

OLD SCHOOL BAPTIST HOUR BROADCAST

By the *WESTBORO BAPTIST CHURCH*

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“Who hath believed our report? And to whom is the arm of the LORD revealed?” Isaiah 58:1

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 Topeka for thirty-two years; maintaining and defending pure Gospel truth.

Upon dedicating a new church house in London more than one hundred years ago, Mr. Charles Spurgeon: ***“As for our faith as a church, you have heard about that already. We believe those doctrines commonly called the Five Points of Calvinism; as being the only true message of God in the earth; against all heretics, and especially against all lovers of Arminianism, that is free-willism; we do maintain and defend pure Gospel truth.”*** After his death, and in the early part of this century, Spurgeon’s entire library was purchased by the wealthy Nelson Art family of Kansas City and brought to this country. It now rests in the basement of the Library Building at William Jewell College in Liberty, Missouri. You should visit that library and read from those old Baptist books of centuries gone by.

One hundred years ago the world was filled with the preaching of the Five Points of Calvinism; great numbers of Old School Baptist churches existed

in this country; each one faithfully proclaiming and intelligently expounding the Five Points of Calvinism as the only message of divine truth in this earth. So did great numbers of other churches in this country and around the world.

But today almost nowhere is the truth of God preached in the earth. Perverted notions of God and false doctrines about God loving everybody and Jesus dying for everybody are everywhere preached and widely accepted as the Gospel. Today there is a remarkable and pervasive ignorance of sound doctrine. We have fallen upon the last days, my friend, foretold by the prophets of the Old Testament and the apostles of the New; when truth is fallen in the street—Isaiah 59:14; and when the good man has perished out of the earth—Micah 7:2.

Listen: “The righteous perisheth, and no man layeth it to heart: and merciful men are taken away, none considering that the righteous is taken away from the evil to come.” Isaiah 57:1.

Those days have come upon us described as “darkness;” that is, ignorance of divine truth; “darkness covering the earth”—a description of the pervasiveness and universality of human ignorance of divine truth; and “when gross darkness”—that is, thick, impenetrable human ignorance of divine truth; “gross darkness covers the people”—that is, a description of the pervasiveness and universality of that thick, impenetrable human ignorance of divine truth. Isaiah 60:2.

Those last, dark days of human existence upon this earth since the fall of Adam, are further described as follows: “None calleth for justice, nor any pleadeth for truth: they trust in vanity, and speak lies; they conceive mischief, and bring forth iniquity. They hatch the eggs of poison snakes’ eggs, and weave the web of poison spiders: he that eateth of their eggs dieth, ... Their feet run to evil, and ... their thoughts are thoughts of iniquity; ... there is no judgment in their goings: they have made them crooked paths: ...we wait for light, but behold obscurity; for brightness, but we walk in darkness. We grope for the

wall like the blind, and we grope as if we had no eyes: we stumble at noonday as in the night; we are in desolate places as dead men.” Isaiah 59:4-10.

My friend, this is nothing other than a divine description of the days in which we find ourselves living on this earth. These are days of remarkable, radical, unprecedented, wholesale rejection of and departure from divine truth in the earth. It has never happened before on this scale in human history. Thus, this solemn fact is a powerful sign of our times. In Luke Chapter 18, our Lord Jesus Christ put a rhetorical question; that means a question which carries the answer powerfully in its teeth; a question put for emphasis and to underline a great truth; that rhetorical question of Jesus Christ is as follows: “Nevertheless when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?” By that rhetorical question Jesus Christ described a time just before the end of this world; just before his second coming in power and vengeance to punish this world; and the description of those days, given by Jesus Christ himself, was that those days would be remarkably characterized as devoid of the influence of divine truth among mankind. Jesus Christ described our days in that rhetorical question: “when the Son of man cometh, will he find the faith on the earth?” Luke 18:8.

The faith—the great body of revealed truth; the Five Points of Calvinism—will be missing in the earth. Mankind generally will have arrived at a condition of wholesale, radical, unprecedented departure from divine truth and light in the earth; and will have reached the point of unprecedented ignorance of and disinterest in the Five Points of Calvinism; the only message of divine truth delivered from heaven to the sons of men.

The Apostle likewise foretold of these days; just before his execution at the hands of the Roman courts and judges; in 2 Timothy Chapter 4. The Apostle accurately described the days in which we live as follows: “For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; and they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.” 2 Timothy 4:3-4.

Those days, my friend, those last days of the human experiment on this earth, following the fall of Adam in Eden, are thus described and identified as days characterized by a remarkable departure, a radical and unprecedented departure, from divinely revealed truth in the earth. Listen: “they will not endure sound doctrine;” they will not endure the faithful, expository preaching of the Five Points of Calvinism.

That word, “endure,” in the Greek means, literally: put up with. They will not put up with sound doctrine. The last days will be characterized by a pervasive attitude on the part of mankind everywhere that they will not longer even put up with the faithful expository preaching of the Five Points of Calvinism. Those days have arrived. “And, they shall turn away their ears from the truth.” That expression, “turn away,” in the Greek means to radically depart from a known standard of truth and to pervert that truth. It is the same word from which our English word apostasy derives. Apostasy is a complex word consisting of two thoughts: Apo, to go away; and stasis, meaning the stand or standard. The undeniable thought expressed by the Apostle is a description or identification of the last days as days when the mass of mankind will deliberately and willfully depart from a well-known standard of divine truth in the earth. They will turn away their ears from the truth; and those days, my friend, have arrived. And, this solemn fact is a powerful sign of our times.

The Old Testament prophet likewise foretold of these days. In Isaiah Chapter 53, verse 1; where the prophet puts two substantially identically rhetorical questions in a row; a prophetic redundancy for emphasis and powerful effect; he said: “Who hath believed our report? And to whom is the arm of the LORD revealed?” Remember that a rhetorical question is one that carries the answer powerfully with it in its teeth; a question not put in expectation of eliciting an answer to educate the questioner; but which suggests the answer to educate the questioned. And also remember that when two such rhetorical questions are put in a row, each substantially the same as

the other, making a redundancy; the purpose if for powerful emphasis and effect.

Listen, “Who hath believed our report? And to whom is the arm of the LORD revealed?” means: that the prophet, by this grammatical technique, is describing a time near the end of the world when virtually nobody will believe the truth of God in the earth; virtually nobody will be the prophet’s report; and the supernatural power of God—that is, the arm of the Lord whereby alone the wicked sons of Adam are empowered to believe and receive the truth—will be inoperative and dormant, in effect. “Who hath believed our report?” Nobody. “And to whom is the arm of the LORD revealed?” To nobody.

Thus the prophet powerfully describes and identifies a time near the end of the world when the truth of God in the earth will be despised and rejected wholesale. Days when the preaching and exposition of the Five Points of Calvinism will be pervasively ignored and rejected; and those days, my friend, have arrived; and this solemn fact is a powerful sign of our times.

Dr. Edward Young, late Professor of Old Testament at Westminster Theological Seminary, a Presbyterian School, in Philadelphia, in his 3-Volume commentary on Isaiah; says of this passage, Isaiah 53, verse 1: “That it is the expression of profound surprise and shock, when the prophet looks ahead through the centuries and beholds the condition of things at the end of the world; that the prophet thus expresses shock at the paucity of those on earth in the last days of those who believe and receive the truth of God.”

Indeed, truth is fallen in the street; unprecedented in human history. Indeed, a famine of hearing the word of the Lord; a world-wide famine not of bread or water, but of hearing the word of the Lord. Almost nobody believes the Five Points of Calvinism; the only message of divine truth in the earth; and this solemn fact is a powerful sign of our times. Nothing but heretics and perverts occupy the pulpits and schools of this nation. Nothing but mental and moral dwarfs and pygmies occupy the seats of government at every level; from

the oval office to the statehouses to the courts of this nation, this state, this city. Mental and moral dwarfs and pygmies--the blind leading the blind--abject cowards and weaklings; when it comes to dealing with the profound issues and dangers that threaten the survival of our nation and our [Adamic] race.

Listen: "The prophets prophesy falsely, and the [political leaders] bear rule by [defective human devices]; and my people love to have it so." Jeremiah 5:31. Our political and religious leaders at every level helpless to cope with the homosexual threat and the pestilence of AIDS; that virus that has no cure and no vaccine; that virus that now afflicts one in every fifty Americans, and within 12-14 years will infect every human alive on the earth. This is nothing other than the quarrel of the covenant because mankind has wholesale rejected the truth of God in the earth that is the covenant. Gays have come out of the closet en masse and the AIDS virus threatens the doom of our race; and these three things are the powerful signs of our times now in full flower, plainly foretold by all the holy apostles and prophets since the world began.

Listen to this crystal clear, ancient warning from the Almighty God: "Because I have called, and ye have refused; I have stretched out my hand, and no man regardeth; but ye have set at nought all my counsel, and would have none of my reproof: I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when your fear cometh; when your fear cometh as desolation, and your destruction cometh as a whirlwind; when distress and anguish cometh upon you. For you hated knowledge, and did not choose the fear of the LORD: You would have none of my counsel: and you despised all my reproof." Proverbs 1:24-30.

Listen again: "And I will bring a sword upon you that shall avenge the quarrel of my covenant: and when ye are gathered together within your cities seeking a cure for AIDS, I will send and increase and multiply the pestilence among you." Leviticus 26:25. "And the LORD shall make the pestilence—AIDS—cleave unto thee. The LORD shall smite thee with this consumption, producing a fever, and an inflammation, and an extreme burning;" which is a graphic description of the AIDS plague. Deuteronomy 28:21-22.

The quarrel of the covenant is an expression meaning the dispute that God Almighty has with mankind in the last days because of the wholesale rejection by mankind of the truth of God in the earth, described as his covenant. The circumstance of mankind in the last days whereby he has made homosexuality respectable and accepted as normal is a blatant defiance of God and his word. God Almighty has eternally declared homosexuality to be the ultimate abomination and the ultimate state of human depravity and perversion; a thing to be despised and rejected universally as abnormal, perverse and reprobate.

In Romans Chapter One, for example, God plainly describes the disgusting condition of homosexuals and plainly declares homosexuals to be finally given up by God to uncleanness through the lusts of their own minds, to dishonor their own bodies between themselves; people who have changed the truth of God into a lie, and whom God has finally given up to vile affections, to do that which is against nature. And, that homosexuals hate to retain the truth of God in their knowledge; and that God has finally given them over to a reprobate mind, whereby they perform their filthy sex acts upon themselves and each other, and compel others to join; and that they, these homosexuals, are filled with all manner of unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, maliciousness and deceit. And that they, these homosexuals, are haters of the true God, without understanding, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful; who knowing the judgment of God that they which commit such things deserve to die, not only do the same but have pleasure in them that do them. Romans 1:25-32.

In blatant defiance of all that God has said in warning about homosexuals and their true nature; and in pervasive, wholesale, radical, unprecedented departure from the word and truth of God in the earth; and led by mental and moral dwarfs and pygmies at all levels of our government and our religious institutions; we have made homosexuality respectable and accepted in our society as nothing but a mere harmless, alternative lifestyle. It

is not. And, this condition of affairs is called the quarrel of the covenant. Mankind is engaged open war with his creator; mankind is engaged in a white-hot conflict with God Almighty; and these three things are powerful, plain, breathtaking signs of our times:

1. Wholesale rejection of the Five Points of Calvinism, the truth of God in the earth.
2. Gays coming out of the closet, made respectable and accepted by our political and religious leaders.
3. The AIDS plague is among us; a mysterious, deadly virus without cure or vaccine; scheduled to infect every individual of mankind alive on earth in about 12 years.

And these three things, my friend, are the unmistakable signs of our times.

On September 28, 1832—that's 1832—a group of Old School Baptist pastors met at Black Rock, Maryland, and formulated what is known as the Black Rock Address. They surveyed the signs of their times, and correctly anticipated the coming of the bloody American Civil War which indeed came less than 30 years later; citing Matthew 16:3: "O ye hypocrites, ye can discern the face of the sky; but can ye not discern the signs of the times?" It is a wicked and adulterous generation. They said there have always been a precious few men who truly understood the world around them, and still fewer who make an effort to accurately interpret or describe it; times when bad seed begins to bare its fruit; such times which in divine providence develop periodically in human society.

Last July 15, 1987, Congressman Bill Dannemeyer, a highly respected and knowledgeable Republican from California, delivered a major address to the House of Representatives on the subject of AIDS; and that address is reported in the Congressional Record for July 15, 1987. Each person now listening to me can get a free copy by calling the office of Congressman Jim Slattery in Topeka, or by calling the office of Senator Bob Dole or Senator Nancy Kassebaum, here

in Topeka. It is easy to get. And by reading those pages of the Congressional Record you may know the truth of the AIDS pestilence that God has sent among us to avenge the quarrel of his covenant. You do not need to read the Bible to become educated on these two powerful signs of our times: gays coming out of the closet, and the AIDS curse upon us.

Listen to these words from the Congressional Record of July 15, 1987: “The United States leads industrialized societies in AIDS cases. AIDS is a preventable disease that we are allowing to spread throughout our country at a speed that jeopardizes our very survival and threatens our economic stability. Even if we act swiftly now, we could lose one quarter of the world’s population. But we are not now doing what needs to be done. There is no cure and no vaccine. Our society is in grave danger, not only from AIDS, but from the experts who are lying to us and who have consistently misread this epidemic. Gay leaders—powerful political leaders-- have resisted measures that might limit or inhibit sexual freedom and thwart the spread of AIDS. The AIDS virus is formidable and lethal, but no longer the major danger. The major danger is the ignorance and cowardice of our religious and political leaders. Gay activists have been most aggressive in resisting traditional public health measures from management of the AIDS epidemic by frightening people by their political power. Laws have been passed under pressure of gays and their friends that have swept the country and insure the spread of AIDS. This is the only virus in history that is politically protected. The World Health Organization estimates conservatively that there are ten million individuals infected with the AIDS virus today and predicts one hundred million by 1991. One billion will be infected by 1996; and ten billion by 2001. The world population is only five billion. Thus, obviously, within ten to twelve years at the present rate of spread, the entire population of our world will be infected with the AIDS virus.”

In light of such somber facts and statistical evidence, Congressman Dannemeyer said, “I am not an alarmist, but I am alarmed. I am not a political activist, but I have become politically active. I am not funded or subsidized, but I

am so concerned that I am working full time for AIDS prevention in the nation and in the world. We are in a war against AIDS; and so far the AIDS virus is winning.”

O ye hypocrites, ye cannot discern the signs of the times.

This is Fred Phelps, Pastor of Westboro Baptist Church; more next week.