



# Pointes to Ponder

*Romans 1:18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, 19 because that which is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them... 32 and although they know the ordinance of God, that those who practice such things are worthy of death, they not only do the same, but also give hearty approval to those who practice them. (NASB95)*

Recently, in response to one of our Governor's updates on twitter I replied with "Fear of Covid = fear of death. Fear of death is on in those that know their sin is not forgiven..." I also asked people to turn to Jesus for redemption. While the responses did not surprise me, they were very telling. From "not wearing a mask is unloving" to "Science proves masks save lives" none tried to interact with what I had written. Universally and without commenting on what I actually said or did not say no one interacted with the content of my tweet. Not one person wanted to discuss the connection of fearing death with the fear of the virus.

What drives this? In the most foundational and accurate sense we know it is sin. But more specifically it is the sin of suppression. Since God has revealed himself to every human being through their conscience, people must ignore anything that would make them think seriously about the end of life and God's right to judge their deeds. The Apostle is saying that the truth suppressors know their deeds deserve death. Loved ones, I am convinced that this is the reason so many are so afraid of Covid19. They don't want to die. Who does, right?! But most importantly even while trying to obscure the knowledge of God and His holiness and righteousness they instinctively know that judgment comes after death. And they are not willing to talk about it. Nor can they be, unless we tell them.

Please do not misunderstand, I am not writing to disparage anyone who is wearing a mask etc. Please do understand, the fear that so many of our friends and loved ones are experiencing is a gospel opportunity. Use it. Don't allow them to continue ignoring the knowledge of God in their own conscience. Lovingly question their fear of death. Ask them if they can explain why it exists. If necessary, wear a mask while you do so. Then explain why fear exists biblically and provide the solution. Jesus is the only one that can be a "doer of the law" (Rom 2:13) and so only those trusting in Him to "do" the law for them have no need to fear death or the Coronavirus. Prayerfully do and say everything you can to love your friends and loved ones that are afraid and are not trying to understand why at its' deepest level. My prayer is that the situation we find ourselves in will yield many opportunities for giving the good news of Jesus Christ.

For Christ-the cure of all things fear,

Pastor Keith