hating Roman Emperors. **The list is endless** of examples that could be mentioned here of Christians who have met, often in defiance of civil authorities despite the high risk to life for doing so. Why then, it must be asked, have churches closed down because of **a threat comparable to the flu**?

When it comes to true love for our neighbour in times of plague **the Bible is clear** in what action we should take. **Washing and cleanliness**, and **separation if sick** is the biblical way we love our neighbour (See Part 1 of this series). Mask wearing, quarantine, and social distancing is for those who are unwell, **NOT** those who are healthy.

If we are to adopt the 'love your neighbour' and stay away from church logic, then what other areas should we now curtail in our personal lives in order to reduce the risk to others? Should, for example, Christians now think twice about even travelling to church? Danger to life from car accidents is a very real one, so perhaps out of 'love' for our neighbour we should all stay safe and stay at home? What about other deadly diseases other than COVID-19? There are plenty of them. Perhaps before ever leaving home again, we should now make sure we are tested for the full spectrum of deadly diseases, just in case we pass something on to someone and kill them. When we depart from God's guidelines for loving our neighbour, these are the kind of **logical absurdities** we can end up believing.

The age old question asked down through the centuries has been, '**At what price freedom?**' Freedom in a society always **comes at a cost** - there is always an **element of risk** involved. For example, the government could pass a law banning all driving in an effort to reduce the number of road deaths. Such legislation would surely work, but at what cost? The loss of freedom and the ruin of the economy. **The 'cure' would end up doing more harm than the 'disease'**. When trying to reach the correct view on safety on one hand and freedom on the other, the Bible in regards to plague gives us the **perfect balance**. The guidelines for disease control in the Old Testament for leprosy were never intended as a means of wiping out the disease; the leprosy we read about in the Old Testament still continued to infect and kill people all the way through into the New Testament and beyond. Rather, the Levitical measures were put in place to help contain and reduce the spread of leprosy, whilst at the same time **preserving the freedom and functioning of society** for the healthy population.

Thinking on the theme of love for our neighbour, **is it really loving** that we close down church? What about the spiritual and mental well-being of God's people? Is it loving to limit and hinder preaching, denying lost sinners the opportunity of hearing the soul saving message of the gospel? Is it loving that we put the physical safety of our hearers before their spiritual wellbeing? "But I will forewarn you whom ye shall fear: Fear him, which after he hath killed hath power to cast into hell; yea, I say unto you, Fear him" (Luke 12:5). This new form of 'love' **is not love at all**, but rather a warped form of love **taught to us by the world**, and a **weak excuse for compliance with tyrants**.

One of the main arguments we hear is that Christians should comply with any law if it is to help others and is perceived as a '**good**' thing to do. 'Wear a mask to protect those around you' is the mantra we are told. Professing Christians who hold to this then reinforce this view by citing the 6th Commandment, "Thou shalt not kill" (Exodus 20:13). 'Wouldn't want to pass the virus on and kill someone mistakenly!' is the guilt trip riddled argument. However, this line of reasoning is dangerously flawed because **it lets the world define to us what is 'good'**.

What is right, what is proper, and what is 'good' does NOT come to us from the world, but it should rather **only ever be defined by the Word of God**. The 6th Commandment, "Thou shalt not kill", does not stand alone in Scripture. God's Word guides the believer on how to rightly keep that commandment. For example, there are times when it is right to kill someone else according to Scripture (such as capital punishment, self-defence, and righteous wars). In the same way, as demonstrated in Part 1 of this series, the Bible gives the believer guidance concerning what measures to take during a pandemic. Therefore, when the world, or even a fellow professing Christian, tells the believer, 'Do the right thing, and wear a mask', the Christian can respond, 'No, face masks according to Scripture are for those who are sick, (Leviticus 13).' The Christian can further point out, 'I am not sick (I have no symptoms), I do not need to wear a mask. I will not behave like a leper.' The response may be, 'But you should do it out of love for your neighbour', but again, the Christian can respond with, 'I love my neighbour in times of plague by frequent washing and

isolation if sick (Leviticus 11 and 13). That is how I protect my neighbour and stay within what is required of me by the 6th Commandment.'

Without a biblical foundation for discerning what truly is good, the Christian leaves themselves open to what the world defines as 'good'. The world tells the Christian, 'You should do the 'right' thing and not eat meat...surely as a Christian you don't support the suffering of animals?'. The Christian may feel guilty and perhaps start to wonder if they should abstain from meats, but if they know the Scriptures they will understand that eating meat is permitted (Acts 10). And thus with the Bible to guide them, the Christian's **mind is protected** from being **warped by the world's often corrupted definition of what is right and wrong**.

