

# Eye on the World

## March 14, 2020

This compilation of material for "Eye on the World" is presented as a service to the Churches of God. The views stated in the material are those of the writers or sources quoted by the writers, and do not necessarily reflect the views of the members of the Church of God Big Sandy. The following articles were posted at churchofgodbigandy.com for the weekend of March 14, 2020.

**Compiled by Dave Havir**

**Luke 21:34-36**—"But take heed to yourselves, lest your souls be weighed down with self-indulgence, and drunkenness, or the anxieties of this life, and that day come on you suddenly, like a falling trap; for it will come on all dwellers on the face of the whole earth. But beware of slumbering; and every moment pray that you may be fully strengthened to escape from all these coming evils, and to take your stand in the presence of the Son of Man" (Weymouth New Testament).



An article by Uwagbale Edward-Ekpu titled "Nigeria Is Already Dealing With a Deadlier Viral Outbreak Than the Coronavirus Epidemic" was posted at qz.com on March 8, 2020. Following is the article.

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The detection of Covid-19 coronavirus in Nigeria raised early concerns about the country's capacity to handle a major epidemic but so far local public health officials have been commended for handling the outbreak with aplomb.

But the coronavirus is not the only viral outbreak in Africa's most populous country. Nigeria is currently dealing with what is turning out to be the world's largest epidemic of Lassa fever, a viral disease deadlier than coronavirus.

Lassa fever is a severe viral hemorrhagic fever (VHF) like Ebola and Marburg that occurs throughout the year in Nigeria and was declared an "active outbreak" by the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) five weeks into 2020. The epidemic which occurs during the annual dry season (roughly November through March) has spread across half the country.

The Lassa fever virus is transmitted to humans through contact with food or household items contaminated with urine and feces of a rat. It's also known

to spread from person-to-person through contact with the body fluids and organs of infected persons, which has resulted in healthcare workers easily getting infected; some have died.

The epidemic, whose rapid escalation started right from the second week of the year, had by the end of the ninth week seen 774 cases and 132 deaths spread across 26 of Nigeria's 36 states and the federal capital territory.

### **Troubling trends**

In the past five years, there have been four epidemics—all having over 59% of total cases—in the first quarter of the year. In just nine weeks into 2020 Lassa fever cases are already 96% of total cases in 2019, the year with the largest Lassa epidemic with 810 cases and 167 deaths.

As recently as 2015, the total number of cases was 64. This trend does not only suggest that the current epidemic will likely surpass that of 2019, but it also suggests a longer lasting and more devastating epidemic.

Arenaviruses, which include the Lassa virus, are disproportionately prone to genetic mutations and have a propensity for spread if not adequately controlled, says Dr Olubusuyi Moses Adewumi, a specialist in arenaviruses and virologist at the College of Medicine, University of Ibadan in southwest Nigeria.

Dr. Adewumi blames the rapid increase of the epidemic each year on the lack of an effective surveillance system in place to identify and monitor the circulation of the virus in the country via rodents and other animals.

"In our environment, the vectors continue to have the opportunity to interact with the human population and consequently spread the virus unchecked," he explains.

Lassa fever is known to have a high mortality rate with Case Fatality Ratio (CFR) as high as 23% recorded for the first quarter of 2019—far deadlier than the Covid-19 coronavirus which currently has an estimated CFR of 2%.

Before the emergence of the new coronavirus, the NCDC has been focused mainly on Lassa fever. However, tweets from the NCDC's twitter handle suggests recent online publicity is focused more on the coronavirus epidemic despite the reports of an unprecedented Lassa fever epidemic in the country.

"The international health agency and media deserve to give more attention to coronavirus considering its propensity for a pandemic," says Dr. Adewumi. "LFV is our local problem in this part of the continent, hence, it is our responsibility to ensure the epidemic is controlled," he said.



An article titled "Volunteers Offered \$4,500 to Be Infected With Coronavirus in Bid to Find Vaccine" was posted at winknews.com on March 11, 2020. Following is the article.

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In the race to develop a vaccine for the rapidly-spreading coronavirus, scientists in Great Britain are looking for 24 brave volunteers.

Hvivo, which owns the Queen Mary BioEnterprises Innovation Centre in east London, is looking for volunteers willing to be injected with the 0C43 and 229E strains of the coronavirus as part of research into the development of a vaccine.

These strains are far less serious than the COVID-19 strain currently spreading across the world, giving them similar respiratory symptoms.

Volunteers selected for the program will be compensated to the tune of £3,500, or about \$4,500, according to *the Daily Star* and *the Daily Mail*.

Volunteers will be kept in isolation and on a restricted diet for two weeks with no exercise or physical contact with any other person.

Hvivo's plans still need to be approved by the UK's Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency before any testing can begin.

If you're interested in participating, visit Hvivo's website at [FluCamp.com](http://FluCamp.com).

Researchers in Seattle have also begun recruiting healthy volunteers to participate in a clinical trial for a vaccine developed by the biotechnology company Modern Therapeutics, according to *The Wall Street Journal*.

The vaccine trial is expected to launch by the end of April and will take 14 months but volunteers don't need to be quarantined. They will receive up to \$1,100 in total.

Health experts have warned that a vaccine is unlikely to be approved in time to halt the current coronavirus outbreak.



