

New Coronavirus Vaccines

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Mr. Wang had several friends that had died of Coronavirus. He is 67 years old and concerned he could get the virus and die. He was afraid of dying as he did not know what death would bring. He had learned by now that the Coronavirus seemed to be here till something was done. He had heard that new vaccines had been developed but he did not know how to get them. He thought he would ask a friend who was a doctor but also a neighbor of his. His wife said the weekend is better as their doctor friend worked hard.

The next Saturday Mr. Wang and his wife found their neighbor who was familiar with the state of the Coronavirus vaccine. The doctor friend told them that there were now several new vaccines, three out of the United States, one out of China, one out of Russia and one out of England. He said that there may be more coming but not sure. The doctor asked about Mr. Wang's concerns regarding the vaccines. The first thing Mr. Wang said was that he feared death. After all he was not that old at 67 and his health was good.

The doctor friend asked Mr. Wang why he was fearful of death and Mr. Wang was not able to really answer that question very well just that he was fearful. The doctor asked if there was anything specific about death Mr. Wang was concerned about? Mr. Wang responded by saying he was not sure but the fact of just not knowing was concerning. Also, he mentioned that he knows many people think of ancestor worship, but he never believed in that anyways, though it was cultural. Further, and Mr. Wang was embarrassed to say this, but he was concerned about not the concept but the reality of hell, which he had heard about.

The doctor responded to Mr. Wang and his wife that these are important concerns. He asked Mr. Wang if he wanted to know more clearly about what happens after death? Mr. Wang was very interested in knowing more information about death. But first he did want to know more about these new vaccines, which are out. He first wanted to know more about the vaccines and if they are good or bad. The doctor told Mr. Wang and his wife that the vaccines seem to be good. Their effectiveness seemed to be from 50% up to 95%, which the doctor said was pretty good as the flu shot is often only from 40-60% effective. More of them seem to have a higher effectiveness so that is good news. Mr. Wang was relieved that there are a lot of vaccines that seemed to work well. He asked the doctor if there were side effects with the COVID19 vaccine?

The doctor told him that the vast majority have just arm soreness in the arm where the vaccine is given. He also mentioned that some of the vaccines are single dose and some require two doses about three weeks after the first one. Other side effects are flu like symptoms, such as mild fever and chills, some headaches and some nausea but most of this is gone in a few days. Mr. Wang asked the doctor about people dying from the vaccines and the doctor said very few if any. The doctor also told Mr. Wang that there is no major other side effects and he told him that after 6 weeks vaccines most severe or major side effects like paralysis do not occur. Overall

Mr. Wang and his wife were very relieved about the small amount of side effects with these new vaccines.

Mr. Wang asked the doctor to go back to what he was talking about death. The doctor appreciated Mr. Wang's concerns. He went back to Mr. Wang's concerns about death, first is fear, then the not knowing, ancestor worship and hell. The doctor said each are important to know about and discuss. First, is the fear of death. The doctor that the Bible addresses this issue, where it says, 'He will swallow up death forever.' This was said by a prophet called Isaiah over 2700 years ago. The point is that there is a place and time where there will be no more death. Mr. Wang asked how this could be, that is how could there be a place where this is not any death and not just how could that occur but who could make this happen? The doctor responded that there will be a day when Jesus Christ will return to earth to save those who believe in him and they will be given eternal life. This is spoken in another place in the Bible by the Apostle John about 1900 years ago with more clarity in the book of Revelations, where John says, 'He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death, mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.'

Mr. Wang and his wife asked at the same time, who is this person Jesus? The doctor responded by asking if they had ever heard his name before and they both said yes, but they really did not know much about this person called Jesus. The doctor started by saying that Jesus is God and through Jesus the world was created. This is also stated in the Bible, where it says in the book of the Bible Hebrews it says, 'the whole universe was created through Jesus.' Moreover, not only was the universe created through Jesus, but Jesus sustains it every day. This is stated in the book of Colossians in the Bible, where it says, 'in him all things hold together.' The 'in him' means in Jesus Christ all things in the universe are held together. Thus, Jesus created and sustains the whole universe even to this very second the doctor said to Mr. Wang and his wife.

Mr. and Mrs. asked how they could know more about Jesus and not be able to die or face the fear of death. The doctor clarified that one of two things would happen in this world before death ends. First, is that we will die before Jesus returns. The Wang's both said again this is what they were afraid of. Second, some people will be alive when Jesus returns the doctor said to them. Mr. Wang asked what happens with either scenario? The doctor responded by saying it depends on what you believe. Mr. Wang also interrupted and asked if he could ask another question about the COVID 19 vaccines. The doctor said sure.