Sadly though what has been demonstrated during the COVID-19 'pandemic' of recent times is a **mass surrender of discernment** by believers when it comes to doing that which truly is good. Many believers have embraced what the world has told them is 'good', and so have conformed to the world's own **moral response** to the 'pandemic'. Therefore many churches have 'done the right thing' and closed their doors. Many have 'loved' their neighbour and stopped singing praises to the Lord, and in seeking to do the 'right' thing have neglected the ordinances of the Lord's Table and Baptism. It also appears the 'pandemic' has caused the almost entire shutdown of biblical evangelism, all done because of a deep 'love and concern' for our fellow man. This is the utter madness this warped line of thinking generates.

"**Be not conformed to this world:** but be ye transformed by the **renewing of your mind**, that ye may prove what is that **good**, and acceptable, and perfect, **will of God**" (Romans 12:2).

D. The Strange Doctrine Concerning Touching the Dead

As mentioned at the beginning of this publication, as Christians we must avoid falling into the trap of taking an ungodly world view and **forcing it into the Bible**. One example of how this guidance has been ignored is found in the desperate logic and flawed argument known as the 'touching the dead' doctrine. It is worth considering here, because it forms another part of COVID doctrine used to justify the shutdown of church and the forsaking of the assembling together of believers.

The logic revolves around a **strange 'interpretation'** of the Old Testament passages concerning Precautionary Quarantine (as detailed in Part 1 of this series) found in Numbers 5:1-3, and 9:1-14. If we read these passages in a **literal sense** we are to understand that certain individuals were not permitted to meet to worship at the tabernacle because they were either a leper, had an 'issue of blood', or had been in contact with dead bodies. From a disease prevention point of view, God gave these rules to help **protect gatherings of healthy people** at the tabernacle from infectious disease. These three groups had to isolate to protect others. Those who had been in contact with dead bodies were to self isolate for **seven days** as a **precautionary measure**, under observation by the Priests to determine if disease was present in the individual.

The issue raised by some of the Israelites that we read about in Numbers Chapter Nine was concerning those who were under the seven day quarantine for being in contact with dead bodies. Passover was celebrated on the fourteenth day of the **first month** (Numbers 9:5). The question was then raised by those in the middle of a seven day quarantine, what were they to do if their isolation period meant they would miss the Passover? (Numbers 9:7). Moses then asks God what should be done, and if there is any way around this restriction? The answer comes in verse 11, "The fourteenth day of the **second month** at even they shall keep it." The solution was simple, those who couldn't

attend Passover on the fourteenth day of the first month because of being isolated for seven days were permitted to keep the Passover on the fourteenth day of the **second month** instead.

However, we find there are those that have taken these very straightforward passages of Scripture and have taught their own warped 'interpretation' of what the Bible is teaching. They compare the person under seven day quarantine for touching the dead to the current COVID-19 situation today. Those who had touched the dead they say, may, or may not have been infectious and had the potential to spread disease. They then conclude therefore, that in today's situation where it is not known (according to the world) who does and does not have COVID-19, **all should isolate** as a temporary precaution. This doctrine therefore seeks to justify the national lockdowns of healthy populations.

This logic ignores the fact that the person in contact with the dead was just that - **a specific individual who had been in contact with the dead!** It was a very specific reason for the seven day quarantine period - it was **not a blanket measure** for everyone! Biblical guidelines for disease control always targeted those who were **actually sick** or who had been in direct contact with those who were. Before measures were taken, it was always established first if this was the case. Never did the Israelites lockdown their healthy populations because 'anyone could have the disease', as this doctrine attempts to justify. Secondly, **worship at the tabernacle was never postponed** - it still continued for healthy people. It was only those who were unclean that had to stay away.

Taking the time to examine this flawed doctrine helps to illustrate the extremes that COVID doctrine adherents will go to in order to **stretch the Bible** to fit with their unscriptural thinking.

E. The Unholy Alliance of Church and State

One of the most disturbing elements of COVID doctrine has been the increasing cooperation between the Church and the State. With the powers that be portraying themselves as the saviours, coming to deliver their populations from the deadly virus, many churches and entire denominations have increasingly moved in a direction of working 'together' with the state in '**common cause**'.

