

A Kingdom perspective on Corona

How to remain sane, safe and even get healed from Corona

A situation report by Wolfgang Simson

It is time for some seriously different perspective, after all of us have been served our gruesome portion of Daily Horror by a media that is currently in a feeding frenzy, nurturing fear and irrational behaviour by reporting on a virus that seems to conquer our world. We all have seen the daily death tolls, the virus-spreading statistics. Now even Tom Hanks got infected! Who will be next? What the media tiptoes around and most public and religious voices currently fail to present is that we are in a war in which humans are no longer in control. And no, it is not China that is the sole culprit. Something of biblical proportions is happening, and it needs to be dealt with on exactly that level. This calls for an open mind, a down-to-earth soberness that will help us gain clarity in a time when the irrational fear of a virus has become far more endemic and harmful than the CoVid-19-virus itself. Let us therefore unglue our eyes from our news-feeds and TV-screens for a moment and look in a very different direction. How to remain peaceful in a war time? How to be composed, rational and even happy in a situation like this?

Happy? How can we be happy in a time when people suffer and die? By putting things into perspective and by looking more rationally and balanced at the good and the bad. Swedish fact-finder and former globally known WHO-advisor and TED-presenter Hans Rosling, has written a bestseller called *Factfulness*. He challenges people never to believe a single number, especially one that sounds dramatic, because it most probably serves an ideology or a hidden motive. Rosling urges people who look beyond one-sidedness or even fake news to always view statistics in their relationship to other relevant numbers. Otherwise, we may be fooled to grab a single piece of a puzzle and believe this to be the whole puzzle. It is a proven fact that globally, child mortality, poverty, some diseases and hunger has drastically reduced. Not eliminated yet, but in recent decades, great positive strides have been made. Globally, life expectancy or the average income per person is at an all-time high. The average number of children born to mothers dropped drastically from 5 children born to women in 1965 to 2.5 in the year 2017. This has slowed down significantly the threat of “over-population” that the vast majority of people still believe in, because it has been hammered into them for decades.

A look at the real global killers

However, beyond all positive developments, the world still has huge and sometimes even new problems: Statistics report that every year 56 million babies die through abortion. Whether you are pro choice or not, for those babies, and for most of their mothers, this is very bad news. This unabated killing spree prevents the life of 153,424 human beings, *every day*. Based on our research, a staggering 51.4 million people die far too early *every year* through a weapon of mass destruction that is literally in every hand: *The fork!* 51.4 million translate into 140,822 deaths a day, people dying before their time caused by a combination of what is now called “Diabesity,” the vicious synergy between unhealthy, adulterated food-based *obesity* – delivered by way of the fork - and exploding, life-shortening *diabetes*. This new global scourge of humanity is compounded by the metabolic syndrome, where often stress-driven, aimless, scared, jobless, insecure, mobbed or even just plain bored people seek refuge in “comfort-food” that, as it turns out, is not comforting at all. It can literally kill people in a new and twisted form of gradual mass-suicide. Research confirms widespread addictions to literally “toxic food,” like the modern, genetically modified dwarf-wheat that is, with 75 on the glycemic index scale, more sugary than even white industry sugar with just 59 on the scale. The WHO has already sounded the alarm, but wheat, sugar and artificial, taste-buds-fooling “foods and drinks” are simply too good of a business. Many wheat- and sugar-addicts do not know how to escape this sweet trap without outside help. An average of 4 million people die every year of violence: accidents, wars, classical suicide, terror attacks etc. About 500,000 to 1.5 million, depending on whom you ask, die of Malaria, and influenza infects about 500 million every year, of which between 290,000 and 650,000 people die every year.

As of March 18, 2020, the WHO reported that 8,250 people have died worldwide, since the first person was diagnosed Corona-positive in Wuhan, China, on Dec 31st, 2019. In those 78 days since then, an average of 106 people have died every day by way of the Corona-virus. Most of them, as we will see, have been senior citizens above 80 years of age and/or those with pre-existing, aggravating medical conditions. If the current situation of 106 Corona-related deaths per day were to continue for the remaining 288 days of the year 2020, we would see a total of 38,778 deaths globally by 31st Dec, 2020. What we should not forget is that, by far, more senior citizens die as a result of lung infection (4 million a year) or even by falling down the stairs or while vacuuming or window cleaning. In Germany alone, 9,818 people died in the year 2015 in so-called domestic accidents.

