



# THE GOSPEL TRUMPET®

"Cry aloud, spare not, lift up thy voice like a trumpet." Isaiah 58:1

## THE ROAD TO IRRELEVANCE

PAGE 9

# Editorial

The enemy is surely coming in like a torrential flood in these last days. Anchor yourself in Christ as never before and stand solidly on His holy, eternal Word, for strong winds are blowing!

We are living in a world where good is bad, up is down, normal is weird, and fantasy is now fact. And you could be arrested if you don't believe it!

Postmodernism has cast a lax, casual spirit over both society and the church. No longer being standard-bearers holding people to Scripture and biblical standards, many denominations have succumbed to the current of culture. They no longer call people up to the higher ground of the Word of God, but step down to accommodate them. In so doing, they subvert the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Let us be valiant standard-bearers and boldly declare the glorious gospel to awaken and save this spell-bound world.

Christian, haste and buckle on your armour! Satan has been closing in on God's little ones, and this is no fantasy. It is time to put away the play toys, extract yourself from the digital dumb-down devices, and quit yourselves like men for the battle!

We know not what the new year may bring, but the God who has brought His hosts through the fire and the flood for millennia, will arise as a Mighty Man of war and lead us in this last scrabble with the hosts of darkness.

May the love, mercy, and grace of our glorious God rest upon you all in 2026!

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# GIGGLING ON THE BRINK OF ETERNITY

SIS. SUSAN MUTCH

*Woe to the inhabitants of the earth  
and of the sea! for the devil is come  
down unto you, having great  
wrath, because he knoweth that  
he hath but a short time."*

*Revelation 12:12*

This, dear readers, explains the madness and evil rampant in the world today. Satan is working fast and furiously for he knows his time is now very short. Well does he know that God is real, and he fears Him to the point of trembling (James 2:19). The devil is no atheist! And he knows that on the soon-coming Last Day he will most surely be cast into the lake of fire (Revelation 20:15).

The devil knows he has but a short time. Do you?

The demonic hosts of hell are fighting against God, working feverishly through vile men to deceive the nations and destroy every vestige of righteousness and morality. Revelation 20:7-9 speaks of this time, showing the camp of the saints encompassed by the devil's legions.

To ensure that you are not overcome in this raging battle, I urge you to heed Holy Writ and honestly examine yourselves. Are you living holy and unspotted from this world?

We are here on a very temporary and probationary basis. *"Pass the time of your sojourning here in fear"* (1 Peter 1:17). The earth and the works that are therein shall soon be burned up. "Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness" (2 Peter 3:10-11).

O that God would help His people to see through the foggy, strange atmosphere of our time. A pall hangs over the people of the earth, and we have been affected. Apathetic, lukewarm spirits dull the senses, and distractions abound with an overload of technology, entertainments, and fleshly pleasures.

Apostle Daniel Layne often

warned: "Beware of what pleasures you." The spirit of the world is calling! Beware, children of God, for an excess of such things will rob us of our desperately-needed time with God, and leave us spiritually lean and prone to Satan's insidious attacks. Using an array of pleasures that appeal to the flesh, he hopes to diminish our love for God and destroy our souls, while leaving the lost in their sinful sleep. Pleasure addicts have no time to warn them to flee from the wrath to come.

"Is not he a fool who minds his recreation more than his salvation?" asked Thomas Watson.

In a speech made by a heathen,

**WHEN SOMEONE HAS NO PURPOSE,  
PLEASURE BECOMES HIS DISTRACTION.**

he stated that "he was greater, and born to greater things, than to be a servant to his body."

Decades back, a young man visited the place I was then attending. He shared that he had been trying different churches, searching

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## TO ACTION IN LIFE'S EVENTIDE

“We his servants will arise and build.” Nehemiah 2:20.

C.T. Studd was a man of action and not of words. At fifty years of age, already having served in China and India as a missionary, he went out to an unevangelized part of Africa. Doctors predicted an early death, and loved ones opposed his going, but a divine purpose burned within him. God kept him going in Africa for twenty years, though his body was called a museum of tropical diseases. He died in action. Studd said:

“Too long have we been waiting for one another to begin! The time for waiting is past! The hour of God has struck! War is declared! In God's holy name, let us arise and build! The God of heaven, He will fight for us, as we for Him. We will not build on the sand, but on the bedrock of the sayings of Christ, and the gates and minions of hell shall not prevail against us. Should such men as we fear?

