## **Westboro Baptist Church**

(WBC Chronicles -- Since 1955)

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## **NEWS RELEASE**

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## Signs of the Times: Shining Bible Light on Current Events

The Lord has wrought many blessed judgments in the world this week which can be seen plainly by any who have been given eyes to see, ears to hear, and a heart to understand by the gracious hand of God. "Son of man, thou dwellest in the midst of a rebellious house, which have eyes to see, and see not; they have ears to hear, and hear not: for they are a rebellious house." (Ezekiel 12:2) This entire world is a rebellious house! Therefore, the Lord, the God of Israel, is punishing the people of it! Let's view some of this week's judgments from the proper perspective:

On Tuesday, August 8th, North Korea threatened retaliation after the United Nations Security Council voted 15-0 to impose new sanctions on the dictatorial nation. This led to a series of tit-for-tat threats of implied nuclear war between North Korea and U.S. President Trump throughout the remainder of the week. The media did their part in whipping up fear and furor, mostly over President Trump's rhetoric. It must be reminded that, no matter how unbalanced and dangerous the human rulers of the world seem, God Almighty has all control firmly in His hands, and He views His elect people dearly and tenderly as the apple of His eye (Zechariah 2:8). Fear God alone and serve Him; He is sufficient for your salvation and protection. "I will say of the LORD, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust [...] Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night; nor for the arrow that flieth by day; Nor for the pestilence that walketh in darkness; nor for the destruction that wasteth at noonday. A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee. Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold and see the reward of the wicked." (Psalm 91:2-8)

On Friday, August 11th, the 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled against WBC to uphold Nebraska's Funeral Picketing Law. The law bans protests within 500 feet of a funeral service from one hour before to two hours after the service; it was enacted in 2006 in response to WBC's preaching at military funerals wherein she has sought to warn America to turn from its vile sins to turn away the wrath of God. Thank God for the beautiful preaching that has flowed from this court's judgment. Page two of the opinion contains some of WBC's most salient Biblical points: these military funerals are patriotic pep rallies, and God is cursing America because of its elevation of the abominable sin of sodomy. We rejoice in all of the ways God causes the cross to be preached to this world, for it fulfills a vital function for the elect of God. "For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God." (1 Corinthians 1:18) "What then? notwithstanding, every way, whether in pretence, or in truth, Christ is preached; and I therein do rejoice, yea, and will rejoice." (Philippians 1:18)

On Friday, August 11<sup>th</sup>, various skirmishes in Charlottesville, Virginia began when hundreds of alt-right protesters bearing torches marched onto the University of Virginia campus. Counter protesters assembled in response and fights between the two groups broke out before the march disbanded. More violence followed on Saturday morning as the white supremacists gathered in Emancipation Park to protest the planned removal of a Confederate statue. Protesters and counter protesters threw fists and sprayed chemical irritants at each other; a car also plowed into a group of people, killing one person. The governor of Virginia then declared a state of emergency. This is part of a trend of glorying in one's skin color that has been building for years in this nation among many different groups. Taking pride in or shaming others for their color is abject silliness and exceedingly unscriptural and sinful. It is God who appoints your appearance. "For who maketh thee to differ from another? and what hast thou that thou didst not receive? now if thou didst receive it, why dost thou glory, as if thou hadst not received it?" (1 Corinthians 4:7) The only important distinction between humans is not what part of the world they or their ancestors are from, but whether or not they believe on Christ by God's grace – see John 3:16-18.

Woe to you who have hardened your hearts against the Lord and His word. The destruction of this world is imminent; you must believe on Christ, repent of your sins, and seek the Lord with humility. "For Gaza shall be forsaken, and Ashkelon a desolation: they shall drive out Ashdod at the noon day, and Ekron shall be rooted up. Woe unto the inhabitants of the sea coast, the nation of the Cherethites! the word of the LORD is against you; O Canaan, the land of the Philistines, I will even destroy thee, that there shall be no inhabitant." (Zephaniah 2:4-5)

## Repent or Perish!