

## **We are a Weak People by Pastor Roy Hogan**

A virus has brought the world to its knees. A virus has caused a pandemic. (occurring over a wide geographic area and affecting an exceptionally high proportion of the population.) The COVID-19 virus started with one case in China.

**From European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control  
An agency of the European Union as follows:**

**Situation update worldwide, as of 14 March 2020 08:00**

### **Epidemiological update**

Since 31 December 2019 and as of 14 March 2020, **143 247** cases of COVID-19 (in accordance with the applied case definitions in the affected countries) have been reported, including **5 407 deaths**. The deaths have been reported from China (3 194), Italy (1 268), Iran (514), Spain (121), France (79), South Korea (72), United States (47), Japan (21), United Kingdom (10), Iraq (9), International conveyance in Japan (7), Switzerland (7), Philippines (6), Germany (5), Netherlands (5), San Marino (5), Indonesia (4), Australia (3), Belgium (3), Algeria (2), Argentina (2), Egypt (2), India (2), Lebanon (2), Poland (2), Albania (1), Austria (1), Bulgaria (1), Canada (1), Ecuador (1), Greece (1), Guyana (1), Ireland (1), Luxembourg (1), Morocco (1), Norway (1), Panama (1), Sweden (1), Taiwan (1) and Thailand (1).

### **Cases have been reported on the following continents:**

**Africa:** Egypt (93), Algeria (26), South Africa (24), Senegal (19), Tunisia (16), Morocco (7), Burkina Faso (2), Cameroon (2), Democratic Republic Of The Congo (2), Ghana (2), Nigeria (2), Cote D'ivoire (1), Ethiopia (1), Gabon (1), Guinea (1), Kenya (1), Sudan (1) and Togo (1).

**Asia:** China (80 973), Iran (11 364), South Korea (8 086), Japan (737), Qatar (320), Bahrain (210), Singapore (200), Malaysia (197), Israel (116), Kuwait (100), Iraq (93), Saudi Arabia (86), United Arab Emirates (85), India (83), Thailand (82), Indonesia (69), Lebanon (66), Philippines (64), Taiwan (53), Vietnam (49), Brunei Darussalam (37), Palestine\* (35), Pakistan (21), Oman (20),

Maldives (9), Afghanistan (7), Sri Lanka (6), Cambodia (5), Bangladesh (3), Bhutan (1), Jordan (1), Mongolia (1) and Nepal (1). **America:** United States (2 174), Canada (176), Brazil (98), Chile (43), Peru (38), Panama (36), Argentina (34), Costa Rica (26), Mexico (26), Ecuador (23), Colombia (16), Dominican Republic (11), Bolivia (10), Jamaica (8), Paraguay (7), Cuba (4), Honduras (3), Trinidad and Tobago (2), Guyana (1) and Saint Vincent and The Grenadines (1).

**Europe:** Italy (17 660), Spain (4 231), France (3 661), Germany (3 062), Switzerland (1 121), Denmark (804), Netherlands (804), Sweden (775), United Kingdom (707), Norway (621), Belgium (559), Austria (504), Greece (190), Finland (155), Czech Republic (150), Slovenia (141), Iceland (117), Portugal (112), Ireland (91), Romania (89), Estonia (79), San Marino (73), Poland (68), Georgia (46), Russia (45), Serbia (41), Luxembourg (38), Albania (33), Bulgaria (31), Croatia (31), Slovakia (30), Hungary (25), Belarus (21), Latvia (19), Cyprus (14), Armenia (13), Azerbaijan (13), North Macedonia (13), Malta (12), Moldova (8), Lithuania (6), Liechtenstein (4), Bosnia and Herzegovina (3), Ukraine (3), Andorra (2), Turkey (2), Holy See (1) and Monaco (1).

