

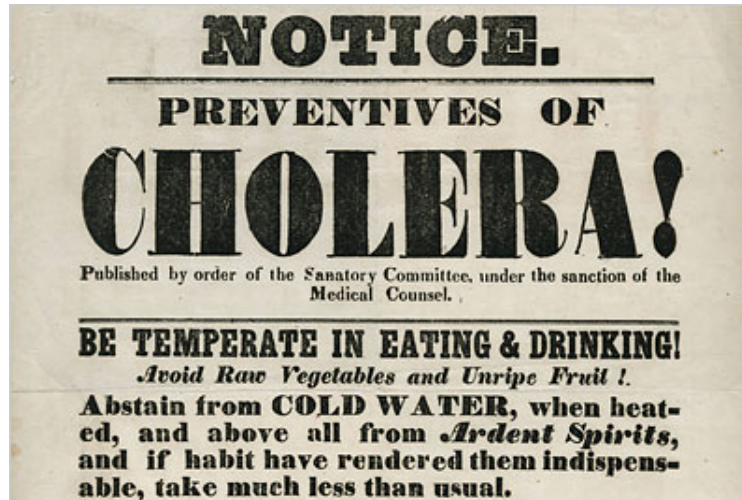
## American Minute with Bill Federer

### CHOLERA: Plague of 19th Century, First Global Epidemic; Day of Fasting proclaimed by President Taylor

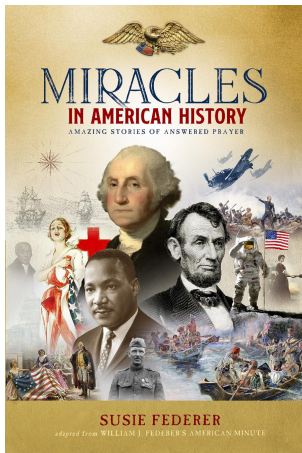
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From the beginning of recorded history, 100's of millions have died from epidemics ...

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Some of the most dreaded **plagues** include:

- **Plague of Pharaoh Akhenaten of Egypt**, circa 1350 BC;
- **Philistine Plague** after capturing the Ark of God (I Samuel 5-6);
- **Plague of Athens**, circa 430 BC, 100,000 deaths;

- **Plague of Antonine**, 165 AD, brought back by troops from the Middle East, 5 million deaths;
- **Plague of Justinian**, beginning in 541 AD, killing an estimated 100 million, half of the world's known population;
- **Black Death-Bubonic Plague**, beginning in 1334, killed an estimated 75 to 200 million, and recurred in cities across Europe for centuries;
- **Cocoliztli Plague in Mexico**, first accounts recorded in 1520 brought by infected slaves from Africa, 15 million deaths;
- **Plagues of London**, 1563, 1592, 1603, and Great Plague of 1665, which killed 100,000, a fifth of London's population;
- South America, 1650, malaria.

The worst plagues which spread to **America** include:

- New England, 1616, 1633, 1713, 1721, 1732, 1747, 1788, thousands of deaths in Boston, spreading in crowded cities, and decimating native Indian populations, symptoms indicate possibly **yellow fever, bubonic plague, influenza, smallpox, measles, chickenpox, typhus**;
- 1793, **Yellow Fever**, 5,000 deaths in Philadelphia, followed by 25 different outbreaks across the country over the next century, possibly brought by slaves or merchants from Africa or Caribbean and spread by mosquitos;
- 1832, 1848, 1866, **Cholera**, millions worldwide;
- 1858, **Scarlet Fever**, over 20,000, mostly children;

- 1865-1906, **Typhoid**, over 100,000 during Civil War and Spanish America War;
- 1890-1900, **Tuberculosis**, 100,000 deaths a year;
- 1918, **Spanish Flu**, in Fort Riley, Kansas, a mass vaccination of soldiers was performed, coincidentally followed by the first incidences of the influenza, accompanied by pneumonia, which aerosolized and spread among soldiers in close quarters during World War I, 75 million deaths worldwide;
- 1921, **Diphtheria**, 200,000 cases a year through the 1920s;
- 1916-1952, **Polio**, peaking with 60,000 children infected in 1952, hundreds of thousands of paralytic cases worldwide;
- 1957, **Asian Flu**, 2 million deaths worldwide;
- 1968, **Hong Kong Flu**, 1 million deaths worldwide;
- 1960-present, **AIDS**, 30 million deaths worldwide, particularly Africa.
- 2014-19, Gain of function research carried out in China's Wuhan Institute of Virology involved coronavirus, funded in part by U.S. agencies; with the first incidences of **Covid19** appearing in Wuhan and spreading globally.

