## STANDING FOR TRUTH

March 2024

Martin Luther (l. 1483-1546) was a German theologian, priest, monk, and professor at the University at Wittenberg, who began to question the policies of the <u>Roman</u> Catholic Church at a time when the Church's authority was absolute. He was not the first to do so as there had been earlier movements and figures such as <u>John Wycliffe</u> (l. 1330-1384) and <u>Jan Hus</u> (l. c. 1369-1415) advocating for church reform. The Church was able to silence these proto-reformers but could not do so with Luther owing to his brilliant use of the printing press, which enabled widespread dissemination of his views, and his personal power as a speaker and writer. Luther never initially intended to break with the Church, only to amend what he saw as abuse and corruption, but when the Church attempted to silence him, as it had with Hus, he stood his ground and, supported by <u>peasants</u> and some powerful nobles, inspired and informed the movement that became the <u>Protestant Reformation</u>. His speech at the imperial assembly at Worms is central to the beginning of that movement. Source: worldhistory.org.

Luther refused to recant his position at the assembly and gave a memorable speech which he concluded with these words:

'Unless I am convinced by the testimony of the Scriptures and by clear reason (for I do not trust in the pope or councils alone, since it is well known that they have often erred and contradicted themselves), I am bound by the Scriptures I have quoted. My conscience is captive to the Word of God. I cannot and will not retract anything, since it is neither safe nor right to go against conscience. **Here I stand. I** cannot do otherwise. God help me. Amen.

I had intended to make this message about whistle blowers and mention those who have been standing for righteousness against evil in many areas of society. However, as I began to write this message, I happened upon a website and message that resonated with what I was wanting to say in regards to spiritual courage. Pastor Jack Hibbs leads a mega-church in California which refused to follow the covid quarantine protocols from their government. His church grew by the thousands! Recently he gave the prayer at Congress in Washington and it stirred up much controversy. In the inserted video he is being interviewed by Charlie Kirk, who has an amazing ministry to college students (turning point usa) in which he inspires them to stand for righteousness in the culture, patriotism and the constitution etc. Charlie is only about age 30 but has the wisdom of someone much older. He has taken nearly 20 courses at Hillsdale College, which is one the finest universities as it teaches about the Constitution and America's true Christian heritage (unlike the Ivy League schools that forsook their Christians roots and have become more like Poison Ivy schools).

Many today have fallen into the 'woke' indoctrination deception which is really godless Marxist ideology. God calls his people to **awake to righteousness** and **stand firm** in the truth under God's Word and Holy Spirit. - 1 Corinthians 15:34, Ephesians 6:13-14

For those receiving my e-mail, open the enclosed file, for those seeing this only on my **jesusreigns.net** website, go to **You Tube: jack hibbs under attack for prayer.** (It is an interview by Charlie Kirk with Jack Hibbs. You will hear the congressional prayer Jack prayed)

## JESUS STOOD FOR US AND DIED FOR US, WILL WE STAND FOR HIM?

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