I have still been thinking of the memorial service for Charlie Kirk on September 21, and one word came to my mind about that special day....monumental. Here are some relevant definitions from the Oxford Dictionary.

- **Exceptionally great:** Referring to something that is outstanding in quantity, quality, extent, or degree.
- **Enduring significance:** Something that is historically important, lasting, and likely to be remembered for a long time

It would normally take several months to plan and prepare for such a large gathering with so many influential people in attendance and also speaking. The Turning Point USA team put this event together in only one week, even while mourning the death of their founder. Those who knew Charlie best said that he sought out the best people for his team and always strove for excellence. They helped make the service **exceptionally great!**

However, even more important, that gathering is likely to have **enduring significance**, for it gave honor to the one who has <u>eternal significance</u> himself, the <u>Lord Jesus Christ</u>. The preservice was filled with about 4 hours of worship through music and singing. **Worship** in Hebrew means **'to bow down'** and in the Greek **'to kiss the hand'**. It is to **reverence**, to **proclaim the worth** of and **give honor** <u>to one who is superior</u>.

When praise goes up......God's power and presence come down and all around. (many of the participants on 9/21 spoke of God's wonderful presence)

In the Bible we see various times when praise saturated the atmosphere of a place and God manifested His presence among His people and the priests could not perform their duties as the glory of God filled the temple. - 2 Chronicles 5:11-14. Praise prepares the way for God to show His salvation. - Psalm 50:23. Only a few times in my life have I experienced the glory of God's presence. It is like being in the eternal realm where there is no thought or awareness of time. Mundane matters are displaced by an awareness of God and eternal issues. A few times I lived on that energizing glory even the day after.

In previous messages, we wrote about the '7 mountain mandate' of Christians to be salt and light in all areas of society. Secularists accuse Christians of wanting to set up a 'theocracy' and Christian nationalism. However, who has already taken over those 7 areas? The secularists and atheists. They have set up their 'atheocracy' in our education system, media, arts and entertainment, family, governments and have even infected religion and the church. Now they turn around and accuse Christians for wanting to take back some territory for Jesus! This is a tactic often used by Satan and those under his influence.....accuse someone else of what you are already doing or have done. This also came out of the book by Sol Alinsky, Rules for Radicals.

When God is rejected, dark forces eagerly fill the spiritual vacuum, inspired by the original rebel Lucifer, who later became known as Satan, the adversary. He causes chaos as he seeks to steal, kill, destroy, spread lies and subvert or pervert any purpose or any person precious to God.

Charlie Kirk reached into the worlds of education, government, family, culture, media and even religion to make a difference. He saw the importance of education without government influence, of marriage and family based on a Biblical view. He did not take on the titles of apostle, prophet, evangelist or even pastor/teacher; but he took on those roles in so many ways. He displayed an example of a humble, courageous, servant of God in contrast to many Christian leaders, who have become proud, greedy, self-serving, popularity seeking people pleasers who are afraid to confront sin.

Live as children of the light (for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth) and find out what pleases the Lord. Have nothing to do with fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them. - Ephesians 5:8-11

Here is a recent comment I made to a podcast that disparaged Charlie Kirk:

The greatest leaders have outstanding Character, Capability and a Cause worth dying for.

Charlie Kirk had all three based on his devotion to following in the steps of Christ. Patriotism to ones country is better than the leftist's devotion to pagan secularism, socialism and globalism based on the philosophies of Karl Marx, Klaus Schwab and George Soros. The left turns to violence while the conservatives turn to prayer vigils and honoring God. I choose the side of life, not death and destruction.

I have read some articles that claim that the memorial service was merely a political rally, especially because there were so many Republican leaders there. I detected these are the same people who fail to see beyond their own prejudice and are blind to the hunger among people all over the world for a return to God, decency and populism.

There were various aspects in the Sept. 21 commemoration service:

- Worship and honor of God
- Honoring the life, faith and courage of Charlie Kirk
- Most of the speakers spoke of the values of personal Christianity that are needed in our culture such as repentance, faith, the value of each life, and the various roles of Jesus in the past (his substitutionary death, burial, resurrection, ascension) and future (his return and future reign). Erika Kirk demonstrated forgiveness which has had a great impact on many around the world. (love touches and tenderizes people's hearts) Grace, love, faith, truth and forgiveness are key values in a person's life
- Some leaders spoke of the government role which is to :
 - 1) Punish lawbreakers and wrongdoers Romans 13:1-6, 1 Peter 2:13-14
 - 2) Commend the righteous, bless those who do right

A few years ago I wrote an article about America, 'The Good, the Bad and the Ugly.' The recent service that was seen by over 100 million persons brought joy to my heart, some misty eyes and a sanctified pride to be an American. That one day America was that city on a hill and beacon of light that the founders of our country envisioned. They would have felt right at home there. However, they would be horrified by the moral degradation of our country as seen on Super Bowl Sunday in February.

This week I heard that the Super Bowl half-time show will feature a transgender singer. I can't remember the last time I watched one of those shows, for they usually are so vulgar and sexual with occultic overtones.. That is one time when I cringe that America broadcasts such filth to the world. Nonetheless, this is the age long conflict between what is good, beautiful and fruitful and that which is evil, ugly and empty. Satan has his hour but God will have his day when all evil is removed from this earth. Come Lord Jesus.

As God reminded Joshua and Charlie Kirk exhibited to the world.

Be strong and courageous!

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