

Sermon Note: Year of the Rat-Racing With Horses

By: Elder Dr Alex Tang



Bible Ref: Jeremiah 12

Jeremiah's Complaint

¹You are always righteous, LORD,
when I bring a case before you.
Yet I would speak with you about your
justice:

Why does the way of the wicked
prosper?

Why do all the faithless live at ease?

²You have planted them, and they have
taken root;

they grow and bear fruit.

You are always on their lips
but far from their hearts.

³Yet you know me, LORD;
you see me and test my thoughts about
you.

Drag them off like sheep to be butchered!
Set them apart for the day of slaughter!

⁴How long will the land lie parched
and the grass in every field be withered?

Because those who live in it are wicked,
the animals and birds have perished.

Moreover, the people are saying,

"He will not see what happens to us."



PERSPECTIVES					
Wuhan coronavirus compared to other major viruses					
VIRUS	YEAR IDENTIFIED	CASES	DEATHS	FATALITY RATE	NUMBER OF COUNTRIES
Marburg	1967	466	373	80%	11
Ebola*	1976	35,577	13,562	40.40%	9
Hendra	1994	7	4	57%	1
HSN1 Bird Flu	1997	861	455	52.80%	18
Nipah	1998	513	398	77.60%	2
SARS	2002	8,096	774	9.60%	29
H1N1**	2009	1,632,258	294,500	17.40%	214
MERS***	2012	2,494	858	34.40%	28
H7N9 Bird Flu	2013	1,568	616	39.30%	3
Wuhan*	2020	8,149	170	2%	20

WUHAN CORONAVIRUS CASES			
COUNTRY	CONFIRMED CASES	DEATHS	RECOVERED
China	82,700	8,130	74,570
Iran	19,000	5,000	14,000
Spain	127,000	17,000	110,000
Italy	232,000	33,000	199,000
France	177,000	28,000	149,000
Germany	223,000	9,000	214,000
UK	253,000	41,000	212,000
USA	611,000	81,000	530,000
South Korea	10,300	2,000	8,300
Japan	1,200	0	1,200
Canada	8,000	1,000	7,000
India	5,000	0	5,000
Philippines	5,000	0	5,000
Thailand	5,000	0	5,000
Malaysia	4,000	0	4,000
Singapore	1,000	0	1,000
South Africa	1,000	0	1,000
UKRAINE	1,000	0	1,000
USA	1,000	0	1,000
Canada	1,000	0	1,000
Spain	1,000	0	1,000
France	1,000	0	1,000
Germany	1,000	0	1,000
Italy	1,000	0	1,000
Iran	1,000	0	1,000
China	1,000	0	1,000
TOTAL	11,346	208	11,138

*As of January 30, 2020 **Between 2009 and 2010 ***As of November 2019

Sources: CDC, UN, World Health Organization, New England Journal of Medicine, Malaysian Journal of Pathology, COITN, Johns Hopkins University, The Lancet

8/3/2020 11:55:15 AM

As of 10:00am Feb 1, 2020

God's Answer

⁵“If you have raced with men on foot
and they have worn you out,
how can you compete with horses?
If you stumble^[a] in safe country,
how will you manage in the
thickets by^[b] the Jordan?
⁶Your relatives, members of your own
family—
even they have betrayed you;
they have raised a loud cry against you.
Do not trust them,
though they speak well of you.
⁷“I will forsake my house,
abandon my inheritance;
I will give the one I love
into the hands of her enemies.
⁸My inheritance has become to me
like a lion in the forest.
She roars at me;
therefore I hate her.
⁹Has not my inheritance become to me
like a speckled bird of prey
that other birds of prey surround and
attack?
Go and gather all the wild beasts;
bring them to devour.
¹⁰Many shepherds will ruin my vineyard
and trample down my field;
they will turn my pleasant field
into a desolate wasteland.
¹¹It will be made a wasteland,
parched and desolate before me;
the whole land will be laid waste
because there is no one who cares.
¹²Over all the barren heights in the desert
destroyers will swarm,
for the sword of the LORD will devour
from one end of the land to the other;
no one will be safe.
¹³They will sow wheat but reap thorns;
they will wear themselves out but gain
nothing.

They will bear the shame of their harvest
because of the LORD's fierce anger.”

¹⁴This is what the LORD says: “As for all my
wicked neighbors who seize the
inheritance I gave my people Israel, I will
uproot them from their lands and I will
uproot the people of Judah from among
them. ¹⁵But after I uproot them, I will
again have compassion and will bring each
of them back to their own inheritance and
their own country. ¹⁶And if they learn well
the ways of my people and swear by my
name, saying, ‘As surely as
the LORD lives’—even as they once taught
my people to swear by Baal—then they will
be established among my people. ¹⁷But if
any nation does not listen, I will
completely uproot and destroy it,” declares
the LORD.