If we compare the number of deaths of those global killers in relationship to the current Corona virus, a brief overview would look like this:

Cause	Deaths per day	deaths per year
Abortions	153.424	56 million
“Fork-related” deaths	140.822	51.4 million
Violence	10.959	4 million
Lung infection	10.959	4 million
Malaria	2.740	with an assumed 1 million victims
Influenza	1.288	average of 470,000
Domestic accidents	153	9,818 in Germany alone
Corona	106	38,778 if development continues

This puts things into a very different perspective than the current Corona-hype and alarm and gives us a more holistic idea of where the world stands. Hans Rosling warns of “selective reporting,” the either naïve or deliberate spreading of news or views that are not balanced and therefore out of perspective. With the arrival of the Internet, many traditional TV news channels or newspapers are desperately starving for viewers and subscribers. From a marketing perspective, bad news sell nine times easier than good, positive news. A constant staccato of bad news does something to us. We need to therefore learn to un-glue ourselves significantly from so-called news channels that hit us every minute with “latest developments” and “breaking news”. TV-channels and newspapers are mainly financed by advertisement money, and ad companies pay based on how many viewers a channel has. The more views a news channel can attract, even through selective or sometimes sensationalist or voyeuristic reporting, the higher they can sell their ad spaces. News is a product that you are being sold, a product that is designed and packaged to sell you the feeling of being informed and come back to buy again.

Corona-paralysis is 100X more dangerous than the virus itself

It is an irrefutable fact of the study of mankind that humans are predominantly irrational beings. In some cases, our mind manages to reign in the emotions and fears that lie under the surface of even the most composed personality. But generally, people’s reflexive actions are based on fear and hopes, nightmares and dreams. Fearing something we do not see, being attacked by an unknown enemy, alarms us so deeply that it may blow a mental fuse. If we are exposed to a constant overdose of fear, it can *and will* therefore lead to panic. Fear is currently playing havoc on the stock market. People queue up in front of supermarkets for panic buying. Oddly, the one item immediately sold out in German supermarkets is – toilet paper. Watching national borders, schools, churches, fairs, businesses and even football stadiums closing down, people are facing a situation they never had to: Movements and even social lives are severely restricted, routines are closing down, people are forced to work at home, even if they don’t want to or don’t know how to. Communication is switched from analog (face to face) to digital. Unimaginable things happen: In the otherwise peaceful Swiss city of Basel the “Fasnacht” (carnival) got cancelled - a social and economic earthquake in a city that makes the bulk of its money with security (insurance) and pills (pharma industries). Most political and economic leaders try to appear calm and composed, but are actually rather shaken and clueless, focussing on containment and deceleration. Institutions like the local or global health authorities take over and start to dictate life.

In a nine minute speech to his nation, Singaporean Prime Minister Lee has performed an outstanding achievement. He convinced many of his countrymen that the fear of the virus is far more damaging and dangerous than the virus itself. Therefore, he advised them to remain calm, composed and not driven by panic. After listening to his speech, many people queuing up in front of shops to buy noodle soups, dissolved and went home.

I watched a TV-interview with an older gentleman from Italy, commenting on the panic buyers and empty super markets. He said: “I know this kind of thing from World War II. This is how it was then, and it has come back!” I believe this Italian man was right. *We are at war*. But few people are realizing how far we already are in this development. Consider these realities:

Today’s wars are trade wars. Many believe that the days of the Cold War, the days of empire, the days of national armies gunning down each other – with a few exceptions like Syria or Yemen - are over. And because hardly anyone who consciously lived through WWII is alive and present in our media today, very few in our modern societies know the experience of war. Someone who was 15 at the end of the last global war (1945) is 90 now. But humans have not changed. They are still fighting for the same old things: land, money, power, political and religious ideas. The means of warfare might have changed, but believing that we humans have suddenly become domesticated and have mutated to be all peaceful in the last few decades is a dangerous illusion; a dream maybe, but fake news. The competition of global economic players who like to corner the market and sometimes play dirty, as the Diesel scandal of some German car makers has demonstrated, is a fact of life. Over and beyond that, some nations have begun to behave like companies. Pressured by economic factors like their obscene national debt, some nations have long begun to develop economic visions and goals of their own, as if they are a business. And they are! Daniel

Wagner, Asia expert and author of the book *China Vision: China's Crusade to create a world in its own image* (2019), sums up China's goals and plans in only two words: Global supremacy.

The China-US trade War is not over. In the words of the BBC: "The world's two largest economies have been locked in a bitter trade war." This trade war is not just a row about imposing tariffs on imported or exported goods and using a bit of harsh and undiplomatic language. It is a war of philosophies, and even a war of personalities. In my own work I have described something of a global pandemic as well, caused by an agent that I call the *GEF-virus*: The combination of greed and fear that play havoc with an unprotected ego: GEF, greed, ego, fear. If our personal, tribal or national ego has succumbed to two of the most powerful forces and motives known to man, greed and fear, we begin to act irrationally, like a toddler in a fits of rage or scared of the darkness. The antidote for the GEF virus is readily available for anyone: love, selflessness and hope. We will come back to this later.

