



Prophetic Observer

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Keeping Time On God's Prophetic Clock

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The Rehearsal

by Bob Glaze

We are in the age of scamming and it doesn't seem to be letting up. In fact, it is increasing. Several times a day we get scam calls posing as agencies such as the IRS and Social Security, which never call—they just show up on our doorsteps. We get calls from thieves that threaten our continued use of the Internet. They want names, Social Security numbers, bank numbers, and then give us a deadline that if we don't pay up we are in deep trouble. Some even tell us that if they don't get money in the next ten minutes our world will expire. We get them from those who pose to inform us that call is an answer to the unsolicited request to buy a repair warranty for a 30-year-old Ford pickup. We get calls telling us that we need a warrantee that covers the water pipes between the house and street or those calls which promise to pay for our appliances in case of failure.

These calls come from all over the world, even from the same city we live in. Nothing is sacred to these imposters. They ask for your personal information such as bank numbers and enough cash to get the ole' ball rolling. The most obnoxious is the call that asks for "Raymond," knowing full well that I am not Raymond. But since I am already on the phone I could be Raymond and the caller will try to sell me something. If I had collected all of the promised money from some foreigner in Africa, I would be richer than Bezos. The problem is that there are millions that believe the lie of those who would deceive us.

Today we are being confronted and threatened by an unseen "bug" that some believe could kill everyone on Earth. We've had many bugs in the past. Millions died but humanity continued to thrive and overcome the pests. However, is there something more sinister this time than just a challenge to survive? Soon, we as believers will be removed from this Earth at the Rapture of the saints. The majority will be



left behind because of their unbelief. We are being directed by civil, state, and federal agencies not to attend church, eat at a restaurant, travel, or even go to school. So the world as we know it is coming to a screeching halt. This begs the question, Is this controlled chaos?

Rahm Emanuel said: "You never want a serious crisis to go to waste. And what I

mean by that is an opportunity to do things that you think you could not do before."

This is the thinking of a communist because it is all about control. The present crisis is the effect of the coronavirus which has the world on almost total lockdown. President Trump announced that the U.S. is closing its border with Canada by mutual consent. President Trump stopped most European countries from entry into the United States. In all, 27 countries on all continents except for Antarctica have closed their borders to foreign travelers and are considering even domestic travel. Even Mexico is considering closing its borders to U.S. citizens because of the possibility of coronavirus influx by Americans.

The food supply chain is also being interrupted, both from farm to store and store to table. Many foreign farm workers live in close proximity to each other and could infect everyone in their group, so that harvest could cease and food would be lost. No doubt many who read this article visited their local Walmart or Sam's Club recently, only to find that many of the items were already sold out, especially paper products. This is a shocking discovery and puts customers in a mode of panic. Walmart Stores employ a buffer inventory which serves customers while carrying some extra for unforeseen crisis. Sam's Club uses the "On-Time In-Full Program" (OTIF). These systems work well for both stores until a crisis hits and paranoia sets in with frightened customers. Then the shelves

become empty very quickly because these stores cannot see into the future and run out of stock. Then restocking takes time but they will eventually recover.

The stock market has had its worst week since Obama took over in 2008. Both Obama and coronavirus had the same effect. Both caused a panic when the headlines read, “stock market crash.” The Dow Jones Industrial Average lost a whopping 1,191 points in one day. February recorded the worst percentage drop in oil demand since the Great Depression of 1929. Between 1929 and 1933, almost half of the banks had failed and 30 percent of the workforce was unemployed. Overnight many people lost everything they had including their businesses. The panic from the losses in the market followed an asset bubble caused by low interest rates. Recent interest rates in the U.S. are the lowest in many years.

Although governments around the world contribute heavily to misinformation concerning any crisis, the news media around the world has their fingerprint on this crisis by using words like “pandemic.” Whatever happened to good, unbiased, and accurate journalism? Every event—large or small—becomes a major life-threatening saga for major news medias. Even *Harvard Business Review* hypocritically admits that the media and government contribute to the culture of lying with the following statement, even though it educated many of those it condemns: “The U.S. press, like the U.S. government, is a corrupt and troubled institution. Corrupt not so much in the sense that it accepts bribes but in a systemic sense. It fails to do what it claims to do, what it should do, and what society expects it to do” (www.hbr.org).

Therefore, just how much of the media’s coverage of the ongoing crisis covering COVID-19 is truth and how much is fake news. COVID-19 has become a political football made to bounce in the direction of the global leaders. These major news outlets are owned by a handful of people, including Rupert Murdoch, the co-chairmen of Fox News. If Murdoch, who claims to be a Republican, changes his tone from praise for President Trump to disapproval, could that force the president to change his position on COVID-19. The *Washington Post* writes this on the Fox-Trump relationship, “When Trump says ‘jump,’ the network leaps into action. And what the president hears on Fox News often dictates his own pronouncements and policies—which, in turn, are glowingly represented in Fox News’s coverage and commentary” (www.washingtonpost.com). The *Post* states that the president plays down the potentially lethal disease, but we must remember, the *Washington Post* is also a major outlet for news.

