THE UNSHAKABLE KINGDOM #12

Exposing the Spirit of Antichrist

Part 5

I. Introduction

A. A Personal Position Paper Statement

1. For 40 years of ministry I have always sought to avoid being labeled as a 'political' preacher because I wanted to follow the example of the Apostle Paul and 'declare the whole counsel of God".

Acts 20:26-27

Therefore I testify to you this day that I am innocent of the blood of all men. For I have not shunned to declare to you the whole counsel of God.

- 2. I have also always sought to <u>avoid 2 extremes</u>: on the one hand, the 'alarmist' kind of <u>doomsday</u> preaching that continually trumpets that 'the sky is falling' on the one hand and the '<u>Pollyanna'</u> preaching that has to have a 'happy' message on the other.
- 3. But I need to tell you that God, as clearly as I have ever heard Him, has charged me, until further notice, to preach a prophetic Word against the powers of darkness that are at work to take over our nation.
- 4. The Old Testament prophets had many happy things to say; but when a national crisis threatened Israel, there were no "Pollyanna" prophecies. Just a trumpeting of truth to wake up God's people.
- 5. I do not present myself as a prophet, especially as people think of prophets as one who predicts the future. But God has given me a prophetic teaching gift to interpret the present and explain it from the Bible.
- a. I don't 'see' the future as a prophet; but I have a prophetic gift to 'see' the present from a prophetic perspective.
 - b. This kind of gift is mentioned in...

1 Samuel 9:9 (NLT)

In those days if people wanted a message from God, they would say, "Let's go and ask the seer," for prophets used to be called seers.

- 6. I explain it this way; everybody 'sees' the news; everybody 'sees' what's going on; but God is raising up a people who 'see' what's behind the news; a people who 'see' what is really going on!
- 7. The Lord is showing us what's <u>really</u> going on; a powerful spirit of antichrist has been let loose in America; hiding behind many masks; and God is calling us out to fearlessly expose it. As Paul said...

Ephesians 5:11

Take no part (have no fellowship) with the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them.

8. I want to warn you ahead of time we may be in the minority moving forward. There will be preachers and prophets who will not take the danger seriously; God spoke of these in...

Jeremiah 8:11

They relieved the impending disaster of the daughter of My people by making light of it saying, 'Peace, Peace', but there is no peace.

Jeremiah 8:11 The Message Bible
My dear Daughter — my people — broken, shattered, and yet they put on
Band-Aids, saying, "It's not so bad. You'll be just fine."

But things are not "just fine"!

Jeremiah 8:11 (NIV)

They dress the wound of my people as though it were not serious. "Peace, peace," they say, when there is no peace.

- a. Already there are those who are ducking for cover; the nation is falling apart but all you will hear are messages of 'peace'.
 - b. And there will always be those who demand that kind of preaching.

Isaiah 30:10

Who say to the seers, 'Do not see' and to the prophets, 'Do not prophecy to us right things. Speak to us smooth things. Prophecy deceits'.

- c. This passage proves there are people, even in the Israel of God, who prefer peaceful preaching to the truth!
- d. I'm sad to say that some of the largest churches in America are committed to speaking 'smooth things'; who do not want their pastors to prophecy 'right things'.

Jeremiah 5:31

The prophets prophesy falsely, and the priests rule by their own power; and My people love to have it so. But what will you do in the end?

- 9. Indeed, how can I limit the subject of my sermons to pleasant things to please the people when the fate of our once Christian nation is hanging in the balance?
- 10. It would be easy for me to choose safe sermons: I could do some very good biblical teaching on any number of safe subjects: love, mercy, grace, marriage. And never even mention the mess we're in.
 - 11. But I continue to be convicted by something Martin Luther once said:

Martin Luther

"If I profess with the loudest voice and clearest exposition every portion of the truth of God except that little point which the world and the devil are at that moment attacking. I am not confessing (preaching) Christ, however boldly I may be professing (preaching) Christ."

Martin Luther

"Where the battle rages, there the loyalty of the soldier is proved, and to be steady on all the battlefield is mere flight and disgrace if he flinches at that point."

12. The nation Germany fell under the Nazi power of Adolf Hitler's National Socialism as German pulpits played it safe....

Dietrich Bonhoeffer

"Silence in the face of evil is evil itself. Not to speak is to speak. Not to act is to act."

a. The great civil rights leader said the same thing in the crisis of the 60's...

Martin Luther King

"History will have to record that the greatest tragedy of this period of social transaction was not the strident clamor of the bad people, but the appalling silence of the good people."

- 13. It's time for God's pastors and God's people to rise up and speak the truth, in love, to the current crisis. But make no mistake; the truth can be costly.
- a. The Nazis hanged Bonhoeffer just 2 days before the end of WWII and Martin Luther King was assassinated.

George Orwell

"The further a society drifts from the truth, the more it will hate those who speak it."

b. Jesus had to deal with the Jews...