The days of empire are back. Make no mistake, says German author Herfried Münkler in his book *Imperien* (Empires): Even after the Soviet Union officially collapsed in 1991, the idea of empire is back. It's our destiny. Empires are ever-expanding spheres of power and influence over and beyond their static national borders that are usually lead by larger-than-life personalities. Modern day Czars, caliphs and emperors are Russia's Putin, India's Modi, Turkey's Erdogan, America's Trump and China's Xi, with some young imperial aspirants making their first noises, like France's Macron or UK's Boris Johnson. And, if you are ready to see it, even Pope Francis and his religious empire building.

Man-made holocausts? China has done it before. One of the probably largest man-made catastrophes in history happened in China, says Hans Rosling in his book *Factfulness*. In 1960, China experienced a combination of bad weather, bad harvest and bad governance through wrong, centralized agricultural directives. The regional administrations in many Chinese provinces did not want to show the extraordinarily bad harvest results and be blamed for it. So they simply confiscated the entire crop, delivered it to a central system and looked good on paper. As a result, the rural provinces were hit by a horrific famine with a death toll of between 15 and 40 million people. When, one year later, inspectors visited some of these regions, they were shocked to see corpses on the road side and even heard of cases of cannibalism. The Chinese government refused to admit that their planning had been bad and successfully kept this man-made disaster a secret. Only in 1996, 36 years later, did this news find its way into the outside world. If such a gigantic cover-up has happened before, who will guarantee that China will not make secret or public policy decisions that defy the agreed-upon ethics and standards of the cultural West? Let us not make the mistake of demonizing the Chinese populace. "They are not the virus", as many of them said. But let us not close our eyes to a government that sometimes behaves more like an adolescent, easily irritable teenager who wishes to show the world his biceps. China's policy has demonstrated its steely resolve for economic advance and a knack for violently suppressing dissent, as in Hong Kong recently, or in dealing with minorities like the Uighurs. China's officials may smile; but make no mistake: many have a hidden fist in their pocket.

Diagnosis first, then therapy

Let us now look at some important factors to grasp the enormity of the global situation. However, I believe they are only describing a surface level, and not the root cause behind all of this. If we want to be realistic and solution-driven, we have to look the problems in the eye. Only clear and thorough diagnostics will allow us to embrace an appropriate therapy. There is a large amount of both wild conspiracy theories and equally naïve conspiracy-denials raging through the internet that both have people blinkered. Therefore here are some factors that help us to gain a more comprehensive picture:

The bad factors

- German Chancellor Angela Merkel publicly stated that she believes that most probably up to 70% of the German population (of 83 million) will become infected with Corona. That is about 58 million.
- Germany's health minister Jens Spahn keeps repeating that Germans should not worry, because "4 out of 5 cases of infection are going to be 'mild'". That still leaves 20% - 16.6 million in Germany alone! – who will face an "unmild" and possibly lethal course of disease.
- Multibillionaire Michael Bloomberg claimed the virus could cost \$2.7 trillion and "*bring the world economy to a standstill.*"
- CNN has predicted that, with the outbreak triggering "*extreme fear in financial markets*", it "*could tip the world into a recession.*"
- The US State Department believes that China has been partaking in covert biological warfare operations and conducted biological activities with potential dual-use (civil and military) applications. This raises concerns regarding China's compliance with the BWC, the Biological Warfare Convention of 1975 that contains a

comprehensive ban on biological weapons. The United States suspects China failed to eliminate its biological warfare program as required by the treaty.

- Dr. Danny Shoham, an Israeli biological warfare expert with the Begin-Sadat Center for Strategic Studies at Bar Ilan University in Israel, has published a theory that the deadly virus could be connected to one of China's covert biological warfare laboratories; in this case, the Wuhan Institute of Virology. He says: "Certain laboratories in the Wuhan institute have probably been engaged, in terms of research and development of Chinese biological weapons". In other words, Covid-19 *could be* a genetically altered SARS-virus, a weaponized strain, a man-made Pandora that is now out of the box. I personally think that the truth about this will probably never come out and would warn against a hype that "blames the Chinese". Even if that were true, it is highly unlikely that a Chinese official will stand up in front of a camera any time soon and admit they have been doctoring with biological agents. That would cause such a global shit-storm that the economic repercussions for China would probably result in a total ban of Chinese products.
- Robert O'Brian, US national security advisor, speaks of a Chinese national cover-up that delayed the response of the rest of the world to the Corona-pandemia for up to two months. Even medical doctors had been silenced.
- Most political and even religious leaders and media presenters seem to unilaterally respond with warnings, restrictions of human movement and social life and the declarations of bans and emergencies. However, these are all defensive, protective measures. All of these measures do not give people a proper handle to proactively deal with the current situation. There does not seem to be a real solution at hand other than repeating the mantra: "There might be a vaccine in summer 2021".
- Through a staccato of declarations, many have been led to believe that producing a pharmaceutical vaccine is the only way of bringing the pandemia under control. If we forget that the pharmaceutical industry is a gigantic, \$1.4 trillion dollar business a year, we may make the fox the guardian of the henhouse, because those with the greatest financial interest and experience of "making business with disease" would look like they are in charge of the future of the planet. It is wise not to trust a person that wants something from you. This is not to demonize the Pharma-industry; but who will make sure that global greed will not exploit global fear?

