

## THE CHRISTIAN RESPONSE TO THE CORONAVIRUS

by Reverend Dr. RB Holmes, Pastor Bethel Missionary Baptist Church April 10, 2020

"God Cares for Us"

Today is Good Friday. Several thousand years ago, Jesus marched up to Calvary's cross to demonstrate how much He loves us. He suffered, bled and died for our sins. "But God demonstrates His love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." (Romans 5:8) That's love; that's Agape love; that's Amazing Grace! That's mercy and compassion! I told you in our devotional yesterday that Jesus is the Good Shepherd. Jesus has proven to us how much He loves us by dying in our place. "All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned everyone to his own way; and the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all." (Isaiah 53: 6)

If we were to really be still and think about the cross of Jesus, dying for our sins, I think we would not live with so much fear and doubt. Jesus paid for our sins, our fears, our reservations, our temptations and our problems. *God cares for us. He knows our nature. He knows our needs.* 

David was able to say in Psalm 23:1, "The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want." God cares for us. He knows our names: "To him the porter openeth; and the sheep hear his voice: and he calleth his own sheep by name, and leadeth them out." (St. John 10: 3) He knew His disciples by their names. He called Zacchaeus by name. When He called Mary in the garden, she recognized her shepherd. "Jesus saith unto her, Mary. She turned herself, and saith unto him, Rabboni, which is to say, Master." (St. John 20:16)

During this coronavirus chaos, turn yourself to the living Christ and you will discover anew that God cares for you. I want you to be able to say "The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want." Pray for me. I will discuss with you tomorrow about how this shepherd knows your nature and your needs. Remember, **God is all-knowing!** Amen.