

## **Jaimashi fellow followers of our Lord Jesus Christ,**

As many of you already know, my daughter and I went on a mission trip to Rwanda from March 9 to 20<sup>th</sup>. We arrived home safely on March 21.

It was a very eventful trip. Due to the surfacing of the coronavirus, we were challenged in many ways. But as you know, our God is greater than this virus or anything else Satan chooses to throw our way. My daughter and I stood our ground as faithful servants of God and continued to manifest his love, grace and peace to the people of Rwanda. As we stood and continued to move forward, God continued to open doors for us to minister the Word of God.

I will be sending out a newsletter soon to share about all of the wonderful and powerful thing that happened during that mission trip. But my deep concern right now is the consistent negative reaction I have been seeing from Christians regarding this coronavirus threat. And so I decided to prioritize my communication to you by sharing with you on how we as Christians need to deal with this coronavirus threat.

I am receiving feedback from so many Christians around the world who are living in fear right now because of coronavirus. The reason they are afraid is because they are allowing the thoughts in their mind to be filled with negative news regarding this virus rather than God's promises. God exhorts us to be careful what thoughts we allow to enter our mind.

*More than anything else you protect, guard your heart,  
because from it flow the issues of life.*

Proverbs 4:23

What we feed our mind with is what goes into her heart. And that's what we manifest in our life. We need to shield our mind from negative thoughts. Instead, we need to feed our mind with the positive thoughts from the Word of God. What we do with our mind will determine whether we have success or defeat in our lives.

If we spend several hours a day listening to and thinking about the negative news reports about the coronavirus, that's what will get put in our heart and we will have fear. Especially if we are not spending lots of dedicated time pondering the thoughts of God's Word.

*This book of the Torah must not depart out of your mouth, but you are to meditate on it day and night, so that you can be careful to do according to all*

*that is written in it; for then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.*

Joshua 1:8

The key to achieving success over this coronavirus attack on the world is to ignore it. Instead, replace those thoughts with those from God's Word.

God expects us to control the thoughts we allow to penetrate our mind. And when a thought or suggestion about the virus such as, "This is getting worse," "More people are being infected," "There is no way to control it," "There is no cure for it," "More people are dying," etc. etc. etc. We must combat these fiery darts of the enemy with truth. This is what David did and why he was able to defeat Goliath. It wasn't a slingshot that defeated Goliath. The battle was won before David threw a stone. Let's take a look.

*The Philistine said to David, "Am I a dog, that you come to me with sticks?"*

*The Philistine cursed David by his gods.*

*The Philistine said to David, "Come to me, and I will give your flesh to the birds of the air and to the animals of the field."*

1 Samuel 17:43-44

David did not accept as truth what the Philistine had told him. He countered the Philistines words with an appropriate promise from God.

*Then David said to the Philistine, "You come to me with a sword and with a spear and with a javelin: but I come to you in the name of Yahweh of Armies, the God of the armies of Israel whom you have defied.*

*Today, Yahweh will deliver you into my hand. I will strike you and take your head from off you. I will give the dead bodies of the army of the Philistines this day to the birds of the air and to the wild animals of the earth, that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel.*

*and that all this assembly may know that Yahweh does not save with sword and spear; for the battle is Yahweh's, and he will give you into our hand."*

1 Samuel 17:45-47

David convinced himself that the promise of God was true rather than the lies of the enemy. We also must convince ourselves that God is greater than this virus and that it has no power or authority over Christian believers because we carry the authority of our risen Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

This may come as a shock to you, but I have not listened to even one minute of news about the coronavirus from any television, radio, newspaper or other

media source for the past month. Instead, I have been constantly feeding my mind with God's Word, every day.

I'm not asking you to go to that extreme. But if you spend 15 minutes listening to the news. How about spending at least an hour meditating on the Word of God? Spend much more time in God's Word than you do listening to all of this hyped up, fear-driven news that is propagated by people who have no motivation for giving you this information other than to sell newspapers and television airtime. They don't care about you. Do yourself a favor and don't spend so much time listening to them.

Here are some suggestions as to what you should allow to get stored into your mind, which will then reach your heart, instead of all of this garbage from the media.

*Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and petitions with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God, and as a result, the peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and your thoughts since you are in union with Christ Jesus.*  
Philippians 4:6-7

We do not need to be anxious about the virus. God will protect us from harm. We simply need to go to him in prayer with thanksgiving. We don't pray because we fear. We pray with thanksgiving. Because we know that God is going to take care of us. And that is what enables us to have peace.

*For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.*  
2 Timothy 1:7

The love of God is so powerful. And when we focus on that love, and dwell on God's love, we won't have any fear. Instead, we will have power and a sound mind.

*What will separate us from the love of Christ? Will affliction, or distress, or persecution, or hunger, or nakedness, or danger, or sword?  
No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.  
For I am persuaded that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

Romans 8:35, 37-39

Come on fellow Christians. Wake up to what is real. God is real, not these lies from the devil. All of Israel's army shook in fear because their focus of attention was on a big ox of a man with all of his heavy armor instead of on the promises of God.

Today I am seeing the same thing. While the news media cries out, "This coronavirus is going to kill all of you," Christians are retreating to their homes in fear, putting their trust in their government and medical technology to rid them of this threat. Instead of reading encouraging scriptures such as Psalms 91.

Wake up fellow Christians. Stop putting your trust in worldly governments and health systems. The only thing we can truly rely on is God and his Word. That is the stand David took. And that is the stand we must take.

When Jesus Christ was on the earth doing his ministry there was also a major disease threat that was, at that time, highly contagious. It was called leprosy. How did Jesus deal with it? Did he run for cover when a leper was spotted and yell, "Get that man quarantined!" No. He went up to the leper, touched him, and ministered healing to him.

Allow the power of God, and the love of God, to rule your heart like Jesus did. Have compassion on people instead of being afraid of them.

God loves you and so do I.