

Pastor Brian's
Mid Week Message
April 8, 2020

"FEELING HELPLESS?"

"I lift up my eyes to the mountains. From where does my help come?" Psalm 121:1

We've got a mountain of a problem in the world right now. Just about all of humanity is being affected in one way or another. There may be some remote tribe out in the depths of the Amazon Rainforest that has no knowledge of this Covid-19 pandemic, but beyond that I can't see how anyone else isn't suffering in some way, shape or form. For most of us our sufferings are trivial in comparison with others! You turn on the news (perhaps I should stop doing that) and each day we're told that the mountain is getting bigger. In times like these it's natural to feel a little helpless. What can I do...beyond staying home and social distancing...to make this go away? And, even as we're all doing what little we can it seems as if it's having little or no effect. That mountain keeps growing and growing. More and more people around us are getting sick, the number of deaths in the United States due to this outbreak has now passed 10,000... up more than 1,250 over in 24 hours. What are we to do about it? What CAN we do about it? First and foremost, it's time to take our eyes off of that mountain and point them in a different direction. The Psalmist poses the question; "From where does my help come?" you don't have to look very far for the answer to that question. He gives it to us in the very next verse. *"My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth."* (Psalm 121:2) In times of trouble, like right now, we can look to the Lord; He who created all things, as our one and only source of real help. Our human nature tricks us into trusting all sorts of created things...human "wisdom" and ingenuity, technology, world leaders and all sorts of other "rocks" of the natural world. None of these things are totally unreliable, but their power is limited unless their linked to the almighty and supernatural power of God. Of all of the doctors, epidemiologists, public health professionals, government leaders and/or celebrities that are paraded before us each day which one can say that they have created the heavens and the earth? Or a mountain...even a small hill? Logical thinking alone tells us that if we want to solve this worldwide health crisis, we should first seek the aid of the individual that rules over all things and has the power to change anything and everything He wills to change. The truth is that we are not helpless at all! We have access to the One who can and desires to be our help in trouble, our refuge and strength (that's from Psalm 46:1; *God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.*) Not only is God available to help in all times of need but He's always present in such times...in ALL times...whether we recognize that fact or not. Again, let me add the next verse (2), *Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea.* "Therefore", that means that because of God being our refuge and strength and that He is present always with us we will not be afraid because His power is greater than all others, and His love and compassion know no limit. Back to the original verse from Psalm 121. Notice that the Psalmist uses the personal pronoun "my"? I lift up "my" eyes. From where does "my" help come? Those of us who place our trust in God, by faith in Jesus His crucified and risen Son and our Savior, to be our one and only source of help in times of crisis, as well as times of peace, have a personal certainty of God's healing and calming presence in our lives. We have a personal assurance of His protection, of His life and salvation that will never be taken from us. We have the ear of the Almighty Creator of the universe. How BIG is your god? My God is bigger than anything and everything, and He is certainly big enough to move this mountain and drop it into the depths of the sea. Please join me in continued faith, trust and prayer to OUR God for His deliverance.