**8 Ways God Is Moving in the Midst of a Global Pandemic**

About two weeks ago, upon arriving at my destination I soon realized the customers were all putting on their gloves and face mask as they carried handwipes to wipe off their carts before heading into the grocery store. Their focus was on getting groceries without catching COVID 19. To the best of our ability, we are all attempting to hold on to some semblance of **CONTROL**. No one is alone in that respect, as people are wearing gloves and masks while attempting to maintain the mandated six-foot social distancing rule. It felt like a strange new sense of normalcy: one we are reluctant to accept.

None of us could have anticipated this new normal: major events canceled, businesses closed, and schools suspended indefinitely. In less than a year’s time, our entire world has changed, leaving us steeped in uncertainty about the future.

As many Christians pray for relief and healing, some may question the existence of God amidst this global pandemic. Asking the most common question people repeat when trouble hits home, “If God is Love, Why do Bad things happen to Good People?” They may wonder how a loving God could allow so much death and hardship. While I cannot answer why it is happening to you, I can explain the history of the Great Controversy between Christ and satan and why it must be seen for just what it is when the spirit of sin and rebellion are controlling this world. I can also proclaim that God is not absent or oblivious to our plight. He is moving among us during this time.

**Here are just Eight of the countless ways God is at work in the midst of a global pandemic:**

**1. God Is Moving through the Widespread Sharing of the Three Angels Gospel**

Revelation 14:6 (NASB),“[ Vision of the Angel with the Gospel ] “***And I saw another angel flying in midheaven, having an eternal gospel to preach to those who live on the earth, and to every nation and tribe and tongue and people;”***

When the church was first created in Acts there were no brick and mortar buildings. The people met in homes and the body of Christ was more mobile and less stationary. Since the COVID-19 outbreak, churches are returning to our homes via the use of technology.

Several churches are livestreaming their services on social media and their websites. This is making the gospel readily accessible and visible to the world. Like never before, the church is on display worldwide and the gospel message is being shared. We’ve seen examples of corporate prayer on social media sites like Facebook, Brazilians singing “Because He Lives” from their windows, and hundreds of [**Bible**](https://www.biblestudytools.com/) study classes being attended live online.

In these acts we see in action the Great Commission found in [**Matthew 28:19-20**](https://www.biblestudytools.com/matthew/passage/?q=matthew+28:19-20), *“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”* **God is reminding us the gospel of Jesus Christ is “GOING VIRAL” the gospel is infectious and unstoppable, not bound by a physical location, or restricted by a virus.**

## 2. God Is Moving by Impacting Our Schedules

Prior to this outbreak many of us were governed by our calendar and not the Word of God when it came to rest. Our lives were filled to capacity with practices and sporting events. We were overbooked with meetings and parties and our agendas and to-do lists were ever abundant. Think about this acronym: **BUSY**

**B**-EING

**U**-NDER

**S**-ATAN’S

**Y**-OKE

Many of us were BUSY and guilty of dismissing God’s command to rest in [**Exodus 20:9-10**](https://www.biblestudytools.com/exodus/passage/?q=exodus+20:9-10): *“Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is a*[***Sabbath***](https://www.crosswalk.com/faith/spiritual-life/what-is-the-sabbath-and-is-it-still-important-today.html)*to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your male or female servant, nor your animals, nor any foreigner residing in your towns.”* The Hebrew word for Sabbath is **Shabbat**, which means to rest from labor, or cessation of work.

Prior to this global pandemic, many of us did not rest much at all. We went to bed late and woke up early. We were a collectively overworked people however, with the advent of this virus, we have been forced to accept canceled events resulting in much-needed margin.

Mothers and fathers are spending more time with their children, old friends are reconnecting, dinner time is taking place with everyone around the table, and men and women are working less and resting more. This cessation of constant activity gives us an

## 3. God Is Moving by Showing Us the Need to Forgive

Nothing reminds us more of the brevity of life than a global pandemic. Somehow facing the apocalyptic present day is a reminder that ***tomorrow is not promised to anyone***. For many, this reality is enough to motivate us to reflect on the health of our relationships. With the uncertainty of the future, some people are asking tough questions about their relationships.

Who do I need to forgive? Who do I need to offer [**forgiveness**](https://www.christianity.com/wiki/christian-terms/what-is-forgiveness-being-forgiven-forgiving-others-forgiving-yourself.html) to? Have I forgiven myself, as I have confessed my sins to God and believe He has completely forgiven me, and remembers my sin NO MORE?

