

Westboro Baptist Church

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3701 S.W. 12th St. Topeka, Ks. 66604 785-273-0325 www.GodHatesFags.com

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:

Eight people, aged from 14 to 27, died from asphyxiation last Friday evening at rapper Travis Scott’s Astroworld festival hosted by NRG Park in Houston, Texas. 13 are still hospitalized from their injuries as a result of what eyewitnesses describe as a surging of the crowd toward the stage as Scott began his set. The close quarters began to crush the attendees as there was not space enough for their lungs to expand; many began fainting as a result, causing a panic in which many trampled on each other to be free of the press. Amidst the pandemonium, there were also reports of narcotics being injected into attendees and security guards against their will. By all accounts it was a grim and terrifying event, traumatizing to the survivors and sorrowing to the families of the dead. While those of God’s elect do not take personal joy in such a judgement of God - **“Rejoice not when thine enemy falleth, and let not thine heart be glad when he stumbleth: Lest the LORD see it, and it displease him, and he turn away his wrath from him” (Proverbs 24: 17-18)**, they must still thank and praise God for what He has wrought in the earth. Why? There are several reasons. First, for showing Himself faithful in fulfilling His promise against a rebellious people: **“The righteous shall rejoice when he seeth the vengeance: he shall wash his feet in the blood of the wicked. So that a man shall say, Verily there is a reward for the righteous: verily he is a God that judgeth in the earth.” (Psalm 58: 10-11)** **“Though they bring up their children, yet will I bereave them, that there shall not be a man left: yea, woe also to them when I depart from them!” (Hosea 9:12)** Second, for His longsuffering that He has not similarly requited every man Adam and woman Eve for their trespasses. And third, for the space He has given those that are left to repent of their sins. In his discourse on the life of the prophet Elijah, Arthur Pink observes the following regarding the seer’s earnest prayer **“that it might not rain” (James 5:17)** *Do some of our readers exclaim, “What a terrible prayer”? Then we ask, Was it not far more terrible that the favoured descendants of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob should despise and turn away from the Lord God and blatantly insult Him by worshipping Baal? Would they desire the thrice Holy One to wink at such enormities? Are His righteous laws to be trampled upon with impunity? God forbid. Hear the words of Christ: And Jesus answering said unto them, Suppose ye that these Galilaeans were sinners above all the Galilaeans, because they suffered such things? I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish. (Luke 13:3)*

In other news this past week, the eyes of this nation have focused on the trial of young Kyle Rittenhouse, the seventeen-year-old who fired on three protesters, killing two in the wake of the police involved shooting of Jacob Blake in August of 2020. The religious right has celebrated him as a hero who merely acted in self-defense, whereas others have labelled him as a murderer who went there looking to be accosted. In reality, what we have here is just flavors of rebellion. While these “protests” often did devolve into violent rioting and debauchery, Rittenhouse was without excuse bringing such a weapon knowing where it likely must end: **Surely the churning of milk bringeth forth butter, and the wringing of the nose bringeth forth blood: so the forcing of wrath bringeth forth strife. (Proverbs 30:33)** Christ has commanded His servants **to be ye therefore wise as serpents, and harmless as doves. (Matthew 10:16)** Though Rittenhouse will in all likelihood be acquitted, he and all members of the human race are beholden to a greater Judge **for we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad. (1 Corinthians 5:3)**

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!