

20260329 Everything is Shaking: Now What? – Ps Bijoy

We live in a world that feels increasingly fragile. Whether it is the sudden onset of a global pandemic, the impact of continuous wars, the heartbreak of systemic injustice, or the looming shadows of economic instability, we are constantly reminded that the ground beneath our feet is not as solid as we once thought.

When the news headlines suggests ‘unprecedented times,’ the human heart naturally gravitates toward one of two poles: paralyzing fear or cynical apathy. But as followers of Christ, we are called to a third way. We are called to a response that is neither panicked nor indifferent, but deeply rooted in the unchanging character of God as revealed in the scripture.

Today, we look at what it means to respond to global crisis from a biblical perspective. How do we stand when the world shakes?

1. The Foundation: Acknowledge the Sovereign God

The starting point for any Christian response is not an action plan, but a theological/scriptural conviction. Psalm 46:1-3 declares: "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea..."

In a global crisis, the "mountains" those things we thought were permanent start to crumble. Our health, our financial systems, and our national security can all be shaken. But the Bible reminds us that while the earth may give way, God does not.

A biblical response begins by acknowledging God’s Sovereignty. To say God is sovereign is to believe that nothing - not a virus, not a war, not a famine happens outside of His ultimate awareness and authority. It is the care of a Father who promises that even in the chaos, He is working all things together for the good of those who love Him (Romans 8:28). When we start with God’s sovereignty, our perspective shifts from the size of the crisis to the size of our God.

2. The Internal Posture: Rejecting the Spirit of Fear

If our foundation is God’s sovereignty, our internal posture must be one of peace. One of the most frequent commands in Scripture is "Do not fear." This isn’t a suggestion; it’s a spiritual alignment and command.

2 Timothy 1:7 tells us: "For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind."

Crisis often breeds a "spirit of fear" a frantic, suffocating anxiety that clouds our judgment and shrinks our hearts. But the Holy Spirit provides the antidote:

A, Power: The strength to endure and the courage to act when others retreat.

B, Love: The ability to look outward at the needs of others rather than turning inward in self preservation.

C, A Sound Mind: The clarity to see the truth, avoid misinformation, and make wise decisions based on faith rather than panic.

As Christians, our peace is our greatest witness. When the world sees a community that is calm in the midst of a storm, they ask, "Why?" Our answer is Jesus, the one who rebuked the wind and the waves can still the storms within us.

3. The Practical Response: Being the Hands and Feet

A biblical response is never purely intellectual; it is always incarnational. In the early church, when a Great Famine hit the Roman Empire (Acts 11), the believers didn’t just pray for the hungry; they took up a collection. They sent relief.

We are called to be "Salt and Light." Salt preserves and adds flavour, light dispels darkness. In a crisis, this looks like practical service.

1, Caring for the Vulnerable: James 1:27 reminds us that "pure religion" is to look after orphans and widows in their distress. In a global crisis, the marginalized, the poor, the elderly, always suffer first and hardest. A biblical response demands that we move toward the pain, not away from it.

2, Unity: We are the Body of Christ. When one part suffers, every part suffers (1 Corinthians 12:26). Our response must involve "carrying each other's burdens" (Galatians 6:2), whether that means financial support, sharing resources, or simply offering the ministry of presence.

We do not serve because we have no problems of our own; we serve because we serve a Master who "came not to be served, but to serve" (Matthew 20:28).

4. The Prophetic Voice: prayer and Intercession

The Bible also gives us a language for crisis that the world often lacks: Prayer

About a third of the Psalms are psalms of cries to God asking, "How long, O Lord?" (Psalm 13). We do not have to pretend things are okay. We can weep with those who weep. We can cry out against injustice.

We are called to Intercede in prayer. We are called to stand in the gap.

We pray for leaders (1 Timothy 2:1-2), asking God to grant them supernatural wisdom they do not naturally possess.

We pray for healing and provision, believing that God is still a miracle worker.

We pray for repentance, asking God to use the crisis to shake our misplaced priorities and turn our hearts back to Him.

The Ultimate Hope: An Eternal Perspective

Finally, a biblical response is marked by an eternal perspective. Jesus was remarkably honest with us. He said, "In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world" (John 16:33).

We should not be surprised when the world breaks. We live in the "already but not yet" the Kingdom of God has inaugurated in Christ, but the fullness of that Kingdom is still to come. Global crises are "birth pains" (Matthew 24:8), reminding us that this world is not our final home.

Our hope is not in a "return to normalcy" or a political solution or a scientific breakthrough - though we pray for all those things. Our hope is in the return of the King who will "wipe every tear from their eyes" and where "there will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain" (Revelation 21:4).

Therefore Church, a global crisis is an invitation. It is an invitation to stop trusting in the temporary and start leaning on the Eternal.

When the world looks at the church during a crisis, what should they see?

They should see a people who pray with urgency, serve with radical generosity, speak with grace-filled truth, and rest in a peace that makes no earthly sense. Let us not waste this crisis. Let us use it to show the world that we have a Hope that cannot be quarantined, a Kingdom that cannot be shaken, and a Saviour who walks with us through the fire.