Now for some far more positive side of things:

- If you are looking at the development of vaccines, there is very good news: **A Corona vaccine is already here!** And there might be more than one vaccine that we do not know yet about. As an example from my personal environment: A friend of mine is a Swiss bio-technology and nanoparticle expert **who has already successfully produced a vaccine that, in animal tests, has shown all the signs of effectively and dependably dealing with the Corona-virus.** In other words: **It works!** Other tech labs say "we are working on it", but his vaccine has already passed the animal testing phase. I asked him: "Would you inject yourself?" He replied: "Yes!" "The vaccine is not the problem, though," he says. The problem is to overcome the huge and complicated bureaucracy to deliver such a vaccine to the populace.
- We have received reports from the well-known Dr. Rath Foundation (www.dr-rath-foundation.org) that a Chinese medical team has seen **successful treatment of Corona-virus patients with high doses of vitamin C.** A medical team from the Second Affiliated Hospital of Xi'an Jiaotong University in China has reported the successful treatment of corona virus patients with vitamin C. The team describes how patients suffering from severe coronary pneumonia have recovered after being treated with high doses of the vitamin. The medical team recommend that for critically ill patients and those with severe neonatal pneumonia, vitamin C treatment should be initiated as soon as possible after admission to hospital. The Shanghai Medical Association (SMA) in China has published a consensus on the comprehensive treatment of corona virus disease. Based on the study of more than 300 clinical patients and developed by 30 experts in the treatment of new corona virus pneumonia, it recommends high-dose vitamin C for even light infection with the virus. The dose recommended in the consensus is 50 to 100 mg per kilogram of bodyweight per day (= 5 gram for a person weighing 50 kg). For severe and critically ill patients, up to 200 mg per kilogram of bodyweight per day is advised, *injected intravenously*. Described as the 'Shanghai Plan', the SMA says its consensus has attracted widespread attention, including on Shanghai TV.
- Some scientists (and I do not mean Donald Trump!) have pointed out – and any other observer who can look at one of the many online global infection/death toll maps can pick it up as well: the current virus is **heat sensitive** to a significant degree. Some speak of a ceiling of 22 degrees Celsius, from when onwards the

virus becomes affected. If you have a look at this country list the BBC put out, you can observe this for yourself at <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-51235105>
It may be more than a Finnish joke that **the sauna** is one of the safest places to be right now-

But now we need to look over and beyond the materialistic perspective and get closer to the root cause of all of this. Recently ten professors from different fields have put their heads together and wrote a book in German titled, *Höllensterz und Hoffnung* meaning *Falling to hell and hope*. The point of their book is that the world as we know it is facing a mega-collapse. All previous predictions of doom like those of the *Club of Rome* have been child's play compared to what we face right now. All those partial crisis like overfishing, wars, stock market and bank crashes, mass migrations or the education crisis have linked up to create a unique and historic *meta-crisis*. This accumulated *mother of all crises* is irreversible; the entire Western civilization is in free fall. Their conclusion is that *there is no hope as long as we do not absolutely challenge greed as the foundation for our economy and find back to trust God in completely new ways*.

The means that create a problem rarely solve it

In my view we are in a situation worldwide where human greed, fear, aggressive religious, economic and ideological behaviour and sometimes plain warmongering has reached proportions where humans have created a far bigger mess than what they can solve any more. In other words: The means that have created the problem may not be enough to remedy it. We need outside help, so to speak. If anyone does not see that this outside help is available, he may come under great pressure, become angry, riot, even despair, something we see at the current global climate discussions. Before I now introduce the most serious good news in all of this, let me introduce the player that most people so far overlook: God. And I do not mean a theoretical belief in someone up there who may, or may not, exist. I am not a religious person, and I am not advocating a religious, childish belief that may serve as a sop and placebo for the weak-minded.

Why bring God into this?