When pitted against life and death, forgiveness is not something worth withholding from someone else. God is moving in the hearts of mankind, urging us to forgive others as He has forgiven us of all unrighteous, and **LOVE** as He loves us. Our time on this earth is not promised and the global pandemic is a vivid reminder of that. God’s spirit encourages us to forgive others during this time just as it says in [**Colossians 3:13**](https://www.biblestudytools.com/colossians/3-13.html), “ “Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.”

## 4. God Is Moving by Strengthening Families

Recently I heard a mom say she is most grateful for the time spent with her daughters as a result of the school closures. She reflected on learning new things about each of her children’s personalities and the quality time spent with them. It is not just mothers spending more time with their children but fathers as well.

Since COVID 19, the entire family unit, in some cases, has been restricted to their homes. Although it can be perceived as a hardship this may be the [sovereignty of God](https://www.christianity.com/theology/what-does-the-phrase-god-is-sovereign-really-mean-11555729.html) giving us an opportunity to spend time with those most closest to us thereby strengthening the family. God is blessing family members with an opportunity to spend time with their loved ones which might not have happened otherwise.

## 5. God Is Moving by Building Our Faith

Knowingly and unknowingly we have been guilty of placing our faith in things other than God. Paul warns the Corinthians of this in [**1 Corinthians 10:14**](https://www.biblestudytools.com/1-corinthians/10-14.html) when he says, “Therefore, my dear friends, flee from [**idolatry**](https://www.christianity.com/wiki/christian-terms/what-is-the-definition-of-idolatry-in-the-bible.html).” We have all either been tempted or succumbed to the temptation to place our faith and trust in our jobs, people, outcomes, status and other things we deem more tangible than God. Our TRUEST identities have been stolen by the enemy and we believe we are what we do, what we have and what we want and desire. This is called spiritual identity theft. Our **TRUEST identity** is that each of us are a **BELOVED** child of God.

“Before I **formed** you in the womb I knew you,” (Jeremiah 1:5)

Thus says the Lord who **made** you And **formed** you from the womb, who will help you,

‘Do not fear,” Isaiah 44:2.

“Thus says the Lord, your Redeemer, and the one who **formed** you from the womb,

“I, the Lord, am the maker of all things, Stretching out the heavens by Myself

And spreading out the earth all alone,” Isaiah 44:24

**Our present crisis, however, has stripped us of confidence in anything other than God. We cannot place our faith in money, healthcare, or mankind. None of these options are as secure as the unchanging nature of God**. During this time, God is moving on our hearts and causing us to place our faith in Him: recognizing He is the only One powerful enough to sustain and deliver us completely from this global epidemic. God’s word reminds us of this in [**Psalm 46:1**](https://www.biblestudytools.com/psalms/46-1.html), **when it says, “God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.”** We are urged through God’s Word and His Holy Spirit to place our faith in Him and Him alone.

## 6. God Is Moving Us to Not only Use Natural Remedies for Prevention and Recovery of COVID 19 but to also Teach His Weapons of Viral Protection to the World.

In the beginning God created mankind to live in a natural outdoor environment and given dominion to care for the Garden of Eden. We were created to grow and tend plants for our food. The animals were never originally intended to be used for food and eaten until after the worldwide flood while man was waiting for the plants to grow again. Not only did man’s lifespan shorten from eating animals after the flood, but we have forgotten how to use God’s wonderful healthy life producing plants for our medicine.

“Let food be your medicine” was good advice given by Dr. Hippocrates 2500 years ago. Reminding and reacquainting ourselves of the use of natural remedies for prevention of sickness and recovery of disease has been a blessing in disguise from COVID 19. Since there are no pharmaceutical cures for viral illnesses we can educate ourselves, family and friends in the proper use of nutrition and herbal remedies, exercise, water, sunlight therapy, moderation of health restoring foods and abstaining from that which is immune suppressing, fresh air, proper rest physically and spiritually, and above all trust in Divine Power.

## Get Outside or Participate in Physical Activity, *“For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen…”* ([Romans 1:20](https://www.biblestudytools.com/romans/1-20.html) NASB)

A change of scenery will help with the sensation of cabin fever. Go for a walk and take note of God’s creation. **Praise God for each thing you see**! All of creation speaks to His existence and providence. Allow it to be a time which refreshes your spirit and offer a smile and wave to someone as they pass you by. This helps to not only bless but reminds other people that their lives really do matter and that they are not invisible to God.

