**R791\_Rumination for Mar. 29, 2020 by K.C. Ung**

The **T**heme: **Stay In and Be Safe** berita-bethel-ung.com

The **T**ext: *Thou shalt bring thy father…and all thy father's household,* ***home****.* Josh. 2:18

The **T**hots:

Intro.: For the last two weeks, **M**alaysia has a **M**ovements **C**ontrol **O**rder (**MCO**) to **C**ontain **C**ovid–19

 with the **S**logan, “**S**tay Home and be **S**afe”. This is also a Biblical **M**axim for all to be **S**afe – “**Stay In!**”

1. **Noah was told to STAY IN the Ark and Be Safe - *Come thou… into the ark* Gen. 7:1-**
2. The **C**orruption in the World then. 6:2-5

*It came to pass, when* ***M****en began to* ***M****ultiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born unto them.*

1. Corrupt **M**arriages *- the sons of God saw the daughters of men that they were fair;*

 *and they took them wives of all which they chose.*

1. Corrupt **M**ighty **M**en: *There were giants in the earth in those days; and also after that, when the sons of God came in unto the daughters of men, and they bare children to them, the same became mighty men…*
2. Corrupt **M**inds - *every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.* 6:5
3. Hence, the **C**ondemnation of the World. Gen. 6:6. 7
4. **G**od was **G**rieved - *It repented the LORD that He had made man…and it grieved Him at His heart.*  6:6
5. **G**od would **G**et rid of them: 6:7

*The LORD said, I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth; both man, and beast.*

1. The **C**all to **C**ome into the Ark to be Safe.
2. The **C**all to Noah and family and others. 7:1

*The LORD said unto Noah,* ***Come thou and all thy house into the ark****; for thee have I seen righteous…*

1. The **C**ommand to Noah - *Make thee an ark…**pitch it within and without with pitch.* 6:14
2. The **C**over **S**afety in the Ark - *pitch it within and without with pitch*
The cover - *pitch* (Heb. *kāpar*) = cover, fig. = expiate or condone, to placate or cancel. Strong
3. The **C**over of the **F**lood over all **F**lesh outside. 7:17, 21

*The flood was forty days upon the earth…And all flesh died…and every man:*

1. The **C**over and **S**helter for the **F**amily inside.
* *In the selfsame day entered Noah and…* ***into the ark;*** 7:13
* *…and Noah only remained alive, and they that were with him* ***in the ark****.* 7:23
* *God remembered Noah, and every living thing, and all…that was with him* ***in the ark****:* 8:1
* **Those who Stayed in the Ark were Safe! 8:13**

*And it came to pass…the waters were dried up from off the earth: and Noah removed the covering of the ark, and looked, and, behold, the face of the ground was dry.*

***Figuratively, those in the Ark would be those IN CHRIST whose sins are now Cancelled and Covered because Christ had borne the judgment of their Sins on Him.***

* ***They Stayed in the Ark and they were Safe!***
1. **Rahab was to STAY HOME and Be Safe. Josh. 2**
2. **J**ehovah would lead **J**oshua to conquer **J**ericho. 6:2

*And the LORD said unto Joshua, See, I have given into thine hand Jericho, and the king thereof…*

1. **R**ahab and her family would be **R**escued though the walls of Jericho would be in **R**uins.
2. The **P**romise of Safety to Rahab. 2:18
3. **S**tay at **H**ome, she and her whole **H**ousehold; do not come out!

*Thou shalt bring thy father, and thy mother, and thy brethren, and all thy father's household,* ***home****.*

1. **S**ecure a **S**carlet **S**ign outside the **H**ouse.

*Thou shalt bind this line of scarlet thread in the window which thou didst let us down by:*

1. The **P**re-conditions of Safety: 2:19
2. **G**o out of the Home; their Safety was not the Spies’ **G**uarantee. They would be at their own **R**isk.

 *Whosoever shall go out of the doors of thy house…his blood shall be upon his head…we will be guiltless*

1. **S**tay In their Home; their **S**afety is the **S**pies’ **R**esponsibility.

