

12 APRIL 2020

# LAP BULLETIN

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## TUNE IN

Facebook LAP Live Stream @ 9.30am

**Sermon: Government Versus Love Versus Worship**  
*by bro Ernest Lau*

HYMNS FOR TODAY

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**WHAT CAN WE  
LEARN FROM  
THIS PANDEMIC?**

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NEWS & UPDATES

## WE ARE HERE FOR YOU

**Elders**

Bro Jimmy Lau  
Bro Michael Yeo

**Deacons**

Bro Jerry Cheong  
Bro Benjamin Tan

**Preacher**

Bro Ernest Lau

**Administrator**

Sis Ser Ern

## To God Be the Glory

132

Fanny J. Crosby, 1875

William H. Doane, 1875

1. To God be the glo - ry, great things He hath done; So loved He the  
2. Great things He hath taught us, great things He hath done, And great our re -

world that He gave us His Son, Who yield - ed His life an a -  
joic - ing thro' Je - sus the Son; But pur - er and high - er, and

**D.S.** - O come to the Fa - ther, thro'

tone - ment for sin, And o - pened the life - gate that all may go in.  
great - er will be Our won - der, our trans - port, when Je - sus we see.

Je - sus the Son, And give Him the glo - ry, great things He hath done.

## REFRAIN

Priase the Lord, praise the Lord, Let the earth hear His

voice! Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, Let the peo - ple re - joice!

**D.S.**

## Anywhere with Jesus

20

Jessie Brown Pounds, 1887

St. 3, Helen Alexander Dixon, 1915

Daniel B. Towner, 1887

1. An - y-where with Je - sus I can safe - ly go, An - y-where He  
 2. An - y-where with Je - sus I am not a - lone; Oth - er friends may  
 3. An - y-where with Je - sus, o - ver land and sea, Tell - ing souls in  
 4. An - y-where with Je - sus I can go to sleep, When the dark' - ning

leads me in this world be - low; An - y-where with - out Him dear - est  
 fail me, He is still my own; Tho' His hand may lead me o - ver  
 dark - ness of sal - va - tion free; Read - y as He sum - mons me to  
 shad - ows round a - bout me creep, Know - ing I shall wak - en nev - er

joys would fade; An - y-where with Je - sus I am not a - fraid.  
 drear - est ways, An - y-where with Je - sus is a house of priase.  
 go or stay, An - y-where with Je - sus when He points the way.  
 more to roam; An - y-where with Je - sus will be home, sweet home.

D.S. - An - y-where with Je - sus I can safe - ly go.

An - y - where, an - y - where! Fear I can - not know;

## Trust and Obey

134

John H. Sammis, 1887

Daniel B. Towner, 1887

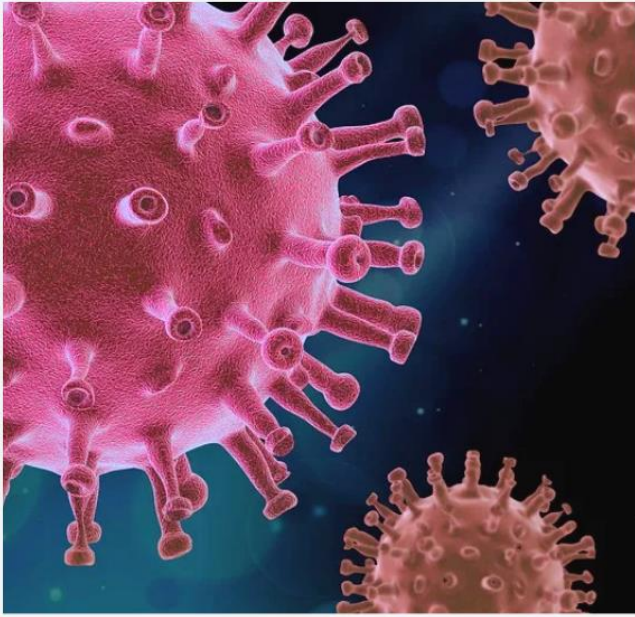
1. When we walk with the Lord, In the light of His Word, What a glo - ry He  
 2. Not a shad-ow can rise, Not a cloud in the skies, But His smile quick-ly  
 3. Not a bur-den we bear, Not a sor-row we share, But our toil He doth  
 4. But we nev - er can prove The de-lights of His love Un - til all on the  
 5. Then in fel - low-ship sweet We will sit at His feet, Or we'll walk by His

sheds on our way! While we do His good will, He a - bides with us still,  
 drives it a - way; Not a doubt nor a fear, Not a sigh nor a tear,  
 rich - ly re - pay; Not a grief nor a loss, Not a frown nor a cross,  
 al - tar we lay; For the fa - vor He shows, And the joy He be - stows,  
 side in the way; What He says we will do, Where He sends we will go,

