

April 16, 2020

**COVID19-PANDEMIC
LIVING WITHOUT FEAR!**

Bishop Dr. Wm. LaRue Dillard

People of faith, God's Grace to You!

The prophet Isaiah gives a heart-warming message of assurance to members of God's family during difficult times. He wrote during his epoch by saying:

*"Fear not, for I am with you; Be not dismayed,
for I am your God. I will strengthen you. Yes,
I will help you. I will uphold you with My
righteous right hand" (Isaiah 41:10NKJV).*

There are two basic emotions: Love and Fear. The potential of the first is inherited; the second is to the tendency toward something discreditable (proclivity). We were created to love and be loved. We learn how to be afraid and to fear. In an effort to make us aware of potential dangers in life, parents teach us to be afraid. At the same time, their acquired, irrational fears are passed on to us. The cycle follows from generation (40-years) to generation.

How then can we overcome fear? Only by knowing we are loved and loving. We need to know the Lord is with us, for us, in the midst of this Covid19-Pandemic virus; and will strengthen and deliver us.

This is the confidence of the prophet Isaiah in one of the Bible's most powerful "fear not!" passages to God's people back in (680BC), some (2,700-years ago). To date. During that epoch, we hear the prophet's bold assurance in the context of Christ who is the Father's "righteous hand." Christ (Hamashiach) is the power of the Father with His own. During Jesus' ministry on earth, His constant word was, "Do not be afraid!"

The fact that there are 366 “Fear Not!” assurance in the entire Bible underlines a particularly important fact: the Lord knows that we wrestle with fear. He wants to repattern our thinking about life so we can live without fear. There’s a great difference between healthy awareness of the realities of life and the irrational panic which grips most people.

We want to be careful in distinguishing between healthy preparedness for the realistic problems of life and the spiritual problem of “floating anxiety” What would it be like for you to be fearless? Do we have a clear image of that? Ask the Lord Christ to reveal it to you and then live it today! (Isaiah 26:3,19–21; Psalm 90; II Chronicles 7:14).

I have learned that even when I have pain, I don’t have to be a pain. The challenge of life is to decide what’s important and disregard everything else. He, the Holy Spirit, instigates in us both initiative faith and inspiring faith. A faith that claims our adoption and a faith that makes us audacious.

**Anything the Holy Bible teaches is believed,
Or nothing it teaches is believed.**

What you do for God gives Him pleasure!

Until He Comes, I Am

Serving Christ Joyfully,

Bishop Dr. Wm. LaRue Dillard

SBC Under-shepherd Emeritus.