Because who are we to cut him out? The truth is, most people are like Mahatma Gandhi who said: *I like Christ, but I don't like Christians!* It is a sorry fact that most Christians, and entire churches, do not, by any standards, live up to the life-principles and economic standards any curious first-time Bible reader typically discovers. But look at it this way: *Everyone is a believer*; a believer in someone or something beyond himself. Some believe that gold will rise on the stock market, or that Louis Hamilton will be F1-World Champion in 2020, again, unless F1 is cancelled this year. Some believe in God, some believe in love, some believe in a certain political ideology or in their local sports club. Some even believe no-one should believe. And yes, some are so entrenched with their own ego that they only believe in themselves, resulting in a very small world. Let's remain factual, therefore: Statistically, about 90% of the world's population is religious. Is anyone really saying that all of them are deluded, and that a startling 10% minority that claims a new normative godlessness automatically has a monopoly on soberness and streetwise sanity? That would be a narrow fundamentalist and even dominionist statement, where a minority claims the right to dictate or even judge a majority. But that is exactly what has been happening, and we need not to be fooled by it. We have seen the emergence of new moral elite that eats vegan, stopped smoking or driving a Diesel and (says it) avoids junk-TV. The fact that today's global media and news-feeds are mostly driven by people who do not openly say they believe in God can create the illusion that economy, politics and sports is all there is. Many in the media world secretly believe in God, but would not say so because of the very bad press of the official churches, and because this would be seen as either cheesy or politically incorrect.

Appsolutism and disaster

Stephan Grünewald is one of Germany's current top psychologists. In his research he has put "the German society on his couch". He diagnoses it with an alarming loss of a moral compass, any dependable values and the ability to esteem and appreciate others. Germany, and probably the cultural West as a whole, is a torn, ego-driven world that tries to look cool and indifferent on the outside, but is deeply lost and confused on the inside. Grünewald describes a society that falls through the cracks between the digital and the analog world. The smartphone, experienced by many as more of a body-part than an external mini-computer, promises instant almighty-ness, the feeling to be on top of things at all times. With the swipe of a finger one can access the knowledge of the entire world. Grünewald calls that digital Appsolutism, the belief that apps exist to solve all our problems. However, the very non-digital, analog, every-day life of many – love, health, work, family, consumer behaviour - is often a chaos, violently different from the perceived perfectionism that the digital world seems to offer, or even demands. When faced with real challenges, problems for which there is no app, people may be forced to look for something I call:

Solutions made in heaven for problems made in hell

If we refer back to the biggest bestseller of all times, the book that largely shaped the world until recently, the Bible, and give it some slack, ignoring the hypocrisy and double-standardness of many professing Christians, we find that it describes a God that is very involved in the world. He notices even a sparrow falling to the ground, says Jesus; how much more would he be on top of all our current Corona-statistics, the outbreak which, by all relevant authorities, has been classified as a modern days plague.

If we would do a quick Bible study on plagues and God, we would see a startling theme: God always wanted to have his people close with him, connected, aligned, obedient and happy. But mankind has always been a rebel and loved to go rogue, explore the unknown. The forbidden fruit was just the beginning of a lifestyle for many to do everything as long as it is not recommended in the Bible. God typically responded with various levels of corrections, like any concerned father would do: Talk to the kids, talk some more, talk louder, finally, if nothing works, bring in first some lighter, then some more serious correctives. If we just take the Bible at face value, one of the more drastic measurements God was using, are – plagues. Almost all references the Bible makes to plagues have God as their author: He authorizes them, he stops them. He sends them, he takes them away.

Here is a short, incomplete list on biblical plagues:

<u>Who was plagued</u>	<u>why</u>	<u>Bible reference</u>
Pharaoh of Egypt	He lusted after Abram's wife,	Genesis 12
Pharaoh and his people	God showed him who is the boss	Exodus 9
Pharaoh and his people	"Let my people go!"	Exodus 11
The Israelites	complained they were better off in Egypt	Numbers 11
Mirjam, Moses's sister	challenged the leadership of Moses	Numbers 12
10 of the 12 spies	they badmouthed the Promised Land	Numbers 14
14,700 Israelites died	rebellion against God's leaders	Numbers 16
24,000 Israelites died	worshipping idols	Numbers 25
1/3 of mankind will die	stubbornly refusing to acknowledge God	Rev 9

The New Testament is very outspoken on plagues as well. Five chapters in the book of Revelation deal with plagues (9; 11; 16; 18; 22), which are all authorized by God. None of the biblical plagues were cooked up by humans.

What if God has authorized the "Wuhan virus" as well?

This would not be a foreign thought for the Bible, even if most classical Christians have long created a God in their own image, a neo-liberal, cool and distant character who could not hurt a fly, a fake God who is supposed to be nice and loving and leave us be, except showing up when we call him in. But the biblical God is far more than this man-made mutation of God: He is God, saviour, healer, inspired, but also King of kings, judge - and he has an agenda, the preparation and setting up of his Kingdom.

