

THE OLD SCHOOL BAPTIST HOUR, 18TH IN A SERIES,

December 20, 1987

WBC'S MISSION STATEMENT FROM GOD: "Behold, I have put my words in thy mouth. ... [T]o root out, and to pull down, and to destroy, and to throw down." Jeremiah 1:9-10.

Westboro Baptist Church of Topeka, Kansas, presents "The Old School Baptist Hour," with Pastor Fred Phelps.

This is Fred Phelps. Westboro Baptist Church in Topeka is an Old School or Primitive Baptist Church. It has existed in this evil place for thirty-two years; week in and week out; year in and year out; expounding the Five Points of Calvinism and the absolute autonomy of the local church as the only message of God to man. "For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world; looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ; who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works. These things speak, and exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no man despise thee." Titus 2:11-15.

The gospel minister and the true church of Jesus Christ may be clearly identified in every age and place, always and everywhere; they insist on pure gospel truth and vigorously combat religious heresy, hypocrisy and tyranny. Always and everywhere they cry aloud, they spare not, they lift up the voice like a trumpet, and they plainly show the people amongst whom they dwell exactly what their sins and transgressions are. Isaiah 58:1. Every

faithful gospel minister and every true church of Jesus Christ has the exact same calling as Jeremiah and every other prophet and messenger from God to man. Listen: “But the LORD said unto me ... thou shalt go to all that I shall send thee, and whatsoever I command thee thou shalt speak. Be not afraid of their faces: for I am with thee to deliver thee... Then the LORD put forth his hand, and touched my mouth. And the LORD said unto me, Behold, I have put my words in thy mouth. ... [T]o root out, and to pull down, and to destroy, and to throw down ... For, behold, I have made thee this day a [fenced] city, and an iron pillar, and [brass] walls against [this people]... And they shall fight against thee; but they shall not prevail against thee; for I am with thee, saith the LORD, to deliver thee.” Jeremiah 1:7-10, 17-19.

“And they, whether they will hear, or whether they will forbear, (for they are a rebellious [people]), yet shall know that there hath been a prophet among them. ... And go, get thee to [this] ... people, and speak unto them, and tell them, Thus saith the Lord GOD; whether they will hear, or whether they will forbear [to hear]. ... [A]nd I went in bitterness, in the heat of my spirit; but the hand of the LORD was strong upon me.” Ezekiel 2:5, 3:11, 14.

Don't you understand, my friend, it is not the duty of the servant of God Almighty to tailor his message to the will and the whim of the people among whom he dwells: just the opposite. Listen: “Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us.” 2 Corinthians 5:20. The true messenger of God is not the least bit concerned about how his message will be received. It is always the ultimate duty of the ambassador to accurately and faithfully deliver the message of his own sovereign to the foreign powers to whom he is sent. It is simply irrelevant to the ambassador whether the foreign powers like what he says or hate what he says. Further, you should understand this very clearly: I am not preaching the truth of God to you on this radio broadcast with any expectation that

you will believe what I am preaching and receive my message, but rather to fill up the cup of your iniquity (Genesis 15:16) and, to glorify God in the day of visitation (1 Peter 2:12). That is, when God Almighty visits you, to punish you for your sins, his wrath and his justice will be glorified because you sinned willfully in the face of great light and truth. You then richly deserve everlasting punishment from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his power. 2 Thessalonians 1:9.

You are not a vessel of mercy; that is, you were not created to receive mercy from God. Romans 9:23. You are a vessel of wrath fitted to destruction; that is, you were created to live a life of sin and rejection of the truth so that in the end God may be glorified in punishing you in hell forever. Romans 9:22. Listen: "Hath not the potter power over the clay, of the same lump to make one vessel unto honour, and another unto dishonour?" Romans 9:21. God Almighty has repeatedly declared in his word that he is the sovereign potter and that mankind are so many lumps of clay; and that he has, and exercises, the absolute right to make each person either a vessel of honor or a vessel of dishonor; either a vessel of mercy or a vessel of wrath. Listen: "What if God, willing to shew his wrath, and to make his power known, endured with much longsuffering the vessels of wrath fitted to destruction: and that he might make known the riches of his glory on the vessels of mercy, which he had afore prepared unto glory, even us, whom he hath called." Romans 9:22-24.

Some irate female called the other day to say, that no matter what I said on this radio program she was still going to celebrate Christmas. Don't you understand you simpleton, that when I preach the truth to you about Christmas, and warn you that Christmas is a pagan, idolatrous festival; I have no expectation or desire whatsoever that you will receive my message and change your heathen practices. I know better. From thirty-two years of experience in this evil place known as Topeka, Kansas, I know better; and I

also know better because the Bible plainly tells me better. I am preaching the truth to you so that you will sin against more light and so that you will fully earn and deserve the awful punishment that is coming upon you very soon now. I am preaching the truth to you so that you may fill up the cup of your iniquity exactly like the Amorites of old. Genesis 15:16. I am preaching the truth to you so that your mouth may be stopped and you will be without excuse when God visits you with his wrath and executes his long-delayed judgment against you. Romans 1:20.

