

So here's the rule for public speakers... and writers.

- Tell 'em what you're gonna tell 'em.
- Tell 'em.
- Tell 'em what you told 'em.

This way, there's no doubt as to what you're tryin' to tell 'em!

So here's what I'm gonna tell you.

Don't let them make us afraid of one another, especially in the Body of Christ.

Now I'm gonna tell you how they're doing that and warn you against falling for it.

Then, I'm gonna tell you again, not to let them make us afraid of one another, especially in the Body of Christ.

Ready?

I think the first thing is to realize that evil is. The second thing to realize is that evil is not stupid, just because it's evil. Part of evil's cleverness is in its *uncanny* ability to disguise itself as good.

I don't think it would take too much explanation for any of us to recognize that many things done ostensibly for "our good", wind up rather, being to our detriment. How is that some things which almost all would recognize as "good", could wind up being anything but good? Stop for a second, and consider whether or not the government "protecting" us from something, can ever wind up being a bad thing, ultimately. Is that too far fetched, or can you imagine it? Indeed, governments promise all the time that they can protect people from things from which they can never protect them, and those promises, empty since they were made, frequently result in burdensome regulation making it more difficult for many in the citizenry to provide for themselves!

In recent days, we are experiencing the government attempting to convince us that our best chance to stay healthy, is to follow their guidelines/recommendations/mandates. The premise under-girding this is that the government can in fact accomplish what it claims that it can, in this case, protecting the citizenry from an infectious outbreak of some newly discovered disease. The disease is caused by a virus, for which no known cure exists. WAIT! Before jumping to the conclusion to which many will jump, I mention that, because *there are no known cures for ANY virus*, no matter which one you name! Additionally, the promise of a soon-coming vaccine against the virus is another false promise, for viruses like cold, flu and the "new" one, can "change their coats", making it difficult for your immune system to recognize it and protect against it. That's why you can get more than one cold in your life, and more than one flu. The virus is tricky, and the vaccines, the flu shot for example, is based on last year's flu, which will likely provide no immunization against this year's newly "attired" flu virus. Flu shots are largely useless for this reason... though millions are convinced by their government officials, that we are protecting ourselves, and one another, by getting flu shots. In fact, right here in CT, as of this most recent 2020 legislative season, certain vaccines are being mandated in order that taxpayers may continue to receive the services for which their taxes are paying. Something about empty promises and good, protective ideas going bad, I shouldn't wonder... By the way, before getting off the subject of virus

and vaccines and going back to the principled discussion, know that Corona Virus is nothing new, has been known about for years; in fact a vaccine patent was applied for in 2015 and awarded in 2018. ¹

I needn't remind anyone that we contract viruses exclusively from one another. Unless you're in a situation where your eating bats, or sleeping with your farm animals (which is where these things come from in the first place, and usually from a very depressed area of the Orient) whom happen to be sick with a virus that has the unusual ability to jump species, a virus must be contracted from another human.

What does that mean? It means that extraordinary circumstances notwithstanding, protecting humans from getting a virus begins and ends with protecting humans from one another. Humans are thus required to see other humans as potential threats... threats not only to themselves, but threats to potentially compromised family members whose immune systems may not be as healthy as our own. Now what have we... we have people protecting themselves and their families, against their neighbors. Who more likely to step in – impartially of course – and provide the blind justice necessary for everyone to be treated fairly? And this becomes far easier when for decades, Americans have been being convinced that our government has the ability to keep us safe and protected. We have the privilege of being in CT, where the legislature has just mandated that we turn our safety and protection decisions over to the government, which has mandated medical treatments (vaccines) before citizens are allowed to receive public, taxpayer funded services. Oh boy...

Now let's think of this reality in the light of some contemporary, cultural phenomena, shall we?

Our politicians and media have been fomenting a *tribalism* in our nation that has resulted in what we now call “cancel culture”. We no longer disagree with our fellows, rather we ascribe their origins as being of another tribe, one incompatible with our own, and we *cancel* them. Any virtue that may have been ascribed to them is now rescinded, and they are canceled, ostracized, denigrated and avoided... they're dead to us, as we used to say back in the day. And now, not only do I want to avoid being infected with their virtue-less thinking, but they might actually cause me or a member of my family to get sick and die!

Yesterday we didn't like them. Today, they're an existential threat.

Christian Brother and Christian Sister, I urge you. Look out your front door. Consider your neighborhood and those in it. We all know those with whom we disagree politically, don't we? We know the *oddballs*,

¹ In 2015, a [patent was filed](#) by The Pirbright Institute for the live, attenuated coronavirus. The application claims that the new virus could be used to create a vaccine for treating or preventing respiratory viruses. The patent was awarded in 2018.

The Pirbright Institute is [funded](#) by the UK Department for Environment, Food, and Rural Affairs, the WHO, and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. All of these entities have been loud supporters of mandatory vaccinations and more government control based on “health concerns.”

don't we? Ask yourself. Are you afraid of them?

If they have a need, can God count upon you to minister to them? Can they climb into your car for a ride to the emergency room? Will you share your food, and maybe even your table with them? If you have two rolls of toilet paper left, can they have one?

This is our life, loved ones, healthy, sick or otherwise.

But somehow, the father of lies has managed to convince us that we can be protected from any dangers that may arise along the path of the life of faith. But God has not promised that we would be protected from the dangers encountered along the path of the life of faith. In fact, quite the contrary! *Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but Yahweh delivers him out of them all!* (Ps 34:19)

We ought to think long and hard before we listen to the “protective” voice of our government officials and avoid contact with those whom God might be calling us to love.

God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power, of love and of a sound mind. (2Tim 1:7)

We are not called to self-preservation, my beloved. We are called rather to self-sacrifice.

I am advocating neither foolhardiness nor recklessness. But know this...

The avoidance of contact with others is the avoidance of relationship. The avoidance of relationship is the avoidance of love. The avoidance of love is the avoidance of the Kingdom of God. The avoidance of the Kingdom of God is evil.

Heaven help us to remember that the Kingdom of God has come to this earth with love and the ministry of reconciliation. He has now given us that ministry of love and of reconciliation. (2Cor 5:17-20)

Love... Pastor