At this time, the entire world is affected by the virus. If we look at the list of sins above, which sin is mankind guilty of, at this point? And probably more tragic: What are the sins of those that say they are God's people, but are not? What would be the message that God has for them? How can God be placated? Because if he allowed this plague on the world, only he can withdraw it.

Why are people not healed when prayed for?

An interesting case in point is the occurrence and frequency of **medically attested supernatural healings**. Those that know God personally – which is a privilege not for some religious elite, but an invitation to all humans at any time – have most probably either heard or witnessed a person being healed after prayer. There are many tens of thousands of official statements of doctors that have clearly, with scientific honesty, declared a person to be healed beyond the available medical means. This includes doctors that have signed a death certificate to people delivered as dead into hospitals, but have later been resurrected by followers of God who obeyed the command of Christ: Raise the dead. Some doctors I know of have been fired by their hospitals, because they could not reconcile a reality that the medical science is unequipped to deal with: that some people have come back from the dead after being prayed for. Trans-medical healings will continue to happen in the future, and anyone is free to investigate for himself the validity of it.

So far during the Corona-outbreak we have received **very few reports of supernatural healings** of Corona-infected people. Dennis Balcombe, Pastor of a church in Hong Kong, reports that a hospitalized, corona-infected Pastor was prayed for and healed, plus a number of other cases of infected people healed through prayer. As much as this may be a sign of hope, it is a healthy policy, and also our strict protocol, to declare only those people to be cured that have been attested by a physician, similar to the practice in the days of the Old Testament and Jesus: someone who was healed of a sickness like leprosy had to show himself to the priest who declared that person clean or restored. In the eyes of modern day society, this role is now rightly carried out by the medical professionals.

If God himself has decided to unleash a plague on mankind, no naïve petition, no superficial prayer meeting and no charismatic declaration will stop him doing so. He would expect that people go far deeper, to the root issue at hand: Rejecting God as King; overstepping his law; breaking his house rules; rejecting his leadership through the Holy Spirit; ridiculing him and his true servants; embracing money and fun as dictatorial idols; rebelling against the word of God; playing church; toying with sin; scheming and plotting a future without God.

Psalm 2 is a perfect description of our modern-day political scenario:

Why do the nations conspire and the peoples plot in vain? The kings of the earth take their stand and the rulers gather together against the King and against his anointed one. Let us break their chains, they say, and throw off their fetters. The lone enthroned in heaven laughs; the King scoffs at them. Then he rebukes them in his anger and terrifies them in his wrath.

Many prayer meetings, fasts and vigils have been launched, including in our area where a Mega-church has called together 2,000 people for a prayer meeting. The result was that this did not stop the virus, but quite the opposite happened: people got infected at that very prayer meeting and some pastors needed to be quarantined. If we have the eyes to see it we must say something that might sound unpopular to some ears, but true nevertheless: classical, non-Kingdom-aligned Christianity – evangelical, charismatic or not – is part of the problem, not part of the solution. The Bible speaks of a typical protocol for the judgements of God: They **start at the house of God**. *But if they start there, then they can also stop there.*

What do we therefore do?

We propose four immediate action steps that all of us can become involved in, no matter where we are:

1) Become a Kingdom citizen

This first step will provide you with a personal shelter. In the days of air attacks and the dropping of bombs people fled to bomb shelters for safety. While it is true that washing hands, isolation and de-socializing, the cutting of social contacts and keeping a physical distance may help to slow down a viral wave, we cannot wash away fear and panic with soap and water. It is therefore a very tangible and unique offer that anyone can test for himself when Jesus Christ says: **I offer you peace. Come to me and you will find rest for your soul. Do not fear. You are safe with me.** All of us humans, so the biblical message, have “lost” our connection to our home-base, have been born into a world that has cut itself loose from its creator. Unless we cry out for help, God will not force himself on anyone. God says: **Call me in the days of trouble, and I will deliver you.** If you have never done this, why not do it right now. God is described as a Father waiting for his lost sons and daughters to return home to him. The key to reconnect with God is Jesus, his son. He is the direct and only path back to God. No church, no statue or religious ritual, no prayer to Mary or any saint can replace what Jesus can and will do for us. Hundreds of millions of people who have done just that vividly report that it is like finding instant peace in his open arms and experience an immense sense of home-coming. Rather than ignoring God, running away from him or ridiculing him. This is the moment when the storms of fear and panic will immediately subside and God himself becomes our personal panic shelter. However, this step is not enough:

