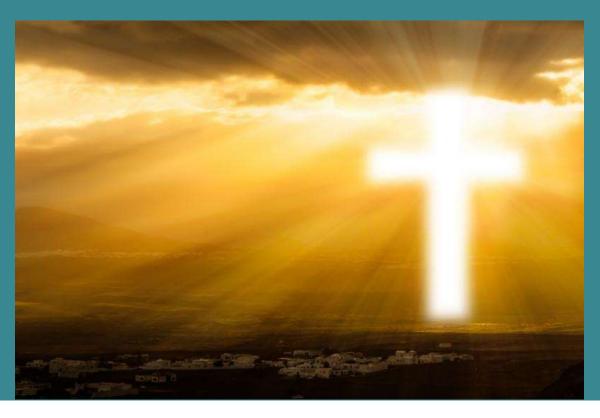
God's Corona: A Crown of Light in the Darkness



Leanna Bolden Eternally Speaking Now

I'd guess that the most-spoken word in the world today is 'Coronavirus.'

VOX reported on March 12 that Sprinklr (a social media analytics platform)
"...counted a record nearly 20 million mentions of Coronavirus-related terms on
March 11. For context on just how big that number is,
mentions of the newly canceled NBA games were under 2 million
and mentions of (President) Trump were about 4 million on that day."

That's a lot of mention about Coronavirus.

Do you know what the word 'corona' means?
In English, simply stated, the word describes the outer layer of the sun.

NASA explains it this way:

"The Sun's corona is the outermost part of the Sun's atmosphere.

The corona is usually hidden by the bright light of the Sun's surface.

That makes it difficult to see without using special instruments.

However, the corona can be viewed during a total solar eclipse."

Hmmmmmmmm.

Total Solar eclipse is absolute darkness. That's when we see the sun's corona. Likewise, when the World gets darker, full of fear, the corona of Jesus shines the brightest. Could it be, through this plague and pestilence-- through this viral darkness-- what the enemy means for fear and anxiety, the Lord is using to shine His Kingdom more brightly?

Did you know that the Spanish word for crown is corona?

Additionally, the online dictionary includes a second English definition for corona: "a part of the body resembling or likened to a crown."

Check this out:

Immediately after Adam and Eve disobeyed God, when the virus of sin and death entered all of creation, Genesis 3:7 reports, "Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked..."

Have you ever wondered why they suddenly knew they were naked? Didn't they know that before they sinned?

God provides the answer: after they disobeyed, their **eyes were opened**, and *then* they knew. This word 'know' means to intimately be at one with. It's possible that, prior to sinning, they had a head knowledge-- a basic awareness-that they were naked.

But *after* sin, they suddenly KNEW, as in, intimately related to the reality that they were naked. *They finally 'got it.'*

The Hebrew word for naked means, "utterly naked and helpless".

I personally believe that before sin, Adam and Eve had a type of **glow** that clothed them, a covering of God's glory. Yes, they were naked in the sense that they wore no clothing as we understand today, but they had no sin-- no separation from the Lord.

They were in perfect harmony and unity with God, and His presence was with them in a way that I believe must have manifested a stunning glow, like heavenly robes.

Then with the fall came the removal of that 'clothing.'

Everyone in the world is utterly naked and helpless.

We are all victims of the virus of sin and death

What is the prescription for this virus affecting every human being?

His name is Jesus.

"So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ." Galatians 3:26-27

Wouldn't it be wonderful if the most spoken word in the world today was **Jesus**?

And I don't mean using God's name in vain.

I mean <u>calling</u> on the name of the <u>Lord</u> to be <u>saved</u>; Trusting in <u>Jesus</u>, whose name is the name above all names;

Believing that He is the Son of God who paid for the sins of the world;

Surrendering to Him who is crowned

with glory and honor forever.;

Casting down our crowns to worship the King of kings and Lord of lords.

"You are worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power; for You created all things, and by Your will they exist and were created." Revelation 4:11

CHALLENGE

In the midst of my personal contributions to the daily Coronavirus Google searches this week, I sensed the Holy Spirit say,

"Leanna, you know what you need to know: do what is wise to prevent sickness, and do not be afraid. But now: what are you going to do to use this for My glory? What can you do today to further the Kingdom of God?"

What a great question.

I asked the Lord for His suggestions. Apart from a few additional ideas that came to mind this morning, the Holy Spirit gave me the below list within ten minutes.

In the coming weeks, as you find yourself facing the unknown, dealing with daily life changes, living at home more than usual, and spending time either alone or with family and children more often, I pray this list is a source of light in the midst of the darkness:

If you find yourself in an online support chat, be nice:) then finish the chat with a Scripture or a blessing in Jesus' name.

As long as the mail is still running, send a 'mystery blessing' to a friend.

Spring clean!

Read your Bible before you check the news.

Choose intentional parenting: Think about what each of your children needs, then intentionally teach or talk with them about it.

No fear. Only Faith in God. There is no love in fear. Trust God. Get outside.

Start (or re-start) a Bible devotional.

Um, wash your hands.

It's disconcerting to consider how many people didn't do this before Coronavirus.

Minimize: use half the amount you usually use of laundry soap, toilet paper, or other consumables.

Limit electronics and pull out the dusty board games.

Share. Take a wrapped pack of toilet paper to a neighbor, ring the doorbell, then run. Do it with your kids- they'll love this acceptable version of Doorbell Ditch! You can attach an anonymous note to the packet, letting them know Jesus loves them and one of their neighbors cares about them. Start an online book club.

Comfort the UPS deliverer or the stranger next to you filling their gas tank. We have hope in **Jesus**.

Arrange a form of video-chat with friends you miss.

Switch from any junky shows to **Cleaner** options like Pureflix.com, or Rightnowmedia.com.

Be creative: start a new hobby, consider an online business, or build that website you've said you've wanted to do.

Take eyes off self. *Pray for the entire world.* That's not too big for God.

Teach your kids the biblical understanding of a pandemic.

God told us this would happen-- show your kids where in the Bible.

He also told us the end of the story-- let that bring them comfort.

(Spoiler alert: those who trust in Jesus are the ones who win.)

Be mindful to not take your anxiety out on those around you. Take time to work on healthy communication together. Make an agreement to **not raise voices or point fingers.** This is a great time to practice "working together against an issue, rather than working against each other for an issue."

Choose a topic of the day or week, and then study and learn about it. If the mail still runs, have kids write letters to local friends.

Do 'that thing' you keep saying you'd do if you had more time.

Create a time capsule to open again on a date you set for yourself or with family. Write about what is happening in the world. Use it as an opportunity to verbalize feelings and to create a memory.

Aren't these fun, constructive ideas?

This goes without saying, but I'll say it anyway:) -- worship God with a weekend church service online. Continue tithing, praying, loving, connecting.

With good ol' fashioned pen and paper, write a daily log, as if you were a survivor on an island. Report the facts, add creativity, and share your raw emotions.

Please, don't complain. It's toxic to others and to yourself.

Sustain a positive, life-affirming influence on those younger than you.

Model love, not hate. God says love Him, then love others as yourself.

Simple.
Remember to breathe. Slowly and Deeply.

There are so many more ideas-- feel free to email me with how you've been inspired to **shine the light of Jesus**.

I realize we're learning new things every day about Coronavirus, so some of the ideas above may need to be tweaked accordingly. Either way, I hope they're a blessing!

Praying for the supernatural protection of Psalm 91 over you and your loved ones~

In Christ, Leanna

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