Listen: “For the scripture saith unto Pharaoh, Even for this same purpose have I raised thee up, that I might shew my power in thee, and that my name might be declared throughout all the earth.” Romans 9:17. Don’t you understand that the only reason God Almighty had you be born and survive infant mortality and live many years on this earth, was so that he might punish you in hell forever for your sins; and thereby display to the assembled universe the glory of his power, the glory of his wrath, and the glory of his justice in thus punishing you. And one essential element in this plan was to have the truth preached plainly to you, so that you might reject that truth and harden your heart against that truth, and persecute the messenger that brought that truth to you; and thereby powerfully demonstrate what a sinful, evil reprobate you really and truly are. Only by thus sinning against great light can the profoundly evil condition of your black heart be gloriously shone.

My friend, you did not sin ignorantly; you sinned intelligently and deliberately and contumaciously; even when you plainly knew better and even when you had the truth preached ever so plainly to you over this radio broadcast. Exhibit A at your trial when you at last stand before God Almighty for judgment will be *The Old School Baptist Hour*. God used this program to harden your heart exactly as he used the message of Moses to harden Pharaoh’s heart. Some twenty times in Exodus chapters 4, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and

14, it is written that God hardened Pharaoh's heart. Moses had a true message from God to Pharaoh. In this, Moses was the prototype of the gospel preacher, and Pharaoh was the prototype of every reprobate sinner, every non-elect soul who ever lived. Listen: "And thou shalt say unto Pharaoh, Thus saith the LORD, Israel is my son, even my firstborn: and I say unto thee, Let my son go, that he may serve me: and if thou refuse to let him go, behold, I will slay thy son, even thy firstborn." Exodus 4:22-23.

The message from God to every depraved son of Adam, every reprobate alive on earth in every age and in every place, is essentially the same as that to Pharaoh, to wit: I have an elect people dwelling among you, and you are oppressing them because of the truth they preach. Quit oppressing them or I will punish you in a way that hurts you the most. Exodus 4:22-23. The elect of God in every age, always a little flock—"Fear not, little flock; it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom" (Luke 12:34)—always dwell in the midst of a crooked and perverse mass of humanity. That little flock always dwells in the midst of an adulterous and sinful generation, among whom they shine as lights in the world. Philippians 2:15. And the message of God is always the same, to wit: My people are living among you; they have the truth; receive them, believe them, heed their message; quit oppressing them; get off their back. I will visit you and punish you if you continue to reject my truth in the earth, by rejecting my people whom I have sent to live among you, and if you continue to manifest your hatred of God by persecuting and oppressing my people. Exodus 4:22-23.

But, even as God was dispatching Moses to deliver that message to Pharaoh; God simultaneously told Moses very plainly that Pharaoh would not heed that message, saying: "but I will harden his heart, that he shall not let [my] people go." Exodus 4:21. And such, my friend, is the recurring scenario throughout human history. Thus you see, I do not preach the truth

to you with any expectation that you will believe it and receive it. I do not expect any of you to discontinue your Christmas idolatries. In fact, I fully expect you to go to even greater excesses in your pagan celebrations of your goofy Christmas religion. Because the purpose of preaching the truth to you on that and every other religious matter is that God may thereby harden your heart. Listen: "Behold, ye despisers, and wonder, and perish: for I work a work in your days, a work which ye shall in no wise believe, though a man declare it unto you." Acts 13:41. Every day they wrest, twist, pervert my words. Psalm 56:5.

Westboro Baptist Church has existed in Topeka some thirty-two years now declaring the whole counsel of God to the crooked and perverse, the adulterous and sinful generation which go to make up the reprobate citizenry of this evil city. And, today, thirty-two years later, there are more sodomites, more adulterers and adulteresses, and more and greater idolaters here than when we began. And, the purpose of preaching the truth to you is not with any expectation that you will heed it and repent, except for a very small remnant of you who were ordained to eternal life. But the purpose that God Almighty has is thereby to harden your hearts that you might thereby sin against more and greater light, and that in the end God may be glorified and justified when he punishes and damns you in a most just display of his power and his wrath. Romans 9:17-23. Listen: "For the LORD thy God is a consuming fire, even a jealous God." Deuteronomy 4:24. Listen: "For I know your manifold transgressions and your mighty sins: [you] afflict the just, [you] take a bribe, [you] turn aside the poor in [your courts] from their right." Amos 5:12. Listen: "For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness; because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them... so that they are without excuse." Romans 1:18-20. Listen: "For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more

sacrifice for sins, but a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries.” Hebrews 10:26-27.

Listen to me, ye fools and blind. Matthew 23:17. You have minds to think with, and you are very smart and clever in your business affairs. You know how to make money and invest it, and you can figure out complicated things. You are doctors and lawyers and judges and educators and really sharp entrepreneurs. You are wise and prudent, and you prepare for your old age, and you hedge your bets against inflation and against the recognized perils and uncertainties of life. You are so smart. But when it comes to the things of God Almighty, you bid adieu to your brains; you check your brains at the door of your idol temples you call churches, and you bow down before some witch doctor you call a priest or a minister. And, you swallow down lies by the ladle-full and without sugar to help the poison go down. You really smart people of this evil city suddenly turn into brain-damaged morons and idiots; grown people who must have help changing their diapers; mental retards who must have keepers. Hebrews 5:12-14.

