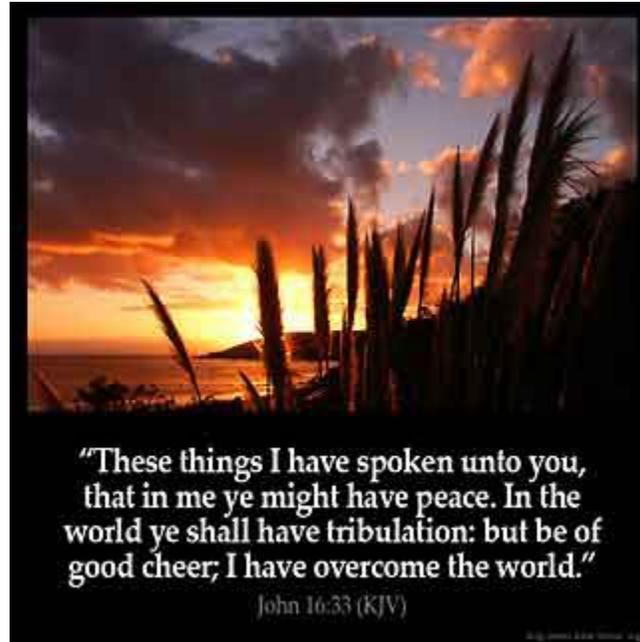


## Christian Dental Society News-Brief March 2020



The Corona virus is impacting all of us and the CDS is no exception. The Hinman Dental meeting was just canceled and many are wisely withdrawing from and hoping to reschedule overseas mission trips. Those traveling overseas are being faced, in many cases, with 14 days of quarantine upon their return. Churches, sporting events, entertainment venues, schools, nursing home visits, meetings, and even work are being canceled. Almost every aspect of our comfortable lives from toilet paper, to vacations, to retirement funds are uncertain.

I am reminded of the verse in Psalms 91:2-6, "I will say of the Lord, 'He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust!' Surely He will save you from the fowler's snare and from the deadly pestilence. . . You will not fear the terror of night, nor the arrow that flies by day, nor the pestilence that stalks in the darkness."

In this morning's sermon, which was watched on-line, I was reassured and reminded that as Christians we should remain optimistic and happy. **The world is looking at us and we have a unique opportunity to advocate our Christian worldview and share the Gospel.**

To put this latest crisis in perspective, we have always lived with threats. In the U.S. alone:

Cancer deaths in 2019:  
606,880 with 1,762,450 cases diagnosed.

Flu deaths from Oct. 1, 2019 to Feb. 1, 2020:  
16,000 and another 280,000 hospitalized.  
Between 12,000 and 61,000 deaths annually since 2010.

Heart disease deaths in 2019:  
634,000 with 28.2 million adults being diagnosed with heart disease.

Automobile crash deaths in 2019 were 38,000.

There have also been a lot of plagues in history:

The Antonine Plague (AD 165): This pandemic was brought back to Rome by soldiers returning from Mesopotamia and eventually killed over 5,000,000.

The Plague of Justinian (AD 541-42): this was an outbreak of bubonic plague that killed up to 20,000,000. By one estimate, 50% of the European population perished.

The Black Death (1346-53): Another outbreak of bubonic plague that killed between 75 to 200 million, devastating Europe, Africa, and Asia.

The influenza that swept the globe in 1918-19 was the worst pandemic after the Black Death. 500,000,000 people—a third of the world's population—were infected.

There are several pandemics right here in our day and age:

The WHO estimates that there were 228 million cases of malaria worldwide in 2018, with 405,000 deaths. Almost half the world's population are at risk and the disease kills a child every two minutes.

Some consider cholera to be in its seventh pandemic with no signs of easing. Researchers estimate that there are between 1.3-4 million cases a year with 143,000 deaths worldwide.

Tuberculosis (TB) might be the oldest human disease, but this pandemic is still with us and kills more people than at any other time in history.

The AIDS pandemic has infected approximately 37.9 million people with 1.7 million new infections in 2018. According to the WHO, 75,000,000 have been infected with the HIV virus and about 32,000,000 have died of it.

We should not be reckless or cavalier as we respond to the Corona virus. From the world's view the worst thing that can happen is death, but from the Christian view the worst thing that can happen is that we die without Jesus. The heavenly Father has an appointment with us, as we will all die and see Him in glory in heaven.

Are we going to stand on the Rock of our salvation and proclaim why we have Hope? I pray for wisdom, boldness, and courage. And if that means we are quarantined, let us rest assured that the Word, Power, and Name of God will never be quarantined.

A couple of bright spots for the CDS:

China has re-opened for business after being closed for a month and has shipped us the five ultrasonics we ordered to increase our hygiene kits.

Jonah White, the inventor of **Instant Smile Teeth**, [www.instantmileteeth.com](http://www.instantmileteeth.com) and his organization designed and contributed the exhibit booth display banner shown below to the CDS to be used at dental conventions and meetings. I met Jonah at a dental convention and connected with his inexpensive, easy to use, temporary tooth replacement kit. The CDS sincerely thanks Jonah for this beautiful display banner!



“He will keep in perfect peace all those who trust in Him, whose thoughts turn often to the Lord.” Isaiah 26:3