Before the whole world, aye, before the sleepy, lukewarm, faithless, namby-pamby Christian world, we will dare to trust our God. We will venture our all for Him, we will live, and we will die for Him, and we will do it with His joy unspeakable singing aloud in our hearts. We will a thousand times sooner die trusting only in our God, than live trusting in man. And when we come to this position, the battle is already won, and the end of the glorious campaign in sight. We will have the real holiness of God, not the sickly stuff of talk and dainty words and pretty thoughts. We will have a masculine holiness, one of daring faith and works for Jesus Christ.” 📖

The sunset burns across the sky  
Upon the air its warning cry:  
The curfew tolls from tower to tower,  
“Our children, ‘tis the last, last hour!”  
The works that past years might have done  
Must crowd the hours of setting sun.  
And through all lands Christ's saving name  
We must in fervent haste proclaim!

— Authour Unknown



# A BRIEF LOOK AT POSTMODERNISM'S DEVASTATION

SIS. SUSAN MUTCH

For the better part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, postmodernism has permeated the culture. Quite simply, it is defined by its skepticism and rejection of absolute truths and order. Everything is fluid; therefore, one can do as he pleases and no God will judge him for it. It emphasizes subjective perspectives. We see this evidenced in the sexual culture, for one.

This ideology has also crept into the church, reshaping what it has been traditionally. Church history and tradition have been replaced with a lax, nonchalant spirit. This explains the shift from people wearing their “Sunday best” for worship services, to now attending with hoodies, flip-flops, and casual clothes, just as one would see in a shopping mall. It has infected doctrine in many senses.

Within this lax atmosphere that postmodernism has created, we also find a move to relativism—wanting to relate to everybody. And there’s a push to discredit the old traditions and concepts once held, along with a subversive move to soften the Word of God, “another gospel” being the result. But, as shared by Virgil Walker, Christians are to be the standard-bearers of truth.

Rejecting postmodernism, youth are seeking for a place that has structure, reverence for God, and clear, biblical teaching. The church must not shrink from plainly declaring the absolute truth of the Bible to the people.

To reiterate: postmodernism rejects absolute truths and order; everything is fluid. If everything is subjective, and all is fluid and without order, can there be any other outcome than chaos? Look around you. Have you ever seen anything like what we are currently witnessing in the world?

Postmodernism was not merely an inconsequential happenstance. It was socially engineered by the kings of the earth—a strategy in their war against God. The masses have been bombarded with all manner of media to distract and dumb them down. This atmosphere has emasculated men and made women silly. Weakening many both in body and mind, it has made us slaves to our conveniences and pleasures. God will have to wait until we can give Him the dregs of our time. 📱

## GIGGLING ON THE BRINK OF ETERNITY

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for a people that lived as though they really believed the Lord was soon to return. He had failed to find one, noting the tenor of their living with its entertainments and pleasures.

Jason Christoff wrote: “Due to our national pastime of fun, self-gratification and perpetual giggling...our society is collapsing. What you’ll notice today is that most people are really obsessed with posting pictures of themselves having endless amounts of fun, yet no one is really interested in posting anything ‘serious’ about anything ‘important.’”

Such is the devil’s desire—distract the populace with earthly trivia and pursuits. Relax everybody. Focus on what pleasures you today. Don’t think about Eternity.

The prophet Haggai told the people in his day, “Consider your ways.” They had slacked off from the work God had called them to and become comfortable in their own “ceiled houses.”

God is surely looking down upon us now. Should we not consider our ways? We would do well to each ask ourselves if we are too absorbed in life’s pleasantries to the hurt of our own soul and that of others. After all, God did not put us in the world to be “perpetually giggling.”

And again I ask: The devil knows he has but a short time. Do you? 📱



# THE GATHERING STORM

BRO. HERBERT HILDEBRANDT

ACROSS THE WORLD, an often quiet but unmistakable pattern is unfolding: hostility toward Christianity is rising, and in many regions it is increasingly less quiet. Persecution rarely arrives fully grown. It often begins with cultural disdain, then legal pressure, then public shaming, and eventually open suppression.

In Nigeria, believers are slaughtered by extremist groups while the world largely looks away. In China, pastors disappear into detention while underground churches continue to gather in hidden rooms. In India, mobs burn Christian buildings with impunity. Ancient Christian communities in the Middle East are shrinking under relentless pressure following Western military intervention. Country after country reveals the same spirit wearing different masks: silence the gospel and push Christianity to the margins of society.

