Pestilence In The Bible
Lesson No. 6

When God created man, He placed him in a perfect garden (Gen 2:4 to 9), where everything grew in abundance. No rain was necessary because there was water above and below (Gen 1:6 to 10). However, when Adam sinned, God cursed the earth (Gen 3:17 to 19).

- Man had to work hard for his food.
- Thorn & thistles (weeds) started to come out.

The evil of man continued, so God destroyed all creation through a great flood in the time of Noah. But in Gen 8:20 to 22, God promised never to curse the ground again. After this God showed that He can bless His people in spite of the condition of the ground; like Abraham and Isaac (Genesis 26).

Truths about “pestilence” or “plague”:

- While there were weeds and drought in Genesis, there was no mention of pestilence during that time.
- The first mention of “plague” in the Bible was in Exodus 11 and of pestilence was in Exodus 5, when God judged Egypt for disobedience to God’s will & what they were doing to the Israelites.

**Pestilence** is ‘pestilential’ in Latin, meaning *visitation*. It does not mean disease, which is “debher”. In the Bible, it indicates divine visitation and a means of God’s *judgement* (Amos 4:10)

**The purposes of “pestilence” or “plague”!**

1. It was sent to execute God’s judgment!

   - **Amos 4:10** It was sent to judge His people.
   - **Exodus 5:3 to 4** It was sent first to Egypt because of their disobedience.

2. It was sent to show God’s power (Exodus 9:15-16).

3. It was sent as God’s response to disobedience! (Lev 26 & Deut 28)

**How to manage “pestilence” or “plague”**

1. Since it is God who sends it, only God can remove it. (Hab 3:3-5)
2. Man’s trust and obedience are the only things that will cause God to remove it.

   - **Psalm 91:6 to 9** God will protect those who take refuge in Him
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<td>2 Chronicles 7:14</td>
<td>God will heal the land if His people obeys</td>
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<td>Malachi 3:8 to 12</td>
<td>God will remove the devourer when we prove our devotion through tithing</td>
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