**Jewish populations** had higher survival rates because they followed **Mosaic instructions** of washing, waste disposal, and the isolation of infected individuals for forty days.

The Italian word for forty is "**quaranta**," from which the

word "**quarantine**" is derived.

The disease of the 19th century was **CHOLERA**.

By the early 1800's, the **British Empire** had grown to be the **largest empire in world history**, controlling over 13 million square miles and ruling over a half billion people, including the jewel of the Empire -- **India**.

In **India**, some religious practices included bathing in the sewage-filled **Ganges River**.

As a result, individuals contracted a water-borne disease of **CHOLERA**.

When the **British East India Company** built railroads across the country and sent steamboats up the rivers, **infected individuals** could quickly **travel back to Europe**, carrying **cholera** with them.

**Cholera** was spread by **drinking unsanitary water**, though this was unknown at the time.

It was the **first truly global disease**, killing tens of **millions in crowded cities** in:

England, Ireland, Belgium, Netherlands, France, Spain, Italy, Germany, Hungary, China, Japan, Java, Korea, the Philippines, India, Bengal, Iran, Iraq, Algeria, Tunisia, Egypt, Arabia, and Africa.

In Russia alone, cholera killed over one million people, including the **famous composer, Tchaikovsky**.

Immigrants infected with **cholera** brought it to **America**, Canada, Mexico, Venezuela, Brazil, and the Pacific Coast.

In 1832, **Asiatic Cholera** outbreak gripped New York.

U.S. Senator Henry Clay asked for a Joint Resolution of Congress to request that President Jackson set:

**"A Day of Public Humiliation, Prayer and Fasting** to be observed by the people of the United States with religious solemnity."

By 1849, **cholera** killed 5,000 in New York, with a mass grave on Randall's Island in the East River.

8,000 died of **cholera** in Cincinnati and 3,000 killed in New Orleans.

Spreading up the Mississippi, 5,000 were killed by **cholera** in St. Louis, which was about **6% of the city's population**, among them being Pierre Chouteau, Sr., one of the St. Louis' prominent early settlers.

**Indian tribes** along the Missouri River were devastated.

In Chicago, 3,500 died of **cholera**.

Harriett Beecher Stowe's infant son succumbed to **cholera**, as well as former 11th U.S. President James K. Polk.

**Cholera** ravaged the Tennessee towns of Gallatin, Murfreesboro, Clarksville, Shelbyville, Franklin, Pulaski and McMinnville.

One letter noted:

"Feb 11th 1849 Dear Aunt ... We may be enjoying the society of each other ... and ... the next day ... follow us to the grave ..."

The **Cholera** is very bad in Nashville. You must stay with us until it has abated.

We have had some severe attacks of the **cholera morbus** ... Ma and grand Ma have been very sick the baby is also sick ... Your affectionate niece, Mary C."

**Cholera** deaths caused Ohio to postpone its first State Fair.

**Cholera** spread along the Oregon Trail to the Pacific Northwest and the Mormon Trail to Utah.

It killed an estimated 12,000 on their way to the California Gold Rush.

In total, an estimated 150,000 American died from **cholera**.

On July 3, 1849, **President Zachary Taylor** proclaimed a **National Day of Fasting**:

"At a season when the providence of God has manifested itself in the visitation of a **fearful pestilence which is spreading itself throughout the land,**

it is fitting that a **people** whose reliance has ever been in His protection should **humble themselves before His throne,**

and, while **acknowledging past transgressions, ask a continuance of the Divine mercy.**

It is therefore earnestly recommended that the first Friday in August be observed throughout the United States as a **Day of Fasting, Humiliation, and Prayer ...**

... It is recommended to **persons of all religious denominations** to abstain as far as practical from secular occupations

and to assemble in their respective places of public worship, to acknowledge the Infinite Goodness which has watched over our existence as a nation, and so long crowned us with manifold blessings,

and to **implore the Almighty** in His own good time to

stay the destroying hand which is now lifted up against us."

**New Jersey Governor Daniel Haines** proclaimed a day of prayer and fasting which was published in the *Paterson Intelligencer*, August 1, 1849:

"Whereas the President of the United States, inconsideration of the **prevailing pestilence**, has set ... a **Day of Fasting** ...

and whereas I believe that the people of this State recognize the obligations of a **Christian nation** publicly to acknowledge their dependence upon **Almighty God** ...

that abstaining from their worldly pursuits, they assemble...with humble confession of sin ... and fervently ... implore the **Almighty Ruler of the Universe**, to **remove us from the scourge** ... and speedily ... restore to us the inestimable **blessing of health.**"

In Ohio, **Dayton Mayor John Howard** proclaimed a **Day of Fasting** and ordered all stores to close.