John 8:40

But now you seek to kill Me, a Man who has told you the truth which I heard from God

c. Paul had to deal with the Galatians...

Gal 4:16

Have I therefore become your enemy because I tell you the truth? (So what is the Truth?)

Theme

The latest expression of the spirit of antichrist, operating behind the mask of socialist reform, is being exposed in the outbreak of rebellion against civil authority, specifically, the call to do away with the police.

II. The Mystery of Lawlessness

2 Thessalonians 2:7

For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work...

A. The Spirit of Antichrist is the "Mystery" of Iniquity

1. The word "mystery" in the New Testament refers to something hidden that only God can reveal.

The Biblical Illustrator

It is a mystery, something whose approaches are not open as those of a fair antagonist, but subtle and secret. It is an iniquitous principle, and is expressly referred to Satan. It is not the contrivance of man.

2. This means that what we are fighting is not anything we can see in the open; not "flesh and flood"; our real enemy is spiritual, "an iniquitous principle" that hides in secret.

Matthew Henry

The apostle rightly calls it a *mystery* of iniquity, because wicked designs and actions were *concealed under false shows and pretenses*, at least they were concealed from the common view and observation.

- 3. The spirit of antichrist conceals its 'wicked designs', hiding itself behind 'false shows and pretenses'. Socialism is the mystery of iniquity/lawlessness: a wolf in sheep's clothing.
- 4. In the last 2 weeks, hundreds of thousands of people turned out to protest the terrible murder of George Floyd. But it soon became apparent that thousands of these protesters came out to loot and burn businesses, throw bricks at police and create chaos.
- 5. It wasn't about George Floyd. That was a false show and pretense used to justify their evil actions. The murder of George Floyd was the sheepskin the wolves hid behind. What we witnessed confirmed that...

B. The Spirit of Antichrist is a Lawless Spirit

1. It doesn't take a prophet to see what's going; but it will take a prophetic people to see what is *behind* what is going on!

Pastor Jimmy Evans

"As I watch what is happening in America today, I have no doubt we are witnessing the spirit of the Antichrist, the lawless one, at work. The subversion of authority is his trademark. Inciting anarchy has been his specialty since the Garden of Eden. And it will grow in intensity as his evil rise to power draws closer."

Pastor Jimmy Evans

In 2 Thessalonians 2:8-9, the Apostle Paul refers to the Antichrist as 'the lawless one". The spirit of the Antichrist is rebellion and it is intensifying in America. It is easy to see the increasing presence of rebellion to both human and divine authority. We are living in rebellious, lawless times.

2. Paul tells us that the spirit of antichrist will come with strong delusion...

2 Thessalonians 2:9-12

The coming of the lawless one is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and Lying wonders, 10 and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this reason God will send them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie, that they all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

- 3. The looters and rioters hid behind the mask of the tragic murder of George Floyd; but it wasn't about George Floyd; it was the spirit of antichrist manifesting itself as a rebellion against proper authority.
- 4. And sad to say that many who call themselves Christians came out to support it!
- 5. The same thing is happening with Christian pastors and people being duped into supporting the "Black Lives Matter" movement! Talk about how deceiving this is!

B. The Black Lives Matter Movement

- 1. In 2013, in response to the acquittal of Trayvon Martin in the shooting of George Zimmerman, three young African-American socialist radicals created a political movement called #BlackLivesMatter.
- 2. The website invites us to join the movement in the "fight for Freedom, Liberation, and Justice'. Sounds great!

a. Who among us doesn't believe that "Black Lives Matter"?

- b. Who among us isn't for "Freedom", "Liberation" and "Justice"?
- c. Who among us didn't grieve over the murder of George Floyd?
- 3. But since then the true agenda of Black Lives Matter has exposed it as a wolf in sheep's clothing.
- a. The first clue this movement was motivated by the spirit of lawlessness were the marches that called for the killing of policemen!

Pigs in a blanket, fry them like bacon. What do we want? Dead cops! When do we want them? Now!

4. Since those early marches the movement has become bolder with the publication of their true agenda:

Agenda

- Defund/Disband police agencies
- Reparations to blacks for years of slavery
- Guaranteed income for blacks (working or not)
 - Free college
 - Lower voting age to 16
 - All 'political prisoners' released from Jail
- 5. These are not peaceful people protesting police brutality; this is a hate group that is nothing less than racism in reverse. Yet many who call themselves Christians have been deluded into siding with something that is nothing less than racism in reverse.

Candace Owens

"People need to realize what's happening in society and what we're actually up against; because what they're aspiring to is just utter chaos."

Gary DeMar

"Those who believe their chaos in tearing down the 'system' will net great benefits are fooling themselves. The chaos continues unabated until the old revolutionaries are done away with and a new more tyrannical group of chaos makers take over. When they fail, there's another group waiting in the wings.

a. He goes on with what we should learn from the horrors of the French Revolution...

