

Westboro Baptist Church

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Religious Opinion & Bible Commentary on Current Events

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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:

This week, in the aftermath of the shooting at a Southaven, Mississippi Walmart on July 30th, the shooting at an El Paso, Texas Walmart on August 3rd, and two incidents at other Walmart locations in Baton Rouge, Louisiana and Springfield, Missouri, Walmart has ordered the temporary removal of any signs or displays containing violent images or aggressive behavior. This comes as an attempt to curb violent crimes committed using a firearm, an issue that is running more and more rampant through this country and the world at large. In an attempt to place blame for these tragic events, mainstream media outlets across the country are pointing to one item in particular: violent video games. This country gropes in darkness for an answer, for a solution as to why their children and loved ones have to fear being gunned down whenever they leave the house, instead of turning to the simplest of truths: **“See now that I, even I, am he, and there is no god with me: I kill, and I make alive; I wound, and I heal: neither is there any that can deliver out of my hand.” (Deuteronomy 32:39)** Knowing that the power of life and death is in the hand of the Creator, the question one is then led to ask is why has The Lord set His sights on the people of this nation, to take their peace and their lives, their children, and their loved ones? The answer is also plain to those who have an ear to hear and a heart to understand: **“Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened... Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonor their own bodies between themselves... And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient; Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers, backbiters, haters of God, despiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, Without understanding, covenantbreakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful: who knowing the judgement of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them.” (Romans 1:21,24,28-32)** Because the nations of this world have turned from the Lord, and have set their own standard in place of His, they have been given over to these atrocities. If there were any sincere desire in the people of the United States, they would repent of their sins against their Maker and worship and serve Him above themselves! That is what it will take to stop the shootings. Not a reduction in violent media, not an act of Congress, not a multitude of words and pleadings. Simple obedience. **“Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man.” (Ecclesiastes 12:13)**

On Saturday, August 10th, Jeffrey Epstein, who was recently incarcerated for the alleged sexual abuse of underage girls, was found dead in his jail cell of suspected suicide. Jeffrey was a man of wealth and power, and like many before him, he abused that position. He should have used his God-given wealth and station in life to **“preach the gospel to every creature” (Mark 16:15)** as Jesus Christ commanded His apostles. Though no man can know the state of another man’s soul, we can say that Jeffrey’s space for repentance is now over. We look to the Lord Jesus Christ again in Luke to grant insight into the aftermath of the rich man’s life: **“The rich man also died, and was buried; and in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom. And he cried and said, Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame. But Abraham said, Son, remember that thou in thy lifetime receivedst thy good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things: but now he is comforted, and thou art tormented.” (Luke 16:22-25)**

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!