

Protection from exposure to the coronavirus

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“And these signs will accompany those who believe: in my name they will cast out demons; they will speak in new tongues; they will pick up serpents, and if they drink any deadly thing, it will not hurt them; they will lay their hands on the sick, and they will recover” [\(Mark 16:17,18, RSV\)](#).

When I was exposed to a deadly chemical 40 years ago from a pesticide accident on our family farm, I relied upon the truth stated above to neutralize the effect of the chemical and spare my health and vision. The words, to “those who believe...if they drink any deadly thing, it will not hurt them,” were my lifeline to God.

As I repeated the words in my mind, I realized that I was one of “those who believe.” I believed in the omnipotence of God. And as Jesus promised, I could rely upon the omnipotence of God to neutralize any deadly effect from that chemical. I found quick peace, and rapid healing.

In praying for safety from exposure to the coronavirus, I find comfort in the same truth. I reword the phrase a bit with these words, to “those who believe...if they [are exposed] to any deadly thing, it will not hurt them.”

We must lose all fear of the virus to conquer it. This does not mean we act naively or contrary to the dictates of wisdom under the conditions our society is facing. However, there are times when people get exposed to the virus for innocent reasons. They may be taking precautions, but still get exposed in unexpected ways. Most prominently, our health providers are

constantly exposed to the virus in their work with patients. So, just saying, “I will stay away from the virus,” is not adequate to bring protection. We need more.

The “more,” is knowing the omnipotence of God, divine Love, to neutralize the virus and render it harmless. As we go about loving our neighbor and helping those in need, we can depend upon the omnipotence of God to protect us in those acts of love, and to benefit our neighbor too.

Knowing the omnipotence of God is like walking around in an impenetrable glass bubble that no virus can penetrate. It will protect you.

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