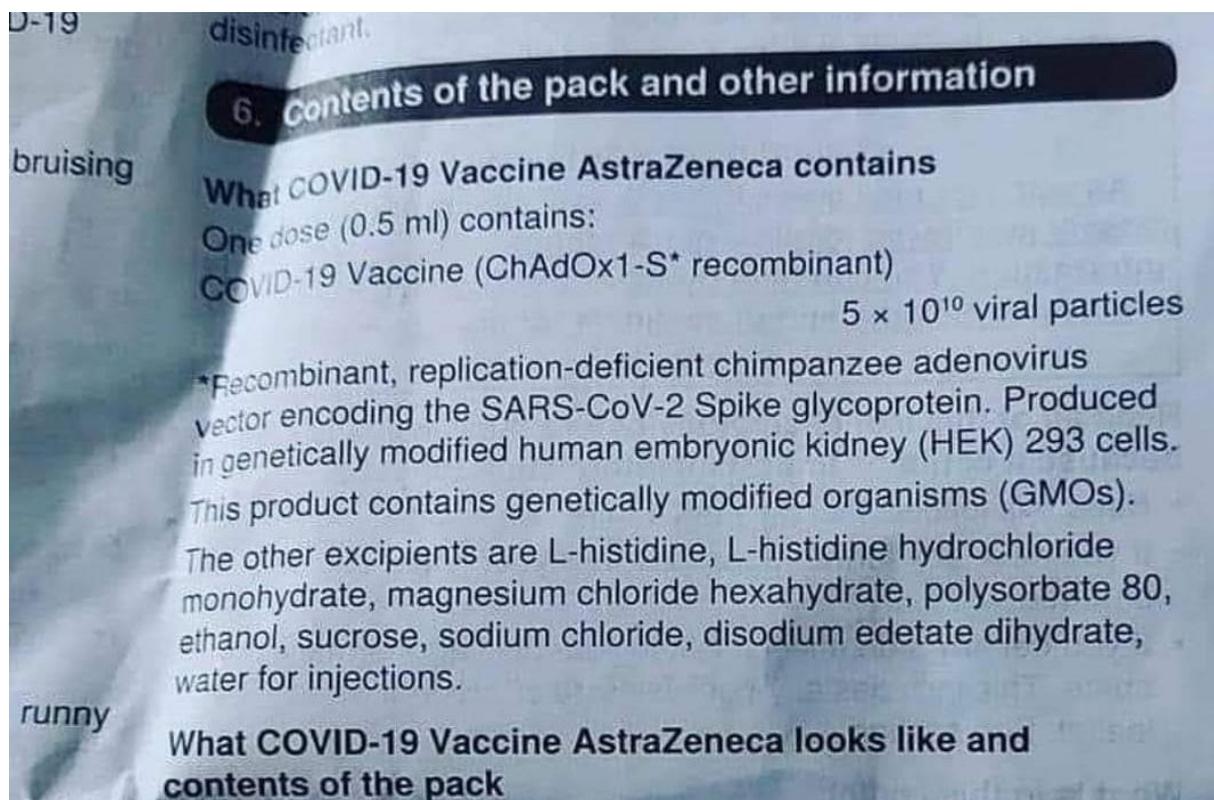
Instead of government regulations and restrictions on the functioning of the church being opposed and resisted, most churches and denominations have instead **openly embraced** the measures, even at times going **above and beyond** what has been required of them. Churches now rely upon guidance for what to do in regards to COVID-19 from the state, taking advice from government ministers and health officials concerning church closures and how best to implement COVID-19 regulations in the church setting. Pulpits are now used to **announce government edicts** (such as track and trace, social distancing, and mask compliance), and inside and outside church, walls, doors, and windows are plastered with **government COVID-19 posters and stickers**. The church for the most part has now become another arm in the government's single narrative driven COVID-19 agenda. Yes, as Christians we are to pray for those in authority, but are we wise to work together with them in common cause? The Bible warns us of "spiritual wickedness in high places" (Ephesians 6:12), and "Be ye not unequally **yoked together** with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?" (2 Corinthians 6:14)

The truth is that for the most part, those who rule over us are a people in spiritual darkness, and as stated earlier, Scripture warns that, "The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD, and against his anointed" (Psalm 2:2). The danger then becomes that if the church and the state begin to **intertwine**, believers can end up being **caught in the**

direction of flow the state takes them. This is exactly what has happened in the case of the COVID-19 'pandemic'. In the UK the powers that be have been utterly relentless in their pursuit of the 'lockdown' approach to dealing with COVID-19, with the vaccine being 'the light at the end of the tunnel'. The state has ordered lockdowns of healthy people, (ignoring Levitical guidelines), and in turn most churches and denominations have done the same by closing the doors of their places of worship when ordered or encouraged to do so.

Face masks have been decreed as mandatory by the state, and in turn most state siding churches and denominations have done the same, with some assemblies even denying entry without a mask. Likewise, the state demands mass testing of its healthy population via the unreliable PCR Testing method, backed up by an ineffective and extremely wasteful 'track and trace' system. In turn, churches and denominations that have sided with the state agenda open and close their churches based on PCR Testing results and 'outbreaks', as well as implementing the government 'track and trace' system in the church, passing on the personal information of all attendees at meetings to the civil authority when required to do so. Such close collaboration between church and state bears a disturbing resemblance to that of government controlled churches in countries like Communist China.

Furthermore, state siding churches and denominations have for the most part endorsed the experimental COVID-19 vaccination programme, with many ministers openly praying for its arrival and publicly endorsing it as a mere 'medicine' to be taken out of Christian duty and 'love' for our neighbour. With regard to vaccines, despite the health hazards they pose, professing Christians may feel they are free to take such health care if they so wish. But there is one issue which makes some, if not most vaccines **unviable** for Christians.