**Oceania:** Australia (197) and New Zealand (6).

**Other:** International conveyance in Japan (69).

The virus does not kill, except in cases where the person infected is vulnerable, such as the elderly. The virus is a fever, a cough, and shortness of breath according to the CDC. A couple of days, and it seems to run its course. Yet, panic has set in. Hoarders are hoarding food and other items. Shelves are empty in certain places in some stores. Panic has set in. One of the richest events in the incredibly rich world of sports, The Masters Golf tournament, has been suspended. It has been estimated that this event generates about \$120M. Folk from all over the world are cancelling flights and other travel plans because the golf event is suspended. The governor of North Carolina has closed all public schools for a minimum of two weeks effective immediately.

This seemingly simple virus has closed a nation. Italy has a population of 60M. All 60-million were ordered to quarantine

themselves in their home. Only essential facilities, namely food and medical, were operating. I watched a video clip yesterday showing an Italian news reporter turning the pages of the local newspaper in the city of Bergamo, Italy, located 30 miles north of Milan. There were ten pages of obituaries in the newspaper of this one city of 120,000 in a single day, that day being March 13. The total number of reported cases of the virus had skyrocketed to 17,600, including 1,266 deaths. All this from a virus, that, in a reasonably healthy person, causes a fever, a cough, and shortness of breath. This is not polio or tuberculosis or the smallpox. This is a virus with cold-like symptoms.

There is one dominating thought that floods my mind from this pandemic, and that thought is this- *this world is fragile*. Yes, we have mighty armies. Yes, the world has inventions unthought of one generation ago. Yes, we have great institutions of higher learning. Yes, we have been to the moon. Nevertheless, a virus whose symptoms are low-grade fever, coughing, and shortness of breath. This world is fragile.

### **1) We are small world**

The planet on which we dwell, called earth, is located in the Milky Way galaxy. If God were to step out of heaven and take a walk across the Milky Way Galaxy and happen to step on planet earth, I doubt he would recognize that he had done so. It is 100,000 light-years across the Milky Way galaxy. One light-year is 6 trillion miles. 100,000 x 6 trillion equals  $6 \times 10^{17}$  miles. Earth's circumference (the distance all the way around the equator) is 24,901 miles (40,075 **kilometers**). Its diameter (the distance from one side to the other through Earth's center) is 7,926 miles (about 12,756 **kilometers**). The earth is a speck in the Milky Way galaxy. It is a particle of dust.

(The earth in comparison to the entire Milky Way Galaxy: it is a 16" beach ball laying on a beach 20 billion miles long. 20 billion miles is 8,000,000 trips around the earth.)

One thing that trips up a lot of Christians is the thought that earth is all there is, and that earth is the world. Our solar system is centered around the sun. We boast of our solar system. Oh, say we, it is massive with the sun and its 9 planets. Yet, the sun is only one of 200 billion stars in the Milky Way Galaxy. The diameter of the sun is 865,270 miles. The diameter of the earth is 7,926 miles.  $865,270/7926=109$ . The sun's diameter is 109 times greater than the earth's diameter. If the sun were represented by a beach ball (about 16" diameter), the earth would be, in comparison, a bb.

## 2) How big is God?

**(Jeremiah 32:17)** "Ah Lord GOD! behold, thou hast made the heaven and the earth by thy great power and stretched out arm, *and* there is nothing too hard for thee:"

**(Psalms 139:7-10)** "Whither shall I go from thy spirit? or whither shall I flee from thy presence? {8} If I ascend up into heaven, thou *art* there: if I make my bed in hell, behold, thou *art there*. {9} If I take the wings of the morning, *and* dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea; {10} Even there shall thy hand lead me, and thy right hand shall hold me."

**(Jeremiah 10:10)** "But the LORD *is* the true God, he *is* the living God, and an everlasting king: at his wrath the earth shall tremble, and the nations shall not be able to abide his indignation."

**(Hebrews 11:3)** "Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear."

**(Jeremiah 23:24)** "Can any hide himself in secret places that I shall not see him? saith the LORD. Do not I fill heaven and earth? saith the LORD."

