

ISRAEL: HALF A MILLION UNITE ONLINE TO PRAY AGAINST CORONAVIRUS

Friday, 27 March 2020 | With over a million+ people infected worldwide and over 55,000 dead from the COVID-19, the world is changing as governments across the globe close their borders and restrict people to their homes to curb the spread.

In Israel, people are restricted from going further than 100 meters (328 ft) away from their homes except for essential errands like buying food or going to the pharmacy. Synagogues, churches and other places of work are shut down and seats lie empty.

Though people aren't allowed to gather or even be in the same room, across the globe they are finding ways to connect using technology and social media.

Israel has closed down its schools and universities—as well as its *yeshivot* (religious schools) — but that hasn't stopped students and rabbis from meeting together for prayer, teaching and encouragement. Only instead of meeting in synagogues and classrooms, they are meeting virtually in online venues like **Zoom, GoToMeeting**, Facebook Live and other streaming platforms.

One such meeting featuring chief rabbis from around the world drew **half a million** viewers, the *Jerusalem Post* reported. Rabbis from Israel, China, the US, France and other places united to offer prayers, supplications for deliverance and healing for the sick, words of encouragement and to blow the *shofar* (ram's horn.)

MESSIANIC MOSHAV ARRANGES BALCONY WORSHIP DURING CORONAVIRUS CRISIS

In the video uploaded to YouTube, a worship team sings from a highly situated balcony in Yad HaShmona with microphones and loudspeakers. Neighbors from around the moshav joined them from their balconies with about 30 more connected through the "Zoom" app. **Nearly 3 in 10 Americans say coronavirus is 'wake-up call from God' and sign of biblical 'last days.'**

THIS IS WHAT ECONOMIC COLLAPSE LOOKS LIKE IN AMERICA

April 3. A few points of what is happening in the U.S. By Michael Snyder

To call this a “tsunami of unemployment” would be a massive understatement.

This is a glimpse of what an economic collapse looks like, and it is just getting started.

The total death toll in the United States just crossed the 5,000 mark, and President Trump says that it could go as high as 240,000.

Approximately ten million Americans have filed new claims for unemployment benefits over the past two weeks. To put that in perspective, the all-time record for a single week before this coronavirus pandemic hit was just **695,000**. So needless to say, 6.6 million claims in a single week puts us in uncharted territory.

As the virus spreads, many are concerned that it will sweep through low wage communities particularly hard, and that is a huge problem because low wage workers are absolutely vital all along the food chain. Fear that the coronavirus is going to paralyse even “essential” industries such as food production is very real.

More than 15 % of all police officers in New York City “were out sick this week.”

Officials all over the world are going to be balancing the need to protect life with the need to resume economic activity for a long time to come.

So here we are in the spring of 2020 with debts, unfunded liabilities and derivatives of around \$2.5 quadrillion. (2.500,000,000,000,000.)

“Come now, you rich, weep and wail because of the miseries that are coming upon you. Your wealth has become rotten, and your garments are moth-eaten. Your gold and silver have corroded, and their corrosion will testify against you and will consume your flesh like fire. You have hoarded wealth in the Last Days! See, the wages of the labourers who reaped your fields, and which have been withheld by you cries out *against you*; and the cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of YHWH of Hosts.” (James 5:1-4)

And a word of the Lord to His people:

“Be patient, therefore, brethren, until the coming of the Master. See how the farmer waits expectantly for the precious 'fruit of the earth,' waiting patiently until *the land* receives the early and late rains. You too be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Master is near.”

GOOD NEWS: April 2, 2020. Millions of Americans are taking a renewed interest in spiritual matters in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic.

INDIA: CHRISTIAN SYMBOLS REMOVED FROM CEMETERY

Sources: International Christian Concern, The Christian Post

A statue and crosses were removed from a Christian cemetery in Karnataka state on March 2nd by government officials after receiving complaints from non-local Hindu activists. The cemetery has been used for Christian burials for nearly 40 years without any previous problems. It has also been the location for some prayer gatherings over the years.

Recently, rumours were circulating that forceful conversions have been taking place at that location. Without consulting Christians in the area, government officials ordered the removal of the monuments. According to church leaders, the move is "a blow to the communal harmony of the people in our villages" and goes against the guarantees of religious freedom in the constitution.

The Hindu nationalist BJP (Bharatiya Janata Party) came to power in 2014, resulting in increased opposition to any religion other than Hinduism. The U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom stated in its 2019 report that "religious freedom conditions in India continued a downward trend."

Pray for wisdom and discernment to be granted to the Christian leaders involved in this case as they confront the injustices of civil authorities and others in the community opposing them. May these governmental leaders recognize the importance of upholding the constitution's 'freedom of belief' for all citizens. Lift up India's many Christians who are endeavouring to reach out to the spiritually impoverished of their country with the Good News of God's salvation while contending with increased hostility and threats.