An article by Pat Buchanan titled "Is This How Europe Ends?" was posted at [townhall.com](http://townhall.com) on March 10, 2020. Following is the article.

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"Fortress Europe is an illusion."

So declares *the Financial Times* in the closing line of its Saturday editorial: "Europe Cannot Ignore Syrian Migrant Crisis."

The FT undertakes to instruct the Old Continent on what its duty is and what its future holds: "The EU will face flows of migrants and asylum seekers across the Mediterranean for decades to come."

Can Europe not repel this unwanted home invasion from the Global South?

It is “delusional” to think so, says the FT. Europe must be realistic and set about “providing legal routes for migrants and asylum seekers.”

What occasioned the editorial was Greece’s rough resistance to Turkish President Erdogan’s funneling of thousands of Syrian refugees, who had fled into Turkey, right up to the border with Greece.

Erdogan is threatening to inundate southeastern Europe with Syrian refugees to extract more money from the EU in return for keeping the 3.5 million Syrians already in Turkey away from EU frontiers.

Another Erdogan objective is to coerce Europe into backing his military intervention in Syria to prevent President Bashar Assad from capturing all of Idlib province and emerging victorious in his civil war.

In the human rights hellhole that is Syria today, we may see the dimensions of the disaster wrought when Wilsonian crusaders set out to depose the dictator Assad and make Syria safe for democracy.

A brief history.

When the Arab Spring erupted and protesters arose to oust Assad, the U.S., Turkey and the Gulf Arabs aided and equipped Syrian rebels willing to take up arms. The “good rebels,” however, were routed and elements of al-Qaida soon assumed dominance of the resistance.

Facing defeat, Syria’s president put out a call to his allies—Russia, Iran, Hezbollah—to save his regime. They responded, and Assad, over four years, recaptured all of Syria west of the Euphrates, save Idlib.

There, the latest fighting has pushed 900,000 more refugees to Turkey’s southern border.

The 21st-century interventions and wars of the West in the Islamic world have not gone well.

- George W. Bush was goaded into invading Iraq.
- Barack Obama was persuaded to overthrow Colonel Moammar Gadhafi in Libya and the Assad regime in Damascus.
- Obama ordered U.S. forces to assist Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman in his war to crush Houthi rebels who had ousted Riyadh’s resident puppet in Yemen.

And what has the West reaped from our Mideast wars?

In Syria and Yemen, we have helped to create two of the world’s greatest human rights disasters. In Libya, we have a new civil war. In Iraq, we now battle Iran for influence inside a nation we “liberated” in 2003.

In Afghanistan, we have concluded a deal with our enemy of two decades, the Taliban, that will enable us to pull our 12,000 troops out of the country in 14 months and let our Afghan allies work it out, or fight it out, with the Taliban. America is washing its hands of its longest war.

In five wars over 20 years, we lost 7,000 soldiers with some 40,000 wounded. We plunged the wealth of an empire into these wars.

And what did these wars produce for the peoples we went to aid and uplift, besides hundreds of thousands of dead Afghans and Arabs and millions of people uprooted from their homes and driven into exile?

Now, Europe is being admonished by the FT that, having done its duty by plunging into the Mideast, the continent has a new moral duty to take in the refugees the wars created, for decades to come.

But if the EU opens its doors to an endless stream of Africans and Arabs, where is the evidence that European nations will accept and assimilate them?

Will these migrants and asylum seekers become good Europeans?

Or will they create in the great cities of Europe enclaves that replicate the conditions in the African and Middle East countries whence they came?

The history of the last half millennium tells the story of the rise and fall of a civilization.

In the 16th, 17th and 18th centuries, Spain, Britain, France and Portugal, and then Belgium, Italy, Germany and America, all believing in the superiority of their civilization, went out into the world to create empires to uplift and rule what Rudyard Kipling derisively called "the lesser breeds without the law."

After two world wars, the rulers of these empires embraced a liberalism that now proclaimed the equality of all peoples, races, creeds, cultures and civilizations. This egalitarian ideology mandated the dismantling of empires and colonies as the reactionary relics of a benighted time.

Now the peoples of the new nations, dissatisfied with what their liberated lands and rulers have produced, have decided to come to Europe to enjoy in the West what they cannot replicate at home.

And liberalism, the ideology of Western suicide, dictates to Europe that it take them in—for decades to come.

The colonizers of yesterday are becoming the colonized of tomorrow. Is this how the West ends?



"Eye on the World" comment: The following list of articles consists of headlines of extra articles, which are considered international. The articles were not posted, but the headlines give the essence of the story.

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■ An article by Brian Sozzi titled "Saudi Arabia Triggers An Oil Price Crash—Goldman Sachs Warns \$20 Oil Is Possible" was posted at yahoo.com on March 8, 2020.