Pictured above is the insert contained within the packaging for the AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine. Notice the ingredient used in production, 'HEK' (**H**uman **E**mbr**y**onic **K**idney). ALL of the current COVID-19 vaccines available in the UK either use in their **production**, and/or **contain**, aborted foetal

tissue. In other words, the body parts of **murdered children** are used in the production of these vaccines, a fact hardly mentioned by anyone in church leadership. The author has approached a number of Christians in positions of influence and even church ministers concerning this issue, and all have responded in the same way. **A wall of silence.** Not one has addressed the issue. How can they, and still be in support of the vaccine? And so by ignoring this 'inconvenient truth' and waiting for the situation to go away, these men who are meant to watch for our souls have **denied their calling.** Why? Because the COVID-19 agenda they have bought into must continue to go ahead, despite any moral 'bumps in the road'. **When we choose to follow the world, principle is often cast to the side.**

"But if the watchman see the sword come, and blow not the trumpet, and **the people be not warned;** if the sword come, and take any person from among them, he is taken away in his iniquity; but **his blood will I require** at the watchman's hand" (Ezekiel 33:6).

With the 'health crisis' as the excuse, it appears the church and state have become **one in purpose** in regards to fighting COVID-19. With the state now embracing a truly **unbiblical and tyrannical** approach to disease control, those Christians, churches and denominations that have sided with the government have now **bought into the narrative** and **become partakers in this sin.** Naturally then, from this unholy alliance, the **disinformation** we hear from government and media is then **regurgitated** from these church pulpits, further **lending credence** to the COVID-19 narrative. Instead of stepping back, and urging their people to be cautious of all that they hear from the world, the majority of churches now **add weight to the growing slide away from the Bible,** and towards the nightmarish vision of the future some of those in authority have for the days ahead. Christians now unsuspectingly find themselves stuck between **two unreliable witnesses.** The world pushes the COVID-19 agenda on them from one direction, and then those churches and denominations that have sided with the narrative from the state push at them from the other direction. The 'truth' washing into their minds from the television, then confirmed by the 'truth' they hear from the pulpits. The scale of the deception truly is staggering, and admittedly is most impressive, as now we witness for the most part **the world and the church walking hand in hand.** Jesus warned about following the wrong crowd, when He said: "They be **blind leaders of the blind.** And if the blind lead the blind, **both** shall fall into the ditch" (Matthew 15:14).

"He that walketh with wise men shall be wise: **but a companion of fools shall be destroyed**" (Proverbs 13:20).

Dr. Charles Woodbridge, an American Presbyterian, who stood strongly against the downward spiral evident in many evangelical circles, gave the following sober warning concerning 'New Evangelicalism' (a softer version of true Bible fundamentalism), where he identified five steps down into apostasy: "New Evangelicalism is a theological and moral compromise of the deadliest sort. It is an insidious attack on the Word of God. The New Evangelicalism advocates (1) **Toleration** of Error. It [then follows] the downward path of (2) **Accommodation** to error, (3) **Cooperation** with error, (4) **Contamination** by error, and [then] (5) ultimate **Capitulation** to error." Thinking specifically on the issue of COVID-19 false doctrine, it seems the majority of Christians, churches and denominations have succumbed to all five of these downward steps concerning the gross error that is **the five points of COVID doctrine.**

2. Spiritual Warfare and The Satanic Nature of COVID Doctrine

The Bible encourages Christians to, "Believe not every spirit, but **try the spirits** whether they are of God: because many **false** prophets are gone out into the world" (1 John 4:1). Sadly, in many of our

churches today, warnings about the spiritual nature of our battle in this world are often neglected. The Devil in all his subtlety, and the dark, wicked forces that operate in this world are hardly ever mentioned. The fruit of this spiritual malnutrition amongst believers is a generation of professing Christians that have become **numbed** to the demonic operations that go on unseen in this world. Government therefore is **viewed with little suspicion**, and seen as a mere benevolent entity rather than something to be at a minimum very wary of. Our 'nanny state' is presumed to have only our best interests at heart, despite all the promotion of evil, and unrighteous dictates that flow like a sewer from our nation's corridors of power. If Christians really had a grasp of the spiritual wickedness that dwells in high places, they would not be so quick to trust the world and the powers that be.

