

Know the Lord Jesus for Yourself (March 29, 2020 by Rev. Anthony Menzel)

Before we get started, I am going to ask everyone to get oil...
If you have olive oil, that's best...
If you don't, vegetable oil is ok...
Also get a small dish...

While you are going to get the oil and the dish, I am going to go over instructions for worshipping the Lord Jesus with our tithes and offerings again...

If you want to give an offering but are having trouble, then please make a comment on this video...

Last week I tried to read through every comment made on the video for last week's sermon, and there were over 300 comments...

I intend to do the same this week...

I intend to read through all of the comments...

***Now when we are able to meet in person, the leaders of the church and I are able to anoint you with oil...

Now we cannot physically do so...

So I want you to take a little bit of the oil that you just got, and I want you to pour a little bit of the oil in the dish...

Last week I said to prepare yourself to battle this attack of the coronavirus by repenting and anointing your main entrance with oil as a sign to the Lord Jesus so that He would have this plague pass over your house...

I also mentioned anointing yourself as the temple of the Holy Spirit so that this plague would pass over you...

After service, you can anoint your main entrance...

Right now I want you to anoint yourself...

Please put your index finger in the oil, and draw a cross on your forehead...

The oil represents the Holy Spirit, the Third Person of the Holy Trinity...
Thus, the oil represents the Presence of God and His anointing...

Scripture 1: Isaiah 10:24-27

²⁴ Therefore thus says the Lord GOD of hosts: “O My people, who dwell in Zion, do not be afraid of the Assyrian. He shall strike you with a rod and lift up his staff against you, in the manner of Egypt. ²⁵ For yet a very little while and the indignation will cease, as will My anger in their destruction.” ²⁶ And the LORD of hosts will [f] stir up a scourge for him like the slaughter of Midian at the rock of Oreb; as His rod was on the sea, so will He lift it up in the manner of Egypt.

²⁷ It shall come to pass in that day
That his burden will be taken away from your shoulder,
And his yoke from your neck,
And the yoke will be destroyed because of the anointing oil.

Let us pray to the Father in the name of the Lord Jesus to have the Holy Spirit protect each of us from the plague of the coronavirus...

- 2) Remember that anointing yourself and others around you is very important...
Church leaders may not be able to do this for you for a while...
So you are going to have to do this yourself...

Scripture 2: James 5:14-18

¹⁴ Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. ¹⁵ And the prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. ¹⁶ [f] Confess *your* trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, [k] fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much. ¹⁷ Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed earnestly that it would not rain; and it did not rain on the land for three years and six months. ¹⁸ And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth produced its fruit.

It is great when a leader can pray for you...
We can still pray over the phone or via Internet...
However, you may have to anoint yourself and those around you...

****This point of remembering that you can and should anoint yourself and those around you with oil at times brings me to the main point of this message...

It is very important that you know the Lord Jesus for yourself...

Scripture 3: Acts 19:13-17

¹³ Then some of the itinerant Jewish exorcists took it upon themselves to call the name of the Lord Jesus over those who had evil spirits, saying, ^[a]“We ^[b]exorcise you by the Jesus whom Paul preaches.” ¹⁴ Also there were seven sons of Sceva, a Jewish chief priest, who did so.

¹⁵ And the evil spirit answered and said, “Jesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are you?”

¹⁶ Then the man in whom the evil spirit was leaped on them, ^[c]overpowered them, and prevailed against ^[d]them, so that they fled out of that house naked and wounded. ¹⁷ This became known both to all Jews and Greeks dwelling in Ephesus; and fear fell on them all, and the name of the Lord Jesus was magnified.

In order for your faith to be effective, you have to have a direct relationship with the Lord Jesus...

You yourself have to believe in Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior

Scripture 4: John 14:6

⁶ Jesus said to him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

In order for the Lord Jesus to use you, you yourself also have to keep yourself clean before Him by walking in repentance...

Scripture 5: 1 John 1:9-10

⁹ If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰ If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us.

When you believe in the Lord Jesus and walk in repentance, then you do not have to be afraid...

Scripture 6: Matthew 28:18-20

¹⁸ And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. ¹⁹ Go ^[c]therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, *even* to the end of the age." ^[d]Amen.

***In these times, it is especially important for each of us to know the Lord Jesus for ourselves...

Right now we cannot meet in person...

A time may come when the Internet also fails...

I want to share about a video I heard this week that really made me think...

The Corona virus started attacking two weeks after China and the U.S. signed a trade deal that was favorable to the U.S., something that the Chinese government did not like...

I know that the Lord Jesus loves everyone, including the Chinese...

I also have many wonderful Christian brothers and sisters in China...

Many of them are more devoted to Christ than Christians in the U.S. because they have to live for the Lord Jesus under persecution...

However, the Chinese government is a Communist dictatorship that does not care about its people...

Sunday school is illegal in China; it is illegal to teach young people under 18 about the Lord Jesus...