Jesus once compared the Kingdom of God with a mustard seed, a small and seemingly unimpressive seed that becomes a large plant that gives shelter and shadow to the birds of the air. The Kingdom of God can be defined as the domain of God’s uncontested rule. It is the meta-country over which Christ rules, where people love and obey him as their King, keep the Law of Christ, the constitution of the Kingdom, and embrace his house hold rules, Kingdom economics. In the Kingdom, so to speak, no-one doubts the word of God, which includes the Bible. It is a sad fact that classical Christianity, as a religion, has abandoned all of that. It created a man-made religion that said: *God yes, King no!*, cast aside all central tenets of the Kingdom of God and turned Jesus into a humanistic storyteller, a powerless figurehead or mystic notion. A famous psalm that speaks of God protecting certain people from pestilence and plague is Psalm 91. Take special notice of the conditions, which we have underlined:

Psalm 91: He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say to the King, “You are my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust.” Surely He will deliver you from the snare of the fowler, and **from the deadly plague. He will cover you with His feathers; under His wings you will find refuge; His faithfulness is a shield and rampart. **You will not fear the pestilence that stalks in the darkness, nor the calamity that destroys at noon. Though a thousand may fall at your side, and ten thousand at your right hand, no harm will come near you. Because you have made the King your dwelling, no evil will befall you, no plague will approach your tent.** For He will command His angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways.**

In other words: Those that found a home, a dwelling place in the Kingdom, the citizens of this Kingdom, those that call Jesus their King, not just God, will enjoy a special and unique protection from the dangers on each side, including protection from viruses like Corona. Classical churches and Christianity as a religion will not be able to do that. To say it in another way: Many people have asked Christ to come into them; rightly so. But we all need to make one more move, *and step into Christ*. The gospel of John and many of Paul's letters urge this again and again: He in us *and we in him*. He will remain in us *if we remain in him*. Christ in us is a good start; *we in Christ* is where the party is. Jesus is the King of his Kingdom, the Lord of his house. If we want to be in him, we have to become his loyal subjects, members of his household. Religious or philosophical beliefs, casual Go-to-church-on-Sunday-Christianity or attending Christian mass or services will not do that for us; it is not even scratching the surface. Living in the shadow of the Kingdom requires you to make a deliberate step to become a citizen of the Kingdom of God. This is the land of the protected, the true land of the free and the genuine home of the brave. If you need some help to do that, download a free copy of The Kingdom Passport at www.kingdompassport.eu

2) Call for a Malachi conversation

There is a yet unfulfilled prophesy in the biblical, prophetic book of Malachi that waits to be fulfilled and walked out. The book of Malachi can be understood as a heavenly courtroom drama with four curses and ten specific divine accusations staked against God's rebellious people by God himself as both prosecutor and key witness. The case is only resolved when a God-fearing remnant takes a unique, threefold initiative:

- Pioneering a specific return and realignment from disobedience, lawlessness, cheap worship and financial unbelief and lawlessness, culminating in the restoration of the true storehouse of God (a Kingdom-based financial conduit)
- Having a strikingly honest conversation of "those that feared the Lord" that turns God's head and heart
- Dedicating themselves with an ultimate level of commitment

This human initiative would attract such a promised and overwhelming response from God that it will become a global game changer for the people of God. This human initiative will turn the cursed disposition of the people of God from a sin-ridden, toxic wasteland into a land of delight, a disposition of blessedness and restore to God his precious possession and show for all to see the true distinction between those that serve God and those that may say so, but actually do not and serve Mammon. We can understand Malachi as a **divine summons**, a subpoena to appear before the High Court of Heaven to face up to a collective charge of divine accusations that have been ignored and unanswered until a pivotal moment that is described as "And then" in Mal 3:16: **And then those that feared the Lord talked with each other, and the Lord listened and heard. And in his presence a scroll of remembrance was written** (containing the names of) **those who feared the Lord and honored his name.**

This event, which we call a **Malachi Conversation**, not only placated God, but turned around his heart and created an atmosphere of hope and even joy, as we read in the final part of the book.

In the year 2017 we pioneered such a Malachi Conversation in our area in Germany, with participants from around the world. All that participated agreed that it has been one of the deepest and most stirring conversations we had in our life. It lasted for a full three days and meticulously and honestly dealt with every single issue that God had placed before us. We had all felt that a time will come where such Malachi Conversations should happen everywhere, pioneered by anyone that truly fears God, would take up the initiative and who is prepared to be brutally honest before God and others. We have written up a report and the outline of this conversation so it could be a helpful guide to anyone who senses that this is the order of the day. Pray if you should spearhead this in your area, city or nation. Contact us if we can be of help to you with our little, but sobering experience in this.

