

## Is There Treatment for Coronavirus?

April 11, 2020

Yong Li had heard of a new infection causing many to get sick but also it seems many to die. He did not know any people who had this disease yet, but friends, family and neighbors were all talking about this. Many who were talking about this were very afraid of this infection as no one seemed to know a lot about it yet it seemed to move very fast. He was seeing on TV, on emails, websites, a lot of talk about this. Then one day he heard that a friend of his had this virus and seemed to die quickly. Yong Li was very upset by this as was his wife and son as this man's son was his son's best friend. Further, this friend seemed to be ok one week and the next week dead, how did that happen? Is there no treatment for this new infection? This caused Yong Li, family and many friends to be very afraid of this very new and unknown infection.

Yong Li did not know what to do but he thought he would ask a doctor friend of his who was a neighbor what he knew about this new infection. Yong Li did not know this doctor friend's contact information but decided to just walk over to his house, which was not far. He did not know if his doctor friend was working or not on this Saturday, but he was so worried that he just went to his home unannounced to talk with his doctor friend and neighbor. When he arrived, he knocked on the door and his doctor friend opened the door. Yong Li was a little embarrassed at going unannounced but quickly told his doctor friend his concerns about this new infection and also could he get some information about this new infection.

Yong Li's doctor friend said he was glad that he came to his house and that he has been answering a lot of questions about this new infection from many people. Yong Li's doctor friend said that he was around many at the hospital who have this new viral infection called the Coronavirus. He also said that as Yong Li mentioned there are a lot of people getting sick from this new virus and also a lot of people dying. Yong Li asked if there was anything to do to treat those who are sick and keep them from dying? Are there not any antibiotics to treat this infective virus, which we already have?

Just at that that time another neighbor friend of Yong Li and his doctor friend called Yong Li and said that he had been sick for a week or so and was getting more fever, chills, cough and shortness of breath and really did not feel good. Yong Li told his doctor friend his friend's concern and that he should go to the hospital immediately and he would meet him at the front of the hospital. Yong Li asked if he could also go and his doctor friend said it may be a little unsafe but it was ok as Yong Li's child was grown and married and lived in another city and his wife had died of cancer last year, so he was at home alone anyways.

Yong Li and his doctor friend met their neighbor friend at the front of the hospital, and he did not look good and was quite short of breath. They directed him to the hospital emergency room and got him settled and after tests, including a chest x-ray and Coronavirus testing it was concluded that he had pneumonia caused by the Coronavirus and his oxygen was low. Yong Li's doctor friend told him that their neighbor friend was very sick. Yong Li asked what treatment they would give him and was there an antibiotic to give him to kill this infection and

make their neighbor friend better and well. His doctor friend told him right now there is not one medicine we know will work. He said there are many places in the world looking trying to find medications to work on this infection. He said that there are many issues, which will need to be addressed.

First, said Yong Li's doctor friend, we need to do clinical trials to determine the safety of medications and if they do work. Medications can be used and appear to work in some patients, but this could be just a coincidence, that is the patient got better with the new medication, but the patient was getting better anyways, and the improvement was not the result of the medicine. The issue with this is giving medicines, which really are not helping and increases cost and side effects to patient with no benefit. This is why trials are needed and these trials take time, months and sometimes years.

Second, there are many times in the history of medicine treatments don't come so quickly, for example it took many years to get treatment for HIV and then that treatment is not curative but just moves the management of HIV to a chronic disease. It took over twenty-five years to get a cure for HCV (chronic Hepatitis C virus infection). There are many other examples his doctor friend said.

All of this discussion made Yong Li more afraid he told his doctor friend. However, his doctor friend told Yong Li that aside from treatment with medications who are sick with the Coronavirus we can give them intravenous fluids, oxygen and even ventilator management, which can help people through their worst trials. This is very important for a very sick patient like their neighbor friend as many will get better as their bodies own defenses fights off the Coronavirus infection. Yong Li was not aware of this and this made him more appreciative of doctors and the hospitals.

Yong Li's doctor friend went on to say that some of the medicines may work and only in time will we know but there is also another trial being looked at, which is using the serum of those who have already had the Coronavirus infection and lived and are doing fine now. The serum has protective antibodies against the Coronavirus it is presumed, and they are taking that serum and putting the serum into sick patients like their now sick neighbor friend. However, no one knows if this will help or hurt. This is also an ongoing trial to see if it really does help. Yong Li thought this was different than medicines that have been used but his doctor friend said that this is not new. His doctor friend said for a long period of medicine we have taken people's serum and concentrated it and given to those with needle sticks to protect them from things like Hepatitis B and other infections, so this is not new.

