

# QUARANTINE 2020

# CHRIST'S SORROW

4/7/2020 SHAWN SEVERT

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## SORROWFUL LIKE CHRIST

### REALIZE THE CIRCUMSTANCE

Have the people of our nation become sorrowful and truly troubled in their spirit yet? Have people truly began to repent and to turn to our creator, asking for his strength, asking for relationship with Him, asking for forgiveness for not giving him the worship and praise that He and only He is worthy of?

We read in Matthew 26, that Christ Himself became sorrowful and troubled, or deeply distressed, knowing that pain and torture, and death was merely days away. Think about this, He knew that it was coming, though He may not have been able to comprehend at the time how torturous it was going to be, He knew it was coming. You and I on the other hand, without revelation from God, sometimes in a vision or a dream, we do not know what is to come tomorrow, let alone by the end of every day. Take a look in Matthew, and see the steps that Jesus took at this time of distress.

**Matthew 26:36-39** "Then Jesus came with them to a place called Gethsemane, and said to the disciples, "Sit here while I go and pray over there." And He took with Him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and He began to be sorrowful

**and deeply distressed. Then He said to them, "My soul is exceedingly sorrowful, even to death. Stay here and watch with Me."**

**He went a little farther and fell on His face, and prayed, saying, "O My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as You will."**

Pay attention to Christ's words to His Father. He does not want to go through such a torturous experience, yet He proclaims, "not as I will, but as You will." Can you understand now why Christ would have been feeling so sorrowful and distressed? Now I want you to take a look at our current circumstance. We are living through a global pandemic that is bringing un-assurance of what's to come in the next few weeks, nor months. Wow! think about that. Look at the difference here. Christ knew that he was about to come face to face with death (in which he defeated), and here we are, not knowing what tomorrow brings.

Now is the time for you and me to become sorrowful and distressed and go into prayer and fasting immediately!! I'm not saying to go into a state of fear or panic or show any lack of faith. I'm saying, we know that the times are not normal, we know that we are going through an economic crisis, we know that people are dying at an alarming rate around the world. If ever there has been a time that we need to drop to our knees, repent and call on God, that time is NOW!

Continuing reading Matthew 26 notice that Jesus comes back to Peter and the sons of Zebedee and finds them sleeping. They were sleeping because they did not know what Christ knew. To them, that night, and the next day, was going to be the same as the

day before, a continued mission of ministry, as it had been since they began following Jesus. That is how I feel about our country, including many proclaimed Christians, that we have been sleeping when we should have been praying! We have been putting our faith into the world (our jobs, our government, our financial systems etc.), thinking that every day will continue on as the previous, without truly grasping that a pandemic could strike at the blink of an eye, shutting down our country, and wiping out that faith in the world that so many seem to have had.

Notice also that not only does Jesus feel sorrowful and distressed, but after he finds his disciples sleeping, he goes back and prays again! Then, He returns once again to find them sleeping, and then returns and prays to the Father the same prayer again!!!! If this is what Christ Himself did in a time of sorrow and distress, do you not think that we should be doing the same, even more so?

In later books of the New Testament, we read in **Philippians 4:6** **“Be anxious for nothing, but in everything, by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God.”** How profound that Paul would write this, and Jesus shows us this with his actions. Hopefully this is helping to make it obvious, that WE MUST DO THIS! If we want our lives to go back to even being somewhat “normal” as they were before, it is going to take a time of humility and prayer, calling on God, repenting and turning to God with our faith, and letting go of our faith in the world.

In the Old Testament, in 2<sup>nd</sup> Chronicles, we see where God is speaking to His people, giving them instructions on what to do in order to save their land!

**2<sup>nd</sup> Chronicles 7:14** "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land."

This was written thousands of years ago, yet understand, God does not change, and God's Word remains true. We must humble ourselves, pray, and seek the face of God. Turn from our wicked ways – take a look around, I mean literally, look around, in your own living room on the tv, on the screen your reading this on whether it's your phone or computer. Wickedness is everywhere. I have stopped even searching for anything new to watch with my wife Ashley on Netflix, because every time we have started watching a Netflix show, it ends up with lude acts of adultery, many of them pushing homosexuality in such a flagrant way. It's not just homosexuality, also sexual immorality of teens and adults. We see witchcraft and satanic rituals all over shows and movies, which I have refused to watch, knowing that they are putting curses on our television screens. All of Hollywood has corrupted our world in such a horrific manner that it has created a "norm" of wickedness, completely desensitizing our minds to accept that bad is good, and good is bad

**Isaiah 5:20** "Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; Who put darkness for light, and light for darkness;"

While we are still able to, legally, we must pray, turn to God, and share the Gospel of Christ to those who are weary! There is peace in Christ, there is comfort. Your worries will dissipate, your anxiety will cease, depression will fade away, as you receive the love of Christ and become pure as you grow your relationship with God the Father.

I know to some, it may be hard to see the good in any of this that is happening right now during this global pandemic, but I promise you, God's light is shining through, and God is the Creator of all, and God's will shall be done and He is in total control. He is calling us, each and every one of us, to call on Him, to come to Him in prayer, and to save those who's souls are weary and living in fear.

**1 Corinthians 8:6 "yet for us there is one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we for Him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, through whom are all things, and through whom we live."**

**Revelation 4:11 ""You are worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power; For You created all things, And by Your will they exist and were created."**

All things were created by God and are under His control. All will work for his Glory, even through pandemics and times that seem to be in chaos, there are reasons for everything, and through it all, one of two things will happen to where God will receive the glory and praise that only He is worthy of: Either we humble ourselves, and bow down and praise our Father who provides for us our daily needs. Or .... He will humble us, which, in my opinion, is what is happening through this pandemic in our world today.

Know that God wants to share His love with each and every one of us, even those who do not know him yet. He will not be patient forever, and when wickedness has had its course, He will come, and knock down every idol and all wickedness, and cast judgement on the world. It's important that you turn to Him now, before it's too late. We do not know what tomorrow's forecast will be for our lives. Open your Bibles, read the Gospels, learn who our

Father is through Christ, and I promise, He will reveal Himself to you, and He will remove any fear you have in your heart, and will bring comfort in times of trouble.

God bless each and every one of you!

To God be the Glory forever and ever Amen!

Shawn Severt