And while many in the West assume such hostility belongs only to foreign nations, Canada is already displaying the early signs. Christian convictions are increasingly framed as dangerous and pastors are investigated for teaching what Scripture says plainly. Christian parents

are treated with suspicion when they raise their children according to their faith. And the wave of church burnings since 2021—nearly one hundred—should trouble every believer. Burning houses of worship is rarely vandalism, but a symbolic attack on faith itself.

This is not merely a cultural shift. It is spiritual, ideological, and historical.

Scripture warns that there will be seasons when truth is despised, when opposition intensifies, and when the people of God must stand firm. Across the world, we are watching such a season take shape. And Canada is not exempt simply because we wish it to be.

Persecution has always revealed the strength and purity of God's people. The early church grew under pressure because it expected suffering and embraced courage. The persecuted church today thrives in places where gathering is dangerous because believers know that discipleship cannot be casual.

Meanwhile, in the West, we have long assumed comfort is normal and opposition is abnormal, and that mindset must change.

The government of Canada has intro-

duced Bill C-9 for review and a future vote to become law. This is not a minor legal adjustment; it is a doorway to state control over Christian conviction. By removing the long-standing religious exemption from Canada's hate-speech laws, it hands government and courts the power to reinterpret Scripture itself as harmful, hateful, or criminal.

The moment biblical teaching can be judged illegal because someone claims emotional distress, the gospel becomes subject to political approval. Pastors could face charges for preaching, believers for sharing verses, parents for teaching their children. This is not imaginary—this is exactly how creeping persecution has begun in every society that sought to silence the church through legislation.

Bill C-9 threatens to transform Canada from a nation that protects freedom of conscience into one that punishes it, replacing truth with state-defined morality and treating faithful Christians as offenders for simply believing what believers have always believed.

My wife grew up in the final years of the USSR, where believers worshipped quietly, singing hymns in hushed tones





# AGAINST CHRISTIANITY

with their curtains drawn. Families whispered their convictions, and every minister was watched and often followed. When she and her family were able to escape communism in 1989, they were so grateful to arrive in Germany, where they could worship freely without government intrusion. Now those same Marxist storm clouds hang low over Europe and North America.

Some of my relatives fled the terror of Nestor Makhno, a man whose roving bands burned villages, targeted believers, and punished Christian communities simply for existing in southeast Russia as the Bolsheviks prepared to seize power and turn everyone into a slave of the state. They found refuge in Canada, believing they had reached a land where faith could flourish without fear.

When our families hear the language of “acceptable” and “unacceptable” Christian beliefs emerging in Canada, when they see the rise in hostility toward the church, when they watch the burning of sanctuaries dismissed as understandable—what many

Canadians treat as mild concerns—they recognize these as the first warning signs of what they once fled.

We must awaken to a greater understanding of the threat we face. Not to panic or despair, but to *watch and pray*, as the Lord commanded. Christians also need to understand that Scripture has already told us to expect seasons like this, especially as the world currently moves toward the time period described in Revelation 18: the sudden collapse of the beast

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**Pastors could face charges for preaching, believers for sharing verses, parents for teaching their children. This is not imaginary—this is exactly how creeping persecution has begun in every society that sought to silence the church through legislation.**

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system “in one hour,” when the powers of this age unravel with shocking speed. Such speed, in fact, that nothing is left for those who have suffered loss of their

wicked crafts in the collapse, but to weep and wail.

This is not a war of physical violence, but an unprecedented destruction of evil spiritual forces.

The camp of the saints—all those washed in the blood of the Lamb—is presently surrounded by Satan’s hosts, as foretold in Revelation 20:8-9. We face a formidable foe, and know not the perils ahead that could be ours to endure.

As hostility rises, as truth is despised, as systems of power strain toward control, the church should not be surprised. But, we should be spiritually alert and anchored in the Word. We should be steadfast in holiness. And we should be preparing our hearts, our homes, and our communities for the possibility that persecution may increase before redemption breaks through.

The same God who delivered His people from empires, warlords, and regimes is the God who walks with His church today. He has not changed and His promises are firm. The victory already belongs to Christ. May our faith be as resilient and unwavering.