- An article by Mark DeCambre titled “Oil Plunges 25% and Investors Brace for a Race to the Bottom, As An All-Out OPEC ‘Price War’ Erupts Between Saudi Arabia and Russia” was posted at marketwatch.com on March 8, 2020.
- An article by Rosie Perper and Bill Bostock titled “Oil Is Down 21% After It’s Biggest Drop in Decades Following Saudi Price Cuts That Sparked a Race to the Bottom With Russia” was posted at businessinsider.com on March 9, 2020.
- An article by Aya Batrawy titled “Saudi, UAE Economies Rocked by Plunging Oil Prices and Virus” was posted at apnews.com on March 11, 2020.
- An article by Jimmy Nsubuge titled “Coronavirus: Italy Closes All Schools and Universities Until Mid-March” was posted at yahoo.com on March 4, 2020.
- An article by Holly Ellyatt titled “Italy to Close All Schools and Universities Through March 15 As Coronavirus Death Toll Rises” was posted at cnbc.com on March 4, 2020.
- An article titled “Coronavirus: Up to 70% of Germany Could Become Infected—Merkel” was posted at bbc.com on March 11, 2020.
- An article by Christopher Woody titled “Drones Are Dropping Bombs on US Troops in Syria, And It’s Not Clear Who’s Doing It” was posted at businessinsider.com on March 10, 2020.
- A Reuters article titled “Turkey’s Erdogan Threatens Retaliation If Syria Truce Is Broken” was posted at reuters.com on March 11, 2020.
- An article by Aron Heller titled “Israeli Court Rejects Netanyahu Request to Delay Trial” was posted at apnews.com on March 10, 2020.



An article by Matt Pinsker titled “Our Southern Border is the Polar Opposite of a Quarantine” was posted at townhall.com on March 9, 2020. Following is the article

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One day in the courtroom, while serving as a special prosecutor on the American/Mexican border, I noticed a strange statistical oddity: 100 percent of all the defendants were men.

I queried the US Marshals and was advised that the women’s sector at the detention facility was under strict quarantine because of a chickenpox outbreak. Border Patrol and ICE were working diligently to keep the outbreak under control and provide emergency medical care to the sick, striving to prevent the disease from reaching the greater American public.

We were extremely lucky with the chickenpox outbreak (and incidentally, Border Patrol and ICE—the twin whipping boys of the far-left—deserve an

enormous debt of gratitude for protecting all of us from vast numbers of dangerous diseases, often at great personal risk).

But in an era where a global coronavirus pandemic seems increasingly probable, it's critically important to note that the true "statistical oddity" that day in the courtroom wasn't the gender of the defendants, but the fact that we caught them in the first place. Of every 10 people who cross the border illegally, only three will ever be caught.

It was either the grace of God—or a lucky roll of the dice—that we prevented a larger outbreak. With tens of millions of undocumented migrants spreading all across America, and large communities of "anti-vaxxers" who eschew modern vaccinations, it wouldn't take much for this powder keg to ignite.

There is a health crisis at the border. Unfortunately, we don't know how bad it is, because we have absolutely no idea who is coming and going—or where they're going to go once they get here.

It's the polar opposite of a quarantine.

Of the thousands of migrants who illegally cross the border into the US each day, many carry third-world diseases, parasites, and other deadly contagions.

Sometimes in the courtroom, we'd see defendants with clearly-visible skin conditions. Often, the detainees were wearing masks while coughing blood.

This was especially true of the Bangladeshi migrants, of whom we were catching about 20 to 30 per week (Bangladesh has one of the world's highest rates of tuberculosis).

As a special prosecutor, I had access to defendants' files, and contagious diseases and parasites were commonplace. Sometimes at the courthouse, an unknown medical condition would emerge, and instead of going forward on the charges, we would transport the illegal alien directly to the hospital for emergency treatment instead.

I always shake hands with prosecutors and defendants in my home state of Virginia. But while working on the border, I learned to avoid physical contact for my own health and safety—and for the health and safety of others. After court each morning (or, sometimes, in between dockets), we would scrub our hands with soap and antibacterial/viral spray.

It's chillingly foreboding, but we were basically taking the exact same precautions that the CDC is now telling us all to take for the coronavirus.

That's because life on the border is like always living in the crosshairs of a potential pandemic. All the ingredients are right there: cramped conditions, diseases, zero oversight. It will only take one spark. And when that spark ignites, thousands (or more) Americans will die.

What happens at the border will eventually happen everywhere. That's how pandemics work; it's literally what "going viral" means.

A secure border is at the heart of our nation's health. The proposals of Bernie Sanders and the "open borders" politicians are sowing the seeds of the next pandemic. It's not a question of if, but when—and how many.



An article by Julio Rosas titled "Donald Trump Jr. Issues a Direct Challenge to Hunter Biden" was posted at townhall.com on March 9, 2020. Following is the article.

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Donald Trump Jr., son of President Trump, said he would be more than willing to debate Hunter Biden, son of former Vice President Joe Biden, on the difference of themselves personally benefiting from their fathers being in political office.

Trump Jr. issued the challenge while speaking with Axios and also announced he would release his tax returns if Biden would do the same.

"I was an international businessperson before my father got into politics. That's what we did. I'm not going to say I haven't benefited from my father's last name, just like Hunter Biden did, I'd be foolish to say that," Trump said.

"I haven't benefited from my father's taxpayer funded office," Trump Jr. asserted. "Hunter Biden, his father becomes VP, all of a sudden he goes over to the Ukraine and he's making \$83,000 a month."

Trump Jr. said the Trump Organization stopped doing any new international business deals when Trump won the presidency. He noted that he has done paid speeches for over a decade and he stopped accepting invitations to paid speaking events in other countries.

"I'd 100% debate [Hunter Biden]. Let's talk about who profited off of whose public service. Let's make it happen."