If circumstances require you to stay indoors, find some form of physical activity to help relieve the stress. Many exercise classes are being offered online for free at the moment.

## 7. God Is Moving through the Kindness of Others

# People sewing masks for first responders, schools providing food for disadvantaged children, and non-profits setting up hand washing stations for the homeless are all examples of the kindness we have seen during this pandemic. These acts of kindness have not been mandated or suggested. They were just ways that people decided to show God’s love and kindness through service.

# Mark 9:35 Expanded Bible (EXB)

35Jesus sat down and called ·the twelve apostles [the Twelve] to him. He said,

“Whoever wants to be ·the most important [first] must be last of all and servant of all.”

[**1 Corinthians 13:4**](https://www.biblestudytools.com/1-corinthians/13-4.html) reminds us that love is kind and God is love. The acts of kindness from people are a display of God’s love exhibited through the hands and feet of humanity. When we see people caring about health care workers, the elderly, or those with pre-existing conditions, this is a reminder of God’s infinite love displayed through mankind.

## 8. God Is Moving by Granting Us Peace in a Time of Storm

#### **We are told in Isaiah 26:20 (NASB) 20 “Come, my people, enter into your rooms and close your doors behind you; Hide for a little [**[**a**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Isaiah%2026%3A20&version=VOICE;NASB#fen-NASB-18151a)**] while until indignation [**[**b**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Isaiah%2026%3A20&version=VOICE;NASB#fen-NASB-18151b) **]runs its course.”**

#### Footnotes:

1.[Isaiah 26:20](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Isaiah%2026%3A20&version=VOICE;NASB#en-NASB-18151) moment

2.[Isaiah 26:20](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Isaiah%2026%3A20&version=VOICE;NASB#en-NASB-18151) passes over

Think about the events of our world and imagine experiencing them without knowing God. For believers, although we experience hardship, [**Philippians 4:6-7**](https://www.biblestudytools.com/philippians/passage/?q=philippians+4:6-7) reminds us that we do not have to be anxious as those who do not know God.

“**Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”** God provides instruction in His word on what to do when we battle anxiety. We MUST tell ourselves the truth in love found only in God’s word and not what our feelings and past painfilled emotional thoughts in our heads tell us. God walks us through the specifics and then he tells us what the end result will be: the peace of God. God enables his children to walk through devastation and looming disasters and yet experience unexplainable peace. We must read and memorize Bible texts such as Psalm 91 and Psalm 46, for examples, as well as the testimonies of Daniel and his three friends as they were tested and found faithful during fiery trials.

Rather than fixating on all that is wrong in our world, we can fortify our faith by looking for examples of God in the midst of this global pandemic. When it says that “*we are to rejoice in all things*”, it is not to rejoice in the painful, grievous trials we are facing, but that we are not facing our painful, grievous trials alone.

**Philippians 4:4-9 (VOICE) “Keep your gentle nature so that all people will know what it looks like to walk in His footsteps.** **The Lord is ever present with us. Don’t be anxious about things; instead, pray. Pray about everything. He longs to hear your requests, so talk to God about your needs and be thankful for what has come. ...**

# Isaiah 26:3-4 (AMPC)

**3You will guard him *and* keep him in perfect *and* constant peace whose mind**

**[both its inclination and its character] is stayed on You,**

**because he commits himself to You,**

**leans on You and hopes confidently in You.**

**4So trust in the Lord (commit yourself to Him, lean on Him,**

**hope confidently in Him) forever;**

**for the Lord God is an everlasting Rock [the Rock of Ages].**

Although things appear to be bleak, there are hopeful glimpses of our heavenly Father everywhere. ***We see him in the faces and actions of other believers, in nature, through the pages of Scripture, and in the resiliency of those on the front lines battling the pandemic.*** If you have doubted the [**presence of God**](https://www.crosswalk.com/faith/women/seven-ways-to-sense-god-s-presence.html), know that He is not oblivious or unconcerned. He is alive and moving in the midst of this global pandemic. His Word has given us ample provision for the signs of the times. **(Daniel, Matthew 24, 25, Mark 13, and Revelation 13,14, an 18)**

# Daniel 12 New American Standard Bible (NASB)

### **The Time of the End**

**12 “Now at that time Michael, the great prince who stands *guard* over the sons of your people, will arise. And there will be a time of distress such as never occurred since there was a nation until that time; *and at that time your people, everyone who is found written in the book, will be rescued.***

