



NEW HEART BEAT DEVOTIONS

“If you do not agree with what the leaders are doing then go straight to the Highest Authority.”

Quarantine Quarrel

Two cases of COVID-19 were first detected in my state, Pennsylvania, on March 6, 2020. The highest number of cases reported in a single day was 1,989 which was on April 9. As of May 29, there were 70,735 reported positive cases with a 65% recovery rate. As of May 29, my County, York, had a total of 991 cases. ¹

On March 23, Governor Tom Wolf issued a “Stay-At-Home” order for seven Counties. Then he and Secretary of Health Dr. Rachel Levine announced that all 67 Pennsylvania counties would be under “Stay-at-Home” orders effective Wednesday, April 1, at 8 p.m. Across the County and the world similar orders were issued. The original Pennsylvania order was for just two weeks. One of the first State citations with this order was to a girl, in my County, who got pulled over for a bad taillight and was ticketed \$200 for nonlife sustaining travel².

Life for everyone changed. The Lord was good to us as a family. However, I know many did not do as well. People lost their jobs, needed food, were fearful, confused, angry and could not stand the isolation. As the quarantine order continued to be extended many started to become angry.

There were protests at the State Capital. On May 2, there was even a protest at the Governor’s house located two blocks from my home. Here are some of the [pictures from that protest](#). Some of the signs in these pictures were not very tasteful. You can see one man with a rifle. The irony of this protest was that no one was home in the Governor’s House. One restaurant in town defied the order and opened on Mother’s Day. Some County governments stated that they would convict those who defied the order. The Governor stood strong with the State Supreme Court backing and threats of losing funding from the State and license rejection with fines.

Governor Wolf did issue three phases³ for reopening Counties. Red: “Stay-At-Home”, takeout food only, life-sustaining businesses only, Yellow: Many places can open with limited capacity with CDC guidelines. Green: Most restrictions are lifted. By May 22, most Counties were in the Yellow. But this still did not make many happy,

What does the Bible state about all this: “Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God. Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation. For he is the minister of God to thee for good. But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; for he beareth not the sword in vain: for he is the minister of God, a revenger to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil. Wherefore ye must needs be subject, not only for wrath, but also for conscience sake.” Roms 13:1-5

I believe that if we spend more time on our knees rather than complaining, we would get through this much quicker. (One of the pictures I referenced in the above link has a “Wrong Way” street sign next to the protesters. How true!) God is in control of the virus and in control of our leaders. With this virus, I do not know who is right and wrong. But I do know that God knows. For this reason, I am praying and trusting that He is guiding our leaders and medical workers in the right direction. It is not about our rights but our responsibilities, our relationships our reactions and our righteousness. God will hold both our leaders and us accountable for improper actions.



Charles L Stambaugh

“The king’s heart is in the hand of the Lord, as the rivers of water: He turneth it whithersoever He will.”

Prov 21:1

If your God cannot control or change your leader than you need to change gods.



¹<https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/disease/coronavirus/Pages/Coronavirus.aspx>

²www.pennlive.com/news/2020/04/york-county-woman-faces-200-ticket-from-state-police-under-gov-wolfs-stay-at-home-order.html

³www.pennlive.com/news/2020/04/what-will-be-allowed-in-the-red-yellow-and-green-phases-of-pas-coronavirus-reopening-plan.html

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