**(1 Kings 8:27)** "But will God indeed dwell on the earth? behold, the heaven and heaven of heavens cannot contain thee; how much less this house that I have builded?"

**(Isaiah 66:1)** "Thus saith the LORD, The heaven *is* my throne, and the earth *is* my footstool: where *is* the house that ye build unto me? and where *is* the place of my rest?"

And on and on and on...

### 3) We are weak people who make up this small world

- Hitler conducted a war that killed 50 millions of this planet's inhabitants. A goodly portion of Hitler's army was comprised of women and children. His war machine was not invincible nor sophisticated. Many of his explosive devices were crude using such items as nails and metal fragments from factories. I doubt he had even one weapon in his arsenal that would qualify to be a part of the armies of the world today. One man with a mean heart took out 50 million human beings. Wow. We are a weak people.

- In 12 hours, one angel killed 70,000 Hebrew people. This was not an army, but a single angel. No shots were fired. The angel did not even carry a weapon.

**(2 Samuel 24:15-16)** "So the LORD sent a pestilence upon Israel from the morning even to the time appointed: and there died of the people from Dan even to Beer-sheba seventy thousand men. **{16}** And when the angel stretched out his hand upon Jerusalem to destroy it, the LORD repented him of the evil, and said to the angel that destroyed the people, It is enough: stay now thine hand. And the angel of the LORD was by the threshingplace of Araunah the Jebusite."

- It takes 60 seconds for an adult to drown, which you may think is "very quick." But the odds are even worse when it comes to kids – it takes only 20 seconds for a child to drown, according to US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). It takes less than 1/2 a cup of **water** in your lungs to **drown**. That is hard to believe! You **can drown** in a bucket of **water**, standing **water** in a mud-puddle, water in a bath tub, and any amount of **water** that covers the mouth and nose, according to YMCA.

- You **can survive three minutes without** breathable **air**. You **can survive three hours** in a harsh environment (extreme heat or cold). You **can survive three days without** drinkable water. You **can survive three weeks without** food.

- There is no vaccination to prevent or to cure what we term as "the common cold." We are weak people.

- I was told at a young age that I would be “a real man” the day I was able to bench press my body weight. I would have arrived. An ant can carry a load 5,000 times the weight of its body.

#### 4) God’s strength is unlimited

With the breath of his nostrils and his right hand, he destroyed Pharaoh’s army.

**(Exodus 15:7-12)** "And in the greatness of thine excellency thou hast overthrown them that rose up against thee: thou sentest forth thy wrath, *which* consumed them as stubble. {8} And with the blast of thy nostrils the waters were gathered together, the floods stood upright as an heap, *and* the depths were congealed in the heart of the sea. {9} The enemy said, I will pursue, I will overtake, I will divide the spoil; my lust shall be satisfied upon them; I will draw my sword, my hand shall destroy them. {10} Thou didst blow with thy wind, the sea covered them: they sank as lead in the mighty waters. {11} Who *is* like unto thee, O LORD, among the gods? who *is* like thee, glorious in holiness, fearful *in* praises, doing wonders? {12} Thou stretchedst out thy right hand, the earth swallowed them."

**(Job 26:7-14)** "He stretcheth out the north over the empty place, *and* hangeth the earth upon nothing. {8} He bindeth up the waters in his thick clouds; and the cloud is not rent under them. {9} He holdeth back the face of his throne, *and* spreadeth his cloud upon it. {10} He hath compassed the waters with bounds, until the day and night come to an end. {11} The pillars of heaven tremble and are astonished at his reproof. {12} He divideth the sea with his power, and by his understanding he smiteth through the proud. {13} By his spirit he hath garnished the heavens; his hand hath formed the crooked serpent. {14} Lo, these *are* parts of his ways: but how little a portion is heard of him? but the thunder of his power who can understand?"

#### 5) Facts

- \* What we call “the world” is small, really, only a speck.
- \* God is infinitely big.
- \* Earth’s inhabitants are weaklings.

