

3 Things That Will be New After the Pandemic

Next week: back live! Register online as we have to space out some. There will be two services at the north campus: 9:30 & 11:15, as it has always been in the south.

What is God up to?

WIJD

Some of this has been judgments. God works in the affairs of men, not just in the church, especially if the church will pray.

1. A new world order

- If you've been in the Christian world for any length of time, that phrase means something, and it's not good. Speaks of one world government, which is godless.
- Actually, the opposite has been happening (Brexit).
- **"China will be diminished"**
 - China is an evil regime – persecuting Christians and other religions; corrupting trade practices; stealing intellectual property.
 - The world will now turn against them.
- Much like Soviet Union and President Reagan
- The scripture speaks much of these kinds of things.

Psalms 9:15-20 (NLT)

*¹⁵ The nations have fallen into the pit they dug for others.
Their own feet have been caught in the trap they set.*

*¹⁶ The LORD is known for his justice.
The wicked are trapped by their own deeds.*

*¹⁷ The wicked will go down to the grave.
This is the fate of all the nations who ignore God.*

*¹⁸ But the needy will not be ignored forever;
the hopes of the poor will not always be crushed.*

*¹⁹ Arise, O LORD!
Do not let mere mortals defy you!
Judge the nations!*

*²⁰ Make them tremble in fear, O LORD.
Let the nations know they are merely human.*

Isaiah 40:15

Behold, the nations are as a drop in a bucket, And are counted as the small dust on the scales...

2. A New Home Life

- A new parenting style
- Education – judgment over a godless system that trains our kids to be immoral socialists. Judgment over the cowardly politicians who would not give our parents school choice. To survive, schools now *have* to give parents choice. Online training has improved dramatically, because it had to.

- We have found after 30 years of pastoral ministry, including running a private school and a thriving college ministry, that there is no substitute for the family.
- The true American dream – good job, own your home. NOT get a college degree.
- Renewed intimacy in marriage
- Renewed communion with God, married or single.
 - Forced isolation has created this opportunity
 - Israel keeping the sabbath – Babylon forced them to let the land rest.
 - People put in prison

3. A New Work Life

- Up to 30% were working from home BEFORE the Corona virus.
- Judgment on the airline industry – which has been abusive.
 - I’ve logged just under a million miles – seen lots of changes. Airlines have gotten arrogant and there’s been little competition. Rows squeezed together, constant delays or cancellations for Dallas – Longview flight, people sitting for hours on the tarmac.
 - Simple principle for success – put people first! God really cares about people.
- Judgment on large corporations using China’s cheap labor for a quick profit without regard for the long term consequences – theft of intellectual property, support of a regime that has horrible human rights abuses.
- Back to the good old days – people worked from home.
- This changed when we went from agricultural to industrial economy. Now we’re in the information economy, which allows it to change back.
- Of course many of you will not work from home – health care, construction, retail, etc.
- For couples, however, it may be that one of you still will.
- Better for marriages, better for kids
- Speaking of education – it’s good for kids to see their parents at work! Youth today have a hard time envisioning success at work. Modeling changes that a lot.

Response

Be encouraged

- **God works in nations and in the affairs of men!** Our prayers do matter.
- **God’s principles work**, even when the godless ignore them.
 - Your kids don’t have to backslide on their way to adulthood.
 - You don’t have to compromise integrity or your beliefs in order to succeed in the workplace.

Colossians 3:14-17

¹⁴ But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection. ¹⁵ And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful. ¹⁶ Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. ¹⁷ And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.