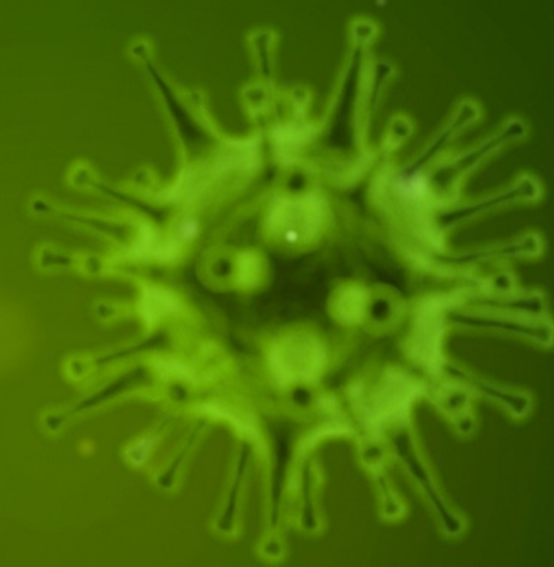
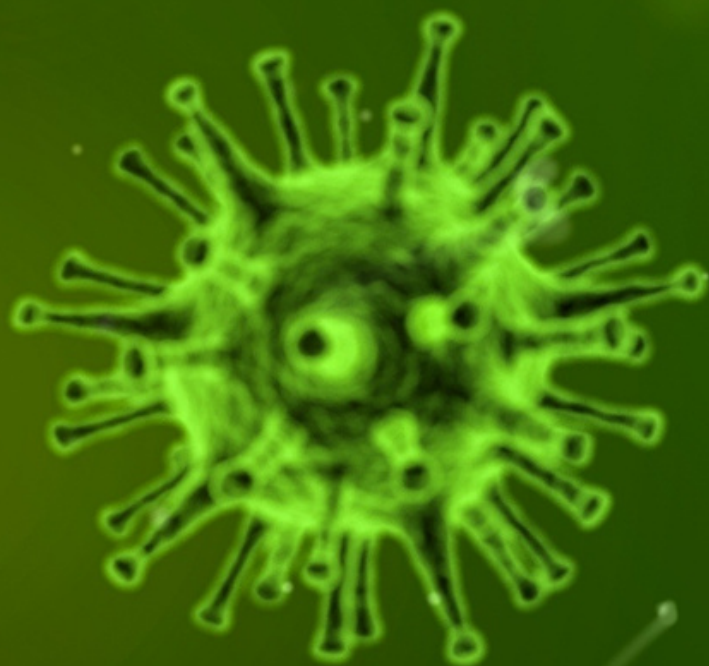
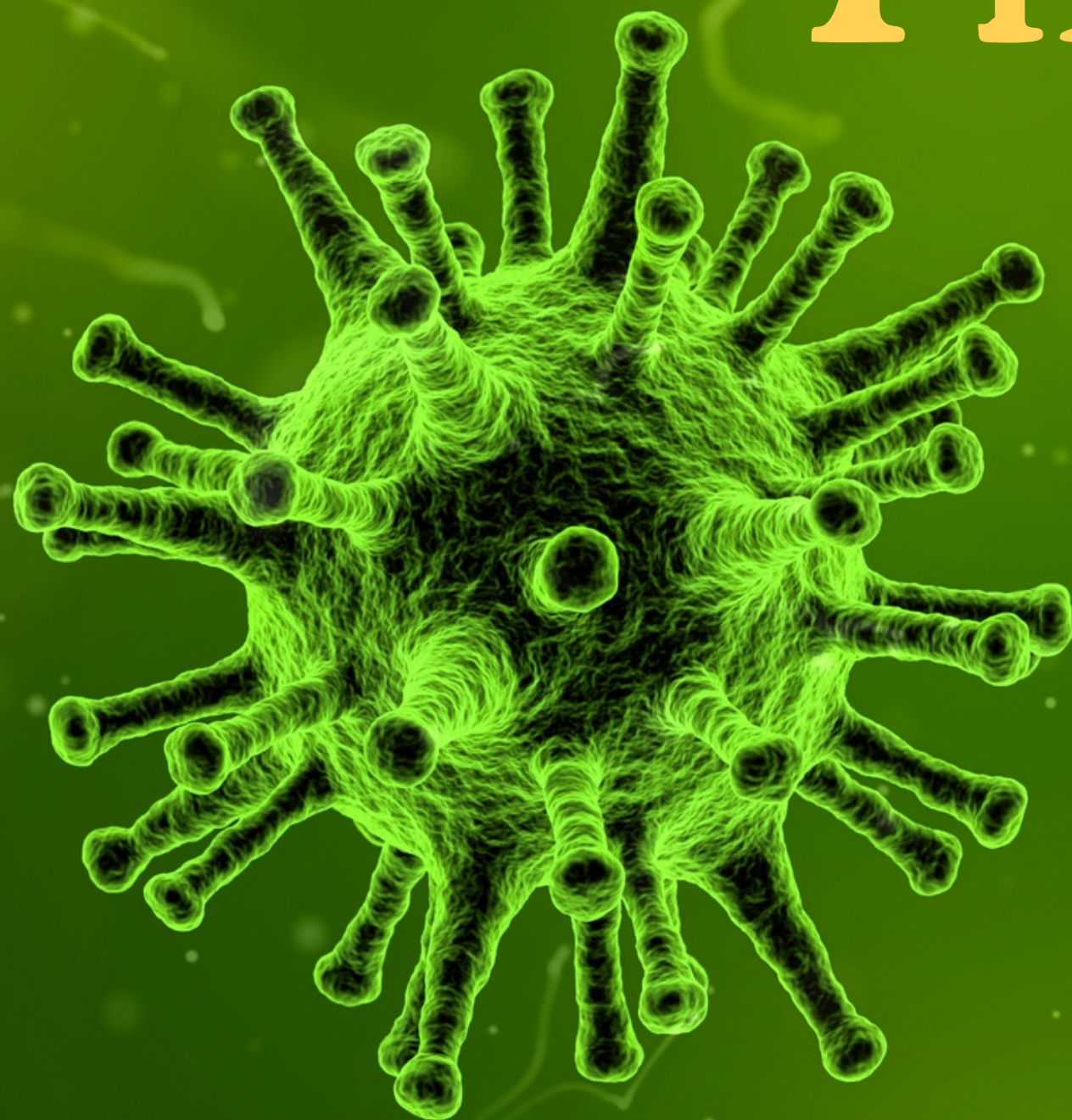


