

What to Wear During The Coronavirus



by Dawn Reed
E. Ky. Columnist

What are you wearing these days? Are you in a

housecoat - "grounded" at home with or without kids? In dress clothes on modified duty? Or are you in a uniform or scrubs, working long shifts? No matter your age or shape, God's Word lays out exactly what we need to wear to and through a Coronavirus.

Before we get dressed to face a COVID-19 day, there are some things we need to take off or get rid of. Ephesians 4:30-32 pushes us to "get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger..." Let's be honest. Stress brings out the not-best in most of us. If we have pre-determined that we won't be a party to bitterness, rage and anger through this ordeal, we will have an advantage when plans/days

continue to change.

Colossians 3:12 gives insight on what we need to put ON to face this crisis: "As God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience." These will come in handy during the next few weeks! Picture yourself sliding your arms into a garment of compassion and kindness or being wrapped in a cloak of gentleness and patience. Followers of Christ will no doubt have many opportunities to minister to those in need. Caring and sharing will go a long way on uncertain days!

Instead of a Hazmat suit, Ephesians 6 suggests something even better: "... put on

the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground..." It tells of the belt of truth buckled around your waist, the breastplate of righteousness, and shoes on your feet fitted and ready to share the gospel of peace. Many will be ready to hear this gospel during the COVID-19 scare! What if we spread the gospel as quickly as we spread GERMS?!

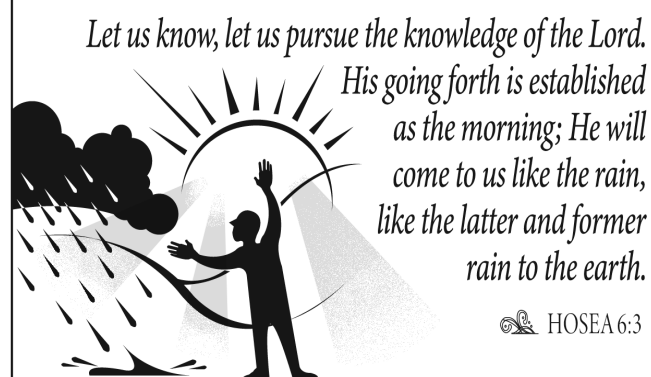
For accessories, Colossians 3:13-15, "... bear with each other and forgive one another ... as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love..." Cover everything with LOVE! (Probably a good thing if you're trapped at home with your family!)

To complete the ensemble, grab your shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. (Your faith can actually GROW during this flu season!) And finally my two faves: the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God!

Throughout this crisis, let's keep reading God's Word, talking to Him, talking to our children and others about Him. We may not be able to meet AT the church, but we can reach out to others and BE the church.

The Coronavirus is scary! Many things are unknown, but we will get through this! With God's help, we will be dressed and ready to face each day!

THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE



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Cries from the Grave

by BOB CASEY, preacher
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In the Book of Luke, 16:19-31, is found one of the most alarming passages within the New Testament. This story reveals to all of us the 100% reality of our death, and it does not matter whatever or state of life we may be in, we will all reach the final day of four life on this earth.

So, in this story, we see clearly this happening unto two different men living into different conditions of earthly life. **First**, they both did die! Probably some days apart, but they did die.

Then, **secondly**, it is very apparent that the man Lazarus who was hindered by his sickness, did not enjoy much of the good things that life can give, but it is also revealed that in his dreaded situation, he had taken the time to have a good relationship with the Lord. Notice, when his life of misery was over, the Lord sent an escort of holy angels and they delivered him into a place called Abraham's bosom. This was so-called by the believing Jews to be a place of comfort, love, joy. But, in the real context of the Hebrew Bible, and also within the New Testament, it is called the state of being in death, called 'Hades,' noted as all receiving. But, within this story it is revealed that this place is made up of two compartments. In the Greek text, this place is called 'Thanate.' Then, in the Old Testament is called 'sheol,' 65 times in all. And in the New Testament, is called the 'grave,' 31 times and the 'pit,' 31 times. But within most of our English it is indicated 'hell.'

Then in Matthew 11:23 and in Luke 10:15, here our Lord says that the unbeliever in Capernaum will go down into Hell. This is imposed by the Holy Scripture in Amos 9:2 and Psalm 139:5. Then, notice that Matthew 11:24 puts the Day of Judgment for both Sodom and Capernaum later than the story in Hades. So, in our beginning text, we see pictured the rich man as being tormented in Hades while at the same time, he sees at a distance, Lazarus, being in a state of comfort, reclining in the bosom of Abraham.

