

TITLE: What Should Christians Do?

TEXT: Selected

MAIN POINT: A response to the school shooting in Nashville, TN, and the indictment of President Trump this week.

PREACHED AT: Castine 4/2/2023

SERMON SERIES: None

## **INTRODUCTION**

1. This week Americans experienced the tragedy of another school shooting and the indictment of a former president.
  - 1.1. As usual, people began to discuss causes and solutions.
  - 1.2. Yet, I did not hear anyone fully explain the cause or solution to the Christian.
2. I feel burdened to attempt to guide you in these perilous times. Yet, I realize that God will judge me for how well or not I guide you.
  - 2.1. Hebrews 13:17, “Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you.”

## **DISCUSSION**

3. I think every follower of Jesus needs to know these things.
  - 3.1. Christians need to understand reality.
    - 3.1.1. Ephesians 6:12, “For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.”
  - 3.2. The reality is that wherever you find murder, lies, or anything contrary to the Bible, the demonic is involved.
    - 3.2.1. John 8:43-44, “You are of your father the devil, and your will is to do your father’s desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks out of his own character, for he is a liar and the father of lies.”
    - 3.2.2. Matthew 7:23, “then will I declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.’”

4. I think every follower of Jesus needs to do these things.
  - 4.1. 2 Corinthians 10:4, “For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds.”
    - 4.1.1. Followers of Jesus should avoid ungodly anger, words, or reactionary responses.
  - 4.2. Prayer (with fasting) is our most powerful weapon in releasing God’s power against the demonic.
    - 4.2.1. 1 Timothy 2:12, “I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way.”
  - 4.3. Followers of Jesus do not expect ultimate solutions from the military or government.
    - 4.3.1. Psalm 20:7 says, “Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the LORD our God.”
  - 4.4. Power, against the demonic, only resides with the church.
    - 4.4.1. Matthew 16:17-18, “And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.”
    - 4.4.2. 2 Chronicles 7:14, “if my people who are called by my name humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land.”
5. Invite people to pray with humility.