

START WITH A STORY: 7 Questions You Probably Have About ‘Superbugs,’ Answered

There’s little comforting about phrases like “nightmare bacteria” or “fatal superbug”. Reports like those surrounding the recent exposure to carbapenem-resistant Enterobacteriaceae in Los Angeles are understandably alarming, especially considering almost 200 UCLA Medical Center patients may have come in contact with such a bug. This exposure and resulting infections raise many questions: Will more patients become infected? What will become of the medical devices implicated? How worried should we realistically be? If more and stronger action isn’t taken soon to address the growing issue of superbugs like CRE, reports suggest we could face serious consequences: By 2050, these infections could kill 10 million people worldwide — more than all types of cancer, combined.

1. What do you mean, “superbug”? - It’s no medical term, but in every day language, it’s come to represent a class of dangerous microbes, generally bacteria, that have mutated in a way that help them to resist the medications we most frequently use to treat them. This is why superbugs are also often referred to as drug-resistant or antibiotic-resistant. They’ve spawned the ability to outsmart our best line of defense against the infections they cause.

2. Why do they mutate like that? - Like any living organism, bacteria can mutate as they multiply. Also like any living organism, bacteria are driven to survive. So, a select few will mutate in particular ways that make them resistant to antibiotics. Then, when antibiotics are introduced, only the bacteria that can resist that treatment can survive to multiply further, proliferating the line of drug-resistant bugs.

3. Why are we hearing more about superbugs now? - Infections seem to be on the rise. At least 2 million people become infected with antibiotic-resistant bacteria a year in the U.S., and an estimated 700,000 die from such an infection worldwide. Without additional methods of treating superbugs, that number could reach 10 million by 2050. One recent study found that CRE infections were five times as likely in 2012 compared to 2008.

4. How much is the average healthy person at risk? - Drug-resistant infections are more common in hospital or other health-care settings. People who are already seeking medical attention may have weakened immune systems that leave them more susceptible to infections. CRE infections have only been seen in a health-care setting, USA Today reported. But others can occur outside of hospitals. MRSA, for example, one of the most well-known drug-resistant superbugs, is on the decline overall, although increasing outside of hospitals. It’s important to keep in mind that infection is a possible risk of any surgical procedure, but only occurs in about 1 percent of cases, WebMD reported.

5. So what should I do to protect myself? - Because there are limited treatment options (because these infections are resistant to antibiotics), prevention is the best measure. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) urge patients concerned about drug-resistant infections to stay up-to-date on vaccines, to help you stay healthier overall and out of medical facilities in general. Careful hand-washing in a hospital setting should be a regular practice. But perhaps most importantly, you can avoid unnecessary treatment with antibiotics. Taking antibiotics when they are not needed can up your risk of drug-resistant infection down the line, according to the CDC, which estimates that antibiotics are “not optimally prescribed” as much as 50 percent of the time. Remember: Antibiotics do not fight viruses, so please do not try to bully your doctor into writing you a prescription when you have the flu.

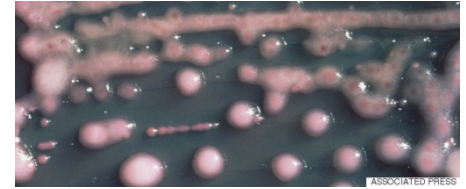
6. Are some superbug infections more serious than others? - Yes. The CDC lists three urgent threats: CRE, responsible for about 9,000 infections a year, C. difficile, which causes about 250,00 cases of life-threatening diarrhea a year, and neisseria gonorrhoeae, which causes around 246,000 cases of drug-resistant gonorrhea a year. These most critical concerns are followed by 12 slightly less serious threats that are expected to worsen, however, including bacteria that cause diarrhea, meningitis, tuberculosis, blood infections and more.

7. What about antibiotics in food? - Yes, the germs that contaminate our food can also become drug-resistant. Antibiotics are sometimes given to food animals to cause them to gain weight quickly, which could contribute to growing antibiotic-resistance. In fact, a particular strain of drug-resistant E. coli seems to be causing more urinary tract infections than in the past, and some researchers believe chickens are the source. Eating chicken carrying drug-resistant E. coli delivers the bacteria to a person’s gut and could eventually end up causing an infection — and indeed, studies show genetic similarities between the E. coli found in chicken and in people with UTIs, Everyday Health reported. Others argue this E. coli could originate in humans but make its way to animals through the sewage system.

