

A Message from Metropolitan Agafangel (ROCA)

Christ Will Resurrect Us!* Adopt a Proper Approach to Life and Death

Today, there is wide-spread hysteria surrounding the newly emerged virus, behind which many see illness and death.

The fear of infection and death is nothing new; it has haunted us since the creation of the world and the fall of man. There are many causes of death:



illness, injuries, or simply from depletion of the body's vital resources. Death is inevitable; no safety measures can avert it. This is well known to everyone, and the current virus adds nothing new to this fact.

The aim of a Christian is not the preservation of his earthly life so as to escape death (which is impossible), but rather victory over death by the resurrection that is to come.

Thus, we should not so much seek protection from the coronavirus (or from any other threats to our earthly lives), but **learn to adopt a proper approach to life and death.**

We have many examples of Christians who voluntarily and wittingly preached in the epicenters of diseases and epidemics, became infected, and died along with others, for the sake of the subsequent resurrection into eternal life.

Believe in Christ the Saviour; pray to Him and to those who have been saved by Him; follow Christ and always be united with Him in soul and body (through Holy Communion); and then illness and death will no longer frighten you.

Eternal life awaits us not in this world, but in the world to



come, together with Christ, when the world surrounding us comes to an end.

Ultimately, it does not matter what we die from. Of primary importance is that we be resurrected with Christ.

> † Metropolitan Agafangel First Hierarch of the ROCA Odessa

(*) Source: http://internetsobor.org/index.php/stati/avtorskaya-kolonka/ mitropolit-agafangel-o-koronaviruse-i-drugikh-ugrozakh

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