# THE EARLY CHRISTIANS

**THE ROMAN EMPIRE** was the most famous and far-flung empire of Christ's day. The marked characteristic of the empire was tolerance, and the most notable characteristic of the church was its benevolence. Thus, seemingly, the two would have gotten on well together, but they could not, because the Christians swore allegiance to Christ as Lord of their lives. Everything else was expected to be subservient to Him, and the Romans did not like this.

The church had high standards for human conduct, and called for conformity to these standards. They said, "If you expect to be saved, you

must conform to Christ's way of life," and many of the people resented this. The church condemned the world and sought to save it. They soon found that "the world was no friend of grace to help them on to God," for from the world there came contempt and aversion, followed by persecution.

The Christians were charged with being the most unsocial of all people. They came to be considered queer, and to be hated and counted as enemies of society, because they were simple and modest in their dress, they were strictly moral in their conduct, and they would not go to the games and feasts, but condemned the people

for their popular forms of amusement and pleasure.

They condemned those who sold fodder for the animals to be sacrificed to pagan gods. Therefore, the public came to dread them, for the people feared the wrath of the gods when they did not sacrifice to them. If crops failed, if the Tiber River overflowed, if plagues came, the cry was "The Christians to the lions."

Yet, the Christians were kind to all who were in trouble, stayed and nursed the sick during the plague when others fled, and lived highly moral lives. 📖

*Used from The Thompson Chain Bible, with permission.*



# THE ROAD TO IRRELEVANCE

SIS. SUSAN MUTCH

**I**n its very infancy, the New Testament church burst upon the scene, shaking the very foundations of both the pagan and Judaic worlds. She came aflame with love to God and man and turned the world upside down. Hungry, penitent souls shouted for joy at her coming, while those who loved darkness gnashed their teeth and cursed her onward march.

Undaunted by persecution and hardship, the early saints embraced the cross, bore the reproach, and rejoiced in the God of their salvation. Their hearts were fixed on “a better country, that is, an heavenly,” knowing “they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.”

According to Robert Louis Wilken, professor of history and author of many books on the early church, the first Christians did not conform to the culture of the day. They declared that God—not culture—defined who they were. The church was itself a culture.

Nor did it strive to be “user-friendly.” In fact, just the opposite. *It was countercultural.*

I concur with Mr. Wilken when he stated: “I think seeker-sensitive

churches use a completely wrong strategy. A person who comes into a Christian church for the first time *should* feel out of place. He *should* feel this community engages in practices so important they take time to learn. The best thing we can do for ‘seekers’ is to create an environment where newcomers feel they are missing something vital. Few people grasp that today, but the early church grasped it very well.”

Being countercultural is what caused the sparks to fly when God’s messengers clashed with pagan Rome and the unbelieving Jews. Jesus plain-

**“The best thing we can do for seekers is to create an environment where newcomers feel they are missing something vital. Few people grasp that today, but the early church grasped it very well.”**

ly said, “Remember the word that I said unto you...If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you.” John 15:20.

“Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to

send peace, but a sword.” Matthew 10:34. A Christian cannot have peaceful friendships with all, without becoming an enemy of God (James 4:4). As John Stott once put it, “It is not possible to be faithful and popular simultaneously.”

The early preachers understood the gospel was revolutionary and made no effort to soften it or make it more palatable to the cultures of their day. Upon this, God poured down His glory, as the New Testament history reveals, and multitudes were saved.

The gospel is just as revolutionary and transformational today, and nothing less than the same raw, unadulterated gospel can produce the same results today. In the words of Virgil Walker: “The culture is loud, but the gospel is stronger.”

This early biblical pattern is a foreign concept to today’s religious mind. Little realizing how exceedingly precious and revolutionary the gospel is, they are obsessed with being “relevant,” as though the gospel has weakened with age and needs to be “helped along” to suit our generation. But hungry souls are looking for God. Not entertainment. Not social programs.

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# BORDER BOLTS AND BEDROOM BETRAYALS

## Why a Locked Fence Won't Save a Fatherless Nation

While  
we're high-  
fiving over a bolted gate  
[at the U.S. southern border], scroll  
your timeline for five seconds:

- Another “empowered” wife just torched her marriage on TikTok for 3 million likes.
- Another fatherless 19-year-old in Chicago caught a bullet he was chasing because nobody ever taught him how to be a man.
- Another church deacon’s kid came out as “non-binary” because Dad was too busy “leading from the couch.”