\* God's strength is unlimited

\* The worst is yet to come

**(Revelation 8:7-9:1)** "The **first** angel sounded, and there followed hail and fire mingled with blood, and they were cast upon the earth: and the *third part of trees was burnt up, and all green grass was burnt up.* {8} And the **second** angel sounded, and as it were a *great mountain burning with fire was cast into the sea: and the third part of the sea became blood;* {9} And the third part of the creatures which were in the sea, and had life, died; and the third part of the ships were destroyed. {10} And the **third** angel sounded, and there fell a great star from heaven, burning as it were a lamp, and it fell upon the third part of the rivers, and upon the fountains of waters; {11} And the name of the star is called Wormwood: and *the third part of the waters became wormwood; and many men died of the waters, because they were made bitter.* {12} And the **fourth** angel sounded, and the third part of the sun was smitten, and the third part of the moon, and the third part of the stars; *so as the third part of them was darkened, and the day shone not for a third part of it, and the night likewise.* {13} And I beheld, and heard an angel flying through the midst of heaven, saying with a loud voice, Woe, woe, woe, to the inhabitants of the earth by reason of the other voices of the trumpet of the three angels, which are yet to sound! given the key of the bottomless pit." **(Revelation 9:1-21)** "And the **fifth** angel sounded, and I saw a star fall from heaven unto the earth: and to him was given the key of the bottomless pit. {2} And he opened the bottomless pit; and there arose a smoke out of the pit, as the smoke of a great furnace; and the sun and the air were darkened by reason of the smoke of the pit. {3} And *there came out of the smoke locusts upon the earth: and unto them was given power, as the scorpions of the earth have power.* {4} And it was commanded them that they should not hurt the grass of the earth, neither any green thing, neither any tree; but only those men which have not the seal of God in their foreheads. {5} And to them it was given that they should not kill them, but that they should be tormented five months: and their torment was as the torment of a scorpion, when he striketh a man. {6} And in those days shall men seek death, and shall not find it; and shall desire to die, and death shall flee from them. {7} And the

*shapes of the locusts were like unto horses prepared unto battle; and on their heads were as it were crowns like gold, and their faces were as the faces of men. {8} And they had hair as the hair of women, and their teeth were as the teeth of lions. {9} And they had breastplates, as it were breastplates of iron; and the sound of their wings was as the sound of chariots of many horses running to battle. {10} And they had tails like unto scorpions, and there were stings in their tails: and their power was to hurt men five months. {11} And they had a king over them, which is the angel of the bottomless pit, whose name in the Hebrew tongue is Abaddon, but in the Greek tongue hath his name Apollyon. {12} One woe is past; and, behold, there come two woes more hereafter. {13} And the sixth angel sounded, and I heard a voice from the four horns of the golden altar which is before God, {14} Saying to the sixth angel which had the trumpet, Loose the four angels which are bound in the great river Euphrates. {15} And the four angels were loosed, which were prepared for an hour, and a day, and a month, and a year, for to slay the third part of men. {16} And the number of the army of the horsemen were two hundred thousand thousand: and I heard the number of them. {17} And thus I saw the horses in the vision, and them that sat on them, having breastplates of fire, and of jacinth, and brimstone: and the heads of the horses were as the heads of lions; and out of their mouths issued fire and smoke and brimstone. {18} By these three was the third part of men killed, by the fire, and by the smoke, and by the brimstone, which issued out of their mouths. {19} For their power is in their mouth, and in their tails: for their tails were like unto serpents, and had heads, and with them they do hurt. {20} And the rest of the men which were not killed by these plagues yet repented not of the works of their hands, that they should not worship devils, and idols of gold, and silver, and brass, and stone, and of wood: which neither can see, nor hear, nor walk: {21} Neither repented they of their murders, nor of their sorceries, nor of their fornication, nor of their thefts."*

\* Now is a good time to be personally acquainted with the Lord.

Neither you nor I will ever see the greatness of God until we see the vastness of the world. We will never see the greatness of God until we see the weakness of man.