Mr. Wang's question was how long will these vaccines be good or their effectiveness last? The doctor said we don't know their long-term effectiveness as they could be like the flu shot in that we will need them each year or like the Polio, Measles or Smallpox, which were essentially eradicated permanently in each individual who received that vaccine. We don't know how long the COVID19 vaccines will last only time will tell the doctor said. We don't know if some of the vaccines will be more effective in some respects than other vaccines, like how long they will be effective. Again, only time will tell. Further, we don't know if yearly boosters of one of these COVID19 vaccine will be all that is needed. Though that would be very expensive. Again, only time will make that clear. The doctor told them that we do really learn a lot from vaccines as

the years move on. The same will be the case with the COVID19. The doctor went on to say that more research will be done, and more vaccines will probably be developed. The key is lowering the mortality, that is the death rate and hospitalizations. The Wangs agreed and understood what he said.

The doctor asked Mr. Wang about if he would like to know more about who Jesus is and Mr. Wang said yes. The doctor said that there are really two ways of knowing who Jesus is. First, knowing just information about him and the second is believing in him. The first you can find by reading the Bible. The second you also know by reading the Bible. However, the second is a different reading of the Bible. This is about not just knowing but believing and following Jesus as your Bible. Mr. Wang asked the doctor to clarify this last point a little more as he wanted to really know what it meant to really believe in God. The doctor said there is a good verse written to a church in Rome by the Apostle Paul. This verse says, 'if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead you will be saved.'

The doctor explained to Mr. Wang that this verse has two parts. The first part is related to what we would publicly say to one or more people now and forever that Jesus is our Lord. Being our Lord means that we believe Jesus created the world and sustains the world as they had already talked about. Further, by being our Lord that means that he controls all of our life, which includes our work, marriage and in fact all we do but also all we think, and he takes control of our soul. The second part is that we believe in our heart that Jesus died on the cross for our sins, was buried for three days and then rose from the dead. If we believe this second part, we believe that he is our Lord and because of that belief we will have eternal life in heaven with Jesus and never die. Though we physically may die here on earth at the point of that physical death our soul will immediately be with Jesus and when Jesus returns the second time to gather those who believe in him, we will be given a new body and that body and soul will live forever.

The doctor asked Mr. Wang what he thought, and he really was interested in believing about this Jesus as he did not want to die though now, he was beginning to know that if he died, he could die but not die in the sense that even if he died, he would have eternal life. Mr. Wang though had one more question for the doctor about the new vaccines. The question was how are they going to get the vaccines out to people? The doctor said that this was the concern with up to 7 billion people in the world. Getting that many people vaccinated may well take several years. That is certainly if there are new strains, which will need new vaccines. It is the logistics of getting the vaccines made and then to other people, which will be such a big challenge. He said we can only hope the vaccines have lasting benefit and we can get them to other countries very quickly. That is a good reason, the doctor said, to believe in Jesus as our fear is displaced by the hope of Jesus ultimately in control of our lives and not COVID19.

The doctor then asked Mr. Wang if did want to believe in Jesus and Mr. Wang said yes, he would. He said that he wanted to see what his wife thought as she had been listening to this whole conversation. So, Mr. Wang talked with his wife for a few minutes and she really understood what the doctor had said about believing in Jesus. She really did not have more questions except for one. The doctor asked her what that one question was. She said it was

similar to the question about the vaccine. That is in believing in Jesus is this short term or long term? The doctor responded to both Mr. Wang and his wife by saying it is like a permanent vaccine. That is in believing in Jesus being your savior and Lord that would be permanent, that is once you believe in Jesus, he will be your Savior and Lord forever. That is in all of this earthly world and then when you die and finally when Jesus returns. Death would no longer be your enemy. Mr. Wang asked the doctor to help them know how they can believe in Jesus so that they can have this eternal life.

The doctor asked Mr. and Mrs. Wang to close their eyes, which will help them focus and repeat what he would say. He told them not only to say that they say the words but really mean them. The doctor prayed, 'Dear Lord, thank you that you created the world, and I am part of that creation. Thank you also that you have given me Jesus Christ as the creator and sustainer of this world and also that he is died for me due to my sin, which separated me from you God. Thanks, that Jesus died on the Cross to take my sins forever away from me and that Jesus was buried for three days and then rose from the dead and is alive forevermore and will give me eternal life. Amen.'

The doctor told Mr. and Mrs. Wang that if they believe this prayer, they are now new believers in Jesus Christ. Further, they will have eternal life. Mr. and Mrs. Wang believed this prayer and were so joyful that they now have a new life in Christ and were so excited that they would never die due to their faith in Jesus Christ.