Even from within the church, the Bible repeatedly warns us about false doctrines, false teachers, and false brethren, often creeping in unawares (Jude 4). The Bible speaks of, "Seducing spirits, and **doctrines of devils**" (1 Timothy 4:1), and, "The spirit of truth, and the **spirit of error**" (1 John 4:6). Another spirit the Bible speaks of that has gripped, and indeed mastered, the majority of professing Christians in recent times, is "The **spirit of fear**" (2 Timothy 1:7), an emotion that has been heavily relied upon by the powers that be as a **manipulating force** to help gain the compliance of the general population. Speaking of the Devil, Jesus said that Satan, "Cometh not, but for to **steal**, and to **kill**, and to **destroy**" (John 10:10). These three hallmarks of his handiwork have been clearly seen in this COVID-19 'pandemic': Unnecessary **killing** of thousands at the hand of the state through the lockdown policy and the dangerous experimental vaccines, **stolen** God given liberties, rights, and freedoms in virtually every area of life, and **destroyed** lives, businesses, and education.

The false teaching that makes up COVID doctrine is no mere side issue that we can all have our own opinion about. Its impact upon the professing church and society in general has been cataclysmic, therefore making it of the utmost importance that believers discern whether COVID doctrine is truth or error. Such is the insidious nature of COVID doctrine and its corrosive effect upon the function and testimony of the New Testament Church, it can be concluded that it is of satanic origin for the following reasons:

1. It trusts and relies upon truth from the ungodly. Church leaders ignore the scriptural command to not forsake the assembling together (Hebrews 10:25), and instead open and close their buildings based on what government tells them, or what the latest scientific advice and opinion would have them believe. This has resulted in churches opening and closing at the **whim of man**, instead of sticking to the principle of the **literal and perpetual gathering** of God's people to worship the Lord no matter what the circumstances. Allowing the world to control the assembly of God's people is **satanic**.

2. It destroys the structure of church and worship. "God is not the author of confusion" (1 Corinthians 14:33). Confusion reigns in churches today. Church is open one minute, closed the next. Congregations can sing, then can't sing, can baptise, can't baptise, the Lord's table allowed, then not allowed. Services online, then in the car park, then in church, then back out of church. Is God the author of this? Then who?

3. It endorses the demonic sin of abortion via support for the COVID-19 experimental vaccine programme. All of the current COVID-19 vaccines available in the UK use in their production and/or contain aborted foetal tissue (cells taken from aborted/murdered babies). Abortion, the unlawful killing of unborn children, is murder.

4. It creates backsliders. The natural result of the disruption and shut down of public church worship has been the undeniable backsliding evident amongst many professing Christians. Months of no

church attendance has created bad habits amongst many believers, with many not bothering to keep the structure of the Lord's Day, tune in to 'online' services, or attend church meetings held in car parks. This spiritual downgrade observed amongst so many is surely satanic - Satan wants Christians in a state of apathy and laziness - that way they are no threat to him and his devilish plans.

5. It interlocks the church and the state. With churches and denominations 'working together' and following a common 'COVID-19 agenda', an insidious link has now been formed between many churches/denominations and the state. Any COVID relief programmes from the state to the church also help to strengthen this bond, "The borrower is servant to the lender" (Proverbs 22:7). The state demands compliance from the church in regard to COVID regulations, and these churches can now only operate if allowed to by their new masters.

6. It obliterates the Great Commission. With churches shut for months on end, evangelistic activity has virtually been wiped out. Christ commanded His followers, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature" (Mark 16:15). To many church leaders today, the COVID-19 'pandemic' has been an exception to this command. Street outreach and door to door ministry has almost disappeared, and seeking souls now struggle to find anywhere to travel to hear the gospel preached. The almost total cessation of evangelism in the UK is blatantly satanic in origin. What a victory for the powers of darkness!

7. It aids the breakdown of the Lord's Day. With the structure of church in tatters, and the miserable failure of 'online' live broadcasts, or inferior semi church services held in car parks, the Lord's Day has now become a void filled with other worldly pursuits. Christians who once found themselves sitting in a church pew on a Sunday morning, are now found instead sitting bored at home, or away on day trips to the park or beach. Whilst there are those that have done their utmost to stick to some kind of routine, many have not. The sheep have been scattered. Surely, "an enemy hath done this" (Matthew 13:28).

8. It inhibits the public voice of the church. The go-to place for truth in this world - the church of Jesus Christ - has in many cases been visibly shut down. Yes, ministers may still be broadcasting online to their congregations as they sit at home, but the public image of the church is now of closed buildings and cancelled services. This creates the impression to all who see this of an institution that has become irrelevant, non essential, and has nothing of any importance to say in time of crisis. This has resulted in the public shaming and tarnishing of the testimony of Jesus Christ and the essential message of the Gospel.

9. It departs from biblical guidelines for disease control, thus ignoring the Bible. As soon as the COVID-19 situation began to emerge, Christians and ministers of the gospel should have gone straight to the Scriptures for guidance in what to do in times of plague (Leviticus 13 & 14). Instead, the vast majority of church ministers adopted an unscriptural approach to disease control learned from the world primarily through television, and then disseminated this false teaching to their congregations. Ignoring the Word of God, and following the council of the ungodly, with all of its unscriptural nonsense and damaging applications is to heed, "seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils" (1 Timothy 4:1).

