



First Evangelical Reformed Church  
第一宣道归正教会

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Live Stream of our worship services:

Chinese Morning Service: 9 am to 10:30 am

English Morning Service: Time is subject to change, please refer to our website for details

English Evening Service: 5 pm to 6 pm

*We warmly invite you to join us for our English Evening Service. You may be interested in some of these topics on the following dates (please note that the schedule is subject to change. For the most updated schedule, please visit our website).*

30 May 21 The Church of Christ

06 Jun 21 Resurrection and Eternal Life

13 Jun 21 Righteousness before God

20 Jun 21 Good works and righteousness

22 Aug 21 True Conversion of man

29 Aug 21 The Law of God

Reprinted (with amendment) from Metropolitan Tabernacle  
Original Author: Dr Peter Masters



# God's Love IN A PANDEMIC

John 3:16

*For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.*

2 Peter 3:9

*The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.*

BY DR PETER MASTERS

These are momentous days when we find ourselves in the midst of a worldwide 'discipline' or warning from God, calling us to acknowledge and seek Him. And although we shrink from the thought, this is the reason for all unexpected catastrophes, whether epidemics, floods or vast fires. The Bible says these things will come more often in the 'last days', when atheism abounds and people generally have no thought or prayer to their Creator.

A warning from God is not like the last judgement, because it is an expression of God's love, urging people to turn to Him, whereas the last judgement will finally close the door of mercy for those who turn away from Him. A warning is not permanent, and God has also given mankind the skill to control it, eventually. But a warning catastrophe pulls us up and humbles us, reminding us that we are only people, and that we are in God's hands and accountable to Him.

Coronavirus has certainly shaken us more than any other catastrophe of recent generations. Even our own country has not been exempt from the reach of this virus, which has certainly shaken us more than any catastrophe in recent years. We have seen disruptions to our day-to-day lives through physical restrictions, as well as the looming possibility that despite all efforts, the virus could re-emerge at any point to force us into another "Circuit Breaker". If a small virus can render such widespread anxiety and fear throughout the world, think of how the last judgement will be!

As the pandemic proceeds, significant features become apparent. It is the elderly (like the writer of this) who are most at risk - those who have had a lifetime of opportunity to honour their Creator (and may have refused). The virus seems to say to the younger people - 'you have some opportunity left: don't despise the longsuffering (patience) of the Lord.' Remember that while God is love, He is also holy and just.

This may not be the last warning or discipline, although its full 'indignation' has not yet unfolded. Christians are praying for relief and healing for those suffering, and we are witnessing many acts of kindness among people, but it is vital that we heed the message and meaning of this pandemic. Its purpose is to call us to forgiveness and reconciliation with God, by coming to the Saviour, Jesus Christ our Lord, who has opened a way of salvation by suffering and dying for sinful people on Calvary's cross. To trust in Him, repent of sin, and yield your life to Him, is to receive from Him a new and eternal life.