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CONTROVERSY: Part 1

JULY 2022

Today's Scripture text says, *"Hear the word of the LORD, ye children of Israel: for the LORD hath a controversy with the inhabitants of the land, because there is no truth, nor mercy, nor knowledge of God in the land. By swearing, and lying, and killing, and stealing, and committing adultery, they break out, and blood toucheth blood (meaning murder after murder)" (Hosea 4:1-2).*

I humbly ask you to bear with me in the upcoming newsletters. My heart is deeply stirred as I witness the spirit of the Antichrist seeking the destruction of America. It doesn't take a genius to recognize America is in the throes of death.

My heart is terribly burdened by what I see taking place in America. In the natural it seems as though there is no way of stopping the chaos, confusion, and destruction.

Recently, nineteen elementary school students and two teachers were slaughtered for no apparent reason, typifying *"blood toucheth blood"* or *murder after murder*.

The key word in our Scripture text is "controversy" (#7379 in *Strong's Exhaustive Concordance*), *riv* or *riyb* in Hebrew, and it means: *to have a quarrel, a point of contention, a feud or dispute: it also deals with the various parts of a lawsuit in a judicial manner.*

Needless to say Jehovah has a controversy with America. Our Scripture text begins by demanding: hear the Word of the Lord! The reason Jehovah has such a controversy or judicial inquiry is because we are supposed to be His redeemed people.

Three distinct sins against Jeho-

vah caused a controversy or dispute with His people.

Firstly, there was no truth in the land. We witness daily an explosion of deception, lies, and duplicity from the media, pulpits, and politicians.

There was a day when most journalists were considered to be dirt bags, a worthless creature, and a thorn in the flesh of every politician. As true reporters they sought diligently to find the truth, declare the truth, and print the truth. Most reporters were very much disliked because they sought to expose any corruption within a politician's life!

Sadly, most major news reporters and anchors are multi-millionaires today! The media has been bought out by mega corporations. For that reason, the American people can hardly find any truth regarding things like Hillary Clinton's server and Hunter Biden's laptop.

Today, major news anchors make tens of millions of dollars a year because they report what corporations tell them to report. News outlets blatantly refuse to tell the truth about our southern border, our nation, and our national leadership.

Likewise, pulpits in America are terribly compromised. Nearly every week we read or hear about the fall of many so-called pastors. Sins such as greed, covetousness, drunkenness, pornography, and adultery have caused many to fall from grace.

Not only are many falling from grace, but about 40% of the ministry is considering quitting the ministry. As a result, Christendom is rapidly growing into apostasy and the presence of the Holy Ghost is no longer manifested in most of our churches.

Today, the Scriptures, as God's revelation, are rejected and put on par with human writings; while pride and arrogance are the order of the day. We are told, *"The fear of the LORD is to hate evil: pride, and arrogancy, and the evil way, and the froward mouth, do I hate" (Proverbs 8:13).*

I am not mistaken when I say; the world and most Christians have lost their fear of God. The apostle Paul declared, *"There is no fear of God before their eyes" (Romans 3:18).*

Today's church has forgotten Jehovah is a holy God and will accept nothing less than holiness and righteousness within the church. **Proverbs 16:6** says, *"... by the fear of the LORD men depart from evil."*

The more I pray and read my Bible, the more I am stirred by what I am witnessing in America. Please do not perceive me as being judgmental; but if you are not stirred by what you see, then you are not spending enough time in prayer.

It is up to God's servants to preach the pure unadulterated truth. When the Word of God is faithfully proclaimed it destroys the works of darkness. The Word of God is filled with holy and divine character along with immeasurable integrity. Therefore, His Word must be proclaimed without compromise.

The prophet of God declared: *"Cry aloud, spare not, lift up thy voice like a trumpet, and shew my people their transgression (or their rebellion), and the house of Jacob their sins" (Isaiah 58:1).*

Instead of crying aloud today, most pulpiteers pad, pamper, and protect the purported saints of God. This is not the hour for God's

servants to be timid or show cowardice. We must cry aloud and spare not the church and openly declare their sins, debasedness, and wickedness. Many ministers no longer preach against sin because they are full it.

In Hosea's day, most of the priests had become corrupt and evil.

Secondly, God's controversy was because there was no demonstration of mercy or loving kindness.