So, we see that there are two compartments in Hades - grave one is called. In 2 Peter 2:4, cast down to Tartarus, the Greek name for the place of punishment of the wicked dead. Our Lord Jesus used this term, so we conclude that when death occurs, each will go into this intermediate state, either in the paradise of comfort or the place of torment, to be held in reservation to be brought forth to judgment at the last day. So, the point is, that many at funerals say that the deceased may have went straight to Heaven to be with Jesus, using the text in 2 Corinthians 5:1-8. To be present with the Lord is meant by some to indicate that the one being now dead has ascended to be in the presence of the Lord right then. But, when we read the rest of the text, that before this will ever happen, we first have to face the Lord in the final Judgment; the very next verse says so! Then in Revelation 20:11-15, reveals such a day when all that are in Paradise and in Tartarus also will be brought forth to face the Lord in Judgment. So, Romans 14:10-12 says everyone good or bad will stand before Christ's Judgment Seat to give an account for the type of life we lived upon this earth. Read it, see if it is found.

In closing, this is what I really want to get our readers to see clearly; the rich man, now in Tartarus, is in torment, seeing his living brother doing the same things he did, and he didn't wish him to come where he was.

My point is, there may be some of your family that made the same mistake that the rich man did and may be attempting to cry unto you, this very moment, 'Don't do it! Don't come here, repent, stop living your life in foolishness. Obey the God of Lazarus; avoid this place.' But, sadly, all death will silence any crying or pleading. The living can only communicate through the Bible as Jesus says in Matthew 11:28, "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." So, if you have not done this, I know just what condition you are in. You are in the fear of torment. 1 John 4:18 says so. But, you do not have to remain this way; accept the words of Jesus fully, obey him and perfect love will drive away all fear.

Sincerely, Bob Casey, (1-859-369-4165), local

Seeds of Hope



Shortly before leaving for college my saintly pastor came to visit me and offer me a few words of advice on the importance of being well prepared to serve God. During our conversation he advised me to take every course that had anything to do with speaking or writing. "Larry," he said in a voice that reflected sincerity and compassion, "it does not matter how much you know about the Bible, if you can't explain it so people can understand it, accept it and live it, you'll be letting God down." It made good sense to me and I followed his recommendation carefully.

One of the classes I took emphasized the difficulty of people hearing what a speaker says and

interpreting it correctly. It is easy to hear what someone says but quite difficult to pass it on without changing the words and the meaning that the speaker intended. When this happens something is lost in "transmission" and it could be a matter of life and death if the message passed on is incorrect or inconsistent.

The importance of the integrity of God's message is clearly presented in Psalm 92:5, "Your statues stand firm!" That means "Whatever God said is so." His Word contains no errors, no mistakes and no information that can lead us astray if accepted as written. In fact, the word for statues emphasizes the fact that Scripture rests on the integrity of God our Creator. His statements, promises, warnings and commands are not to be changed to meet the desires of man but to proclaim and present the everlasting covenant between God and man.

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231

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

by Elie's Spiritual Treasures

JOHN 1:14

The **Word** became **flesh** and **made** his **dwelling** among us. We have **seen his** glory, the **glory** of the **one** and **only Son**, who **came** from the **Father**, **full** of **grace** and **truth**.

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Find the **bolded/underlined** words in the diagram. They run in all directions — forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

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BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Numbers in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. In Luke 11, what group of people did Jesus say took away the key of knowledge? Prophets, Carpenters, Lawyers, Scribes
3. Whose son, Mahershalalhashbaz, is the longest human name in the

Bible? Judas, Enoch, Isaiah, Abednego

4. The Ark of the Covenant was carried around and around what city? Ramah, Moroni, Jericho, Nicopolis

5. From John 13, who said to Jesus, "Thou shalt never wash my feet"? Paul, Peter, Andrew, Thomas

6. Who was Jonah's father? Eli, Joppa, Tirzah, Amittai

Answers on bottom of Page 12

"Test Your Bible Knowledge," with 1,206 multiple-choice questions by columnist Wilson Casey, is available in bookstores and online.

Americanisms



"If I knew I was going to live this long, I'd have taken better care of myself."
— Mickey Mantle

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"When my wife told me that my birthday gift was something I could use outdoors, I thought she meant a _____."

SCRAMBLERS

Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!

Blanket RELAY

Outrage RANGE

Irritation AGRINCH

Clarion BULGE

TODAY'S WORD