10. It testifies to the unsaved world that the church complies with, follows, and aids the ungodly and their unbiblical COVID-19 agenda. By following, sometimes above and beyond, the unscriptural COVID-19 guidelines from the powers that be, the majority of professing Christians, churches, and denominations have sided with the world and have become an aid to this great departure away from the Bible, instead of exposing it as error. Putting their weight behind this unscriptural agenda, churches and ministers have literally done the Devil's work for him.

11. It lets the Devil work unhindered. Whilst many churches and denominations simply wait for things 'to get back to normal', Satan has never had so much freedom to work the works of darkness. Streets and homes unevangelised, no churches for the unsaved to visit; the Devil and his demons have been left virtually unhindered to lead lost souls to damnation. "Your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour" (1 Peter 5:8). You won't find Satan wearing a mask, 'social distancing', or self-isolating for 14 days. This roaring lion never slumbers - he works relentlessly for he knows his time is short.

Appendix 1: Who is to Blame?

From a Christian point of view, perhaps the most alarming aspect of the COVID-19 'pandemic' has been the response to the crisis by the majority of the Christian Church. On an individual level many Christians have gone along with the lying media's narrative of the outbreak, and have fallen into line with whatever unbiblical and often nonsensical draconian measures that have been foisted upon the people of our once free society. Sadly, much of the blame for such behaviour from professing Christians has to be directed to **the pulpits of our land**. The COVID-19 'pandemic' has merely exposed a problem that was **already there**. Preachers who once, a generation ago, warned about the dangers of television, have now **succumbed to its mesmerizing propaganda**. Unable to think 'outside of the box' and only too eager to accept the steady flow of 'official statements' spouted by a 'single narrative' driven media that will not tolerate any opposing view, and a national government set on a course of action that oversteps the guidelines given in Scripture.

In a few short months we have witnessed the people of the United Kingdom stripped of many of their blood bought freedoms, a younger generation robbed of an uninterrupted and full education, lockdown and poverty driven suicides, avoidable deaths caused by undiagnosed and untreated deadly diseases, severe and lasting damage done to the work of the Church of Christ, and the wicked destruction of the livelihoods of so many who sought only to work in order to provide for their own. Surely the cure has done more harm than the disease! **This is what happens when the powers that be depart from the finely balanced guidelines of the Bible.**

It has been wisely said, '**Bad doctrine kills people**'. Unbiblical lockdowns have proved this in a very literal way. The godless government overreaction to the COVID-19 'health emergency' has borne fruit and will continue to do so in the days, months, and years ahead. Fruit such as the worst financial crisis in the UK for 300 years. Mindboggling sized loans which will never be repaid, record unemployment, and the collapse of untold numbers of businesses. The financial crisis our nation faces has not been caused by COVID-19. Rather, it is the madness of NATIONAL LOCKDOWNS that has brought about such tragedy. Tragedy, not because of the loss of money or wealth, but because of the DIRECT LINK between financial hardship and mortality. Poorer people die sooner - FACT.

We can again be tempted to direct all of our frustration and blame over the misery caused by the lockdowns in recent months to our godless government, but would we be wise to **blame a blind man** for stumbling to the ground? It is not in his ability to see. However, once again, perhaps more blame should be directed yet again towards the men who occupy the pulpits of our land. Instead of stepping out of the flow of disinformation, and taking a brief respite from the collective hype and panic to study the Scriptures and preach what the Bible would have to say regarding the correct course of action in times of plague, we have been met with **a wall of silence**. The Church of Jesus Christ was presented with a **tremendous opportunity** to make a **stand for truth**, and to **resist** (even help stop) the national slide into the darkness and misery our nation now finds itself in. Sadly though this great **opportunity was lost**. Why? Because of **weak men** and **feeble church leadership**.

Trying to find any sermons on the subject of what the Bible has to say about COVID-19 and the issues surrounding it proves to be nigh on impossible, despite it being THE ONE subject Christians have been **desperate for guidance on**. Instead of 'dying at their posts' during this crisis, those who have been put in charge of our spiritual well-being have **retreated** from their pulpits, offering whimpering 'wee words of encouragement' from behind their computer screens. This feeble form of leadership coming from men who have **consistently failed to stand out and speak out on any of the important issues of our age**. When we complain about the political correctness that permeates our culture today, we must understand it has crept into the church! This dire situation can be compared to a lighthouse switching off its light in the midst of a ferocious storm - what a betrayal!

There is also something else quite ironic to consider, as nothing ever happens by coincidence. The church has for the most part opted to comply with mask wearing, acting according to the Old Testament like a colony of lepers. What does the mask cover? The mouth. A mouth that will not speak the truth, a mouth that will not spread the gospel, and **a mouth that will not rail on the evils of our day**. So in response, in a highly symbolic way, **God has muzzled His people**. God's people will not speak out, nor will their ministers, and so in about the most visual way one could imagine, God has **covered their mouths and shut their churches down**.

