Compass Life Adult Sunday School

Pastor Pete

March 20, 2020

**“The Day the World Stopped”**

**I. History of Spanish Flu 1918**

The first recorded case occurred in Fort Riley, a military outpost in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ where new recruits were trained before being sent to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to fight in World War I. On March 11, 1918, Private Albert Gitchell, a company cook, came down with symptoms that appeared to be a \_\_\_\_. Gitchell went to the infirmary and was isolated. Within an hour, several additional soldiers had come down with the same symptoms and were also isolated. Despite the attempt to isolate those with symptoms, this extremely contagious flu quickly spread through Fort Riley. After 5 weeks, \_\_\_\_\_\_ soldiers at Fort Riley had been stricken with the Spanish flu, and 46 of them had died. Shortly thereafter, the flu infected soldiers on board transport ships. Although it was unintended, American troops brought this new flu with them to Europe. Beginning in mid-May, the flu started to strike \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ soldiers as well. The flu traveled across Europe, infecting people in nearly every country. When the flu rampaged through Spain, the Spanish government publicly announced the epidemic. Next the flu spread to Russia, India China, and Africa. By the end of July 1918, this first wave of the Spanish flu appeared to be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. While the first wave of the Spanish flu had been extremely contagious, the second wave of the Spanish flu was both contagious and exceedingly \_\_\_\_\_\_. In late August 1918, the second wave of the Spanish flu struck three port cities at nearly the same time (\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, Brest and Freetown). When hospitals filled up, tent hospitals were erected on lawns. Nurses and doctors were already in short supply because of the war. Volunteers risked their own lives by helping contagious victims, many people, especially women, signed up anyway to help as best they could. Victims suffered greatly, within hours of feeling the first symptoms of extreme fatigue, fever, headache, and coughing, victims would start turning \_\_\_\_\_. The Spanish flu struck so suddenly and severely that many of its victims \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of coming down with their first symptom. Some died a day or two after realizing they were sick. Spitting and coughing in public was prohibited. Schools and theaters were closed. People also tried their own homemade prevention remedies, such as eating raw onions, or keeping a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in their pocket. The number of bodies from the victims of the quickly outnumbered the available resources to deal with them. There weren't enough \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for all the bodies, nor were there enough people to dig individual graves. On November 11, 1918 an armistice brought an end to WWI. People around the world celebrated and felt free from the deaths caused by both war and flu. As the people hit the streets and gave kisses and hugs to returning soldiers, they also started a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the Spanish flu. The third wave was not as deadly as the second, but still deadlier than the first. People were ready to start their lives over again after the war; they were no longer interested in hearing about or fearing a deadly flu. The third wave lingered into the spring of 1919. Eventually, however, this deadly strain of the flu disappeared. To this day, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the flu virus suddenly mutated into such a deadly form.

