

## **Christian view on why we should get vaccinated**

Dave Pedersen

There is so much confusion, fear and superstition surrounding the issue of vaccinations!

Most disturbing is the recourse to fear and speculation concerning the End Times.

In the understanding of Scripture, a healthy view of the subject should ultimately result in encouragement and a yearning for the return of Jesus Christ.

'He who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming quickly." Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus!' (Rev 22:20).

The evil one wants us to shrink and fear.

The faithfulness of Father God draws us continuously to live as pioneers. He makes all things new.

I recently shared my thoughts concerning Vaccinations. You may find this helpful.

### **Why I vaccinated.**

I had Covid19 in October 2020.

In February 2021, I received the J&J vaccine.

Many people have asked me as a church leader as to my views on the discourse around the Covid-19 vaccinations.

I want to share my views on this with the genuine hope and request that it is not used as a cause of division. Our unity is in Christ and can carry diversity.

As such, it is nurtured by maturity. Rom 14 speaks to this. Above all we are called to respect each other's faith in such a way that our unity is not put at risk.

### **My Thoughts:**

1. It is logical. It makes sense. Just as manoeuvres prepare troops for real battles, so do vaccinations help equip us for health wars.
2. It may not prevent further infections, but it will help in varying measures to combat the severity.
3. I felt the Lord encourage me by reminding me of His ability and reliability to protect me. For me this was an invitation to a simple faith step.
4. I believe a focus on conspiracy theories, fake news and fear factors is both unhealthy and unbiblical. The vaccination is not the mark of the beast. That is a reference to the effect of humanism. Healthy Eschatology (end times thinking) should in any case result in encouragement, not fear, suspicion or alienation.
5. I believe that vaccinations will help us to help each other by lowering the risk of rampant infection.
6. I believe that we should cooperate with leadership and reserve expressions of civil disobedience for obviously unethical demands. "Obey those who rule over you, and be submissive, for they watch out for your souls, as those who must give account. Let them do so with joy and not with grief, for that would be unprofitable for you". (Heb 13:17)
7. I recognize that vaccination is enabling easier passage for travel which is important to the work to which I am called. It helps us to live in this hurting, fallen world where our light needs to make a difference.

Paul's teaching provides guidance with these words: "Therefore encourage one another with these words". (1 Thessalonians 4:18)

Victory over Satan according to Rev 12:11 is as follows: "They overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death".

As Christians we need to live by three principals:

**Position:** Justified by faith in the blood of Jesus

**Passion:** The testimony of our lives.

**Purpose:** Serving the Lord, no matter the cost.

I hope this helps those who are hesitant about being vaccinated.

**Dr Dave Pedersen, Senior Pastor at Fountain Vineyard.**