



East Gates

INTERNATIONAL

Seeing Beyond the Impossible™

March - April 2020

Dear East Gates partner,

This 2020 Passover and resurrection season will be especially meaningful as probably for the first time in modern history, most of the world will not be able to have community Passover Seders or sunrise services to celebrate the death and resurrection of our Savior.

There are many things we can learn from this unimaginable event and one thing is for sure, it makes us appreciate what it means to hug, bond, embrace and be in one's another's company without having to stand six feet apart. It reminds us of what the Apostle John wrote in **II John 1:12**, "Though I have many things to write to you, I do not want to do so with paper and ink; but I hope to come to you and speak face to face, so that your joy may be made full."

Today, most everyone is using online teleconferencing programs to conduct business, church services, prayer meetings and teach. East Gates is as well. We've been holding one-hour classes that address how we can sail through the present tempest in the same manner Jesus Christ took his disciples across the turbulent Sea of Galilee in **Luke 8:22-25**. Will we be like Yeshua (Jesus) or like His disciples? Given that Yeshua lives within us, will we have faith and rest in Him or be tossed to and fro by fear? Will we die or will we proclaim **Psalms 118:17** -- "I shall not die, but live, and declare the words and recount the illustrious acts of the Lord."

Another message we've been sharing is how Life is in the blood (**Lev.17:11**). God created blood so it could nourish and eliminate waste in our "temples." That's exactly what Yeshua our Savior did and continues to do. As the Bread of Life and Living Waters, He nourishes us completely and through His ultimate sacrifice, He cleansed and removed from us all of the toxins, poisons and impurities that create disease. Sin causes one's temple to be in a state of "dis-ease" or not in a state of being "at ease" or shalom -- whole, complete and at one with God.



The COVID-19 pandemic as it continues to spread around the world.



East Gates' online presentations during this time of quarantine and lock-down.



'FOR THE LIFE OF THE FLESH IS IN THE BLOOD, AND I HAVE GIVEN IT TO YOU ON THE ALTAR TO MAKE ATONEMENT FOR YOUR SOULS; FOR IT IS THE BLOOD BY REASON OF THE LIFE THAT MAKES ATONEMENT.' Leviticus 17:11

TO FREE US FROM THE ETERNAL PENALTY OF SIN REQUIRED AN UNFATHOMABLE COST.

Passover and resurrection season is a time of great reflection and celebration for our God who is ALIVE and has risen from the grave. The reflection comes in questions we need to meditate upon as His Bride.

- 1) Am I a better temple in which God can dwell and move and have His way this year than last year?
- 2) Do I love Him so much that I desire through the power of the Holy Spirit to work with Him versus against Him in the cleansing of my temple?
- 3) Am I allowing Him to make me in His image versus me creating Him in my own image?"

So as our King of Kings, who was also our suffering servant, gets ready to return, are we ready? Will we know Him? That is the question we ask ourselves and all those whom we serve in China and at home. Almost all religions view this time of the year as one of "spring cleaning" if you will. Repent, forgive, reconcile, pay alms and restore relationships. Get right with God by cleaning one's own home and one's temple.

That's exactly what Yeshua did just prior to Passover. He went into His Father's house and saw it was littered with "leaven" or moneychangers. So He cleaned house. In **Matthew 21:12-13** we read, "And Jesus entered the temple and drove out all those who were buying and selling in the temple, and overturned the tables of the money changers and the seats of those who were selling doves. And He said to them, 'It is written, 'My house shall be called a house of prayer, but you are making it a robbers' den.'" You can be sure that Yeshua made sure every speck of "leaven" was removed from His Father's house of worship and prayer! If Yeshua takes it this seriously, we must as well.

Given that during this 2020 Passover, resurrection season, the world's attention will be on the COVID-19 virus and the fact it has significantly hit every nation's socio-economic and geo-political stability, what are believers hearing from the Lord? Many are turning to **II Chronicles 7:13-14**. "If I shut up the heavens so that there is no rain, or if I command the locusts to devour the land, or if I send pestilence among My people, and My people who are called by My name **humble themselves** and **pray** and **seek My face** and **turn from their wicked ways**, then **I will hear** from heaven, will **forgive their sin** and will **heal their land**."



GOD'S BLOOD COVENANT WITH US

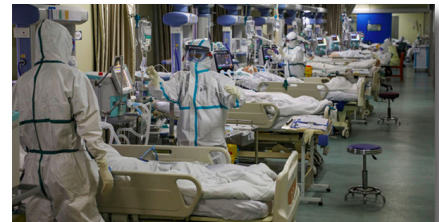
Before Yeshua's last Passover Seder with His disciples, He prophetically expressed, "This cup (vessel) which is poured out for you is the New Covenant in My blood." Luke 22:20



2019-2020 Australian fires.



2020 East Africa, Middle East and China locust plague.



2019-2020 Corona virus pandemic.

Given the way the world has been going for a while, perhaps God's Throne Room is trying to get our attention. If it wasn't for God's Word, we wouldn't have a clue as to what was going on. As most of our Chinese brothers and sisters have been sharing with us, with this inconceivable COVID-19 plague, fear, anger, mistrust in the government, hopelessness and more have spread faster than the virus.