We certainly acknowledge that COVID-19 is potentially lethal, because the media tells us it is and its short history proves it. But we have also learned that hot weather will stop its spread, while no other of the main killer diseases die out

with the onset of summer. We acknowledge that COVID-19 has travelled over the globe and many have been reported to have died as a result. However, there are other diseases that take more lives, but are no longer mentioned because they have become non-expedient for political purposes. Heart disease is the number one killer across the globe, followed by strokes, and neither receive even mentioning on the news because they have become stale in their importance of news. Therefore, should we look elsewhere to find the real purpose of COVID-19 exposure?

This scenario has the smell of a practice run or “rehearsal” of something of much greater significance. The past few weeks have proved that what works on a small scale will work on a much larger scale. The globalist knows now how the public will react to shortages and how to take advantages of these fears. They have learned how to shut down large cities with the threat of death for disobedience. They know that people will obey government authorities when directed because of prior information fed through news organizations, real or imagined.

They have learned that people become panicked when the shelves in the supermarkets become empty and could become violent if shortages become the norm. They have learned that most people will begin to hoard in advance if certain announcements become public, with no thought of the person in line behind them. The globalists have learned how a lie will move people and nations into a frenzy to the point that they don’t trust themselves or even God. They will look to their governments to save them. They have learned that scared people will abandon their churches in fear of a non-proven scenario. So, what is the purpose of all this attained knowledge?

Perhaps the globalists really believe they are in charge. However, they may be doing the legwork for the Antichrist himself. Very soon Jesus will return for the saints at the Rapture. Immediately after this event, the seven-year period known as the Tribulation will begin. This could well be the rehearsal for the forthcoming Tribulation period. We read in Revelation 6:1–8 in the seal judgments how the Antichrist will gain control by a cold war, war, famine, and finally death. We must remember that God—not Satan—is in control and the end result will be determined by Him as written in Scripture:

“And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world” (Rev. 12:9).

“Let no man deceive you by any mean; for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin, the son of perdition” (2 Thess. 2:3).

Is It a “Chinese Virus”

A Primer for Surviving a National Emergency

by Pastor Larry Spargimino, Ph.D.

The arrival of the new communist regime in 1949 brought fear to the hearts of many Chinese. The people of Shandong Province in Eastern China had seen a mighty revival that touched the lives of millions, a revival labeled as “the greatest Christian revival in history” (Paul Hattaway, *Shandong: The Revival Province*). They also knew the power of the kingdom of darkness and had recently felt the dragon’s hot breath during the cruel years of the Japanese occupation.

What Communism Gave China

The true nature of the plans of the Communist mega-monster was revealed when Mao issued a dire threat: “Whoever wishes to oppose communism must be prepared to be mauled and torn to pieces by the people. If you have not yet made up your mind about being mauled and torn to pieces, it would be wise for you not to oppose communism” (Hattaway, p. 174).

In December of 1950, in the seaside city of Qingdao, Shandong, Pastor David Wang was visited by government officials who demanded the use of the church building for a communist conference a few days before Christmas. Pastor Wang agreed, but gave two conditions: no political portraits or flags displayed, and absolutely no smoking.

As soon as the conference began, both conditions were ignored. A portrait of Chairman Mao was hung at the front of the sanctuary with flags on either side, while many party members polluted the air with cigarette smoke.

The records indicate that Pastor Wang gathered his family into the pastor’s study, asked them to pray to the Almighty God of Scripture, then he walked out and removed the portrait of Mao, as well as the flags. He and his family barely escaped with their lives. They fled to Hong Kong and served the Lord for many years with the Christian and Missionary Alliance.

Hattaway writes: “Although the 1950s was marked with much brutal persecution of Christians in Shandong, the life and power of the Holy Spirit could not be extinguished from the hearts of those who loved God” (p. 175). Communist officials went around Shandong interrogating and then threatening Christians. “What has Christianity done for you?” One man answered: “I was a drunkard and opium smoker. Nothing could rid me of those two vices, and my farm had been brought to ruin. But I accepted Jesus as my Savior, and He changed me. He enabled me to break with both opium and

drink. My fellow villagers can now testify to these things and my farm is now the best. Ask them...”



I want my readers to know where I am coming from. I have been working with Chinese students and groups for at least four decades and exercise pastoral oversight in a Chinese congregation in Oklahoma City.

I know that diseases are often associated with the region of their origin, or greatest concentration. We have all heard of “the Spanish influenza,” “the German measles,” “Japanese smallpox,” “Asian flu,” “Russian flu,” and “Hong Kong flu.” The “West Nile virus” made headlines in the newspapers in the last few years.