Today the streets of America are filled with corruption, thievery, and barbarity. Just the other week, I watched as a young man was robbed in the streets of Chicago. However, robbing the man was not enough; the thugs shot him three or four times until he lay dead in the street. Truly, lawlessness is abounding, therefore, mercy and loving kindness can no longer be found in America.

If you're a U.S. citizen, you can't get affordable healthcare, yet our government takes from all of us to give to aliens and illegal immigrants. Healthcare and baby formula is freely given to illegals, while our land is becoming desolate, our cities burned, and strangers devour our land the same as Isaiah prophesied. America is quickly becoming a third world country in every sense. Who would dare question God's controversy with America?

Thirdly, Jehovah has a controversy with America because there is a lack of the knowledge of Christ. We must preach Jesus Christ and Him crucified! No doubt there is a famine of God's Word today.

The prophet Amos declared, *"Behold, the days come, saith the Lord GOD, that I will send a famine in the land, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the LORD"* (Amos 8:11). Why has it become so difficult for people to hear or find the Word of God? It isn't because God is silent. There is a famine because ministers are not faithful in preaching His Word! Not only that, but most hearers don't care to hear

His uncompromising Word!

Today, many so-called Christians are looking in all the wrong places. They look for revelation from the prevailing false gods and false prophets. God's people will never be able to hear God speaking to them until they admit their sin and repent. We must seek Christ alone and nothing else. We must stop trusting in our vain doctrines and ideologies. Religion with its form of godliness is destroying the Christian church.

I'm reminded of a letter I received some time ago where a so called Presbyterian female pastor went to Scotland for vacation. After returning home, she decided to show travel videos she had recorded while in Scotland to the church. Before the service she placed a half a gallon of Scottish whiskey in the vestibule and offered everyone a drink of liquor before they came into the sanctuary!

We have turned the house of God into nothing more than a profane, ungodly, wicked nightclub; filled with fog machines, strobe lights, rock-n-roll music, with skinny-jean preachers who often have an air of homosexuality.

O My, how I long to hear the old hymns and Gospel songs that once filled the houses of God. Those songs are filled with the anointing of the Holy Ghost and their spirit-filled lyrics speak of the writer's testimony as they magnify their Redeemer.

Yes, I am a man born out of season but the truth of God remains the same and most people have forgotten God does not change: *"For I am the LORD, I change not"* (Malachi 3:6). The God we serve is immutable; meaning *He cannot change!* Our Lord and His Word will never bow nor become politically correct. We read in **Hebrews 13:8**, *"Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and forever."*

Jehovah is the same God in the New Testament as He was in the Old Testament. The only thing that changed was His covenant. We went

from the Law to Grace. Jehovah feels about sin in the New Testament just like He did in the Old Testament.

This is not an hour in which we should be wavering. If we will return to Christ, He will purge our sins, the "leaven" in our lives. Christ wills to rekindle a Holy Ghost fire within us all. Don't ever forget God is a Holy God. Even the angels of Heaven say, *"Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, which was, and is, and is to come"* (Revelation 4:8).

In closing, I must declare this will be a summer filled with chaos, confusion, and disaster. Though I do not believe in climate change, I do anticipate many record temperatures will be broken, along with rolling blackouts, and several hurricanes. I encourage you to prepare accordingly because Jehovah does have a controversy with America.

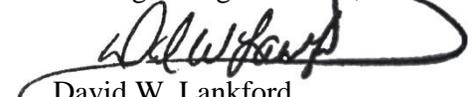
There will also be an attempt to negate the upcoming midterm elections. I exhort you to pray and seek the Masters face and remain in His secret place.

Please, let me remind you of our upcoming **"Revival in America"** meeting at the Hickory Metro Convention Center in Hickory, North Carolina this September 2-4! Jimmy D. Smith, Paul Jacobs, and yours truly are the featured speakers. Please mark your calendar, join us, and bring someone with you. We are placing a great emphasis on the old hymns and spiritual songs in this gathering.

Please Note: I do need you to phone, write, or visit us on our website and register so we can arrange the proper seating.

I am certain this revival meeting will be exceptional. You will experience a genuine move of the Holy Ghost in these powerful services.

Serving Along Side You,


David W. Lankford
Pastor / Evangelist