

Perspective

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What the World Needs Now!

You rise up early in the morning each day and check the news only to discover yet another heinous hate crime has been committed. Some poor man, woman, or child's life was snuffed out, and they are tragically torn away from their loved ones. The cold-blooded murder of talk show host, Charlie Kirk, September 11, is a perfect example of someone's venomous hatred over his personal views of life and politics. Tyler Robinson, a 22-year-old man, was arrested as the assassin who fatally shot Kirk during an event at Utah Valley University. Kirk was a conservative activist and cofounder of Turning Point USA. He left behind a beautiful family, his wife Erika, and two small children.

Tyler Robinson expressed strong disdain for Charlie Kirk, believing he was "full of hate." His hatred for Kirk stemmed from his warped belief that Kirk was promoting hate and divisive politics. What is the cause of this upswing in hatred and increasing violence? Jesus prophesied in the end of the age, *"And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold."* (Matthew 24:12)

What was the first hate crime in history?

Human beings are willingly ignorant of the cause of the world's woes. God and His laws are rejected by most. Hosea 4:6 warns us: *"My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge. Because you have rejected knowledge, I also will reject you from being priest for Me; because you have forgotten the law of your God, I also will forget your children."*

Ever since the garden of Eden when Adam and Eve rejected God's rule over their lives, mankind has gotten further away from God. The immediate result of that rejection was their first son, Cain, became the first murderer; he bludgeoned to death his own brother, Abel. Genesis 4:3-7 gives us insight as to why: *"in the process of time it came to pass that Cain brought an offering of the fruit of the ground to the Lord. Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat. And the Lord respected Abel and his offering, but He did not respect Cain and his offering. And Cain was very angry, and his countenance fell. So, the Lord said to Cain, 'Why are you angry? And why has your countenance fallen? If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin lies at the door. And its desire is for you, but you should rule over it.'"*

Cain committed the first hate crime in the history of man. The reason is much the same as it always is. He resented and envied Abel for his righteousness. John the apostle wrote nearly two thousand years ago in I John 3:12, *"not as Cain who was of the wicked one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his works were evil and his brother's righteous."*

As long as men reject God and His laws, things will grow worse. September 24, a gunman fired on the headquarters of Ice agency facility in Dallas, killing one ICE detainee and injuring two others. The FBI has identified him as Joshua Jahn. The shooting happened while ICE officers were taking detainees into the agency's Dallas facility. The 29-year-old who opened fire on a Dallas ICE facility, left behind handwritten notes in his home in Oklahoma stating his motive was to terrorize ICE employees.

There has been an increase in violent hate-filled crimes in the United States. The FBI reported 11,862 hate crimes in 2024, up two percent from 2023. There has been a trend of upward movement in hate crimes over the past ten years. The increase in hate crimes is attributed to different factors for certain types of incidents involving antisemitism, anti-Muslims, and increasingly ant-Christian.

Where is the love?

Something is dramatically wrong with today's concept of love. Many of the "loves" of this world lead to horrible human tragedies. Why? What is true love, and how can it be achieved?

In the Greek language there are three words translated as love. There is *philia* meaning “brotherly love”, and there is *eros* meaning a “love for one’s wife or husband in marriage.” The third word is *agape*, which has to do with the love of God. Agape love involves faithfulness, commitment, and an act of the will. It is distinguished from the other types of love by its lofty moral nature and strong character. Agape love is beautifully described in 1 Corinthians 13, and is quite different. Real agape love is exemplified in Phillipians 2:3-4: *“Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others.”*

The startling fact is, the majority of people today and through history have never really known what *agape* love is. All the suffering in human history has come because of wrong ideas about what love is. I John 4:18 says, *“There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts fear...”*

All the problems of humanity are basically spiritual. From the day of our birth, we are preprogrammed by Satan’s wavelength to hate God’s law and live by carnality, living our way and not God the Father’s perfect way (Ephesians 2:2). The apostle Paul warned in Romans 8:6-7: *“For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be. So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God.”*

True love is a right spiritual attitude and a way of dealing with life and others. It is a completely outgoing. This kind of love originates from God and reflects His mind and character. *“He who does not love does not know God, for God is love.”* (I John 4:8)

True love and obedience to God’s laws produces what is good in our lives; disobedience produces sufferings and penalties. Agape love for our neighbor is spoken of in Romans 13:10: *“Love does no harm to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfillment of the law.”* Additionally, I Corinthians 13:8 tell us, *“Love never fails...”*

God will equip His kingdom with His love

God is the author of love and all the good things of life. A favorite scripture in the Bible is James 1:17: *“Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning.”*

Satan invented hatred, lying, stealing, murder, and every other kind of evil. If you are living an agape love—it came from God through His spirit: *“... because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us.”* (Romans 5:5)

Both individuals and nations do not live in peace because they neither know what *agape* love is, nor do they have it. Consequently, the prophet Jeremiah wrote under inspiration of God, *“O Lord, I know the way of man is not in himself; It is not in man who walks to direct his own steps.”* (Jeremiah 10:23)

Man cannot rule himself because he cannot love God and his fellowman. When Jesus Christ comes a second time, He will change all that. God promises, *“This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, says the Lord: I will put My laws into their hearts, and in their minds, I will write them, then He adds, ‘Their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more.’”* (Hebrews 10:16-17)

People will have a different attitude toward God and their neighbor; the love of God will flow out from each person through the spirit of God. It will produce abundant life and peace in all nations unlike anything the world has ever known.

It will revolutionize the entire world. Isaiah 2:3, *“Many people shall come and say, ‘Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; He will teach us His ways, and we shall walk in His paths.’ For out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.”*

What a glorious world it will be! Thank God Almighty, there will be peace at last!