## CHORUS

And with all who will trust and o - bey.  
 Can a - bide while we trust and o - bey.  
 But is blest if we trust and o - bey. Trust and o - bey, for there's  
 Are for those who will trust and o - bey.  
 Nev - er fear, on - ly trust and o - bey.

no oth - er way To be hap - py in Je - sus, but to trust and o - bey.



# LESSONS FROM COVID-19

*SERMON NOTES (29 MAR)  
BY BRO JIMMY LAU  
@ THE LAU'S RESIDENCE*

## **1. COVID -19 has an Origin.**

Where did COVID -19 originate from? Does it matter where and from whom the virus came from? Well, it does not matter and it's not important because COVID -19 is everywhere now.

Sin also has an origin - in the Garden of Eden when Adam and Eve disobeyed a direct command from God. However, does it matter? Should we blame Adam and Eve for bringing sin into the world?

Even if Adam and Eve had not partaken of the forbidden fruit, someone from their descendants would have. Sin is a personal thing; we do not inherit the sins of Adam: "The soul that sinneth, it shall die. The son shall not bear the iniquity of the father, neither shall the father bear the iniquity of the son: the righteousness of the righteous shall be upon him, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon him" (Ezekiel 18:20).

## **2. Anyone can get COVID -19**

COVID-19 affects the young and old, rich and poor, kings and beggars.

Likewise, no one can say sin cannot touch him: : "If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us" (1 John 1:8).

The ever-confident apostle Peter boasted that he would never deny Christ even if everyone else did. He was wrong; he denied Christ not once but three times (Matthew 26:69-75).

Can you say COVID-19 can never touch you? Can you say sin cannot touch you? Remember this warning:



**WHEREFORE  
LET HIM THAT THINKETH  
HE STANDETH  
TAKE HEED LEST HE FALL  
(1 COR 10:12)**



**3. COVID-19 is Contagious.**

In a short span of time, more than half a million people world-wide have been infected by the virus. COVID-19 is highly contagious.

Likewise, sin is contagious. The Scripture warns: “A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump” (Galatians 5:9). Leaven in the Bible is often associated with sin. Sin is contagious and will affect an entire church if it is allowed to roam free.

**4. We can stop COVID-19 by stopping its Influence.**

Governments all over the world have been coming up with a host of measures in order to contain the virus and stop it from spreading. We can “break the chain” by a simple washing of hands, practising social distancing, and staying at home.

If we have the virus, we must “break the chain”. We must stay at home and let “the bug stop here.”

How can we stop sin from spreading in the church? We have to “break the chain”. Paul instructed a church that had a member who was sleeping with his father’s wife to “Put away from among yourselves that wicked person” (1 Corinthians 5:13b). They had to “break the chain”.

If we don’t “break the chain,” sin will continue to grow and more people will become its victim. Solomon concurs: “Because sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil” (Ecclesiastes 8:11).

**5. Do not downplay the Severity of COVID-19.**

One leader of a nation downplayed the severity of COVID-19. He did not prepare his country for its arrival when it was already spreading across half the world. The result is that his country was not prepared for it. His country does not have enough medical supplies for its people. His

country now has more COVID-19 infections than any other country.

Should we downplay sin? The answer is a big NO! Why? I can think of two reasons:

1. Because of its influence. Sin is contagious (Roman 3:23).
2. Because of its consequence. The consequence of sin is eternal death (Romans 6:23). Eternal death is death to the soul in a lake of fire that burns forever (Revelation 21:8).

### **6. COVID-19 creeps in without people knowing.**

COVID-19 is spreading like wildfire in the West and people are dying in the hundreds each day. What does this tell us? It tells us that they have been walking around with the virus for a long time without knowing. One does not get the virus today and die tomorrow. The virus takes time to fester from a simple cough to life-threatening pneumonia. However, we are seeing that in the West, as soon as they reported their first case, hundreds were recorded the next day and hundreds die the next. They have been denying its existence all along; it was with them and they did not know it.

