Corona Virus - Opportunity for long term investors?

The corona pandemic is dominating the news right now, and rightly so. Thousands of people died, unemployment rates skyrocketed (at least in the US - we're better off here), and millions are stuck at home due to social distancing measures. And while all of this is very tragic and sad to watch, there might be some good news too, at least for some people. Until recently - that is, until the virus came along - the global stock market has seemed to be in an "Everything-Bubble". Charts hiked, and hiked, and hiked. New all time highs every week. No great buying opportunities whatsoever. Big time investor Warren Buffet was hoarding billions - he preferred to have his money sitting around declining in value, rather than having it invested in overpriced assets. But that all changed with COVID-19. Drastic measures from governments all over the world caused an economic standstill in various industries. Airlines cancelling all their flights from one day to the next. Restaurants and gyms shutting down. Disney having to close all their parks. This has never happened before - previous recessions were caused by economic or industry-specific factors, such as the great depression, the Dotcom bubble, or the financial crisis. This is a health crisis, impacting various sectors all at the same time. Stocks all over the world dropped heavily. But this is where it gets interesting. While many companies are in fact struggling tremendously right now (Boeing just cut their dividend to zero), many others remain relatively okay. Some of them are even thriving. Their deteriorating share price is the result of investors doing panic-selling. And that means undervaluation, which equals opportunity - especially for the long-term investor. Take a look at Realty Income for example. The biggest retail REIT in the US maintains a portfolio of high quality shopping locations and some industry buildings. Shopping malls don't have a great reputation right now, due to Amazon stepping in and stealing all the customers. But you have to look closely here. Realty's properties aren't home to shopping malls. Their tenants are stores providing goods that people are extremely reluctant to miss out on - groceries, convenience products and drugs. In a time when people are rushing out to clear toilet paper shelves, this isn't the worst place to be in. Realty income does have some struggling tenants too - some cinemas and gyms for example. But those tenants make up only 7% of their overall portfolio. Their fundamentals remain beautifully intact. With an extremely conservative balance sheet, a 98% occupancy rate of their properties, and 26 consecutive years of increased monthly dividends, there's no real reason for a 30% drop but simple panic. Another great example would be Pepsi and Coca Cola. One of Pepsi's board members recently said that according to current revenue numbers, "Americans must be sitting at home drinking Cola all day". Same goes for companies like Altria and British American Tobacco - if people are addicted to their product, having to stay at home will likely not change that. Unilever is yet another one: being one of the worlds biggest consumer staples companies, the demand for their products is remarkably unaffected by the virus. People still have to eat and wash, after all. These are all holdings with long histories of enduring crisis, solid fundamentals and highly attractive valuations right now. If one would be watching the stock market with buy-and-hold intentions in mind, now would be a great time to buy into a few of those big, solid names.