Hundreds of citizens knelt openly in the streets and prayed.

Tim O'Neil wrote "**A Look Back-Cholera Epidemic Hit a Peak Here in 1849**" (STLToday.com):

"St. Louis was a fast-growing city of 75,000, with immigrants arriving by the steamboat-load. It also had **no sewer system** ...

More than 120 died of **cholera** in April 1849 ...

The toll grew six-fold in May ... reached 2,200 in July ...

in late July with a weekly toll of 640, seven times the city's normal death rate ...

The worst death rates were in the slums on the north and south ends of present-day downtown, where **bodies were buried in ditches ...**

**Cholera** killed at least 6 percent of the city's population ...  
The official death toll was 4,317 ..."

**After President Taylor's Day of Fasting** was observed August 3, 1849, Tim O'Neil wrote:

"The number of **deaths dropped suddenly** in August."

That same year, 1849, **English physician John Snow** observed that cases of **cholera** occurred close to a well in Soho neighborhood.

This confirmed that the disease was spread through **drinking contaminated water** (*Medical Times and Gazette*; essay on the "Mode of Communication of Cholera"):

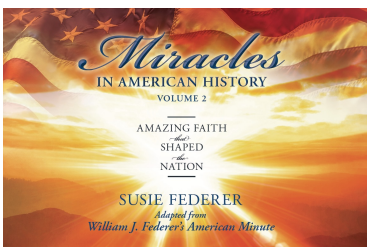
"On proceeding to the spot, I found that nearly all the deaths had taken place within a short distance of the (Broad Street) pump ...

The result of the inquiry, then, is, that there has been no particular outbreak or prevalence of cholera in this part of London except among the persons who were in the habit of drinking the water of the above-mentioned pump well ...

In consequence of what I said, **the handle of the pump was removed on the following day."**

In 1884, Nobel Prize recipient bacteriologist **Robert Koch**, having traveled to Egypt and India, successfully confirmed the identify of the **cholera bacillus** which aided in future treatment and prevention.





## Miracles in American History-Vol. TWO: Amazing Faith that Shaped the Nation

**President Zachary Taylor**, the 12th President, had the nickname "Old Rough and Ready" for fighting the British in the War of 1812, the Sac Indians in the Black Hawk War, and the Seminole Indians in Florida.

**Zachary Taylor's** courageous victories in the Mexican War, being greatly outnumbered by Santa Anna's forces, made him a national hero.

Shortly after being elected President, he was presented with a Bible by a delegation of ladies from Frankfort, Kentucky. His remarks were printed in *The Frankfort Commonwealth*, February 21, 1849:

"I accept with gratitude ... your gift of this **inestimable Volume**. It was for the love of the truths of this **great Book** that our fathers abandoned their native shores for the wilderness.

Animated by its lofty principles they toiled and suffered till the desert blossomed as a rose.

The same truths sustained them ... to become a free nation; and **guided by the wisdom of this Book they founded a government.**"

**President Zachary Taylor** had refused to be sworn in on the **Sabbath** out of religious respect.

He addressed a **Sabbath-School celebration** in the City of Washington, July 4, 1849:

"The only ground of hope for the continuance of our free institutions is in the proper **moral and religious training**

of the children."

When **Zachary Taylor** died JULY 9, 1850, **Millard Fillmore** became the 13th President, stating:

"A great man has fallen among us and a whole country is called to ... mourning ...

I dare not shrink; and I rely upon **Him who holds in His hands the destinies of nations** to endow me with the requisite strength for the task."

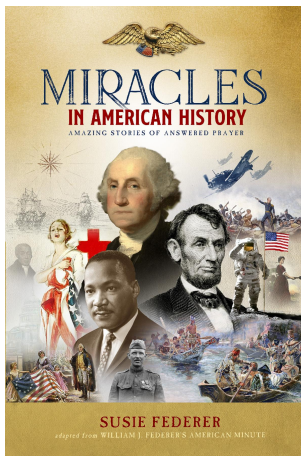
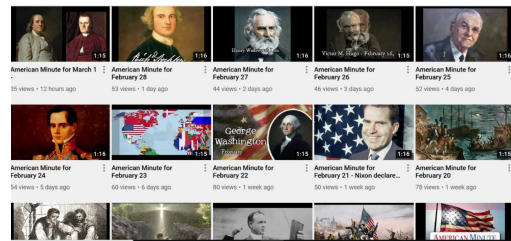
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