

## “The Echo of a Silenced Voice”

Hebrews 11:6c Phillips

And though Cain killed him - - yet by his faith - - he still speaks to us today.

### Introduction

This past week – we witnessed the life of a kingdom evangelist – being violently cut short ... Like many of you – I saw more on social media than I probably should have – and it hit me hard ... When we heard that Charlie was shot – Robin and I prayed ... When I heard he died – I became very angry ... Once the anger subsided – I had a deep sadness encompass my soul ... I was deeply saddened – because I am watching our society descend rapidly – into a place where silencing an opposing voice – is being celebrated and justified.

The Scriptures warns us of such days ... Amos 5:10 says - - “They hate the one who reproves in the gate, - and they abhor him - who speaks the truth” ... We have clearly entered a moment in history – where those who boldly espouse biblical truth and their convictions – are now being branded as dangerous – and a negative influence upon our society ... Two disturbing realities are unfolding before our eyes ... First - - Biblical truth and godly convictions are increasingly being reframed and labeled as “hate speech.” ... Secondly - - This so-called hate speech is being equated with violence itself ... It is as if the mere hearing of truth – is treated as an act of physical assault – and some even justify – the silencing of that voice with violence ... This is not exaggeration ... These receipts are scattered all across social media ... We are in a cultural moment that is deeply troubling and deeply spiritual ... It demands that we – as the ekklesia – respond with clarity and with courage.

### Transition

So, the questions before us today are - - Where do we go from here? ... How do we respond – from a biblical perspective – to a society that has labeled biblical truth as hate speech? ... How

do we live and demonstrate a biblical lifestyle – when the culture is becoming increasingly adversarial to the Word of God?

### Expect the Reframing of Truth

Jesus warned us in Matthew 24:37, - - “As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man.” ... In Noah’s day – truth was mocked – righteousness was ridiculed – and evil along with corruption filled the earth ... What God calls holy – men call foolish ... And then Jesus told His disciples in John 15:20, - - “If they persecuted Me, - they will persecute you also.” ... If they twisted His words – if they hated His truth – then we should not be surprised when they twist our words – and hate our voice also.

Isaiah’s warning now rings louder than ever: - - “Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, - who put darkness for light and light for darkness.” ... That’s not some future prophecy we’re waiting for – it’s the reality unfolding right now ... Here’s the danger – we all “expect” this ... We’ve read it – we’ve nodded our heads ... But my concern is – that too many of us – aren’t taking it seriously ... We think of it – as something “out there in the culture,” instead of realizing it’s the very air we’re breathing ... I am appalled at some of the posts I find on our local community pages on Facebook ... This cultural reality is right in our own back yard.

Catch this - - Truth has been rebranded as hate ... Speaking your convictions are now equated to physical violence ... And silencing the offender is being justified and celebrated as a good thing ... [Here’s the mystical reality](#) - - Truth carries a divine frequency ... When that frequency comes in contact with those who resonate at a different frequency – it creates an internal agitation ... That agitation can become so strong – that it feels like an internal pain – and that person will physically lash out.

### Acts 7:51-54, 57-58 New King James Version

“You stiff-necked and uncircumcised in heart and ears! ... You always resist the Holy Spirit; as your fathers did, so do you ... Which of the prophets did your fathers not persecute? ... And they killed those who foretold the coming of the Just One, of whom you now have become the

betrayers and murderers, ... who have received the law by the direction of angels and have not kept it.” ... When they heard these things ... they were cut to the heart, ... and they gnashed at him with their teeth. ... 57 Then they cried out with a loud voice, stopped their ears, and ran at him with one accord; ... and they cast him out of the city and stoned him.

So – the question becomes this - - When culture reframes truth as hate – how will we respond? ... Will we stay silent to avoid conflict? ... Or will we anchor ourselves in the Word and carry the resonance of Christ – no matter the cost?

### Words Are Not Violence

Many in our society have equated biblical truth with physical assault ... If you speak truth and it makes someone uncomfortable – you are being told – you have “harmed” them ... And if words are treated as violence – then silencing those words – even with actual physical violence – gets twisted into being justified ... Here is an actual quote someone wrote to me when I pushed back on this point in a Facebook post.

*“He promoted hate against LGBTQ people ... It's not just words ... He believed they should die and was vocal about it.”*

Now let me be crystal clear ... The Bible does not treat words as weapons of bloodshed ... Proverbs 12:18 says - - “The words of the reckless pierce like swords, but the tongue of the wise brings healing.” ... Words can wound – pierce – and convict a person deeply in their soul ... But – words are not the same as physical violence ... Yes, they can pierce the heart but they never cause bodily harm.

Paul reminds us in 2 Corinthians 10:4 - - “The weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds.” ... Our words – when filled with the Spirit – are not acts of aggression – they are acts of liberation ... They don’t bind – they break chains ... Let me remind you of John 8:31-32 - - “So Jesus said to those who believed in him, “If you

obey my teaching, you are really my disciples ... You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”

Here's the mystical truth - - When we speak truth – we are releasing the frequency of the Holy Spirit into the atmosphere ... And that resonance unsettles the darkness within those who hear that frequency ... It can literally rattle them to their very core ... And their first reaction is much like we saw in Acts 7 with Stephen – they covered their ears and cried out ... But in reality – truth is the only force that can set people free ... So, we must not fall into the world's trap of silence ... We don't stop speaking just because someone claims our words are harmful ... We continue to release truth in love – knowing it is the Spirit - Who carries those words with power to heal, convict, and transform.