"Ye are the salt of the earth: **but** if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth **good for nothing**, but to be cast out, and to be **trodden under foot of men**" (Matthew 5:13).

"His watchmen are **blind**: they are all **ignorant**, they are all **dumb dogs**, they cannot bark; sleeping, lying down, loving to **slumber**. Yea, they are **greedy** dogs which can never have enough, and they are shepherds that **cannot understand**: they all look to their **own way**, every one for **his gain**, from his quarter" (Isaiah 56:10-11).

As sad, and as discouraging the situation may be, there is still **a remnant** that has not bowed the knee to Baal. Amidst the majority of compromise, God has, as in every generation, maintained a remnant. A remnant of people who go against the flow, who push upstream against the crowd, and a remnant that seek to serve God in defiance of every adversary. To those brave few Christians, ministers, and churches, we salute you, and urge you to continue your stand, "Having your loins girt about with truth" (Ephesians 6:14). May your cause be **vindicated, honoured, and blessed** abundantly in the days ahead.

"**Them that honour me I will honour**, and they that despise me shall be **lightly esteemed**" (1 Samuel 2:30).

Appendix 2: Making a Stand and the Way Forward

When the nation of Israel first began their journey to the Promised Land, they were attacked by a hostile tribe called the Amalekites (Exodus 17:8-16, Deuteronomy 25:17-18). With their strongest warriors at the front of the column, ready to fight the enemy where they expected them to attack, the Israelites were instead **caught off guard** when the Amalekites attacked from the rear. Israel learned a valuable lesson that day, and were **better prepared the next time** they engaged the enemy.

The Devil, that arch enemy of the bride of Christ, in all his subtlety has attacked the professing church **in a direction virtually none of us were expecting**. The COVID-19 'pandemic' came at the

church like a bolt from the blue, and sadly we were **caught off guard**. Expecting a frontal attack from age old enemies like the church of Rome, or Islam, or the Sodomite agenda, a most devastating assault instead came from, "**Oppositions of science falsely so called**" (1 Timothy 6:20). Satan may have attacked from a new direction, **but if he ends up achieving the same goal** (the disruption and/or shut down of the New Testament Church witness) then what does he care? Just so long as he achieves his diabolical goal! The Amalekites have attacked the Israel of God and caught the professing church by surprise. **This must never be allowed to happen again.**

The Bible gives us as Christians instructions on what to do in times of plague, but for the most part this **guidance was ignored**; and rather **advice was taken from the world**, and the COVID-19 single narrative was accepted along with all of the baggage that followed. Having bought into the COVID-19 agenda, COVID doctrines were formed and the Bible's teachings **stretched to fit** as required.

Many now hope this situation will all go away given enough time. It is sincerely hoped that this will be the case. Alternatively, we may find, that because of our sin and compromise, this 'new normal' may be here to stay for good. In fact, the situation may become even worse than this in the days ahead with more 'pandemics' forecast in the future. We may rather only be seeing **the beginning of a change** which will transform the free world we once knew and took so much for granted.

Given the current environment we now find ourselves in, surely if we really care for our families, faith, and nation **we ought to fight**? But how do we do this? The same way faithful Christians have battled down through the centuries - by **preaching the truth** (a responsibility that we all have, not just ministers). This is the motivation behind this booklet, and our prayer is that this publication will be used in some way by the Lord in the cause of truth and the glorifying of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ - the Captain of our Salvation.

Are you sick and tired of the professing Christian Church in the West giving ground to the enemy? Have you had enough of this loser form of Christianity that knows only defeat and compromise? Do you want to fight, **and win**? "And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and **the gates of hell shall not prevail against it**" (Matthew 16:18). With the battle for truth raging all around us, each of us has a choice to make. **Either we be part of the solution, or we be part of the problem.** By remaining silent and **going along with the flow** of the COVID-19 agenda seen in the world and in the Church, we become **part of the problem**. The Bible warns that, "The man that wandereth out of the way of understanding shall remain in the congregation of the dead" (Proverbs 21:16).

And as a final note for those true believers who still desire to lend their support to any churches and denominations that cling to these COVID false doctrines, the Bible warns, "Confidence in an unfaithful man in time of trouble is **like a broken tooth, and a foot out of joint**" (Proverbs 25:19). These churches that have closed their doors on their people: **what is there to stop them from closing again...and again...and again?** Just like a broken tooth or a foot out of joint, they will collapse each time the pressure is applied.