CEASE STRIVING AND KNOW THAT I AM GOD; I WILL BE EXALTED AMONG THE NATIONS,
I WILL BE EXALTED IN THE EARTH.” Psalm 46:10

During this time of quarantine and lock-down, it seems as if God has taken us into a wilderness season just like when He took Israel out of Egypt (representative of the world) so they could hear His voice only. Moses, the 12 tribes of Israel and the mixed multitude were now sequestered where they could have private time with their Creator. In a sense you could say God made sure they were quarantined from any “corona viruses (pharaohs),” “bacteria (Amalekites),” or “germs (secular culture)” that would want to create terror and disease within. The Israelites just had to make sure their carnal mindsets they took out of Egypt would be made impotent with their immersion in God’s way of Life and Spirit. Did this happen? Where were their hearts and minds? We need to ask ourselves the same questions.



God’s tabernacle was in the midst of Israel and the mixed multitude. There were no outside distractions. Did they make the best of this precious time?

As we’re staying in continual contact with our China staff, co-workers and network right now, (obviously not traveling to and fro), they’re sharing with us via social media what they’ve been learning and experiencing through this “wilderness season.” The Chinese government’s crackdown on Christian activities and online sharing continues although relatively diminished with the COVID-19 distraction. Pastors have been careful to conduct worship services and teachings online through WeChat rooms (China’s main social media platform). Most study at home (photo). Below are a just a few insights from the field.



All the plagues in the Bible are for people to return to God, and the Bible has been reminding Israelis (and Christians) to return to God through various plagues. God chose Abraham as His elect and the Bible begins the story with God and His elect. Everything is God who wants to accomplish great things among His elect. And the emergence of the plague is precisely God’s warning and reminder to His chosen people!”

~ undisclosed name

Lord, every good gift and every perfect reward comes from You although sometimes the “packaging” of the blessing is so terrible we can’t recognize it at first. The thought of Joseph being sold to Potiphar in Egypt. You tested him with Your Words until Your promise was fulfilled. Joseph became Prime Minister of Egypt, saved many lives and accomplished all the beautiful things You intended. Lord, You are a living Spirit and Your Word is perfect. Help us to understand Your Truth more, accept Your cultivation and experience You. We respectfully put ourselves in the hands of the Lord. Pray for the Holy Name of Jesus Christ. Amen. ~ Wang Xianpei

The present situation gives me more time to pray alone and quietly, and I can’t help think about the physical faith of the church. When there is no physical interaction and visitation around us, nor can we hear the sermons and teachings of the shepherds, nor the collective worship life, at least it makes us value our personal relationship with God.

~ undisclosed name

INSPIRATION ~ INSIGHTS ~ PRAYERS

We sent our Project Director in China the Prayer Room graphic below and asked him to share it with as many believers as he could. He not only shared the graphic but included some inspirational commentary which we've translated for you. Of course, responses came back quickly like, "Amen!" "Hallelujah!"

Going Into The Prayer Room



Coming Out Of The Prayer Room



INSPIRATION



张桂珍

一位身在远方的姊妹给我发来这幅图片，颇得安慰，聚会暂时以不见面的形式进行，但在祷告中不住的纪念自己及人，常常在图片的意境中，自幼接受长者教育“多祷告多得力量，少祷告少得力量，不祷告没有力量。”进入祷告室前我们懦弱如小猫，当我们在密室中与主相交，得到从天来的力量，我们就强壮如少壮狮子，眼前的困难不能动摇我们的信心和意志，弟兄姊妹们，在这困难时刻，我们要明白神的心意，多多的祷告，为自己，为别人，为天下芸芸众生！

Going Into The Prayer Room



下午 5:29 删除

A sister who is living far away sent me this picture and I was comforted considerably. Temporary meetings cannot be held face to face but we will continue to pray for others and myself. When I reflect on the concept of this picture, I remember what my elders taught me since my youth and that is, "More prayer more strength. Less prayer less strength. No prayer no strength." We are as weak as a kitten before entering the Prayer Room but when we fellowship with God in His Secret Room, we will receive the strength from heaven and we will be as strong as a young lion. Difficulties at the moment cannot shake our faith and God's will. Brothers and sisters, at this difficult moment, we have to understand God's will. Pray more for yourself, others and people of the world!

INSIGHT

Chinese have found creative ways to protect themselves from the COVID-19 virus which is highly contagious and deadly. Can you imagine what the world would be like if we took such measures against sin

(the most virulent disease) which has the same lethal properties with eternal consequences? The COVID-19 virus can only enter our bodies by touching our eyes, nose or mouth. With sin, we must protect our eyes, ears and mouth. See no evil. Hear no evil. Speak no evil. If we do, see how the world will change.



On February 16, despite the rain, over 1000 gathered at Jerusalem's Western Wall to pray for China. Organizer, Rabbi Schumuel Eliyahu stated that Israel was the epicenter of the world and when one organ suffers, all suffer. God is the divine healer. The poster says in Hebrew and Chinese, "The people of Israel pray for China."

PRAYER

Dear Father ~ In Your divine mercy and grace, reveal to us the things that need true repentance and healing. May the power of Your Son's blood nourish and cleanse us so we may become a true testimony to Your eternal life and resurrection power. You in us and us in You so the world may believe You sent Your Son for the salvation of all. In Yeshua's Mighty Name.

 Christina

Ned and Christina Graham