Ignorance about sin will not relieve us from its deadly consequence. Today, many are infected with the sin virus and they just don't care. They don't want to know. They deny its existence in them. However, sin will find us: "But if ye will not do so, behold, ye have sinned against the LORD: and be sure your sin will find you out" (Numbers 32:23).

Likewise, Peter warns: "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour" (1 Peter 5:8).

Many in this world do not know that they are living in sin. Their ignorance is not bliss to them: "The soul that sinneth, it shall die" (Ezekiel 18:20a). We need to tell them of their sins and the cure they must take (Mark 16:15).

### **7. We can prevent getting COVID-19 by practising Social Distancing.**

Governments all over the world are calling for their citizens to practise social distancing. It is one effective way to contain the virus. Likewise, to avoid sin, we must stay away from sinners.

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David wrote: “Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful” (Psalm 1:1).

Paul also warns: “Be not deceived: Evil companionships corrupt good morals” (1 Corinthians 15:33, ASV).

We can prevent sin by distancing ourselves from those who continue to practise it: “Avoid it, pass not by it, turn from it, and pass away” (Proverbs 4:15).

### **8. We can know if we have COVID-19 by conducting a Test.**

The World Health Organisation has been calling on governments to test, test, and test. Countries that are not testing enough are seeing more cases of infections and deaths.

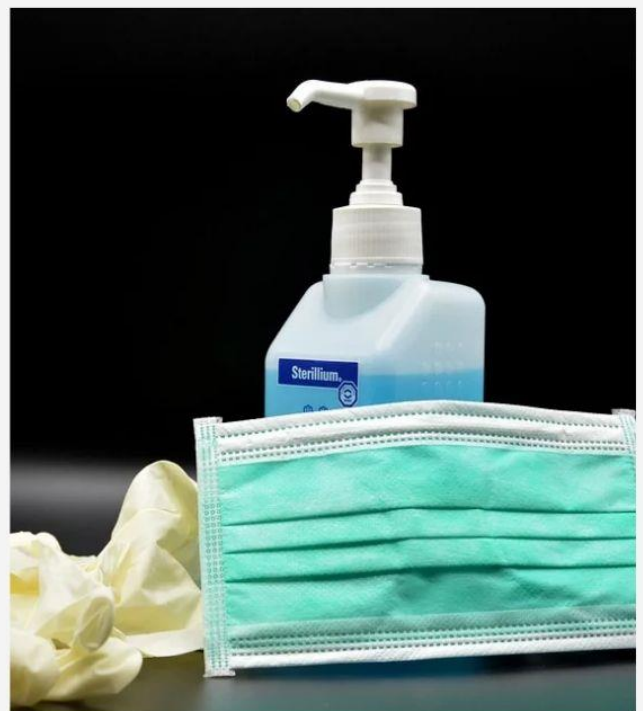
In the same manner, how can we know someone is preaching a false doctrine? By testing it with the Scripture: “Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world” (1 John 4:1).

Sin is the transgression of God’s Law (1 John 3:4). False teachers

transgress God’s Law. Therefore, false teachers are sinners. We need to know the Bible in order to test the teachings of false teachers: “These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so” (Acts 17:11). Have the spirit of the Bereans.

### **9. Practise Personal Hygiene to control the spread of COVID-19.**

Washing hands with soap, not touching your face, coughing into a tissue, and wearing a mask if you are unwell, are just some of the things we must do to prevent the spread of the virus.





Likewise, to prevent getting into sin, we must practise the fruit of the Spirit:



**BUT THE  
FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT IS  
LOVE, JOY, PEACE,  
LONGSUFFERING,  
GENTLENESS,  
GOODNESS,  
FAITH, MEEKNESS,  
TEMPERANCE:  
AGAINST SUCH  
THERE IS NO LAW.  
(GAL 2:22-23)**



To control adultery, we must control our lustful thoughts: “But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart” (Matthew 5:28).

Job made a covenant with his eyes that he would not look at another woman with lust: “I made a covenant with mine eyes; why then should I think upon a maid?” (Job 31:1).

Christians who keep arguing that it is alright to drink wine do so

because they love it. Drunkenness” is the work of the flesh and not the fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:21). Christians who want to be spiritual must walk according to the Spirit: “This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh” (Galatians 5:16).

**10. COVID-19 awakes us to the importance of Social Responsibility.**

If you are sick, stay at home, cough into a tissue, and dispose the tissue into a bin.