3) Help our governments get right with God

If in every nation and tribe God-fearing governments would call together true Kingdom representatives – which is by no means identical with well-known Christian figures, who may be more part of the problem than part of the solution – and together address the rightful issues that God is having with them, we may see a complete and immediate turnaround. If God has authored this situation, then only God can remedy it. The prophet Hosea writes: **Come, let us return to the King. He has torn us to pieces but he will heal us; he has injured us but he will revive us.** Governments currently may be frantic to do all the needful, but each government consists of human and frail, less than perfect people with their own doubts, fears, egos and imperfections. Still, in this crucial situation, God waits for all kings - all governments - to acknowledge that he rules and to consider his offer of the Kingdom. Many governments rightfully look down on a fragmented and brand-conscious Christianity; but they also need to realize that Christ himself has spoken of a time when "the Kingdom" **will be offered to an entire nation** (Matthew 21:43) that is ready to bring the fruits of the Kingdom. Matthew chapter 25 shows that there will be two kinds of nations in God's perspective: Those that accepted, and those that rejected his offer. Jesus called them "sheep-and goat"-

nations. Helping our governments to align themselves with God in a proper way that responds to the Kingdom of God, not to man-made Christianity, is not only sound biblical theology; it may be the swiftest and most realistic and helpful thing to do right now in the days of crisis. We have prepared a statement and a helpful format for a closed-door, guided meeting for any government interested in this.

4) A bold neighbourhood community

Anyone who has peace with God and lives according to Kingdom standards does not only have to fear God – he can be a beacon of hope and help others to make their peace with God right now. While all governments rightly call everyone to stay at home and radically cut down on social contacts, some to the degree of declaring a curfew, those that know God can be very proactive and bold. Speak with your neighbors, fence to fence, balcony to balcony, telephone, online and let them know you care. Show them how to find peace of mind and a shelter with God for themselves.

A colleague of mine, Marc van der Woude, has compiled and published a small booklet (download it here: <https://www.joelnews.org/#coronavirus>) that described the bold, loving and selfless behaviour of Christians in days of historic epidemics: “In 165 AD during the reign of Marcus Aurelius, a devastating epidemic swept through the Roman Empire, possibly smallpox. During the 15-year duration of the epidemic, up to one third of the empire’s population died from it. Then in AD 251 a new and equally devastating epidemic, possibly measles, proved to be so deadly that it weakened the Roman military and societal structure. So many people died that entire cities and villages in Italy and provinces were abandoned and fell into ruin.” During both epidemics, the narrative and explanations of the Christians - and their selfless lives - provided to be more satisfactory and hopeful than all pagan, Hellenistic and materialistic worldviews. As a result, the number of Christians doubled during those times. Therefore, all of those who consider themselves to be Kingdom citizens, with a **citizenship in heaven**, as the Apostle Paul writes in Philippians chapter three, should similarly be both bold and locally relevant.

Stay-at-home-church

Many Bible readers know that the original way of living in community of the early followers of Christ was not to attend strictly choreographed, clergy-driven religious meetings in sanctuaries later called “churches”. They simply shared their lives with God and each other locally. They saw themselves as a small colony of the Kingdom, a little piece of heaven on earth, a local fellowship of 2- 15 followers of Christ who love, obey and share Jesus where they live and work. Cared for by an elder, they share their lives with God and each other by frequently eating together, sharing what they have, teaching and obeying the laws of Christ and praying and obeying the leadership of the Holy Spirit. The Bible does not know a Go-to-church-on-Sunday event seen as a passive participation in a religious event. If you cannot go to church, *start being the church!* Do what millions of followers of Christ have done in the early days of the Bible, and what many hundreds of millions are doing even today. **Turn your house into a neighbourhood-church!** Take time to notice who all lives in your immediate neighbourhood. Make a list of the 50 people living directly around you. People may be lonely and scared, so seek contact. Greet them; speak to them across your balcony, your garden fence or on the phone. Pray for them by name, speak hope into them, read the Bible to them or, even better, with them.

These days of a government-enforced lockdown on churches may be a good opportunity for everyone to re-examine his own faith and take stock of what his belief is worth in a situation like this. Jesus said: **Where two or three are together in my name, I am in their midst.** Take him at his word. So even if you are in a situation where no more than five or ten people can legally meet, do this: As a local representative of God, open up your house, your kitchen and your fridge – and share life with God and each other.

If you need help in all of this, **we will start a new short and interactive live-video feed on our soon to be published Facebook page called Kingdom Momentum.** The first live feed in English will air this coming Sunday March 22 at 4 PM German time (GMT + 1 h)

You are welcome to pass on this sit rep to as many people as you like.

Wolfgang Simson influences influencers. He is a widely read author, public speaker and thought leader. Simson interprets the Kingdom of God as “Life as it should be under the directive of the most fascinating influencer of the universe”. He sees Jesus not as the founder of Go-to-church-Christianity, but of a revolutionary and down-to-earth-practical way of life that loves, cares and shares. Simson is a German national with Israeli, Hungarian and German roots. Find him on the web at www.refornation.eu or on our soon to be published Facebook page called Kingdom Momentum.