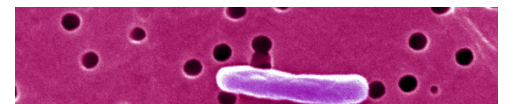
LESSON THEME: The full and beautiful inerrancy of the Word of God.

INTRODUCTION: There is a marvel of marvels and it is called Truth. Proverbs 23:23: *“Buy the truth, and sell it not; also wisdom, and instruction, and understanding.”*

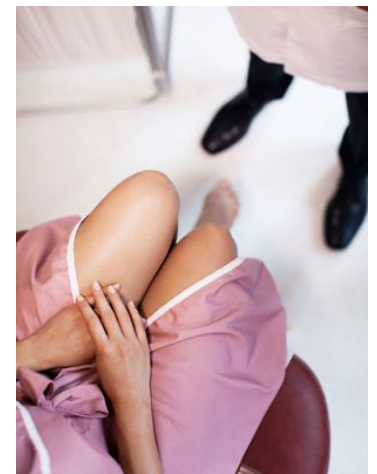
John 14:6: *“Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.”*



CRE bacteria, which can withstand treatment from virtually every type of antibiotic. (AP Photo/Centers for Disease Control and Prevention)



A rod-shape E. Coli bacterium (Photo By BSIP/UG Via Getty Images)



Jesus, speaking of the Father in John 17:17, says: *“Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.”*

Contrary to the reports of the detractors, there is absolute truth - a truth that is the same yesterday, today, and forever. Truth has no companions, only followers. Truth has no opinion and Truth has zero tolerance. This Truth eliminates doubt and confusion and always points in the correct direction. Truth is the Word of God and Truth is a person. Revelation 19:13 speaks of our Lord Jesus Christ:

“And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God.”

Have you been born again? Are you ready to know the Truth, to buy the Truth without money? Do you want the answers to all of life's questions? Do you want your sins and shame expunged from your record, and do you want the power to live a holy life? You can have these things now. NOW FOR TODAY'S LESSON!

LESSON: God said in Genesis 4:7: *“If thou doest well, shalt thou not be accepted? and if thou doest not well, sin lieth at the door.”*

And again in Galatians 6:7: *“Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.”*

And in Job 4:8: *“Even as I have seen, they that plow iniquity, and sow wickedness, reap the same.”*

Romans 6:23 tells us: *“For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.”*



But, the world has a different take on it. We are an enlightened society. We have cast off the restraints of that archaic book called the Bible and its author called God. We have a better way.

1. CHANGING DEFINITIONS - Man can cloak his words of disobedience in another name, but the wages of sin will by necessity be paid. When the mockers rail against the Bible, they should keep in mind Galatians 6:7: *“Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.”*

Man can call a living child in the mother's womb a fetus, thus impersonalizing the child and justifying the shredding of its little body before casting it into a garbage bag. Man can replace the word sin with the psychological doctrine of normalcy. Man can call lust love, and he can call unbelief academic enlightenment, but the results will always be the same - horrendous judgment. It is inescapable.

Welcome to Sunday School and a lesson that will once again prove the full and beautiful inerrancy of the Word of God. Those looking for proof of the supernatural, God-given, inerrant words in the majority-text Holy Bible need look no further than the results of disregarding them. Regular members of this class understand that God gave us His precepts, judgments, and commandments to protect His beloved from hurtful lusts, from each other, and from ourselves. Because God's directives for life are the infallible truth, one disregards them at his own peril. Every commandment of God has inherent within it a blessing or a curse. Obey the commandment and enjoy the blessing of doing the right thing. Disobey, and suffer the curse, the result of doing the wrong thing. It is just that simple.

