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COVID-19: GOD'S WARNING TO THE LOST?

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Recently, many of us have suffered from the COVID-19 mandates for anti-social isolation. Folks who are dying (regardless of cause) have been denied visits by family members. Masks have hidden smiles, frowns and other facial expressions associated with our personal interactions. Many who previously focused, exclusively, on activities of this life are now gripped by a fear of dying.

Is it possible that God, Himself, is reminding us that death is the universal consequence of mankind's rejection of Himself? Adam and Eve disobeyed God's prohibition in the Garden of Eden. This brought immediate spiritual death, followed, ultimately, by physical death for them and all their descendents. Scripture says:

"And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment: So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation." (Hebrews 9:27-28)

Perhaps some who were previously "subcontracting" their eternal well-being to religious organizations, have begun to reevaluate

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their status. Scripture makes it clear that none but God the Son, Jesus Christ, can grant forgiveness and eternal salvation. Though some have tried to sell entrance to heaven for money, God gives them no authority to do so. The blood of Jesus Christ, the Savior, is the only price God has accepted for forgiveness of sin. The apostle Thomas asked Jesus about the way to heaven.

"Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." (John 14:6)

What is the eternal state of the lost? First and foremost, it never ends! Those sentenced to this eternity by Christ, Himself, shall never gain release based on good standing in their church. I once knew a man who tried to acquire good standing in multiple religions. Many of them reject the only true and living way. Those who don't depend completely on Christ, shall be lost forever. Jesus recognized that even some descendants of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob would not find the way. He said,

"And I say unto you, That many shall come from the east and west, and shall sit down

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