COVID-19 reminds us that we must think of others. We must be mindful of our actions, which will affect those around us. Paul reminds us too:



**LOOK NOT  
EVERY MAN ON HIS  
OWN THINGS,  
BUT EVERY MAN  
ALSO ON THE  
THINGS OF  
OTHERS”  
(PHI 2:4)**



### **11. COVID-19 reminds us of our Vulnerability.**

Just as the world is thinking they are doing well, COVID-19 comes crashing in and destroys everything in its path. COVID-19 affects health and wealth – People and corporations are in trouble. Companies need their governments to bail them out of this crisis.

The great economy has made men complacent and think they are always in control of their lives. COVID-19 shows us that we are vulnerable. Those who had made plans to wed have to wait. Those who had made plans for vacations have to cancel them. Companies that made plans for expansions have to postpone them. Even the Olympic Games 2020 has to be postponed to next year.

James wrote a long time ago: “Go to now, ye that say, To day or to morrow we will go into such a city, and continue there a year, and buy and sell, and get gain:



**WHEREAS YE KNOW NOT  
WHAT SHALL BE  
ON THE MORROW.”  
(JAMES 4:13, 14).**



### **12. COVID-19 Disrupts the lives of everyone.**

COVID-19 disrupts the normal functions of companies. It disrupts the lives of every person in the way they behave, act, and work.

Sin has the same detrimental effects as COVID-19, yet no one is watching out for it as much as COVID-19. Sin of adultery disrupts many marriages and families. Sin of fraud disrupts societies and companies. Sin also disrupts the church. Sin divides churches and causes churches to close. Sin divided a church in Corinth (1 Corinthians 1:10). Sin is still disrupting churches and families today.

### **13. COVID-19 teaches us about Making Changes to our lives.**

We have never washed our hands so often before in our lives. Are we going to stop washing our hands when this pandemic is over? It is a good hygiene practice and we must continue to stay clean. We may also replace shaking hands with just a wave of the hands to prevent skin contact.

There is another change we must make – a transformation of lives (Romans 12:1, 2).

God wants us to be a new creature: “Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new” (2 Corinthians 5:17).

A truly converted Christian is a changed person: “And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness” (Ephesians 4:24).

### **14. COVID-19 teaches us the importance of Cleansing.**

Wash your hands with soap, wash your hands with soap, and wash your hands with soap.

Indeed, we need to wash and be clean. Sin is worse than COVID-19. Sin’s effect is more damaging than COVID-19 (Romans 6:23). No amount of soap washing can wash away our sins; only the blood of Jesus Christ can: “But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood

of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin” (1 John 1:7).

### **15. COVID-19 kills.**

Thousands all over the world have died due to COVID-19. We need to be serious about it and follow the guidelines given by the government to help control its transmission.

Sin kills more people than any pandemic: “For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord” (Romans 6:23).

And, thanks be to God, He has provided the cure for sin: “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life” (John 3:16).

Scientists all over the world are searching for a cure for COVID-19. However, few are searching for a cure to their sins. God has given the cure; will you take it? Will you dispense the cure to others?



**OVERSEAS**

- Bro Kenneth Liong & sis Iris in San Francisco
- Sis Shuan Kwee in Hong Kong



**HEALTH**

- Sis Baby's, sis Yeoh's, sis Rosalind's, sis Swee Inn's & bro Winston's health
- Sis Suan Kiang's & sis Linda's health
- Bro Soo Ping's recovery from his spine surgery
- Sis Jasmine Lim's mother's recovery from fractured ankle

**PREGNANCY**

- Sis Wenyu (Apr)
- Sis Cynthia Lee (Jun)
- Sis Melissa (Aug)



**NSF**

- Bro Titus
- Bro Shawn
- Bro Zachary
- Bro Wei Xiang



**THIS WEEK**

- 13 Apr (Mon)**  
- Jerry & Sau Ching
- 14 Apr (Tue)**  
- Peter & Henry Chee
- 15 Apr (Wed)**  
- Wenyu

**NEXT WEEK**

- 20 Apr (Mon)**  
- Jonalyn
- 23 Apr (Thu)**  
- Adriel

**8 May (Fri)**

- Timothy

**10 May (Sun)** - Eunice

**11 May (Mon)** - Wee Sin

**14 May (Thu)**

- Kenneth Liong

**15 May (Fri)** - Ellen

**16 May (Sat)**

- Sew Hua & Reuben

**18 May (Mon)** - Adeline

**20 May (Wed)** - Diana

**22 May (Fri)** - Constance

**23 May (Sat)** - Jonathan