**Notes**

It’s now clear that COVID-19 is a [deadly serious global pandemic](https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/what-we-know-coronavirus/), and all necessary precautions should be taken. Still, **C. S. Lewis’s words—written 72 years ago**—ring with some relevance for us. Just replace “atomic bomb” with “coronavirus.”

*In one way we think a great deal too much of the atomic bomb. “How are we to live in an atomic age?” I am tempted to reply: “Why, as you would have lived in the sixteenth century when the plague visited London almost every year, or as you would have lived in a Viking age when raiders from Scandinavia might land and cut your throat any night; or indeed, as you are already living in an age of cancer, an age of syphilis, an age of paralysis, an age of air raids, an age of railway accidents, an age of motor accidents.”*

*In other words, do not let us begin by exaggerating the novelty of our situation. Believe me, dear sir or madam, you and all whom you love were already sentenced to death before the atomic bomb was invented: and quite a high percentage of us were going to die in unpleasant ways. We had, indeed, one very great advantage over our ancestors—anesthetics; but we have that still. It is perfectly ridiculous to go about whimpering and drawing long faces because the scientists have added one more chance of painful and premature death to a world which already bristled with such chances and in which death itself was not a chance at all, but a certainty.*

*This is the first point to be made: and the first action to be taken is to pull ourselves together. If we are all going to be destroyed by an atomic bomb, let that bomb when it comes find us doing sensible and human things—praying, working, teaching, reading, listening to music, bathing the children, playing tennis, chatting to our friends over a pint and a game of darts—not huddled together like frightened sheep and thinking about bombs. They may break our bodies (a microbe can do that) but they need not dominate our minds.*

****Mar 15th 2020**



**What time is it? - 11**

***“Time to exercise our authority”***

Welcome

March

2020

**What time is it? – 11**

*“Time to exercise our authority”*

**Permission & Power**

* Jesus delegates ‘authority’ to His disciples:

 **Luke 9:1-2**

 *Then**He called His twelve disciples together*

*and gave them power and authority over all demons, and to cure diseases.*

*2He sent them to preach the kingdom of God and to heal the sick.*

**Called - Given authority - Sent**

* And to all of us, not just leaders, apostles…

**Mark 16:15**

*15And He said to them, “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature….*

*17And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues;*

*18they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.”*

**What we can do to give fear “no place”***Exercise our authority*

**Ephesians 4:27**

*…nor give place to the devil.*

1. *Realize God expects us to make a choice* ***not*** *to fear:*

*It’s possible to ‘walk by faith … all the time.*

 ***John 14:27***

*Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.*

1. Be reminded of God’s unwavering love for us:

It leaves no room for fear to coexist when we are filled with the light of God’s love for us.

 **1 John 4:18**

*There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love.*

1. *Keep your focus on Jesus:*

**Psalm 91:14-16**

*“Because he has set his love upon Me, therefore I will deliver him;
I will set him on high, because he has known My name.****15****He shall call upon Me, and I will answer him;
I will be with him in trouble;
I will deliver him and honor him.****16****With long life I will satisfy him,
And show him My salvation.”*

*Do not let anything obscure your vision of Jesus (His promises)*

**Application**

*God protects His Children*

**Exodus 8:22, 23**

We are His favor …ites

 (But He has mercy today on all as we cry out for them)