Biden is currently living in a 2,000-square-foot house in Hollywood Hills of Los Angeles where, according to a recent *New York Times* profile, his new hobby of painting "is literally keeping me sane."

Biden's position on the board of Ukrainian gas company Burisma when his father was vice president was what sparked the impeachment of Trump after he asked the country to investigate allegations of corruption while discussing military aid.

While Trump was impeached by Democrats in the House, Senate Republicans acquitted him on abuse of power and obstruction of Congress.



An article by John Stossel titled "Government Outlaws Freelance Work" was posted at townhall.com on March 11, 2020. Following is the article.

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Freelance jobs are "feudalism," says California Assemblywoman Lorena Gonzalez. She persuaded California's legislature to pass a new law reclassifying freelance workers as employees. That means many people who hire them must now give them benefits like overtime, unemployment insurance, etc. Politicians said it would help freelancers a lot.

Of course, much of the media agreed. Vox called it "a victory for workers everywhere"!

Sigh. Young reporters just don't understand that stifling economic freedom always creates nasty side effects.

Actually, more understand now, because they got a very personal lesson. Once the bill passed, Vox media cut hundreds of freelance writing jobs.

When Gonzalez was asked if she felt bad about that, she sneered, those weren't "real jobs."

The arrogance of politicians! People choose jobs. Freelancers like flexibility. Politicians have no right to say certain jobs aren't good enough.

"You're thinking you're helping us, but you're not," says musician Ari Herstand in my new video. He says the anti gig-work law could "crash the California music economy."

Why? Before the law passed, if he played a gig where he'd hire a drummer, bassist and guitar player, "I just cut (each) a check for \$200. Now, I have to take that drummer, put him on payroll, W2 him, get workers' comp insurance, unemployment insurance. I have to pay payroll taxes. I also have to now hire a payroll company."

All to hire musicians for one just night. The paperwork alone might cost more than the music.

The anti-gig-work law originally targeted rideshare companies like Uber and Lyft, because unions claimed the companies abuse drivers.

But now many rideshare drivers are upset because the law takes away their freedom.

"I liked being independent!" said one. "I don't want a boss to tell me when or where to drive."

Herstand says Uber and Lyft drivers would often tell him: "I'm a photographer and this is my fourth side gig. I want to do this when I want to do this,

and if now I'm an employee, and I'm W2'd, they're going to dictate my hours. I don't want that. (The law is) preventing us from doing what we want to do."

The law upset independent truck drivers, too. After some nosily drove big rigs in front of the legislature, they got an exemption from the law. Other political-ly connected professions, like lawyers and realtors, got exemptions as well.

Now Herstand's working on getting an exemption for musicians, too.

"Why is that good law?" I asked him. "An exception for whoever is clever enough to get to the politicians?"

"It's definitely not the solution," laughed Herstand. "'Write us out of this law and help us out? Here's money for your next campaign.' No, that doesn't seem like that's a way to legislate."

But that's how it's often done. The more rules politicians pass, the more money they extract from people who are regulated.

Now other politicians want to copy California's law. New York, New Jersey and Illinois have their own versions of gig economy bills. The House of Representatives wants to nationalize the law. And, this week, Democratic front-runner Joe Biden cluelessly said such a law "will give workers the dignity they deserve."

Democrats do what unions ask them to do. Politico points out that just a few years ago, New York Governor Andrew Cuomo called gig work "a great service for people, giving people jobs. I don't think government should be in the business of trying to restrict job growth." He even joked that Uber drivers might earn more than he does.

But now he wants to outlaw most gig work and calls it "exploitive, abusive!"

It's no surprise that Gonzalez's biggest political donors are unions. She talks a lot about "protecting our union jobs." But now that her bill is killing jobs, she wouldn't agree to an interview.

Neither would the California unions, or any of 75 law professors, political scientists, sociologists, etc., who published a letter in support of the law.

Yes, we contacted all 75.

Herstand says that's because the law now embarrasses its supporters, but politicians won't repeal it because "no politician ever wants to admit they did something wrong."



An article by Burt Prelutsky titled "China and Still More Calamities" was posted at patriotpost.us on March 7, 2020. Following are excerpts of the article.

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The Chinese Communists are so vile it is easy to think the worst about them, no matter how lacking in truth a rumor might be. So, is it possible that they spent weeks concealing the truth about the coronavirus from the rest of the world? Of course it's possible, even likely. Is it possible that the virus didn't simply spring up out of nowhere and that it had been developed and accidentally escaped from China's biological warfare center in Wuhan province? Of course it's possible.

In China's attempt to overtake the United States in every conceivable way, it is naïve to think there is anything they wouldn't be willing to do in order to achieve that goal.

With a population hovering around 1.3 billion people, if a pandemic broke out worldwide that cost them a million people, it would be a small price to pay if it also harmed their foes in the West.

Speaking of the West, the U.S. in particular, our elitists keep proving that there isn't anything they won't do so long as there is cash on the table.

#### ■ NBA groveled

We have already seen the NBA and the titans of the Silicon Valley grovel to remain on the good side of the Communist tyrants.

#### ■ Facebook, Google and others folded

Facebook, Google and the others, have done everything demanded of them, from refusing to divulge information to the U.S. government to creating electronic recognition systems that make it easier for Xi Jinping and his thuggish cronies to identify potential threats to their power. Or in other words, help them spot those seeking freedom before the gangsters have to deal with an uprising of the sort they faced in Tiananmen Square, in 1989.

