

## A Non-expert Take on Masks, Viruses, and Religion 25 June 2022

Had a lot of folks ask me about "masks" lately...

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Some thoughts...

Well...I'm not a health professional and I didn't stay at a Holiday Inn Express, but I'll chime in here.

Pandemics are not new, and viruses are not new. We have fought and won the health battle over thousands of viruses in human history...Some were bigger winners and losers than others dependent on your perspective.

As anyone with any epidemiology knows, all viruses act similarly until they don't. Genetic mutations can make the virus more or less lethal and this is often impossible to predict. The "spread" of a virus is pretty standardized and mucous membranes are there for a reason (God is a great "engineer and design" architect).

Now, to masks. Different masks do different things. Some are for sterile environments, others for non-sterile, there are even masks for chemical and biological environments...All sorts of masks. Matter of fact, I've noticed the same people that lean toward religious legalism seem to be the same folks that have accepted "Maskology" as their new dogma. Interestingly, I have actually seen some of these new "Maskvangelists" sneeze into their bandana mask, reach up with their hand to adjust said mask, and then open the door at Target.

Now, I'm no professional, but I'm pretty sure a virus is thwarted a bit in this example, but that will definitely spread the virus thru a couple of pathways.

So...Here's the part where you get to slam me (I've figured out that's how social media works).

The Bible has the answer.

1. Moderation in all things. If "maskology" is your new form of legalism, knock it off.



- 2. If you are a "maskvangelist" you must go ALL in. Educate, study, do hermeneutics, homiletics, and exegesis of masks using scriptural references and cite all the medical journals you use in the appropriate "Journal of Maskology" periodical.
- 3. Cast judgment. Anyone who does not wear a mask will be back stroking in the lake of fire soon convert them before "end of days."

Or...

Do what has worked fairly successfully in every pandemic.

- A. Quarantine those infected or thought to be infected. In asymptomatic carriers this is nearly impossible, but this will still "slow the spread" and flatten the curve.
- B. At risk people should limit their exposure ALWAYS. Not just during COVID because viruses are EVERYWHERE.
- C. Practice excellent hygiene.
- D. Eat and drink healthy. Nothing quite as dichotomous as the obese person pulling down their mask to shove in a Big Mac.
- E. Live Human beings are made in the image of God. God missed physical interaction with mankind so much, He robed Himself in flesh so he could hang out.

Hope this helps someone - I'm ready for return fire but remember this first.