*Whosoever shall be with thee in the house, his blood shall be on our head, if any hand be upon him.*

* **They Stayed in their Home and they were Safe!**

 *And Joshua saved Rahab the harlot alive, and her father's household, and all that she had.* 6:25

1. **The Sailors to STAY IN the Ship to Be Safe. Acts 27:31**
2. The **S**hip was caught in a **S**evere **S**torm 27:14
3. *But not long after there arose against it a tempestuous wind, called Euroclydon*.
4. *And…all hope that we should be saved was then taken away.*  27:20
5. The **S**hipmen and the **S**oldiers to **S**tay in the **S**hip to be **S**afe: 27:30-32

*Paul said to the centurion and to the soldiers,* ***Except these abide in the ship, ye cannot be saved****.*

1. Thus, while the **S**hip was Wrecked, the **S**ailors and **S**oldiers in the **S**hip **S**wam to **S**afety! 27:41
* **The People in the Boat were Safe**. *So it came to pass, that they escaped all safe to land.* 27:43, 44

**Note***: When they were in the ship for fourteen days they took bread and ate and gave thanks.* 27:35

May we also give thanks as we take the bread and drink of the cup (at home?) to remember the Lord this day.

 *For where two or three are gathered together in My name, there am I in the midst of them.* Mt. 18:20

*Safe in the arms of Jesus, Safe on His gentle breast*

 *There by His love o’ershaded, Sweetly my soul shall rest.* Fanny Crosby

**REFLECTIONS FOR THE WEEK R. 791**

1. The Government of Malaysia, to Contain the Spread of the Contagious COVID\_19,

came out with the Movements Control Order which requires all people in the country

to be restricted in their movements and to remain where they are.

Among the three important advisories palmed on to the people for them to remember

and practise are:

* WASH YOUR HANDS WITH SOAP REGULARLY.
* SOCIAL DISTANCING, i.e. Stay at least one metre away from one another.
* STAY AT HOME AND BE SAFE!

The Third Slogan “*Stay In*” is a Scriptural Slogan to be heeded and practiced in Stormy times too, as in the time of storms, wars, and pestilences, etc. For instance, …

Noah and his family were told to STAY IN THE ARK TO BE SAFE!

 *Come thou and all thy house* ***into the ark***Gen. 7:1

Rahab and her family were told to STAY AT HOME TO BE SAFE!

***Thou shalt bring*** *thy father, and thy mother, and thy brethren, and all thy father's household,* ***home unto thee****.* Josh. 2:18, 19

The Soldiers and Sailors with Paul were told to STAY IN THE SHIP TO BE SAFE!

*Paul said…Except these* ***abide in the ship****, ye cannot be saved.* Acts 27:31

And those in Malaysia are told to **STAY AT HOME AND BE SAFE!**

Yet in actual practice, in Malaysia and many other countries affected by the COVID\_19, many thousands refuse to pay heed to the Order to Stay at Home. The end result is that a number from among them are either infected with the contagious virus or they infect others who come into contact with them. Some are fortunate to be treated in time and recover, while others tragically die!

Just as people belittle the deadly threat of the very contagious virus of COVID\_19 and refuse to cooperate to stay at home to be safe from it, there are also many who refuse to believe in the deadly threat of sin and its judgment. They treat the threat lightly and face its consequence ultimately. “*For the wages of sin is death”* (Rom. 6:23) and to be IN CHRIST is to be safe and have eternal life. Thus, Paul and Silas proclaimed to their Philippian gaoler, “*Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household.”* (Acts 16:31, NKJV).

Why do people find it so difficult to stay at home and be safe?

Why do many find it so difficult to come to be ***in Christ*** and be saved?

While we are still under the MCO, perhaps some of you in your free time, while being isolated at home, would like to listen this timely message at: <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=2721523214550322> **REFLECT**.

1. What does IN CHRIST mean?

What does the Bible have to say regarding those who are **IN CHRIST**?

* *God was* ***in Christ****, reconciling the world unto Himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.* II Cor. 5:19
* *Therefore if any man be* ***in Christ****, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.* II Cor. 5:17
* *For ye are all the children of God by faith* ***in Christ Jesus****.* Gal. 3:26

 Are you safe and sound **in Christ?**

*In Christ is love abounding, In Him redeeming grace;*

*In Him my daily manna, In Him my hiding place.*

*In Him there is atonement, In Him eternal life;*

*In Him a full salvation, In Him an end of strife.*

*In Him! [In Him!] In Him! [In Him!]*

*There’s fulness of blessing in His service sweet;*

 *In Him! [In Him!] I am in Him complete!* Elizabeth C. Green

**Points To Ponder:** *Why do people Refuse to Stay at Home and Be Safe?*

 *Why do people refuse to believe* ***in Christ*** *and Be Saved?*