Still Yong Li was afraid as all of this treatment seemed to not be very clear. They asked about their neighbor friend and he had been taken to the hospital floor where the Coronavirus patients were taken as his oxygen was low. Yong Li and his doctor friend were not allowed to go to the floor, just patients and those caring for those patients. Yong Li asked his doctor friend was he afraid. He responded he was concerned that they did not have much treatment at this time, but he was not afraid. Yong Li asked why he was not afraid?

His doctor friend said that he was a believer in Jesus Christ and since this whole Coronavirus infection situation had started a verse from the Bible had made him think about this situation more. The verse was 'by his stripes or wounds we are healed.' Yong Li told his doctor friend that made no sense and even sounded like nonsense and who wrote this statement? Some ancient philosopher? His doctor friend said it was written over 2700 years ago by a prophet from ancient Israel name Isaiah. The reference was to the death of Jesus Christ on the Cross. Yong Li did not know anything about ancient Israel, Isaiah, Jesus Christ or his death on the Cross he told his doctor friend.

Yong Li's doctor friend told him that Jesus Christ was the Lord of this world in that he Created and sustained it but also this world was a world had gone wrong in so many ways, like the havoc the Coronavirus was causing and the amount of death it was causing. His doctor friend went on to say the only cure and solution to the Coronavirus was through the blood of Jesus, which was shed on the Cross by the person of Jesus Christ. He said that this blood was shed because mankind had revolted against God, which brought sin into this world. Yong Li said all of this is very hard to understand but he did think we did live in a world gone very wrong with so much hatred and hurt and misery and yes even the Coronavirus. However, he was not clear how Jesus resolved all of these problems.

Yong Li's doctor that that the rewards or result of the sin of mankind, which was revolting against what God said was death. Not just physical death though that is a part of death but eternal separation from the good and loving God who created a sinless world, which the sin of mankind eliminated. It is the death of Jesus Christ, which resolved these horrible results of sin. How did his blood shed on the cross resolve this, his doctor friend asked Yong Li. It resolved this in two ways, first in resolving the spiritual separation of man from God and giving man eternal life. Then in time it will allow for all of those who believed in Jesus in a new heaven and earth to have new resurrected bodies, which will not decay.

This fascinated Yong Li and he did think this world did not have solutions to all of its problems but though he did not believe much in God he was beginning to think that this was a solution to eternity, which he had thought about and also how important having new non-decaying bodies would be great. Yong Li asked him how all of this can be attained, that is how to know God and how to have these perfect resurrection bodies. His doctor friend responded that as mentioned 'by his wounds we are healed' and that is a prophetic reference to the death of Jesus Christ on the Cross 2000 years ago in Jerusalem for our sins. It was that death by Jesus, which took on the sins of those who believed and removed them from that person so that their relationship with God would be good and not one, which did not exist.

The second aspect of this 'healing' will be at the second coming of Jesus, when he will return again (He already came once Yong Li's doctor friend said) and in the 'twinkling of an eye' those who believe in Jesus will be like him, that is Jesus, in that they will be given instantaneously a new body, which will never decay. Yong Li wanted to have this new salvation, which would allow him to have a restored relationship with God through Jesus Christ and also have eternal

life with God in heaven. He asked his doctor friend how to have this new relationship with Jesus Christ.

Yong Li's doctor friend said that this new relationship is by faith alone and not by anything we do. His doctor friend asked Yong Li to repeat this prayer after him. 'Dear Jesus, thank you that your son Jesus died on the Cross for sins, that you that you are the Lord of this earth then and now and till Jesus returns. I believe you died on the Cross for my sins, you were buried for three days and then was resurrected and now have ascended to be with God the Father and will return in the future to take those who are yours to heaven with new eternal bodies. Amen.'

Yong Li was so happy to have this truth in this life that even though medical care is good and helpful it will not give a new relationship with Jesus nor a new perfect body in the future with Jesus. He was excited to have that new relationship with God through Jesus Christ that will not end. Just then a nurse came down to tell Yong Li and his doctor friend that their neighbor friend was doing better, and his oxygen was now normal with support. They both were happy but more than this that their ultimate hope in this world was in Jesus and his work on the Cross, which had bearing in this world and the eternal life he will give Yong Li and his doctor friend.