Listen to me, ye fools and blind. Matthew 23:17. Do you think you can pop shams off on God Almighty? That you really smart people can plead ignorance when you stand before the Almighty on the judgment day? Wake up! The truths I am preaching to you are crystal clear. These matters are not even close questions. Listen: “wayfaring men, though fools, [need] not err therein.” Isaiah 35:8. Listen: And the Lord said unto me: “Write [this matter], and make it plain on big [tablets], that he may [read it on the run]” Habakkuk 2:2. That is, in a figure, these things have been written in such big, plain letters by God Almighty that you may read it on the run. That’s how plain it is. My friend, you may pretend that you believe in the Christmas lies, but in your soul you know better. You may pretend it is alright to recognize homosexuals—sodomites—as merely innocent practitioners of an acceptable, alternative lifestyle, but in your soul you know better. You may

pretend to believe that God loves everybody and Jesus died for everybody, but in your soul you know better. You are following cunningly devised fables and pretending that you believe these lies. 2 Peter 1:16. But in your soul you know that you are feeding on ashes, that a deceived heart has turned you aside, that you cannot deliver your soul, that you cannot say, is there not a lie in my right hand? Isaiah 44:20.

Tolstoy, in his book entitled, *Resurrection*, has this to say: "These preachers and priests do not really believe the hocus pocus nonsense they profess to believe. But they believe that one ought to believe it. And, the main thing that confirms them in their so-called faith is the fact that in return for fulfilling the demands of their religions, they draw comfortable incomes which enable them to support their families and enjoy an easy lifestyle, and send their children to schools run by their religious organizations; and maintain a certain respectability in society." These phony preachers, my friend, were spoken of by Christ as follows: But all their works they do for to be seen of men, and they love the uppermost places at feasts, banquets, and the chief seats in the churches, and greetings in the market place, and to be called of men: "doctor, doctor," "reverend, reverend." Topeka, Kansas, is full of these cowardly, hypocrite preachers and priests. They are doctors alright; witch doctors; presiding over voodoo religious systems; falsely calling themselves churches of Christ. The definition of voodoo is unprincipled, irrational religion demanding of its followers a superstitious faith in that which is really unreasonable and phony. And these voodoo witch doctors get mad if you challenge their blind Christmas fetishes and pagan Christmas practices as being totally unscriptural, irrational, anti-Christ.

Last week in a flight from Chicago, one of my lawyer-daughters sat next to and debated these issues with one of the famous television evangelists at 35,000 feet. If I mentioned this preacher's name you would

recognize it at once. This famous television evangelist loves Christmas simply because it is profitable to him. Religious charlatans rake in a lot of loot with special Christmas programs and fund appeals. They parrot the blatant lie that Christ was born December 25 and since it is his birthday everybody ought to send him a birthday present. Translated, they mean, send the money to the big TV evangelist for the work of the Lord. Listen: "Woe unto you, [religious hypocrites] scribes and Pharisees ... for ye devour widows' houses, and for a pretence make long prayers: therefore ye shall receive the greater damnation." Matthew 23:14. These lying preachers, these voodoo witch doctors, admit that Christ could not have been born December 25th, they admit there is no scriptural authority for celebrating Christmas at all, and they admit that every religious custom and practice associated with the celebration of Christmas comes from pagan religions and constitutes idolatry. Yet, for a pretense, and because it is enormously profitable for them, they endorse the Christmas charade, the Christmas farce, the Christmas fraud.

Alexander Hislop, in his monumental work entitled *The Two Babylons*, at Page 91, states: "It is in the last degree incredible that the birth of Christ could have taken place at the end of December. There is great unanimity among commentators on this point. Call the role of all recognized authorities on this subject. Barnes, Doddridge, Lightfoot, Scaliger, Jennings, Mede; they all agree. A sample is from Jennings' great study on 'Jewish Antiquities': 'At the birth of Christ, every woman and child was to go to be taxed at the city whereto they belonged, whither some had long journeys; but the middle of winter was not fitting for such a business, especially for women with child, and children to travel in. Therefore, Christ could not be born in the depth of winter. And at the time of Christ's birth, the shepherds lay abroad watching with their flocks in the nighttime; but this was never done in the middle of winter. And if any shall think the winter wind was not so extreme in Palestine, let him remember the words of Christ in the Gospel,

“but pray that your flight be not in the winter.” (Mark 13:18)’ ... It is admitted by the most learned and candid writers of all parties, that the day of our Lord’s birth cannot be determined; and that within the Christian church no such festival as Christmas was ever heard of till the third century, and not till the fourth was far advanced did it gain much observance.”

Listen: “they declare their sin as Sodom, they hide it not. Woe unto their soul! for they have rewarded evil unto themselves.” Isaiah 3:9.

This is Fred Phelps, pastor of Westboro Baptist Church; more next week at this time on this station, on “*The Old School Baptist Hour.*”