Gary DeMar

"Once the mob starts down the road of violence to justify the first 'just cause', there is no way to stop the radical remedy because there's always one more thing that needs to be changed. They already had killed tens of thousands, what's ten thousand more? Don't say it can't happen here. The people in France, Russia, Cuba, and Venezuela probably said the same thing."

Wall Street Journal, June 7, 2020

A Russian expert has cited chilling parallels between the Russian Revolution and America today: the power grab of intelligentsia elite; the rationalization of left wing violence; the glorification of havoc; the vilification of law enforcement and their supporters; the defense of vandalism; the stifling of dissent; and added, "Unless there is some moral force that will stop it, the slide will accelerate."

- 6. How can a Christian support a group that wants to do away with the police force?
 - With no police kids could start drag racing on Franklin Road.
 - Someone runs a red light and broadsides you-you need a police report to verify you were not at fault
 - You hear the neighbor beating up his wife
 - Someone stole your car

- Someone's breaking into your house
 - 7. This is the world we will live in if Black Lives Matter gets its way.
 - 8. To the Christian, black lives matter. ALL lives matter!
- 9. Cops lives matter too. It should make Christian stomachs turn to see the spirit of lawlessness call for the defunding of our police departments. Christians are commanded to honor authority; but the spirit of lawlessness hates authority.

New York Police Boss Mike O'Meara Video

- 10. Black Lives Matter is the mystery of iniquity; it takes a true statement and turns it into a hate movement.
- a. These are not nice people. They call for toleration; but it's a one way street.

Todd Starnes, the best-selling author and host of the "Todd Starnes Radio Show" blasted a radio station on Tuesday over its decision to suspend an announcer who posted "All Lives Matter" on his Twitter account.

Grant Napear, the announcer, resigned after he tried to apologize and later said that he did not understand that "All Lives Matter" is considered an affront to the Black Lives Matter movement.

b. These are not nice people.

Lawrence Jones

"There's a report today by the Associated Press that Homeland Security is saying that people are leaking the personal information of police officers. You cannot put innocent cops at risk because you are angry.

c. And isn't it interesting that the majority of those who support Black Lives Matter also support abortion. Apparently babies' lives do not matter.

Burgess Owens

"We are fighting for the heart and soul of our nation, our middle class. What we're up against is Marxism. We have an enemy out there and what we're seeing is the true evil of that enemy."

d. Christians hearts are crying out for peace-but they don't understand that we are up against a spirit where the only way to peace is to agree with it!

Karl Marx

"The meaning of peace is the absence of opposition to socialism."

- e. Christians don't seem to understand that we are up against a spirit that will demand our total capitulation.
 - 11. There are so many signs America is moving toward Marxism:

Karl Marx

"There is only one way to shorten and ease the convulsions of the old society and the bloody birth pangs of the new society--revolutionary terror."

- a. Now you know why the Socialist Governors and Mayors do nothing to stop the looting and burning-they see it as the doorway to a takeover.
 - 12. Marx also said this:

Karl Marx

"The first battlefield is the rewriting of history."

Karl Marx

"If you can keep people from their history they are easily controlled."

- a. Now you know why statues and memorials are being torn down!
- b. Now you know why you won't be seeing "Gone With The Wind" on TV

Wind" on TV.

13. I have more to tell you but you cannot bear it now. So...

III. Conclusion:

A. What Are We To Do?

- 1. The spirit of antichrist is a polarizing spirit; it seeks to divide and conquer.
- It pits black against white
- Men against women
- Republican against Democrat
- Conservative against Liberal
- The word of the Lord to His people: Do not be deceived by those who would seek to win you to their 'side'!

Joshua 5:13-14

- 13 Now when Joshua was near Jericho, he looked up and saw a man standing in front of him with a drawn sword in his hand. Joshua went up to him and asked, "Are you for us or for our enemies?"
- 14 "Neither," he replied, "but as commander of the army of the Lord I have now come." Then Joshua fell facedown to the ground in reverence, and asked him, "What message does my Lord have for his servant?"
 - 15 The commander of the Lord's army replied, "Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy." And Joshua did so.
- 2. Refuse labels; don't align yourself with flesh and blood; make up your mind to stand on the Lord's side!
 - 3. This is a time to reach out to the lost and unchurched!

Billy Graham, World Aflame

- "Unless we focus on the transformation of people's hearts, there will be more militant racial discord and a great deal of blood will be shed."
- 4. And to my brother pastors, let me offer St. Paul's advice to his spiritual son Timothy; let this be our guide in turbulent times....

2 Timothy 4:2-5

Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables. But you be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.

Closing Prayer/Offering

2 Peter 2:9-10

"The Lord knows how to rescue the godly from trials and to keep the unrighteous under punishment until the day of judgment, and especially those who indulge in the lust of defiling passion and despise authority."