**2Many of those who sleep in the dust of the ground will awake, these to everlasting life, but the others to disgrace *and* everlasting [**[**a**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=daniel+12&version=NASB#fen-NASB-22084a)**]contempt. 3 [**[**b**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=daniel+12&version=NASB#fen-NASB-22085b)**]Those who have insight will shine brightly like the brightness of the [**[**c**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=daniel+12&version=NASB#fen-NASB-22085c)**]expanse of heaven, and those who lead the many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever. 4But as for you, Daniel, conceal these words and seal up the book until the end of time; many will go back and forth, and knowledge will increase.”**

**5Then I, Daniel, looked and behold, two others were standing, one on this bank of the river and the other on that bank of the river. 6And one said to the man dressed in linen, who was above the waters of the river, “How long *will it be* until the end of *these* wonders?” 7I heard the man dressed in linen, who was above the waters of the river, [**[**d**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=daniel+12&version=NASB#fen-NASB-22089d)**]as he raised his right hand and his left toward heaven, and swore by Him who lives forever that it would be for a [**[**e**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=daniel+12&version=NASB#fen-NASB-22089e)**]time, [**[**f**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=daniel+12&version=NASB#fen-NASB-22089f)**]times, and half *a* [**[**g**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=daniel+12&version=NASB#fen-NASB-22089g)**]*time*; and as soon as [**[**h**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=daniel+12&version=NASB#fen-NASB-22089h)**]they finish shattering the [**[**i**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=daniel+12&version=NASB#fen-NASB-22089i)**]power of the holy people, all these *events* will be completed.**

**8As for me, I heard but could not understand; so I said, “My lord, what *will be* the [**[**j**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=daniel+12&version=NASB#fen-NASB-22090j)**]outcome of these *events*?” 9He said, “Go *your way*, Daniel, for *these* words are concealed and sealed up until the end time. 10Many will be purged, [**[**k**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=daniel+12&version=NASB#fen-NASB-22092k)**]purified and refined, but the wicked will act wickedly; and none of the wicked will understand, but [**[**l**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=daniel+12&version=NASB#fen-NASB-22092l)**]those who have insight will understand. 11From the time that the regular sacrifice is abolished and the [**[**m**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=daniel+12&version=NASB#fen-NASB-22093m)**]abomination of desolation is set up, *there will be* 1,290 days. 12How blessed is he who keeps waiting and attains to the 1,335 days! 13But as for you, go *your way* to the [**[**n**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=daniel+12&version=NASB#fen-NASB-22095n)**]end; then you will enter into rest and rise *again* for your allotted portion at the end of the [**[**o**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=daniel+12&version=NASB#fen-NASB-22095o)**]age.”**

#### **Footnotes:**

1. [**Daniel 12:2**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=daniel+12&version=NASB#en-NASB-22084) **Lit *abhorrence***
2. [**Daniel 12:3**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=daniel+12&version=NASB#en-NASB-22085) **Or *The instructors will***
3. [**Daniel 12:3**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=daniel+12&version=NASB#en-NASB-22085) **Or *firmament***
4. [**Daniel 12:7**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=daniel+12&version=NASB#en-NASB-22089) **Lit *and***
5. [**Daniel 12:7**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=daniel+12&version=NASB#en-NASB-22089) **I.e. year(s)**
6. [**Daniel 12:7**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=daniel+12&version=NASB#en-NASB-22089) **I.e. year(s)**
7. [**Daniel 12:7**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=daniel+12&version=NASB#en-NASB-22089) **I.e. year(s)**
8. [**Daniel 12:7**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=daniel+12&version=NASB#en-NASB-22089) **Lit *to finish***
9. [**Daniel 12:7**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=daniel+12&version=NASB#en-NASB-22089) **Lit *hand***
10. [**Daniel 12:8**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=daniel+12&version=NASB#en-NASB-22090) **Or *final end***
11. [**Daniel 12:10**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=daniel+12&version=NASB#en-NASB-22092) **Lit *made white***
12. [**Daniel 12:10**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=daniel+12&version=NASB#en-NASB-22092) **Or *the instructors will***
13. [**Daniel 12:11**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=daniel+12&version=NASB#en-NASB-22093) **Or *horrible abomination***
14. [**Daniel 12:13**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=daniel+12&version=NASB#en-NASB-22095) **I.e. end of your life**
15. [**Daniel 12:13**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=daniel+12&version=NASB#en-NASB-22095) **Lit *days***