

Pessimist, optimist or realist?

April 16, 2020, over two million infected with Covid-19 and close to 150,000 deaths. What has the future in store for us?

The pessimist ... says: « *It is going to get worse, we will lose all our liberties and most of us will die.* » That most of us will die is not entirely false but it won't be from Covid-19! This kind of discourse has few followers.

The optimist: In the province where we live the slogan « *It is going to be alright* » has been adopted, being confident that in a short while things will improve with these difficulties behind us. Some even think that things will get back to what they were before. It is an encouraging proposition compared to the one above but most likely improbable.

The realist: The effect of the virus will diminish in time and we will adapt to its presence with vaccines and preventative measures applied widely. The world economies will slowly recover. We will also experience increased taxing to compensate for the extra large financial burden accumulated in the economic rescue operations. We will see restrictions of new projects and postponements of many developments.

Setting the current pandemic aside, the pessimist is right when he says most of us will die for *it is appointed unto men once to die but after this the judgment* (Hebrews 9:27)! And also, surprisingly, that *we shall not all die* according to 1 Corinthians 15:51.

In the discourse of the optimist, there is also encouragement to be received, however, it will be for a later time. In effect, God has in store for this world a time of unsurpassed blessing when *the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord* (Habakkuk 2:14)). Yes, *it is going to be all right!* This age of blessing will be under the undisputed reign of the Son of God, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will be the absolute King and Lord over the whole earth. But before this can be, this poor world will pass through the unequalled judgments foretold in the Bible, the Word of God, all detailed in the book of Revelation. It will be a time of great distress and severe judgments that will find their end in the establishment of the sovereign rights of God over His creation. The Bible declares emphatically that there is salvation in no other than the Lord Jesus who, by his work on the cross, saves all those that put their trust in Him. Jesus Himself says: « *I am the Way the Truth and the Life, no man comes to the Father but by Me* » (John 14:6). It is extremely restrictive and limits to faith in this person alone, your part in these blessings and the eternal bliss to follow.

Let's be realistic, we are living through events that force us to notice how things can change completely in so little time. I hope you are conscious of the frailty of our systems. God who loves us and wants to bless us is taking this avenue today to reach us before the foretold calamities fall upon this world! Take notice also that the Lord Jesus will take those who trust in Him out of this scene before these sad events unfold. Finally, note that all this is absolutely true and a most solemn matter to be considered by any realistic person! My prayer is that you will!

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for Vision 2020

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