



Englishman John Milton wrote *Paradise Lost* while going blind and finished it after moving to a new home to avoid the Great Plague of London (1665-1666).

William Shakespeare was under quarantine in 1605-1606 because of a plague and wrote *King Lear*, *Macbeth*, and *Antony and Cleopatra* before it was over.

Sir Isaac Newton had to come home from college in 1665 after it closed because of the Great Plague. On his own he conducted experiments, wrote papers, basically invented calculus, and began the work that led to his discovery of the law of gravity.

While I've lived under social distancing rules, I've gained 7 pounds, whined about a lack of haircuts, and argued with people on Facebook about the dangers of household disinfectants.

Colossians 3:23-24 states, *'Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ.'* Sometimes it is hard to be motivated to do the things you are supposed to do when you are unable to do the things you really want to do. But our motivation is supposed to come from serving Christ. This means I should probably be more productive with my time.

If you are like me, you are tired of all of this. It is easy to feel stuck, stressed, lonely, and wonder if you are making any difference. But God is not as worried about our results as He is about our obedience, and our willingness. Our attitude is what is important. Even if it is something as simple as waiting or being patient, we are to do it as for the Lord. Can we honestly say we have done this during this time of trial? Is our motivation to truly serve Christ?

Pray that God would give you the strength to live this day for Him and to serve Him in all that you do.