#### ■ Grad student spying

Weeks ago, the dean of Harvard's Chemistry department was arrested for spying on behalf of China. A Chinese grad student was also arrested.

#### ■ Pharmaceutical surrender

Our pharmaceutical companies, faced with being undersold by the Chinese pharmaceutical companies, which are owned by their government, simply handed over the production of antibiotics, penicillin and generic drugs, to China

#### ■ Even weapons

The other day, it was announced on Tucker Carlson's show that a Chinese man named Yu Ben Mong whose job it is to oversee the California public pension fund for state employees has invested \$3.1 billion in Chinese companies, including those manufacturing weapons.

I used to think it was unwise to place people named Mohammad, Ahmad and Barack, in positions of influence and power, but now I'm thinking it might be an even worse idea to trust someone named Yu Ben Mong.

## ■ Coronavirus

Apparently in certain circles, the fear of contagion posed by the coronavirus is so great that people are no longer risking shaking hands or even high-fives. Instead, they're engaging in elbow bumps, which are exactly what they sound like.

Personally, I think an air kiss might be preferable. I may be overthinking it, but I would worry that someone is going to strike my funny bone and not in a good way. Or what if they miss the elbow entirely and crack a rib?

It's not just the pain, either, it's the embarrassment of explaining to the medic how you received the injury. "Well, see, doc, my friend and I were bumping elbows, as friends will do, and he missed."

## ■ Trump weakness—picking people

I've made no secret of the fact that I love everything that Trump has been doing for the past three years. I mean aside from the fact that he's made a habit of appointing a lot of inferior people to important positions. People like Rex Tillerson, Christopher Wray, Alexander Vindman, Omarosa, Reince Priebus, Anthony Scaramucci, Steve Bannon, Fiona Hill and John Bolton, should never have gotten within a mile of the White House.

If Trump had done an equally lousy job of vetting employees when he was overseeing his real estate empire, he might have wound up sleeping in a cardboard box in the Bronx.

## ■ Trump weakness—excessive tweeting

His other weakness is to tweet way too often and quite often when he should be catching up on his sleep.

When he tweeted about the unfairness of a partisan Justice Department suggesting that Roger Stone should be locked up for as much as nine years, he cut the legs off Attorney General William Barr, who was right to complain that the President was making it impossible for him to do his job.

It wouldn't have killed Trump to let the whole thing play out. If in spite of the fact that the foreperson on the jury was a woman who was a devout Never-Trumper who concealed that fact during voir dire, thus committing perjury, the judge had still gone ahead and imposed an overly harsh sentence on Stone, Trump had the constitutional authority to pardon his friend or at least shorten the length of his imprisonment.

Some people in his defense said that Trump has the same right as any American to voice an opinion, but he isn't just any American. It was my honest opinion, for instance, that Iranian general Soleimani had lived far too long, but it was that other American, the fellow in the Oval Office, who had the power to send in a drone and get it done.



An article by Burt Prelutsky titled "Clearing the Decks" was posted at patriotpост.us on March 9, 2020. Following are excerpts of the article.

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Every so often, my in-box becomes so crowded with memes I've printed out and little notes I've written to myself, I feel as if I'm being buried alive. This is one of those occasions when I either deal with it or risk dying in an avalanche of paper.

I'll kick things off by reporting that Australia's High Court recently got around to declaring that their Aborigines are citizens. I think it's long past time for our Supreme Court to determine the status of Democrats: Human or otherwise?

Speaking of foreign lands, I'm reminded that 50 years ago, when my first wife and I spent a week in Japan, we were having dinner one night with a Dutch couple who had been living there for several years. When I mentioned what a difficult time I had had trying to find a location in Tokyo, our host and his wife both nodded knowingly.

He explained that the Japanese were an extremely polite people. If you ask them for directions, they will offer them even if they have no idea where you want to go. The assumption is that once you arrive where they've sent you, there will be someone who can actually provide you with the information you need.

That distant memory rang a bell. It's the same process I experience every time I call for technical advice about my computer and am passed from one individual to another. Unfortunately, along the way I am often disconnected and have to start all over again.

It's the updated version of "you can't get there from here."

#### ■ Daily White House announcements

When I signed up for daily announcements from the White House, which is called West Wing Reads, I foolishly assumed I would be able to reply.

So when I read about a 92-year-old woman who was raped and murdered by a 21-year-old illegal in New York and the White House's objection to sanctuary cities, I wrote back: "My question is why President Trump refuses to have the sanctuary governors and mayors arrested by federal marshals. If he started with Bill De Blasio, Gavin Newsom and Gil Garcetti, it would send a strong message to all the others that they better start abiding by the law."

I was quickly notified that West Wing Reads doesn't accept email. That led me to address the following letter to 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue: "Dear Sir or Madam: When I receive an email, I assume I can reply. But apparently that is not the case with communiques from the White House. So I am sending you the email that was rejected. I hope someone who knows the answer to

my perfectly reasonable question will respond so I can share it with my subscribers who, I can assure you, have also been wondering why the scofflaws keep getting away with ignoring federal law. Regards, Burt Prelutsky”

### ■ Whoopi and Joy

Howard Last let me know that a friend of his wife’s finds it hysterically ironic that the two angriest people on TV are named Whoopi and Joy.

