

Hebrews 11.32 - 12.2

Responding to an unworthy world

On September 10, 2025 at approximately 12:230pm MDT a coward's bullet took the life of Charlie Kirk. For many of us who respected Charlie, shock and disbelief gave way to sorrow, horror and a grief which felt disproportionate... after all we didn't actually *know* him. But as TicTok followed TicTok, and the Facebook posts and YouTube comments began to flow, all filled with a demonic delight at this act of horrific evil - sorrow quickly found room for anger and even a sense of rage. The jibbering, dancing teachers, hysterically laughing nurses all delighting in this man's death; and of course the smug journalists blaming this gracious, gentle man for his own death brought me a point which felt frankly impossible to even think clearly. The hate-filled savagery of these responses left me feeling cold and furious... and unsettled with questioning. Questioning God, questioning my understanding of His Word, questioning my expectations of the world around me... This act and the sickening display of evil that followed in its wake demand a response. But

what should that response be? How should the church, how should WE as Christ-followers answer these things? What does God require of me in the midst of this world gone insane? This world, which seems to have turned a corner to a dark reality, feels as if it has crossed over a Rubicon. It feels as if we have taken a step to find no ground under our feet and have dropped into a darkly broken parody of the reality we knew... How do we respond to these things? How do we answer? We answer with the only things we have. We answer with Truth empowered by Love.

I. UNDERSTANDING THE ISSUES

A. Darkness and Light have an unmatched hatred

*“An unjust man is an abomination to the righteous,
And he who is upright in the way is an abomination to
the wicked.” (Proverbs 29:27, NKJV)*

John 3.19-21

B. The Power of Truth, the Place of Words

Genesis 1.1-5

John 1.1-5

2Corinthians 3.18 - 4.6

1. Notice that all three of these passages and dozens more all revolve around the creative power of God's word. He speaks things which are, He speaks and things happen, things become. This is the context of the conflict. It is over the power of our words. This is the reason for the events of September 10, they could not defeat him with words, so they had to destroy him. To silence the words they could neither counter nor endure.

C. Lego, Logos

1. The root word of greek Logos is Lego. It is the verb which means to say.
2. It is the act of arranging things, expressing information
3. Lego carries with it the concept of expressing the principles of reality, the structures that make us and keep us together...
4. The logos is that information... we hear the ideas themselves but the act of speaking them conveys power.

D. Unbearable Reality.

1. The problem that the world has with us is then quite simple.

2. We are expressing the actual shape of the world and they cannot bear it.
3. It reveals that they are incapable of hearing true words peaceably - for true words separate them from their lies momentarily; true words resonate with the structure of reality. And they cannot bear the separation of truth
4. In the beginning God spoke. All Was. He spoke truth, He spoke reality into existence and this whole world takes its shape from Him.
5. However, when your whole worldview is opposed to God and to His truth, then your whole world is a lie... and no lie can survive the power of truth.
6. This is why they respond to true words as if they are an existential threat to them... they actually are!

E. Silent, Cancellation and Censorship

1. This is why the demands of the world for silence have been so aggressively legislated (and why that legislation must be ignored and repealed). Hate speech laws are not, have never been, about hate. They are about speech. They are an attempt to silence. For

truth will always emerge victorious. In the eyes of the culture hate speech is that which challenges this world as they have imagined it.

a. There are only 2 genders, they are immutable and defined at birth and they are always exactly right. For God has created that life in the womb and knows it. All attempts to alter this reality is a sign of mental illness.

b. God established marriage as a covenant between one man and one woman. Period.

c. Abortion is murder, for life is given by God and it begins at conception. All justifications are false and empty. Murder is murder.

d. But above all they hate the simple truth that Jesus Christ is the ONLY path to peace with God. That there is no other religion that has the hope of life and that all others faiths will only lead their sincere followers to an eternity in Hell.

2. The list goes on and on, but the single theme less about hateful speech, and more about speech that you hate. Because these things simply state the shape of the world as

God has formed it... They resonate with the creative power of the Sovereign God.

F.The Weapons of our Warfare.

2Corinthians 10.1-6

Ephesians 6.10-20

1. What we are given as weapons to fight the war of our souls is NOT the weapons of this world. It is not guns, knives, axes or arrows. We are given WORDS.
 - a.We are given words that take captive thought,
 - b. words that cast down pretense, argument and rhetoric
 - c.words that echo of the very substance of reality
 - d. Words that carry the power of the Most High God...
2. God has called us to speak.
 - a.To speak truth,
 - b. to speak life,
 - c.to speak hope,
 - d. to speak love
 - e.To speak the incomparable and omnipotent name of Jesus.

II. RESPOND WITH GRACE

A. We have what we have because God has revealed it to us

*“But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.”
(1 Corinthians 2:14, NKJV)*

Matthew 16.13-20

B. This is not merit, it is mercy

C. There are 2 possible audiences who will oppose the truth of God

1. Deceived Christians

“And a servant of the Lord must not quarrel but be gentle to all, able to teach, patient, in humility correcting those who are in opposition, if God perhaps will grant them repentance, so that they may know the truth, and that they may come to their senses and escape the snare of the devil, having been taken captive by him to do his will.” (2 Timothy 2:24–26)

2. Lost people who hate God

John 8.31-47

D. Remember always that even though they love evil, they are NOT your enemy. They are the slaves of your enemy. They are under his sway, not to be trusted, but also not to be hated.

E. Let all your interaction be

1. Gracious

Colossians 4.2-6

2. Guarded

John 2.23-25

3. Gospel Focused

4. Prepared to suffer

1Peter 3.13-18

III. REMEMBER REALITY

A. Remember who you are

1. Bought at a price

“Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God’s.” (1 Corinthians 6:19–20, NKJV)

“For he who is called in the Lord while a slave is the Lord’s freedman. Likewise he who is called while free is

Christ's slave. You were bought at a price; do not become slaves of men. Brethren, let each one remain with God in that state in which he was called."

(1 Corinthians 7:22–24, NKJV)

2. Children of the Most High God

Romans 8.9-17

- B. Remember God's Victory

1 Corinthians 15.50-58

Romans 8.31-39

- C. Remember God's Promise

1. A place

John 14.1-6

2. His peace

"These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world."

(John 16:33, NKJV)

3. Christ IS our triumph

"For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. Who is he who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?" (1 John 5:4–5)

- D. Remember God's Perspective

1. The world is upside down

Matthew 5.3-12

2. The inside matters more

Matthew 5.21-26

3. Let God have His way, He will do what is right

Matthew 5.38-48

- E. Remember God's power

Romans 8.31-39

IV. FIGHT THE GOOD FIGHT

- A. Remember that the weapons of our warfare are all about

1. Truth
2. Reality
3. Life, hope, integrity and purpose
4. They are all about Jesus

- B. Live in the world with wisdom

1. Protect the helpless, the weak and the innocent
2. Submit to lawful authority, not merely power
3. Protect those under your care

C. Remember your life is in God's Hands

1. You will not live one micro-second past your appointed end
2. You will not have your life cut short by even one heart-beat
3. God's purpose, timing and will WILL be accomplished in you. So until such time as He requires of you your life; you are immortal.
4. He will call you to the throne of His perfect judgment, and you will give answer... but if you are found in Christ you have an advocate with the Father.
 5. Live your life well and use your words to speak the truth of God, the glory of His name and the praise and worship of Jesus Christ!