Satan is the master of deception and the father of lies. His M.O. is to steal, kill, and destroy (John 10:10), but he cloaks his efforts in the lie. Consider mankind's first experience with the master of deception. Genesis 3:1-5: *“Now the serpent was more subtle than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die. And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.”*





2. FREE LOVE - Our immortal grandmother bought Satan's deception. She lost immortality the moment she ate of the tree and passed death on to all of her offspring. Satan is a liar. Satan hides his desire to kill you behind a promise. During the 1960s and its generation of rebellion and unbridled lust came the term "Free Love." It represented the idea of sexual "freedom." God's commandments against fornication, adultery, homosexuality, etc. had man in bondage long enough. It was time to break on through to the other side. Keep in mind that in 1953, the I Love Lucy show was censored for using the word pregnant. During the 1960s, sexual promiscuity was glamorized by Hollywood, academia, and the culture at large in a new and aggressive way. Fornication of all sorts, including open-ended marriages, cohabitation, homosexuality, pedophilia, and more, has only grown since. America has had 60 years of "free love," but as usual, Satan hides death behind his promise.

Satan called it "Free Love!" Before we reveal the new sex superbug that could be worse than AIDS, check out this short list of the "fruits" of "Free Love" in the U.S.A.:

- 70,000,000 cases of genital herpes and HPV
- 5,000,000 cases of chlamydia
- 1,100,000 cases of gonorrhea
- 1,000,000 people with HIV
- 45,000 people with AIDS
- 300,000 people with Hepatitis B
- 120,000 cases of syphilis
- 20,000,000 people addicted to pornography
- 25% of U.S. women sexually molested by the age of 18
- 123,000,000 Americans affected by a sexually transmitted disease
- 79,914 arrests reported by the FBI for sex crimes other than prostitution. (Factoring 50 crimes for every arrest brings the number to 3,995,700.)
- 50,000,000 abortions
- Multitudes of children born out-of-wedlock
- A minority of children currently being raised with both biological parents in the home

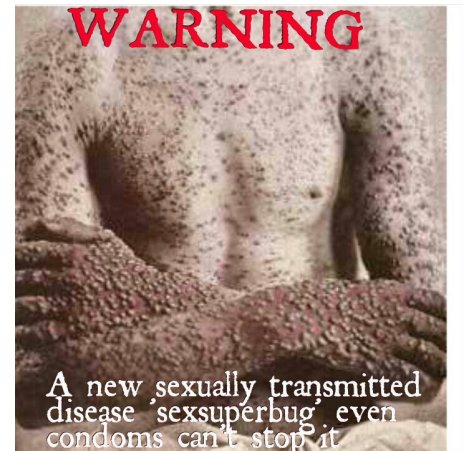
And more

The headline on CNBC.com, April 30, 2013, reads "Sex Superbug Could Be 'Worse than AIDS.'" Excerpts from the article follow:

"An antibiotic-resistant strain of gonorrhea—now considered a superbug—has some analysts saying that the bacteria's effects could match those of AIDS."

"This might be a lot worse than AIDS in the short run because the bacteria is more aggressive and will affect more people quickly," said Alan Christianson, a doctor of naturopathic medicine.

Even though 30 million people have died from AIDS-related causes worldwide, Christianson believes the effects of the gonorrhea bacteria is more direct.



"Getting gonorrhea from this strain might put someone into septic shock and death in a matter of days," Christianson said. "This is very dangerous."

"It's an emergency situation," said William Smith, executive director of the National Coalition of STD Directors. "As time moves on, it's getting more hazardous."

This gonorrhea strain, HO41, was discovered in Japan two years ago in a 31-year old female sex worker who had been screened in 2009. The bacteria has since been found in Hawaii, California, and Norway.

Because it resists current antibiotic treatment, the strain has been placed in the superbug category with other resistant bacteria, such as MRSA and CRE. These



superbugs kill about half the people they attack, and nearly one in 20 hospital patients become infected with one, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

“People need to practice safe sex, like always,” Christianson said. “Anyone beginning a new relationship should get tested along with their partner. The way gonorrhea works, not everyone knows they have it. And with this new strain, it’s even more important than ever to find out.”

All superbugs must be dealt with before it’s too late, he said.

According to the CDC, about 20 million a year contract a sexually transmitted disease (STD) and result in about \$16 billion in medical costs. More than 800,000 of STD cases reported are gonorrhea infections, with most occurring in people between the ages of 15 and 24.

Satan cloaks his real agenda behind a false promise. “Free Love?” Not so free after all. Those looking for proof of God need look no further than the results of disregarding His inerrant Word.

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