

# FULL GOSPEL FELLOWSHIP

of Churches and Ministers International  
of Oregon Inc

A Newsletter of Faith, Fellowship & Vision

November 2020



## PRESIDENT LEON WILLIS Churches Coping with Covid-19

Several churches brought lawsuits against the government's restrictions. At first some pastors defied the restrictions and were arrested. In its 5-4 decision, the U.S. Supreme Court denied Calvary's request to block state restrictions without explanation. Conservative members of the church said the decision violated the First Amendment, and they were right.

Some pastors resorted to the computer screens, but really that was not the best option since many churches members are not computer savvy. As he spoke, members of the church typed "amen" in the comment section. The church has used Facebook to live-stream its services for the past couple of months, others have used FM transmitters so their members can remain in their cars.

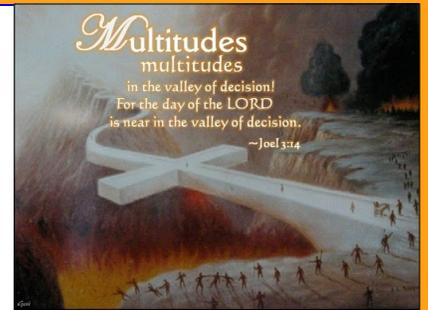
Across the USA, Church leaders debate how they can continue to pray in fellowship with others while keeping staff and members safe. Some churches have moved completely online, others have embraced drive-in services adamant about holding in-person gatherings.

Proponents of church services argue that places of worship are a crucial source of strength, community and solace for many Americans who should



**2020  
STAND  
UP!**

## The Valley of Decision



The Valley of Decision is a biblical name given to the Valley of Jehoshaphat by the prophet Joel. It is the location of the Lord's inflictions on Zion's enemies. The Bible mentions the Valley of Jehoshaphat only twice and identifies it as the final place where God will destroy the nations. Jehoshaphat means "Yahweh judges". The book of Joel describes this event as a gathering of all of the armies of the world into this Valley, where the Lord will pronounce judgment on all of them.

*"But when the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, then He will sit on His glorious throne. All the nations will be gathered before Him; and He will separate them from one another, as the shepherd separates the sheep from the goats; and He will put the sheep on His right, and the goats on the left"* (Matt 25:31-33).

Since February of 2020 the world has been dealing with an unprecedented pandemic. The nations of the world are in perplexity, "foaming at the mouth" desperately searching for a satisfactory solution. They are like foam on the beach from the pounding of the waves of a stormy ocean. The barometer of fear has risen beyond any expectation. Men and women fainting from fear of what they see in the future. Could we reasonably say the nations of the world are in the "Valley of Decision"?

When you read this newsletter the election of the U.S.A will be history. However, our nation is still in the "Valley of Decision". Will we remain a nation with a constitution or a nation with an amended constitution? A turning point of our nation hinges upon the vote of the people.

We as individuals make decisions that will effect our life for the rest of our lives. The same can be said of our nation. The Bible has predicted that people will become lawless and their love will grow cold. This summer we have watched our cities burn, as renegade protesters run to and fro wrecking stores, violently beating innocent people without rhyme or reason. It is not only black lives matter, but all lives matter. God sent His Son into the world to die for the world. Every person was equally valued in the eyes of God. It was one sacrifice for all and for all time.

Abraham, while at Bethel, was in the Valley of Decision. He considered the famine in the land as justification to go to Egypt. Bad decision. In order to save his life, he lied about Sarah being his wife. In time his lie was exposed and Pharaoh in his anger escorted Abraham out of the country.

David, the shepherd, faced Goliath in the Valley of Decision with one stone from a stream that had been tumbled smooth by the turbulence, placed



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be allowed to safely  
congregate. Critics say it  
is impossible for large  
groups to interact and  
follow public health  
guidelines.

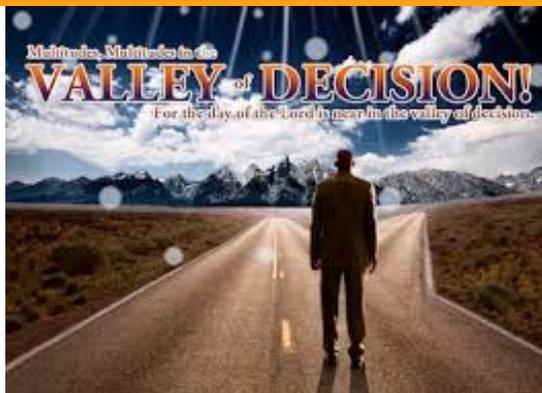
Churches that insist on  
members worshipping  
shoulder to shoulder  
have been linked to out-  
breaks of the virus.

What is the answer to  
“having church as normal” while fighting an  
invisible foe and dealing  
with Government officials  
that are anti-  
Christian? Many of  
those officials are taking  
opportunity to shut  
churches down. Govern-  
ment control is the ma-  
jor issue.

First pray and seek  
God for the answer for  
your community. Every  
community is different,  
so there is not a single  
answer to the problems.  
Communities vary; cit-  
ies vary; and states vary.  
Daniel needed deliver-  
ance from lions; David  
needed deliverance from  
a giant; David needed  
deliverance from King  
Saul; Paul needed a  
deliverance from the  
Jews; and **we need a  
deliverance from a  
virus!**

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in a sling, and thrown with faith at the vile-mouthed giant Goliath. This event decided the fate of a nation. I am trusting that through this global pandemic, the masses of people wearing masks, will humble themselves and return to God in true repentance, and recognize Him as Savior and King.



As I am writing this article, dense smoke is hovering over the west coast. One newsman called it apocalyptic. Videos from Lincoln City, Oregon reveal the flames, smoke, and terror, causing hurried evacuations; people snatching up their pets and fighting through the fire, smoke and traffic to find safety.

On the other hand, the central and eastern parts of the nation are experiencing excessive flooding. One side of the nation dry and hot, fires devouring over three million acres, and on the other side of the nation flooding of cities and farmlands. Does this sound like how Jesus explained the end of the age? Read Matthew 24, 25, Luke 21, Mark 13.

Noah, preacher of righteousness, warned the people of coming disaster. For 120 years he preached to the people, and worked on building a boat. The world was filled with violence, lawlessness, and wickedness, yet Noah obeyed the Lord in spite of the demonical environment. Does this history bring to mind what is going on in our present world? That world was in the Valley of Decision! The future of the planet earth was at stake.

Discussing the time near His return to earth, Jesus declared, “*As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be also in the days of the Son of Man: They ate, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and the flood came and destroyed them all*” (Luke 17:26-27).

The apostle Paul confirmed that before Christ’s return the world would have perilous times, filled with pleasure-seeking, materialism, immorality, violence, idleness and a rejection of the things of God (2 Timothy 3:1-5).

In one of my writings I discussed “the form of this world is passing away.” The very year that Paul wrote this warning to the Church of Corinth, a teenager by the name of Nero, came into power. The world never was the same again..

The nations of the world are being forced into the Valley of Decision. The King of kings is on the throne and will bring his righteous judgment to bear. Note that in Ezekiel 38 and 39, God put hooks into the jaws of nations and forced them to do his will.

The world grows darker, but the kingdom of God will shine with the glory of God. The knowledge of the Lord will cover the earth as the waters cover the sea. How? By people who are determined to fulfill the Great Commission given by Jesus! The word is Go! Go! Go and Now! Now! Now!