I’m kicking myself for not noticing that first.

### ■ Why didn’t he change religion?

I was reminded that some years ago, I wrote to a Muslim doctor who, because he opposed Islamic terrorism, kept popping up on Fox News as proof that not every Muslim was a blood-thirsty savage. I wrote to him to ask why he chose to remain in a religion for which he had to spend so much time apologizing. I was honestly curious why he didn’t simply adopt Christianity and be done with it. He didn’t bother getting back to me.

### ■ Why did he vote that way?

The next time I was moved to write to an individual to question his beliefs, it was Alan Dershowitz. He received a lot of attention because, in spite of being a liberal, he provided a legal defense of Donald Trump’s actions, declaring them unimpeachable.

My questions were, one, why he chose to vote for Hillary Clinton in 2016; and, two, considering how pro-Israel Trump has shown himself to be, whether he, Dershowitz, had experienced a change of heart over the past three years.

I kept hoping that someone at Fox would ask him those obvious questions, but they have all been too busy slobbering over him just because he stated the obvious—that the House had no basis for impeaching the President.

### ■ Helping a widow

Speaking of which, I received an email from a woman in Hawaii who recently lost her husband.

I offered her my condolences but decided that wasn’t enough. Having gone through a similar loss a year ago when my wife died, I decided to offer the following few words of advice: “I know exactly—I mean exactly—how you feel. After Yvonne died, I saw no end to all the things that needed to be done. I felt I was going insane and it had nothing to do with dealing with grief. Every time I turned around, there was something new to cope with—a funeral; a lawyer; a bank; getting death certificates; dealing with the accountant; Social Security and the IRS; selling her car; holding garage sales; etc., etc. They were all things I hated having to deal with and they all seemed to stretch out to infinity. I was drained. But

then one day, like a head cold that seems to linger on indefinitely but then, almost without your noticing that the sneezing and coughing is over, it ended.

"You'll make it, Linda. How do I know? Because I managed and nobody is less suited to dealing with practical details than I am."

#### ■ Treating Obama and Trump differently

Bob Hunt sent along a meme that pointed out that President Obama sent \$1.7 billion cash to our enemies in Iran with no one in Congress, the FBI or the Justice Department, calling for an investigation, but President Trump merely had a conversation with a foreign president and the Democrats tried to impeach him.

#### ■ Wanting the freebies

A friend wondered why so many young people are so enamored of Bernie Sanders, who is almost a caricature of a grumpy old fart. As close as I can figure, they seem to believe that Socialism represents 365 days of Christmas, an endless amount of freebies with no work involved and no strings attached.

They're no different from the saps in Russia, Germany, China, Cuba, North Korea, Cambodia and Venezuela, who also misinterpreted the actual meaning of Socialism when they decided to provide their own shackles, trusting that Lenin, Stalin, Hitler, Mao Tse-tung, Pol Pot, Kim Il-sung, Castro and Hugo Chavez, would all be the Santa Claus they all promised to be.

But, then, there are those who claim that even Santa uses slave labor, although I don't subscribe to the belief that just because the elves can't unionize makes them slaves.



"Eye on the World" comment: The following list of articles consists of headlines of extra articles, which involve the United States. The articles were not posted, but the headlines give the essence of the story.

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### **Deficit**

■ An article by Terence P. Jeffrey titled "Federal Taxes and Spending Set Records Through February" was posted at [cnsnews.com](http://cnsnews.com) on March 11, 2020.

### **Coronavirus fear and panic**

■ An article by David Albright and Issam Ahmed titled "'Don't Panic' Says US Woman Who Recovered From Coronavirus" was posted at [afp.com](http://afp.com) on March 12, 2020.

■ An article by Douglas MacKinnon titled "Can the Coronavirus-Panic-Creating-Media Be Sued for Closed Businesses and Lost Jobs?" was posted at [townhall.com](http://townhall.com) on March 7, 2020.

- An article by Tim Stickings titled "The Pope Urges Priests to Visit Coronavirus Sufferers As He Celebrates Mass in the Vatican Alone on Livestream Amid Italy's Lockdown" was posted at [dailymail.co.uk](http://dailymail.co.uk) on March 10, 2020.
- An article by Guy Benson titled "Important: How Coronavirus Is About to Get Much Worse in the US, And Why You Still Shouldn't Panic" was posted at [townhall.com](http://townhall.com) on March 12, 2020.
- An article by Sam Mintz titled "Travel Slump Worsens As Airlines Try to Blame Media" was posted at [politico.com](http://politico.com) on March 10, 2020.
- An article by Alison Sider titled "Airlines [American, Delta and United] Trim Capacity Over Coronavirus Spread; Some Executives Take Pay Cuts" was posted at [wsj.com](http://wsj.com) on March 10, 2020.
- An article by Mia Jankowicz titled "The Coronavirus Outbreak Has Prompted People Around the World to Panic Buy Toilet Paper" was posted at [businessinsider.com](http://businessinsider.com) on March 10, 2020.
- An article by Stefani Sassos titled "Being Prepared for the Coronavirus Does Not Mean Stockpiling or Hoarding Supplies" was posted at [goodhousekeeping.com](http://goodhousekeeping.com) on March 12, 2020.
- An article titled "Coronavirus Fears, Oil Price Plunge Send Copper to 3-Year Low" was posted at [yahoo.com](http://yahoo.com) on March 11, 2020.
- A Reuters article by Steve Holland and Liangoing Gao titled "Markets Suffer Record Meltdown As Global Coronavirus Alarm Grows" was posted at [reuters.com](http://reuters.com) on March 11, 2020.

