Three Queensland hospitals are battling outbreaks of the highly infectious norovirus which has struck down almost 150 patients and staff.

Queensland Health on Tuesday said the Royal Brisbane and Woman's (RBWH), Gold Coast and Cairns Base hospitals had been affected by the virus, which causes vomiting, diarrhoea, nausea, stomach cramps, fever and headaches.

“For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and *pestilences*, and earthquakes, in divers places.”
—Matthew 24:7