



BIBLE STUDY DURING THE 2020 PANDEMIC

**WHY DOES GOD ALLOW PLAGUES AND
PANDEMICS?**

APRIL 30, 2020

OBEDIENCE

TABERNACLE BAPTIST CHURCH, DC

**719 DIVISION AVENUE, NE
WASHINGTON, DC 20019**

REV. CLARENCE J. PARKS
SENIOR PASTOR

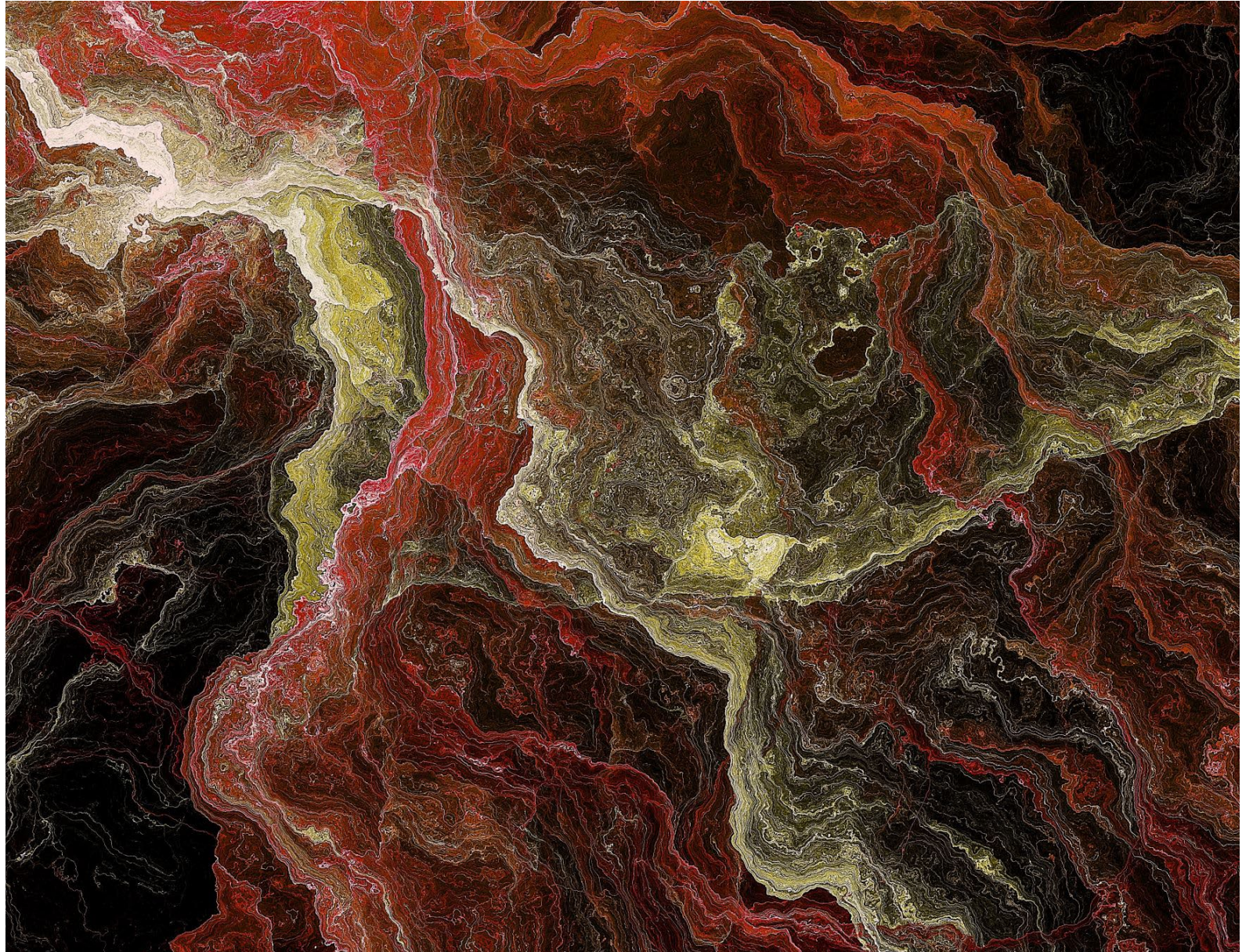


THERE ARE AT LEAST 7 REASONS WHY GOD MAY ALLOW PLAGUES AND PANDEMICS:

- To Accomplish His Purposes
- **To Teach Obedience**
- To Oppose Pride
- To Abolish Idolatry
- To Teach Gratitude
- To Defend His Holiness
- To Reveal His Power

WHY DOES GOD ALLOW PLAGUES AND PANDEMICS?

- Foundational Principles:
- God loves us
- Tribulation is imminent
- We have freewill choice, Genesis 2:15-17



BIBLE: BOOK OF GOOD CHOICES (OBEDIENCE) & BAD CHOICES (DISOBEDIENCE)

-
- From Genesis to Revelation, the Bible has a lot to say about obedience. In the story of the Ten Commandments, we see just how important the concept of obedience is to God.
 - Deuteronomy 11:26-28 sums it up like this: "Obey and you will be blessed. Disobey and you will be cursed." [Curse is defined as: *strong denouncement*]
 - In the New Testament, we learn through the example of Jesus Christ that believers are called to a life of obedience. Philippians 2:5-8 [Let this mind be in you...]
 - The mind of Christ is what enables us to make the right choice of obedience.
 - 1st Corinthians 2:14-16

OBEDIENCE DEFINED

The general concept of obedience both in the Old and New Testament relates to hearing or hearkening to a higher authority.

One of the Greek terms for obedience in the Bible conveys the idea of positioning oneself under someone by submitting to their authority and command.

Another Greek word for obey in the New Testament means "to trust."

According to Holman's Illustrated Bible Dictionary, obedience is "to hear God's Word and act accordingly."

Eerdman's Bible Dictionary states, "True 'hearing,' or obedience, involves the physical hearing that inspires the hearer, and a belief or trust that in turn motivates the hearer to act in accordance with the speaker's desires."

Thus, biblical obedience to God means to hear, trust, submit and surrender to God and His Word.

EXAMPLES OF BIBLICAL OBEDIENCE

Jesus Calls Us to Obey

John 14:15; 15:14

Obedience is an Act of Love

1 John 5:1-3; 2:3-8

Obedience is Better Than Sacrifice

1 Samuel 15:22-23

Obedience is a Matter of Will

Psalm 119:1-8;

BOTTOM LINE:

- When We Choose to Obey God, Our Lives will be Blessed Beyond Measure Deut. 28:1-14
- But Disobedience Leads to Consequences: Deut. 28:15-68