Churches are often bulldozed in China...

Church leaders are sent to prison...

The Chinese government murders its own people all the time...

The death of several thousand is nothing to a government that tries to force women to abort their babies to keep the population down, in an effort to have each couple have only one child...

There have even been reports that additional children are murdered when they are born and that women who have an additional child have been forced to have hysterectomies...

I believe that the Corona virus is an act of bioterrorism by the Chinese government...

That is why China's economy has been less affected than Western economies...

In fact, an article from March 14 in *The Economist*, a scholarly journal about economics, shows that the best stock market in the world is currently the Chinese stock market...

If anyone wants a copy of this article, please add a comment to this message...

China has started going back to work...

Do I believe that coronavirus is under control in China?

I think the Chinese press could be lying because it is controlled by the Chinese government...

If it is so well controlled, in a country with so many people and in many cases, poor hygienic conditions, then it seems likely to me that coronavirus was engineered by the Chinese government...

All kinds of potentially dangerous biological research goes on in facilities around the world...

When I worked at Rutgers-Newark in the Chemistry Department, the floors with certain biological research had special security measures in place...I could go to the Chemistry floors, but I could not access the floors where this biological research was being conducted...

Moreover, very specialized safety training is required for biological research, even more so than chemistry research...

It would be very possible that a Communist dictatorship like the Chinese government would be researching ways to conduct bioterrorism against its rivals like the U.S....

I do not have proof that the Chinese government attacked us with the coronavirus...

Again, I do not say this to be racist against Chinese people...

We must love the Chinese just like we love everyone...

However, I am speaking of the Chinese government...

It is possible that the Chinese government attacked us with this virus...

If they attacked us with this virus, they can also attack the Internet...

Therefore, the Internet and technology may also go down at some point...
If that happens, we have to learn how to hear from the Lord Jesus without listening to a sermon...

I urge all of you to participate in our weekly Bible study...

I can have 100 connections for free...

Why is this Bible study so important?

Because I am not just giving you fish; I am teaching you how to fish...

That ability is what we are developing in our Friday night Bible study...

Now that the Bible study is done via Internet, you do not have to be someone who has attended Abundant Love in the past in order to attend the Bible study...

You can attend even if you are in another country or county...

If we end up with too many people, then we may have to divide the group because it is an interactive study...

It is not me preaching a message but me facilitating people learning about the Word of God so that you are prepared to hear from God on your own...

That is very important...

We should accept no message, no matter how beautiful or inspiring, unless we measure it against the Bible...

Scripture 7: Acts 17:10-12

¹⁰ Then the brethren immediately sent Paul and Silas away by night to Berea. When they arrived, they went into the synagogue of the Jews. ¹¹ These were more dfair-minded than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily *to find out* whether these things were so. ¹² Therefore many of them believed, and also not a few of the Greeks, prominent women as well as men.

****Whether coronavirus is an attack by a foreign government or simply an attack of the devil, we have to be more serious than ever about the Lord... We have to realize that as devoted Christians, we are the only thing that is holding the enemy back from destroying democratic nations and us as individuals...

However, God is not going to bless America if we do not bless the Lord Jesus...

Scripture 8: Psalm 33:12-22

Blessed *is* the nation whose God *is* the LORD,
The people He has chosen as His own inheritance.

¹³ The LORD looks from heaven;
He sees all the sons of men.
¹⁴ From the place of His dwelling He looks
On all the inhabitants of the earth;
¹⁵ He fashions their hearts individually;
He [c]considers all their works.
¹⁶ No king *is* saved by the multitude of an army;
A mighty man is not delivered by great strength.
¹⁷ A horse *is* a [d]vain hope for safety;
Neither shall it deliver *any* by its great strength.
¹⁸ Behold, the eye of the LORD *is* on those who fear Him,
On those who hope in His mercy,
¹⁹ To deliver their soul from death,
And to keep them alive in famine.
²⁰ Our soul waits for the LORD;
He *is* our help and our shield.
²¹ For our heart shall rejoice in Him,
Because we have trusted in His holy name.
²² Let Your mercy, O LORD, be upon us,
Just as we hope in You.

If we want to keep God's blessing over the U.S. and our countries of origin, then we have be serious about the Lord Jesus not only during this crisis, but we have to stay serious about Him until He takes us home...

Before we take up our tithes and offering, let us pray for the U.S. and our countries of origin, keeping in mind the following scripture:

Scripture 9: 1 Timothy 2:1-7

Therefore I [a]exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, *and* giving of thanks be made for all men, ² for kings and all who are in [b]authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and [c]reverence. ³ For this *is* good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, ⁴ who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. ⁵ For *there is* one God and one Mediator between God and men, *the* Man Christ Jesus, ⁶ who gave Himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time, ⁷ for which I was appointed a preacher and an apostle—I am speaking the truth [d]in Christ *and* not lying—a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.