



## SERMON NOTES

### **WALKING AMONG THE DEAD - PART VI**

A Study of Matthew 5

Pastor Carl Toti

November 8-9, 2014

#### **THESIS**

Matthew 5:9 “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God.”

#### **ANTITHESIS**

Matthew 5:10-11 “Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.” 11 “Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me.

#### **SYNTHESIS**

Matthew 5:12 Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

**Persecute:** “to harass or punish in a manner designed to injure, grieve, or afflict; specifically: to cause to suffer because of belief” –Webster’s

### **Anti-Christian Sentiment**

#### **CHRISTIAN PHOTOGRAPHER**

The U.S. Supreme Court on Monday declined to hear a case, Elane Photography, LLC vs. Willock, in which a wedding photographer was punished for declining to photograph a same-sex wedding ceremony in New Mexico.  
<http://www.christianpost.com/news/supreme-court-will-not-hear-case-of-photographer-who-refused-gay-wedding-117506/>

#### **CHRISTIAN BAKERS REQUIRED TO RENDER SERVICE TO SAME SEX COUPLES.**

The Kleins of Oregon, refused to make a cake back in January 2013 for a gay couple as a result they have losted their shop, and are reportedly facing a potential \$150,000 fine — a fine that they say could bankrupt them.  
<http://www.theblaze.com/stories/2014/10/21/christian-bakers-who-lost-their-shop-after-refusing-to-make-a-wedding-cake-for-a-lesbian-couple-are-in-for-a-major-surprise/>

**Jack Phillips**, the Christian owner of Masterpiece Cakeshop, in Lakewood, Colorado has been ordered to make wedding cakes for same sex couples and guarantee that his staff go through sensitivity training.  
<http://www.foxnews.com/opinion/2014/06/03/baker-forced-to-make-gay-wedding-cakes-undergo-sensitivity-training-after/>

**Some local municipalities are favoring sharia law which has resulted in many states passing a “foreign laws” bill preventing the infiltration of Muslim laws into the courts. North Carolina now joins six other states — Oklahoma, Arizona, Kansas, Louisiana, South Dakota, and Tennessee**  
[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/07/29/sharia-law-usa-states-ban\\_n\\_3660813.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/07/29/sharia-law-usa-states-ban_n_3660813.html)

**Six judges in North Carolina have resigned after refusing to conduct same-sex weddings, citing their Christian faith. North Carolina legalized same-sex marriage on October 10th and court magistrates were instructed to begin officiating same-sex weddings. Other judges have also indicated they will refuse to conduct same-sex weddings, though this may lead to their dismissal.**

<http://www.persecution.org>

**Houston Mayor Reverses Attempt to Subpoena Pastors Sermons—Thursday, October 30th, 2014**

<http://www.persecution.org>

**Wednesday, October 22nd, 2014**

Two ordained ministers in Idaho, Donald and Evelyn Knapp, were facing potential fines and jail time if they refuse to perform a same-sex wedding in the wedding chapel they have owned and operated for more than two decades.

<http://www.persecution.org>

**Rick Santorum: US May be One Generation Away from Christian Persecution—Friday, October 31st, 2014**

<http://www.persecution.org>

**Twitter Blocks Faith-Based Campaign for Houston Pastors**

Friday, October 17th, 2014. In what appears to be becoming a pattern for major social media sites, Twitter has blocked a campaign by the group Faith Driven Consumer to speak out on behalf of Houston, Texas pastors issued subpoena's this week demanding they turn over sermons with any content on homosexuality.

<http://www.persecution.org>

**Second Oklahoma Muslim Arrested after Threatening to Behead Christian Coworker—Friday, October 3rd, 2014**

This after the beheading of 54-year-old Colleen Huffort by a Muslim coworker, sparking concern that radical Islam may be influencing violence towards Christians in the heartland of the United States.

<http://www.persecution.org>

**Acts 5:20 (NIV)**

20 "Go, stand in the temple courts," he said, "and tell the people the full message of this new life."

**Acts 5:28 (NLT)**

28 "Didn't we tell you never again to teach in this man's name?" he demanded. "Instead, you have filled all Jerusalem with your teaching about him, and you want to make us responsible for his death!"

**Acts 5:29-32 (NKJV)**

29 But Peter and the other apostles answered and said: "We ought to obey God rather than men. 30 The God of our fathers raised up Jesus whom you murdered by hanging on a tree. 31 Him God has exalted to His right hand to be Prince and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. 32 And we are His witnesses to these things, and so also is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey Him."

"I would be the first to advocate obeying just laws, one has not only a legal but a moral responsibility to obey just laws. Conversely, one has a moral responsibility to disobey unjust laws. I would agree with St. Augustine that 'an unjust law is no law at all.'"

Martin Luther King Jr—"Letter from Birmingham Jail,"

Matthew 5:12 Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

**Acts 5:41-42 (NKJV)**

41 So they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for His name. 42 And daily in the temple, and in every house, they did not cease teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ.