

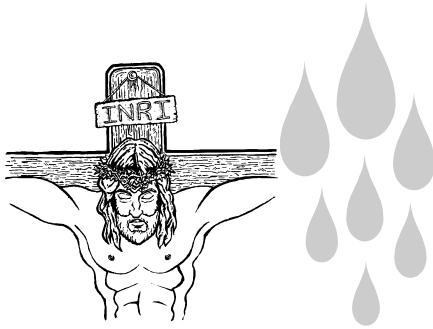


# THE HUMBLEHEART MESSENGER

Contending For The  
Christian Faith  
(Jude 1:3)



SUMMER 2023



## "TEARS FROM HEAVEN"

In the midst of an obvious spiritual decline and schizophrenic society with cultural divides we can get lost in a crisis of chaos. As we try to make sense of what is happening to our country or even throughout the world we cannot lose heart. We must remain strong in our faith in Jesus Christ and the Word of God. We are not without hope!

There is something we need to recall to mind that is revealed in Scripture where we are shown that God can be grieved. We know how we feel as Christians coping with a rebellious world that glorifies sin and evil. How do you think God feels?

*"Then the LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great on the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. And the LORD was sorry that He had made man on the earth, and He was grieved in His heart. And the LORD said, 'I will blot out man whom I have created from the face of the land, from man to animals to creeping things and to birds of the sky; for I am sorry that I have made them.' But Noah found favor in the eyes of the LORD." (Genesis 6:5-8)*

And then came the Flood! We all know how that turned out. You could say at that

point in history we were given a second chance at starting over. Still sin and rebellion continued so God sent His Son into the world to provide the one and only way to be saved from the wrath to come. That offer is still available for those who believe. The Lord is patient toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance. This also grieves the Lord because they reject His love and free gift of eternal life. At the same time Satan rejoices because he knows it breaks God's heart.

There is a scene in the movie, "The Passion of The Christ" where the moment Jesus dies on the cross a tear falls from heaven. When it hits the ground there is an earthquake as Satan screams from the pits of hell because he has been conquered by Christ on the cross. It's only a movie with drama added as best that can be imagined, but the message is clearly representative of the true Gospel of Jesus Christ.

As we walk by faith and look forward to the Lord's return the Apostle Paul gives us some instruction on how we should behave even in the darkest of times. *"And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. And be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you."*

*(Ephesians 4:30-32)*

Through worship, prayer and praise we should return our love toward God. We should strive to bring Him joy rather than sadness and tears from heaven. ☐



## **"EXAMINE ALL THINGS"**

We are at a crossroads in time and the clock is ticking. When will it be too late to turn back from the error of our ways? With empty or abandon churches, the destruction of Christian organizations, a shortage of Bible driven pastors, missionaries and leaders there can be no doubt we are living on borrowed time. Scripture tells us this present world is coming to an end. It's not a matter of "if" – It's a matter of "when."

May 22, 2023 the Reverend Franklin Graham, a keynote speaker at the opening session of (NRB) the National Religious Broadcasters - International Christian Media Convention made the following statements:

*"Every demon from hell" has been "turned loose" in our culture today. "The world has deteriorated so quickly," he said from the stage. "We cannot be deceived and we can't be fooled. We need to get ready and be prepared."*

*"We're living in a cancel culture, and [big corporations] want to destroy Christian organizations," he also said. "They want us to shut our mouths. They don't want to hear from us."*

*Graham urged Christian organizations to prepare to defend themselves against the growing cancel culture in business, insurance, banking and technology, and challenged them to continue sharing the hope of Jesus Christ in the face of increasingly difficult circumstances. Noting that if one "doesn't talk about sin" or "preach the gospel" then that person doesn't have anything to worry about in society, he added, "But if you're going to try to proclaim the gospel, they're going to try to shut you up."*

*Graham also reminded those from across the Christian media landscape of the importance of remaining faithful to the*

*historic truths of scripture amid the coming storms. Referring to Matthew 8:23-27, when Jesus and his followers were in a boat on the Sea of Galilee that was being rocked by the wind and waves, Graham said that Jesus' followers said, "What kind of man is this that can control the wind and waves?" Noting that Jesus' followers "feared for their life" in those moments, they felt "they had no way out," he said.*

*Graham said that today, the LGBTQ agenda is leading the charge culturally. "I love them enough to try to warn them this [way of life] is sin," he said. He added, "The gospel says, 'This is sin.'" Graham also noted that many today want to soft-pedal any message of salvation in order to be friendlier to all groups, not hurt feelings or make waves.*

*"Just tell it the way it is," Graham emphasized. "Preach — don't back up, don't make excuses." Graham also told the crowd, "We cannot back up, we can't retreat, don't apologize for the gospel. Just declare it, just preach it."*

*Troy A. Miller, president and CEO of the National Religious Broadcasters, said in part in a statement from the NRB annual convention, "All too often, we are seeing pastors and ministries fall by the wayside, compromising on the truth of scripture and disintegrating into fixtures of the culture."*

*He continued, "As our society is bombarded by anti-Christian hostility and contempt for First Amendment freedoms, Graham's message promises to deliver exactly what we need to hear as Christian leaders: a call to stand firm, not bow to the cultural influences of the day." (Excerpts from article by J. T. Jackson)*

*Franklin Graham continues to be a faithful Christian leader called by God to give us encouragement to trust in Scripture and the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Notice he is not ashamed of the Gospel because it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes. Just as the Apostle Paul wrote in Romans 1:16.*

Do you agree with Franklin Graham? I believe he speaks the truth according to the Bible. I have researched and studied world religions, non-Christian cults, secular cults and the occult for more than 35 years. I have served as a missionary pastor and evangelist teaching essential doctrines of the Christian Faith and Comparative Religions. There are characteristics found with all cults. There is usually one leader or a group of leaders who are polarized around a certain ideal or perhaps an object of worship and reverence. They have a standard of teaching, regulations or a form of rituals and methods of practice centered on ways to gain converts. You could say that many world religions started out in a similar way. Various movements that usually come and go might also be viewed as cults.

The Church has always been attacked by false prophets, teachers, religions, cults or even governments, kings and dictators. Yet, Jesus said even the gates of Hell shall not overpower it. (Matthew 16:18) Remember He is describing His true Church made up of true believers who remain faithful to the Gospel and the essential truths without compromise.

Many churches have fallen away from the faith which is called "apostasy." *"But the Spirit explicitly says that in later times some will fall away from the faith, paying attention to deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons."* (1 Timothy 4:1) Paul further explains what will happen and it's happening today! *"For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but wanting to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires; and will turn away their ears from the truth, and will turn aside to myths."* (2 Timothy 4:3-4) The Apostle Paul gave a warning to the Elders of the Church of Ephesus, *"Be on guard for yourselves and for all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood. I know that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock."* (Acts 20:28-29)

The Church has not been spared just as the Apostle Paul proclaimed that day along the Aegean Sea, waters of the Mediterranean. You and I are witnessing the victory lap of those savage wolves as we watch hundreds of thousands of churches split. Someone once said, "the day will come when you will look down the center isle of a church and one side will be in Christ, the other side in the world."

I was involved with several leaders in the United Methodist Church in Pennsylvania and western New York as far back as 2003. We were working on ways to challenge the denominational leaders to hold to the Bible and not cave into Darwinian human evolution, the climate activist's of global warming and the LGBTQ+ already at large in their churches across the country. After 20 years the United Methodist Church has finally split. We need to pray and support those who have remained faithful to God's Word without compromise.

This brings me to a point where I'd like to comment on the word , "WOKE." It has become a household word and especially attached to politics. Woke means to be informed, educated and conscious of social injustice and inequality. It originated during 2010 mainly focused on the African American community. It has been high jacked by the LGBTQ+ and government officials.

Now we are hearing the phrase "Woke Church" for those that have welcomed the LGBTQ+ life style into the church and have rejected the truth of Scripture. We should not be shocked to see so many splits.

I wouldn't go so far as to claim what is happening is fulfilled prophecy or a sign of the times according to Scripture. However, I think we should seriously consider some following observations. First we need to take note that before it was called woke church it was called the "Emergent Church." This movement became popular around 2006 with one of it's main leaders Brian D. McLaren. In 2014 it had already infiltrated mainline Protestant Churches and political pressures began to increase. Imbraced by leaders like President Obama and left wing politicians it

finally played a roll in the U.S. Supreme Court ruling for "same sex marriage." We should all remember when President Obama lit up the Whitehouse in rainbow colors June 30, 2015. This was an act of rebellion against God by glorifying the sin of the LGBTQ+ community.

Fast forward to June 10, 2023 President Joe Biden hosts a Gay Pride party at the Whitehouse with topless transgenders and the LGBTQ+ flag on national TV. Keep in mind that former President Clinton designated June as Gay Pride American Heritage month in 2000. In 2009 President Obama included all LGBTQ+. Obama is also one of the earliest leaders to use the word woke. Is there any wonder why we can't escape these things wherever we go in society today. We now have a woke military, woke schools, collages, corporations, media, Internet, powerless woke churches and a devastating future for our children and grandchildren. Do you think God has not noticed?

Perhaps our nation is already being judged in several ways. Think about some of the events that have occurred since the clock struck midnight January 1, 2000. We all woke up that morning realizing the world did not shut down because of Y2K the anticipated computer failers expected. Billions of dollars were spent in preparations months before. It was that November when the hotly contested presidential election had to be decided by the United States Supreme Court. It was an event that brought to light just how divided our country was when it came to politics.

Presidential elections have never been the same. The following year September 11, 2001 came the attack on our country by Muslim extremists and 3000 people died. The world would never be the same. The wars in Afghanistan and Irac followed. How they were handled is still unsettled and it caused further division. The Presidential elections of 2016 and 2020 have brought about so much hate and mistrust. At times it seems we are heading for another civil war. In the midst of these things the whole world suffered from the Covid-19 pandemic. At the present time

we still don't have real answers to any of the questions surrounding the pandemic, the real problems of corruption in government, our national security and we probably never will.

Most of us really don't know what we can trust in the news media or in what we read. Crazy is the word we say on a daily basis. There seems to be no common sense. The wounds to our country are self inflicted.

If these are judgments we've been experiencing over the past two decades because of our rebellion against God as a nation, how can we survive the wrath to come?

Christians don't need to suffer with anxiety, fear or the worries of the world. The choice is simple, we need to choose good over evil. The Bible says *"You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons; you cannot partake of the table of the Lord and the table of demons."* (1 Corinthians 10:21) We are also told *"But examine everything carefully; hold fast to that which is good; abstain from every form of evil."*

(1 Thessalonians 5:21-22)

Antichrists like the organized LGBTQ+ militants, organized Global Warming soldiers and Climate gurus backed by political leaders using tax-payer dollars set themselves up like religious cults. Apostate churches and leaders are among their ranks. All are a force to be reckoned with. Don't be deceived by their demonic teachings straight from the pits of Hell. *"Children, it is the last hour; and just as you heard that antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have arisen; from this we know that it is the last hour."* (1 John 2:18)

*"Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world."* (1 John 4:1)

Remember "greater is He who is in you than he who is in the world." (1 John 4:3b) ◻

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## MARANATHA!

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