# The Infection



## Matthew 24:9-12

Here it is talking about what we Christians will be facing. They will give us up to be hurt. The whole nation will hate us. There will be betrayal and many false prophets will rise up to deceive many. But the part on want to really focus on is that the love of many will grow cold.

But we see it every day. Every time we turn on the news something new is happening to prove this. In fact, we had 2 mass shootings in 2 weeks and you don't think the love has gone cold. Both boys were 18 and they took so many lives.

At 18 I was going after girls and trying to get into college. These kids are studying racism and revenge. It's starting to get a little chilly outside and there is a disease that is starting to creep in. This disease will cripple you from doing the basics. This disease will make you look at everyone with hatred. This disease is contagious.

What we are starting to become infected with is fear. Fear to go to the grocery store or fear to send our kids to school. Once this has taken effect on you, you seem to look through a glass darkly. You become anxious, you become solitude. Because of what is going on.

But the Bible says something about fear.

## 2 Timothy 1:7

God did not give us the spirit of fear. That means what is causing us to fear is not of God. What is causing you to be crippled is not of God. What has gotten you afraid to go to the store or send the kids to school is not of God.

Now there is common sense and that should be used. But the fear that something will happen is should not be a concern. It is important to remember the rest of the scripture He gives us power, love, and a sound mind.

When I look at all these things combined, I start doing some math. If God didn't give us the spirit of fear and these things are making us fearful. Then that means these mass shooting has come from the enemy to cause us to fear. These kids were studying hate and we just read God gives love.

So if the opposite of hate is love, what is the opposite of fear?

## Romans 15:4

The opposite of fear is Hope. The scripture says that everything that was written before time is for our learning and that through patience and comfort we might have hope. This feeling of trust might go against everything you might know, but it is crucial. The moment bad things come to you like a flood, you have to have hope to stand on.

I know it will work out. I know I will be okay, I know my kids will be safe. I have hope and trust in our Lord Jesus Christ. So I know whatever the enemy is trying to do with fear won't work on me. Because my hope is in more than just me.

He said he will be with us if we have to walk through the fire. He said He will not let the waters overflow us. He said so and I believe it. See when you start having hope that everything will be better for you, fear dissipates. It just melts away. It cannot any longer infect you the way it did before. It has to evaporate. You must be important if God will send his son to die for you. So why would you let fear infect you? But maybe the fear is because we put our trust in things that deserve our trust.

## 1 Timothy 4:10

Our trust should be in God. We strive and labor all because we have hope in God. We push despite what we go through because of our trust in God. We might suffer to a point but it is because we have our hope in God.

The world doesn't scare me anymore because the Bible says that it is going to get worse and worse. So if I know that why would this world scare me? But as we go through our day by day, we are to remember that God is in control of all things. That He is our protector. The rock we lean on. The balm for our pain, the comforter when we are down. The prince of peace and the one who passes all understanding.

This is the God we have hope in. Not some man with a gun. Not some person who wants to mistreat you. The God of our fathers Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. The God who heard the cries of his people and rescued them. The God who has kept us going even though we didn't know Him.

I know what the news is saying, but I cannot let fear infect me. I cannot let it cause me doubt. I have to have hope that no matter what this world looks like that because I serve God, He will protect me and my family.

Because the Rock I am leaning is immoveable.