## Finances

- An article by Emily McCormick titled "February Jobs Report: U.S. Adds a Whopping 273K Jobs, Unemployment Rate Unexpectedly Falls to 3.5%" was posted at [finance.yahoo.com](http://finance.yahoo.com) on March 6, 2020.
- An article by Yun Li titled "Dow Sinks 2,000 Points in Worst Day Since 2008; S&P 500 Drops More Than 7%" was posted at [cnbc.com](http://cnbc.com) on March 8, 2020.
- An article by Fred Imbert, Yun Li and Silvia Amaro titled "Dow Rallies More Than 1,100 Points in a Wild Session; Halves Losses From Monday's Sell-Off" was posted at [cnbc.com](http://cnbc.com) on March 9, 2020.
- A Reuters article by Herbert Lash and Marc Jones titled "Oil Jumps 10%, U.S. Stocks Rebound After Market Rout" was posted at [reuters.com](http://reuters.com) on March 9, 2020.
- An article by Geoffrey Smith titled "Stocks—Dow Falls 700 Points at Open on Stimulus Delay Concerns" was posted at [finance.yahoo.com](http://finance.yahoo.com) on March 11, 2020.
- An article by Emily McCormick titled "Stock Market News Live: Dow Drops 1,400 Points, Ending in Bear Market" was posted at [finance.yahoo.com](http://finance.yahoo.com) on March 11, 2020.

- An article by Jeff Lagerquist titled "Oil Companies Are Cutting Hundreds of Millions in Spending And Halting Shareholder Payouts" was posted at [finance.yahoo.com](http://finance.yahoo.com) on March 11, 2020.
- An article by Rupert Neate titled "Super-Rich Jet Off to Disaster Bunkers Amid Coronavirus Outbreak" was posted at [theguardian.com](http://theguardian.com) on March 11, 2020.
- An article titled "Californians Turn Down Higher Taxes, Debt" was posted at [apnews.com](http://apnews.com) on March 11, 2020.

### **Green New Deal**

- Looking back to July, an article by Adam Shaw titled "AOC's Top Aide Admits Green New Deal About the Economy, Not Climate" was posted at [foxnews.com](http://foxnews.com) on July 12, 2019.
- An article by Richard Rubin titled "Bernie Sander's Tax Plan Would Be Biggest Expansion of Taxation Since World War II" was posted at [wsj.com](http://wsj.com) on March 6, 2020.
- An article by Jon Levine titled "YouTube Socialist Carlos Maza Slams the Wealthy But Lived in Luxury" was posted at [nypost.com](http://nypost.com) on March 7, 2020.
- An article by David Harsanyi titled "Bernie: Real Socialism Has Never Been Tried" was posted at [nationalreview.com](http://nationalreview.com) on March 10, 2020.

### **Illegal immigration**

- An article by Bronson Stocking titled "AOC Wants Illegal Immigrants Filling Out Census Forms Now That Citizenship Question Isn't Asked" was posted at [townhall.com](http://townhall.com) on March 6, 2020.
- An article by Bronson Stocking titled "ICE Successfully Subpoenas Information Previously Blocked by California Sanctuary Law" was posted at [townhall.com](http://townhall.com) on March 7, 2020.
- An article by Stephen Dinan titled "ICE Director Says Deporting Illegals From Border Surge Would Take 140 Years" was posted at [washingtontimes.com](http://washingtontimes.com) on March 11, 2020.
- An article by Jack Montgomery titled "Pictures: Greek Border in Flames As Migrants Keep Trying to Break Through" was posted at [breitbart.com](http://breitbart.com) on March 7, 2020.

### **Comments about weapons**

- An article by Jane Morice titled "18 Shot, 1 Killed Following Fight Between Multiple Motorcycle Clubs on Cleveland's East Side" was posted at [cleveland.com](http://cleveland.com) on March 8, 2020.
- An article titled "San Gabriel Valley Gun Sales Soar Among Asian Americans Who Fear Coronavirus-Related Attacks" was posted at [cbslosangeles.com](http://cbslosangeles.com) on March 10, 2020.

## Comments about Trump support

- An article by Craig Bannister titled "Mark Levin: Schumer Should Be Disbarred, Admonished by Senate, Investigated by Ethics and DOJ" was posted at [cnsnews.com](https://www.cnsnews.com) on March 5, 2020.
- An article by Beth Baumann titled "Dan Crenshaw [of Texas] Calls Out Democrats for Their Blatant Lies About Coronavirus" was posted at [townhall.com](https://www.townhall.com) on March 7, 2020.
- An article by Edward Moreno titled "Feds Arrest Over 600 Alleged Mexican Cartel Members" was posted at [thehill.com](https://www.thehill.com) on March 11, 2020.
- An article by Ellie Bufkin titled "No, Joe Biden Is Not a 'Moderate' Democrat" was posted at [townhall.com](https://www.townhall.com) on March 11, 2020.