So, what’s wrong with calling the coronavirus “the Chinese virus”? Nothing. It’s technically correct. It’s a convenient ploy for Trump bashers to use the phrase to point out that our president is allegedly “a racist.” He’s not. Larry Klayman, founder of Judicial Watch and Freedom Watch, brings the issue into sharp focus. In his WND report updating readers on his class action lawsuit against Beijing over the virus he writes: “... the coronavirus is not the fault of the Chinese people, but instead the evil designs of their government, which obviously allowed it, either negligently or intentionally, to leak from an outlawed and illegal bioweapons facility in Wuhan, China.” Modern China operates under a one-party system. The current president, Xi Jinping, is a Maoist in the worst sense of the word and has promoted himself to be president permanently. What happens in China, and China’s policies, are determined by a very small number of people, certainly not the 1.4 billion people who live there today.

If we meet an Asian, or a person of Chinese ancestry, should we become abusive and say, “You are not welcome here”? There have been a few incidents like that already. They are very unfortunate.

In a one-party system, no dissent is allowed. Dissenters often disappear. There must be national unity—which really means enforced uniformity. Don’t blame the people for the antics of the government.

The Chinese Communist Party (CCP) claims 68 million members. Although these numbers make it the largest political party in the world, it only accounts for 5 percent of the population of China (Ming Xia, “The Communist Party of

China and the ‘Party State,’” *NY Times* report).

China specialists would agree that the biggest enemy of the CCP is its rampant corruption. China has put a great deal of effort into dealing with corruption, and it is asserted that corruption is no longer a problem. Many China experts disagree. There is a delicate balance that the CCP is trying to maintain: “To fight corruption too little would be sure to destroy the country; to fight it too much would be sure to destroy the Party.” Several resources are available to the interested reader, including: Xiabo Lu, *Cadres and Corruption* and Yan Sun, *Corruption and Market in Contemporary China*.

The government and party leaders are above reproach. To criticize the government is a secular form of blasphemy. The president never makes a mistake. There is always someone who takes the heat. Someone down the chain of command did not show prudence and wisdom, or deviated from party procedure.

In late December of 2019, a Chinese ophthalmologist by the name of Dr. Li Wenliang reported that seven people seemed to have contracted SARS—Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome. In the early 2000s it was a serious respiratory illness that spread to several countries and left several hundred people dead. Dr. Li discussed it with his colleagues and warned people to be careful and take precautionary measures. The communist leadership, however, did not approve of such warnings. Li and others were summoned by communist authorities and told to stop spreading “rumors” about SARS-like cases.

As more people got sick and died, including the beloved Dr. Li, the Chinese government lied about what was happening and assigned bogus responsibility to someone to take the heat off the leaders in the party. Doctors were blamed for telling alleged “falsehoods” or sharing test results with colleagues. Some were forced to write a self-critical public letter—a kind of public confession of wrong.

It was damage control. President Xi had to win the approval of the people and gain their support. He said he was “fighting the people’s war against the coronavirus.”

As part of the plan, in February China’s highest court admonished the Wuhan police for their arrests and acts of detention against whistleblowers. The court actually admitted, “If society had at the time believed those so-called rumors and wore masks, used disinfectant and avoided going to the wildlife market as if there were a SARS outbreak, perhaps it would have meant we could better control the coronavirus today. ... Rumors end where there is openness.”

Yet the fact remains that for several weeks Chinese authorities denied that the disease could be spread between humans, even though this was a fact known in late December. Consequently, China went ahead with Chinese Lunar New

Year’s festivities. Millions traveled from Wuhan. The *Wall Street Journal* has calculated that the Chinese government “let some five million people leave Wuhan without any screening” (Jim Geraghty, *National Review*).

A Playback of the Chernobyl Disaster

The Chernobyl disaster was a catastrophic nuclear accident that happened on April 25, 1986, in the number four light water graphite moderated reactor at the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant near Pripyat, a small town in the northern Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic. In August of that year, the IAEA projected that there would be at least 4,000 deaths caused by meltdown over the long term.

In December of 1991, a Ukrainian parliamentary commission concluded a sweeping study of the disaster. The commission accused communist leaders at the time, including Soviet president Mikhail S. Gorbachev, of a massive criminal cover-up that led to thousands of death. Communists like to “save face.” Many just don’t care.

Faced with the worst accident in the history of nuclear power, Soviet authorities reacted with “a total lie, falsehoods, cover-up, and concealment.” The commission said it uncovered “the horrific details of high-level callousness and cynicism.” Kremlin leaders were informed of the gravity of events and reacted not with Gorbachev’s then-new policy of *glasnost* (“openness”) but with “an ideology of state lying.” The commission concluded that there was blatant misconduct by high ranking officials in both Moscow and Kiev, including the very people supposed to safeguard public health (history.com/news/Chernobyl).

The coronavirus is producing major issues for the United States. During times of crisis, it is easy to lose our civility. I remember the great blackout of November 9, 1965, when the power grid of the northeast collapsed and millions were without electricity. Subways suddenly stopped and thousands were stranded in elevators. I remember walking across the 59th Street Bridge and looking back and Manhattan. It was eerie. Not a single light in any of the skyscrapers. There were acts of kindness, but there were also acts of barbarity.

If we face disaster with our sole motivation being self-preservation, we will die like rats fleeing a flooded basement.

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