Scripture and Illness

God has several things to say about illness in scripture. From quarantine laws to healing, we can learn both laws and principles that can help us in times of illness.

The first principle is an administrative one: Proper, God-given government is for the peace and protection of its citizens. While governments are quite often rogue and anti-biblical, proper and godly ones help keep the peace, punish evil-doers and promote the well-being of the people in positive ways. (Read Romans 7:1-4; I Tim. 2:1-3; I Peter 2:13-20.)

The second principle is that of quarantine. When governments issue *proper quarantine orders* they are actually following Old Testament principles that protect healthy people. (Read 2 Kings 15:5; Lev. 13:4-46; Lev. 14:8; a number of other verses apply, but these are sufficient to show the principle.)

The third principle is that of Matthew 7:12, often called the Golden Rule. "In everything, therefore, treat people the same way you want them to treat you, for this is the Law and the Prophets." When we combine this verse with passages on the quarantine principle (protection from the possible spread of a very contagious pathogen) we could and should reason that it is wise to protect *others* by separating ourselves (currently being called "social distancing" or "self-quarantine"). As one current meme says about social distancing, "It's not fear, it's love."

Before we end, let's all be reminded that we have access to worship and classes done by our brethren, while we are sheltering in place. There are several, but one we suggest is *In Search of the Lord's Way.* It can be found at Direct TV channel 307; Dish Network channel 239; and internet at KTTR.org (*see times posted below*).

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Direct TV channel 307; Dish channel 239 - Sundays 8am Mountain Time
Gospel Broadcasting Network (GBNTV.org) has live-streamed sermons.
Bear Valley church of Christ - http://www.bearvalleycofc.com/podcast