You can lock the southern border with titanium and razor wire, but if the front door of your house is swinging open to every spirit of the age, the invasion already happened. The enemy didn’t crawl through the desert—he walked right through the living room while you were doom-scrolling sports takes.

You can build a 50-foot wall on the Rio Grande, but if your family altar is zero feet tall, the enemy already crossed your threshold.

Acts 17:26 says, God “determined the times set for them and the exact places where they should live.” Nations have borders because God drew the lines. Families have order because God signed the blueprint. Husbands

love sacrificially, wives submit respectfully, children obey honorably, fathers rule well (Ephesians 5:22–6:4). Break that chain at any link, and the whole thing collapses—first the home, then the block, then the nation.

You want proof?

Forty percent of kids in America right now are growing up without their biological father in the home. Forty. Percent. That’s not a crisis—that’s a national security threat wearing Nike tech fleece.

And brothers, I’ve been that statistic’s co-author. I’ve been the dad too buried in ministry, too “busy doing the Lord’s work” to notice the drift in my own boys. Too many nights they ate dinner without me while I chased the next platform, the next meeting, the next “impact.” I came home to silence that wasn’t peace—it was distance. One day, I looked up and realized my absence was teaching them more than my sermons ever could. The conviction hit like a freight train. Repentance started that night, and the rebuilding hasn’t stopped since.

So, I get it. I’m not throwing rocks from some ivory tower. I’m yelling from the trenches I had to crawl back into—by God’s grace.

We cheered when the border got locked. Good. Now lock your house the same way.

Deuteronomy 6 doesn’t say, “Teach them when it’s convenient.” It says when you sit, when you walk, when you lie down, when you rise. That’s 24/7 border patrol on your children’s souls.

# THE ROAD TO IRRELEVANCE

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Every group that travels this “dangerous, heresy-prone path of seeking ‘relevance’” finds itself *irrelevant*. In fact, this is actually why the unsaved are so repelled by religion. It is impossible to win the world by becoming like the world.

Brett McCracken stated that “It’s our *difference* as salt and light in a dark world that makes the

church attractive. A commitment to pursuing holiness—only made possible through the blood of Jesus and by the power of the Holy Spirit—is a critical mark of the countercultural church.”

And, as Martyn Lloyd-Jones says, “The glory of the gospel is that when the church is absolutely different from the world, she invariably attracts it.” 📖

- Put the phone down at dinner and open the Book.
- Lead family worship like your last name depends on it—because it does.
- Teach your sons that real strength bleeds for its people, not beats them.
- Teach your daughters that submission to a godly man isn’t slavery; it’s the safest place on the planet.

The same God who raised up Nehemiah to rebuild walls is the God who told Joshua, “Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous.” That command didn’t come with an escape clause for feelings. It came with a promise: “I will be with you.”

So here’s the gut check, brothers and sisters. You celebrating the locked border today? Good:

- Now go lock your bedroom with prayer.
- Lock your living room with Scripture.
- Lock your children’s hearts with discipline and delight in the Lord.

Because a nation of strong men leading strong homes doesn’t need to beg politicians to save it. It just kneels, repents, and gets back to work.

The fence is bolted. Now bolt your family to the Rock. 📖

VIRGIL WALKER  
Of Sola Veritas

## I Will Come to You

John 14:18

Come to me, Lord Jesus,  
Let your Spirit fall  
Upon my soul in mercy;  
Hear me when I call.  
And send answer from heaven  
As only you can do —  
“I will not leave you comfortless.  
I will come to you.”

Breathe on me, Lord Jesus,  
Just now, Saviour, send  
Across my soul so withered  
Your sweet, holy wind.  
Come, shade me in this desert  
Beneath your promise true —  
“I will not leave you comfortless.  
I will come to you.”

Shower me, Lord Jesus,  
With heaven’s quenching rain  
And flood my thirsty spirit  
Until it hopes again.  
When my heart breaks in sorrow,  
Then speak these words anew —  
“I will not leave you comfortless.  
I will come to you.”

Comfort me, Lord Jesus,  
In this, my darkest hour.  
The tempter put to silence  
And fill me with your power.  
Remind with calm assurance  
Until the night is through —  
“I will not leave you comfortless.  
I will come to you.”

— Bro. Daniel Eichelberger



PUT ON THE WHOLE ARMOUR OF GOD  
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