## Comments about Trump opposition

- An article by Carol E. Lee, Kristen Walker, Josh Lederman and Amanda Golden titled "Looking for Obama's Hidden Hand in Candidates Coalescing Around Biden" was posted at [nbcnews.com](https://www.nbcnews.com) on March 2, 2020.
- Looking back to February, an article by Madison Dibble titled "MSNBC Host [Chris Matthews] Presses Biden Campaign for Dodging Interviews: 'You've Been Hiding From Us' " was posted at [washingtonexaminer.com](https://www.washingtonexaminer.com) on Feb. 8, 2020.
- An article by Glenn Greenwald titled "Democrats and Their Media Allies Impugned Biden's Cognitive Fitness; Now They Feign Outrage" was posted at [theintercept.com](https://www.theintercept.com) on March 9, 2020.
- An article by Leah Barkoukis titled "Biden Forgets Obama's Name Again" was posted at [townhall.com](https://www.townhall.com) on March 9, 2020.
- An article by Cleve R. Wootson Jr. titled "The New Biden: Shorter Speeches (And Less Time for Gaffes)" was posted at [washingtonpost.com](https://www.washingtonpost.com) on March 9, 2020.
- An article by Joseph A. Wulfsohn titled "Bernie Sanders Supporters, Progressives Sound the Alarm on Biden's 'Cognitive Decline' " was posted at [foxnews.com](https://www.foxnews.com) on March 11, 2020.
- An article by Lorie Wimble titled "DNC Rushes Joe Biden Into Hiding: Sources" was posted at [noqreport.com](https://www.noqreport.com) on March 11, 2020.
- An article by Quint Forgey titled "[James] Clyburn [Black Democrat From South Carolina]: 'I'm Trying to Create a Surge on Behalf of Joe Biden' " was posted at [politico.com](https://www.politico.com) on Feb. 28, 2020.
- An article by Ken Meyer titled "James Carville Salutes James Clyburn After Biden's Success: 'Literally Saved the Democratic Party' " was posted at [mediaweek.com](https://www.mediaweek.com) on March 3, 2020.
- An article by Peggy Noonan titled "Jim Clyburn Saves the Democrats" was posted at [wsj.com](https://www.wsj.com) on March 5, 2020.

- An article by Suzanne Smalley titled “[James] Clyburn Says Biden Should Pick a Woman to Be His Running Mate” was posted at yahoo.com on March 5, 2020.
- An article by John Fund titled “If Biden’s the Nominee, Might He Pick Michelle Obama As His Vice President?” was posted at nationalreview.com on March 8, 2020.
- An article by Zachary Evans titled “[James] Clyburn Calls to Cancel Debates After Biden Victories: ‘Shut This Primary Down’ ” was posted at nationalreview.com on March 11, 2020.
- An article by Matt Vespa titled “Shut It Down: James Carville Says Democrats Should End Primaries After Biden’s Demolishing of Bernie” was posted at townhall.com on March 10, 2020.
- An article by Hannah Bleau titled “Marianne Williamson Slams Joe Biden’s Rise: ‘This Was Not a Resurrection, It Was a Coup’ ” was posted at Breitbart.com on March 3, 2020.
- An article by Armstrong Williams titled “Biden’s Super Tuesday Surprise Was No Groundswell: It Was a Corporate Merger” was posted at townhall.com on March 12, 2020.
- An article by Bronson Stocking titled “Jesse Jackson Endorses Bernie Sanders for President” was posted at townhall.com on March 8, 2020.
- An article by Sonam Sheth titled “Mike Bloomberg Is Rehiring Hundreds of Staffers in 6 Swing States to Help the Democratic Nominee Take on Trump in November” was posted at businessinsider.com on March 5, 2020.
- An article by Annie Goldsmith titled “Michael Bloomberg to Form a Super PAC to Support the Democratic Presidential Nominee” was posted at yahoo.com on March 6, 2020.

### **News about the media**

- An article by Bronson Stocking titled “MSNBC Giddy That Coronavirus ‘May Be Donald Trump’s Katrina’ ” was posted at townhall.com on March 6, 2020.
- An article by Julio Rosas titled “CNN’s Jim Acosta Accuses Trump of ‘Xenophobia’ for Pointing Out the Wuhan Virus Started in China” was posted at townhall.com on March 11, 2020.
- An article by Matt Vespa titled “CNN’s Don Lemon Had a Meltdown Because John Kasich Didn’t Bash Trump’s Wuhan Virus Speech” was posted at townhall.com on March 12, 2020.

### **General interest**

- A Reuters article by Maria Caspani titled “U.S. Coronavirus Threat Fuels Demand for Traditional Herbal Remedies” was posted at reuters.com on March 9, 2020.
- An article by Melanie Arter titled “Biden Wants Shelters to Provide Housing by Gender Identity, Not Biological Gender” was posted at cnsnews.com on March 6, 2020.

■ An article by Bill Bradley titled “Disney CEO Shuts Down Claim That LGBTQ Themes Hurt the Company” was posted at huffpost.com on March 11, 2020.



***Isaiah 55:6-11***—“Seek you the LORD while He may be found, call upon Him while He is near. Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, and He will have mercy on him; and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon. ‘For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways,’ says the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts. For as the rain comes down, and the snow from heaven, and do not return there, but water the earth, and make it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; it shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it.”