If however we come to an understanding of the severity of the betrayal and the sell-out of the mainline denominations then we ought to speak out, get out, and stay out. "Wherefore come out from among them, and **be ye separate**, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing" (2 Corinthians 6:17). **Only** when we take our stand can we partake in God's **blessing, meet likeminded believers**, and become part of a God honouring **alternative**. "No man putteth new wine into old bottles: else the new wine doth burst the bottles, and the wine is spilled, and the bottles will be marred: but new wine **must** be put into **new bottles**" (Mark 2:22). May this cause grow, and its increasing prevalence be witnessed in our society and in true religion as a whole - our children will

thank us for it! Truly, the way forwards for the Church in the United Kingdom can be summed up in three words: **Repentance, Reformation, Revival**.

"If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; **then** will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land" (2 Chronicles 7:14).

POST TENEBRAS LUX

A word from the Author

I hope you have found this booklet useful. The intention of this series is to help you as a believer during these very strange and confusing times. It is my sincere hope that what you have read in this booklet has helped you to make sense of what is going on in the world, and provided you with Bible based answers regarding COVID-19. **Please help spread the truth by forwarding this booklet, either in printed form, or the digital version to as many people as you can.** Consider forwarding the digital version (Parts 1 and 2, available for FREE via thelordsworlustrust.org website) to your personal contacts. The printed versions are also a great way to pass information on (contact me for FREE copies), perhaps in your local community, or via the post to local politicians and the media. A reformation of thinking is desperately needed regarding this subject - be part of this movement!

I remember speaking on the subject of COVID-19 at a church meeting with a lady sitting at the back of the room socially distanced from everyone else and wearing a face mask. By the end of the meeting the mask was removed, and she came to the front to speak to me at the end. "Thank you very much for the message", she said, "And may I have a list of all the scriptures you used?" I asked her if the message was clearly presented, to which she responded, "Yes it was clear, and very helpful". As the conversation ended I thought to myself, "Behold **the liberating power of the Word of God**". Her mind previously filled with fear and propaganda from the world, now set free by what God had to say. Dear Christian, liberate your mind from the counsels of the ungodly, and delight yourself in the Law of the Lord. Meditate day and night on the passages of Scripture discussed in this booklet, and amidst all the lies, propaganda, and fear, become like a tree planted by the rivers of water, whose root goes deep into the bedrock of the Word of God. Amen.

For all comments and queries feel free to email me at:
lukebarker@btinternet.com

Useful Links and Resources:

For your own further research here are some helpful links: (If the link does not work, try instead searching for the title, or searching for it on another website. Please be aware that because of the intolerance of any view that does not support the current narrative concerning COVID-19 some of these links may no longer work due to being blocked/taken down by the relevant social media platform).

Vaccination information:

'VACCINE SERMON! (When the priest shall look upon the plague)' by Pastor Bruce Mejia of First Works Baptist Church, LA

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nrlbLkWdY4w>

'Dr Simone Gold The truth about the CV 19 vaccine'

<https://www.bitchute.com/video/onWqOMszB3Pc/>

Health advice regarding COVID Vaccines and Nutritional approach for Coronavirus

<https://dkdox.tv/videos/DK21020>

Documentaries (* some of these documentaries contain occasional bad language, viewer discretion advised):

'Vaxnation' Christian Documentary about Vaccines

<https://www.bitchute.com/video/vr4Cqyn4LJl5/>

'The New Normal' Documentary *

<https://www.bitchute.com/video/4YCGXHWNsfs/>

The Mirror Project - Vaccine Trials Documentary

<https://www.bitchute.com/video/fm5Sk5t2JRz0/>

or, <https://www.mp-22.com/watch-series>

'The Trial of Truth' Documentary *

<https://vimeo.com/493774491>

Powerful, Equipping, and Encouraging Sermons:

"The Fool in COVID"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p1jGZCsX8o4>

"Foolish COVID Ministers"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Sphl5eHQOPc>

"The Battle is On"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AOP0ewFc1cw>

UK Column: For up to date news on COVID-19 and other important issues from a conservative and often Christian point of view (highly intelligent and in depth analysis of current events):

<https://www.youtube.com/user/ukcolumn>

<https://www.ukcolumn.org/>

Information on the imprisonment of James Coates (Canadian Pastor who defied the lockdown):

<https://www.bitchute.com/video/sA1n-qr9EtY/>

Confirmation of AstraZeneca COVID-19 Vaccine ingredients:

<https://vk.ovg.ox.ac.uk/vk/vaccine-ingredients>

(Navigate to 'Human cell strains, animal cell strains and GMOs' section)

Book:

'Coronavirus and the Leadership of the Christian Church: A Sacred Trust Broken' (by Ernest Springer, Joel Yeager, Daniel O'Roark)

<https://www.lulu.com/en/us/shop/daniel-oroark-and-joel-yeager-and-ernest-springer/coronavirus-and-the-leadership-of-the-christian-church-a-sacred-trust-broken/paperback/product-4jwvzd.html?page=1&pageSize=4>