Franklin Graham: America's 'Culture of Death' Stems From a 'Sinful, Godless Worldview That Rejects Christ'

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Note from Pastor Kevin Lea: I agree with Franklin Graham - It appears that America is drastically changing. Football can no longer compete with The Walking Dead, and what is more telling is that the Church cannot compete with Football. The end must be near.

I tell you that He will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will He really find faith on the earth?" Luke 18:8 NKJV



Reverend Franklin Graham, son of world renowned evangelical preacher Billy Graham, said that America is increasingly embracing a "culture of death" that echoes what has occurred in Europe, and which stems from a "sinful, godless worldview that rejects Christ."

A further problem in America, he added, is that "Christianity is constantly under siege from the halls of government and education, which seek to suppress any public expressions of faith."

"In places like Europe, where Christianity has been in decline as the deceptive forces of secularism and materialism have spread across the continent, it's not surprising to find the practice of euthanasia so entrenched," said Rev. Graham in a commentary for the January issue of <u>Decision magazine</u>. "Earlier this year, Belgium became the first country in the world to allow child euthanasia with no age limit."

"I'm concerned that America is not far behind," said Rev. Graham, who heads the Billy Graham Evangelical Association. "The euthanasia movement—disguised now as 'death with dignity'—is gaining ground in a number of states. And for every 1,000 live births in the United States, 219 pregnancies end with a murdered child, through abortion."

"I don't think there's any doubt that this rise in the culture of death in our own country coincides with the embrace of an immoral, sinful, godless worldview that rejects Christ," he said. "Christianity is constantly under siege from the halls of government and education, which seek to suppress any public expressions of faith."

In addition to the push for euthanasia -- the deliberate murder of the terminally sick, handicapped, elderly, or mentally ill – Reverend Graham noted that the social and entertainment culture seems fixated on death and gore.

Football used to be the dominant choice on television on Sunday evenings in the fall and winter but today, for example, 17 million people skipped the football game to watch the season premiere of *The Walking Dead*, a series about zombies (the walking dead) hunting and eating people. A few weeks after that premiere on Oct. 12, "nearly 15 million people turned in to yet another episode, easily surpassing that night's matchup" between the Broncos and the Chiefs, said Rev. Graham.

"That program is just one of numerous television programs that have garnered tremendous followings by fixating on gore and death," he said. "At least half a dozen prime time shows are strangely enamored and captivated by it. These shows, when combined with hugely popular video games like Mortal Kombat, demonstrate how obsessed with death our culture has become."

Brittany Maynard, who killed herself under Oregon's "Death with Dignity" euthasia law in November, on the cover of the October 2014 issue of People magazine.

Despite the near-constant stream of death-entertainment, the peddlers of such fare avoid the stark reality of actual death, said the reverend. They avoid the serious questions. "The Bible says that once a person dies, he will face the judgment of God," said Rev. Graham. "There is no reincarnation. There is no second chance."

He continued, "Death is serious, eternal business. Once our physical hearts beat for the last time, we will instantly find ourselves either in the presence of the Lord Jesus Christ in all His splendor, or in the pit of Hell away from His presence."

Hollywood doesn't want to talk about that in any serious way. But "death is not a fictional television series," <u>said</u> Rev. Graham. "It is not a popular gaming topic. It is the entryway into either eternal life or eternal death. And a culture that treats it as mere fantasy and amusing entertainment does so at its peril."

Our only hope, said the reverend, is ...

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