### **The Voice of Truth Cannot Be Silenced**

You can strike a man's throat – but you cannot silence God's Word ... From the very beginning – the enemy has tried to shut down the voice of truth ... Pharaoh tried to drown the Hebrew children – but Moses still rose up to speak ... Herod tried to kill the infants – but Jesus still came forth ... The Sanhedrin told Peter and John to stop preaching – but the gospel only spread faster.

Hebrews 11:4 is a very interesting text which states a mystical truth concerning Abel – it says - - “**Though he is dead, he still speaks.**” ... Think about that – death couldn't stop the voice of the “real” you – for you are spirit and you never die ... Your voice continues to speak – for you are spirit – alive for all eternity – by the Spirit of Christ.

Every attempt in history to muzzle the Word of God has only amplified it ... The blood of martyrs has always been the seed of revival ... The voice of one faithful witness echoes through generations ... Here's the mystical reality - - The Logos – the eternal Word – is not confined to one set of vocal cords ... It resonates through the Body of Christ ... When one voice is cut down – that frequency doesn't disappear – it reverberates within us ... It multiplies ... We are

many throats – but one Voice ... We carry forward the sound of heaven on earth ... So let the world rage ... Let them try to silence ... Let them try to cancel ... The Word will keep speaking ... And as long as we are in oneness with Christ – we will keep carrying that voice into a world that cannot drown it out.

## The Ekklesia's Response

The real question is not - - “How is the truth being attacked?” – we already know that ... The question is - - “How will the Body of Christ respond?” ... When the early believers were threatened – they didn’t pray for protection or retreat into silence ... Acts 4:29–31 records their prayer - - “Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness.” ... And the result? ... “After they prayed – the place where they were meeting was shaken ... And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly.”

Jesus told us in Matthew 10:27 - - “What I tell you in the dark, speak in the daylight; what is whispered in your ear, proclaim from the roofs.” ... In other words – don’t hide it ... Don’t whisper it in secret ... Lift your voice and proclaim it in the open ... Here’s the mystical truth - - We are not just individual voices – we are the resonance of Christ Himself on earth ... In our oneness with Him and with each other – His voice thunders through us ... When one voice is silenced – the Body amplifies the sound even louder ... So how do we respond? ... Not with bitterness ... Not with retaliation ... But with Spirit-filled boldness ... With truth spoken in love ... With lives that embody the message of the Kingdom ... The world may try to redefine truth as hate speech – but our lives will prove that the gospel is the power of God unto salvation.

## Takeaway

The world may call truth hate ... They may equate words with violence ... They may even celebrate when a voice of faith is silenced ... But history – scripture – and the Spirit all testify to this one unshakable reality: **the Word of God cannot be silenced.**

Stephen's words in Acts 7 were treated as hate – and they stoned him to death ... Yet his witness still thundered from eternity – and Saul – standing in approval – would one day become Paul – carrying the gospel to the nations ... What looked like the silencing of truth became the seed for a global awakening ... And so, it is today ... Charlie Kirk's voice may have been struck down – but his testimony will never die ... Like Stephen – his life still speaks ... And the challenge to us is clear - - **If Charlie is our Stephen – then who among us will be the Paul?** ... Who will rise from this moment with unshakable boldness – carrying the message of Christ with power – into a culture desperate for light?

This is not the time for fear ... This is not the time for silence ... This is the time for the ekklesia to arise – rooted in the Word – filled with the Spirit – and resonating with the frequency of Oneness ... The enemy can strike a throat – but he cannot mute the voice of the Spirit ... And as long as we walk in oneness with Him – His voice will thunder through us until the whole world knows – that Jesus is Lord.

### **Closing Prayer**

Father, we are at a weighty moment in history ... We lift up to You the Kirk family this morning ... May You comfort Erika as she faces the inconceivable ... We pray for her two children that will now grow up without their dad ... Lord – I ask you comfort all who are dealing with a variety of emotions ... May You fill them with comfort and peace.

Lord - - Fill us with the same boldness that shook the early church ... Let our lives radiate with the frequency of heaven – cutting through the darkness of deception – with the light of Your truth ... Forgive us for the times – when we allowed fear to silence our voice ... Strengthen us to speak truth in love – to live with courage and demonstrate boldness – and to shine with the light of Christ – no matter the cost

Father – raise up a new generation of Paul's in our day ... Out of this tragedy – bring about a transformation within our culture ... Out of this spilling of blood – may the seeds of revival and

renewal flourish ... Out of the silencing of one voice – let there rise up a chorus of voices that thunder across this land – declaring that Jesus is Lord.

Today – we commit ourselves to stand – to speak – to love – and to manifest Kingdom life ...  
For Yours is the kingdom – the power – and the glory – forever – Amen