**II. Philadelphia, St. Louis and San Francisco**

In the late summer of 1918 the virus spread first from Boston to New York and Philadelphia before traveling West to infect panicked populations from St. Louis to San Francisco.  By mid-September, the Spanish flu was spreading like wildfire through army and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ installations in Philadelphia, but Wilmer Krusen, Philadelphia’s public health director, assured the public that the stricken soldiers were only suffering from the old-fashioned \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and it would be contained before infecting the civilian population. When the first few civilian cases were reported on September 21, local physicians worried that this could be the start of an epidemic, but Krusen and his medical board said Philadelphians could lower their risk of catching the flu by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, keeping their feet dry and their “bowels open.” As civilian infection rates climbed day by day, Krusen refused to cancel the upcoming Liberty Loan \_\_\_\_\_\_. On September 28, a patriotic procession of soldiers, Boy Scouts, marching bands and local dignitaries stretched two miles through downtown Philadelphia with sidewalks packed with spectators. Just \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ after the parade, all 31 of Philadelphia’s hospitals were full and \_\_\_\_\_\_ people were dead by the end of the week. The public health response in St. Louis was much different. Even before the first case of Spanish flu had been reported in the city, health commissioner Dr. Max Starkloff had local physicians on high alert and wrote an editorial in the St. Louis Post-Dispatch about the importance of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. When a flu outbreak at a nearby military barracks first spread into the St. Louis civilian population, Starkloff wasted no time \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the schools, movie theaters and pool halls, and banning all public \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. There was pushback from business owners, but Starkloff and the mayor held their ground. When infections swelled as expected, thousands of sick residents were treated \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ by a network of volunteer nurses. Because of these precautions, St. Louis public health officials were able to “flatten the curve” and keep the flu epidemic from exploding. The peak mortality rate in St. Louis was only \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of Philadelphia’s death rate at its worst. In San Francisco, health officials put their full faith behind \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. California governor William Stephens declared that it was the “\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of every American citizen” to wear a mask. Citizens caught in public without a mask or wearing it improperly were \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, charged with “disturbing the peace” and \_\_\_\_\_\_. City officials claimed masks were “99 percent proof against flu” but in reality, were hardly \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ at all. San Francisco’s relatively low infection rates in October were probably due to well-organized campaigns to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ all naval installations before the flu arrived, plus early efforts to close schools and ban social gatherings. On November 21, a whistle blast signaled that San Franciscans could finally \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and the San Francisco Chronicle described “sidewalks and runnels… strewn with the relics of a tortuous month.” The third wave of the Spanish flu struck in January 1919. Believing masks were what saved them the first time, businesses and theater owners fought back against \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ orders. As a result, San Francisco ended up suffering some of the highest \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ from Spanish flu nationwide. If San Francisco had kept all of its anti-flu protections in place through the spring of 1919, it could have reduced deaths by \_\_\_\_\_\_.

**III. The Reaction of the Church**

**Friday, October 18, 1918** Worcester, Mass: The Daily Telegram shared examples of how Christians were responding to influenza, even as public worship ceased. \_\_\_\_\_\_ from three local churches were taking care of “epidemic \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,” giving them not only food and clothing, but “[supplying] them with plenty of healthful recreation and a little systematized instruction, too.” **Sunday, October 20, 1918 Milwaukee, WI: The Journal** found that church closures didn’t leave the city’s “pastors with any surplus of leisure on their hands.” With the faithful encouraged to engage in “[home worship](https://quod.lib.umich.edu/cgi/t/text/idx/f/flu/6480flu.0000.846/1/--church-at-home?rgn=subject;view=image;q1=church+closure)” and read sermons published in the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, Protestant clergy were instead devoting more of their energy to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and sick calls. San Francisco, CA: At an open-air service in front of First Baptist Church, the pastor suggested that the churches themselves “are to \_\_\_\_\_\_” for the influenza epidemic. Rev. John Quincy Adams Henry preached that Christian churches “have been lamentably weak in moral and spiritual leadership and have not yet risen to the august occasion confronting them. Our churches have become conventional, cowardly and worldly. Not only the people, but the churches must \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and when they do the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.” **Saturday, October 26, 1918** Grand Rapids, MI: The Herald doubted that anyone has suffered more from the state ban on public worship than the members of the city’s 17 Christian Reformed churches, who “have been trained from childhood to regard regular church attendance as natural in their lives as \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.” Families are trying to fill the gap with private worship, but Reformed leaders are upset that churches are closed while schools remain open: “…it would seem that if there were danger of contagion anywhere it would be among the physically undeveloped youngsters congregating in the school rooms day by day.” In Allendale, South Carolina, the strain on the churches was \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Pastor R. E. Hardaway of Allendale said “we have been hard hit down here on account of the flu. Our church was closed \_\_\_\_ Sundays.” Hardaway was pleased to report, however, that the members of the congregation were able to meet all of their monetary needs. The church believed that caring for the sick was the duty of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Superintendent of the hospital argued that the statement of Jesus, “‘I was sick and you visited me,’ is an example for Christians.” Second, one of the ways that they cared for the sick was to obey government requirements about not assembling together. Adherence to the health department’s recommendations helped “stamp out the evil as rapidly as possible.” Third, South Carolina Baptists did not cease to do \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ even though they could not \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ together. Pastoral care, church giving, caring for the sick, and raising largest amount of cooperative giving in any year of their history.

**IV. When King David’s Life was in Danger (Psalm 62)**

1. YOU\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

2. GOD\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_