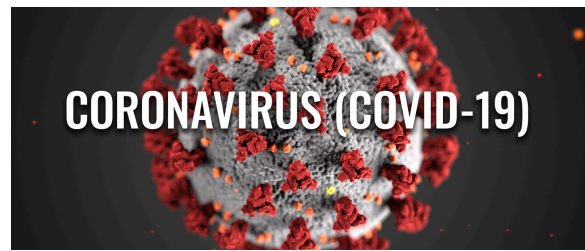


COVID-19: A Test of Faith

May 10th, 2020 – 1 Peter 5:6-11

Pastor Jon Pickens



1. Being Anxious

- a. The Problem: Worry is actually a form of **pride**... you would rather feel in control than rest in the knowledge that God is in control.
 - b. Truth: God is in **control** and He **cares** for you.
 - c. Response: Be **humble** and **pray**.
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2. Being Reactionary

- a. The Problem: Spiritual warfare in times of suffering is **real** and we may be inadvertently **feeding** into the schemes of the devil by being reactionary.
- b. Truths:
 - i. You are not **alone** in your suffering.
 - ii. God will **help** you to endure in the midst of suffering.
 - iii. God will ultimately **deliver** you from all suffering.
 - iv. God is **sovereign** over all creation.
- c. Response:
 - i. Be **restrained** and **vigilant**.
 - ii. **Resist** the temptation to take control.
 - iii. Live in the **promises** of God.

Questions to reflect upon:

1. In what ways have you been feeling anxious about this crisis?
2. In what ways have you been reactionary during this crisis?
3. How does this passage of Scripture help you in responding to this crisis that we are in?
4. If we are going to live in the promises of God, then we need to be reminded of them often. What are some practical things that you can do to remind yourself of the promises of God?
5. Spend time in confession to God about any anxious thoughts or reactionary actions. Ask Him to help you remember His promises and live in them.

My Personal Take-Away from the Message:

Next Steps: May Reading Plan (Week 2)

Day One: Romans 14
Day Two: Romans 15
Day Three: Romans 16
Day Four: Acts 20
Day Five: Acts 21

Journaling Tip:

Before you read or begin writing down any thoughts, ask God to open your eyes to teach you from His Word. He is the one who makes it beautiful, living, and active in our lives.

Next Week's Sermon: Romans 3:27-31

May Scripture Memory:

39 He also told them a parable: "Can a blind man lead a blind man? Will they not both fall into a pit? **40** A disciple is not above his teacher, but everyone when he is fully trained will be like his teacher. **41** Why do you see the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye? **42** How can you say to your brother, 'Brother, let me take out the speck that is in your eye,' when you yourself do not see the log that is in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take out the speck that is in your brother's eye.

Luke 6:39-41 (ESV)