## Anti-LGBT 'Minister' Franklin Graham Hates for Jesus

## What Jesus Would Not Do June 11, 2015

Note from Pastor Kevin Lea: I am providing this as a handout so that you can know the vitriol that you [a biblical believer in Jesus as your Lord and Savior] will receive for standing up for the Word of God, and His righteousness, agreeing with God that evil is evil and good is good. Some relevant Scriptures are at the end of this article.

Is this really what religious 'leadership' has come to—Frank Graham pulling money out of a bank that disagrees with his bigotry? Pathetic.

"My house will be called a house of prayer. But you are making it a den of thieves!"

I often think of this famed passage from the New Testament when I hear hate spewed by so-called Christian ministers. This Bible story in Matthew explains how Jesus observed that some had denigrated a house of worship, causing him to flip over the tables of the "money lenders" and others selling wares.

Franklin Graham's stoking the flames of hate against a minority group in America over the past few days has again brought this Bible verse to mind. Not that Graham is a "thief" but because he, too, is denigrating a faith to further his own agenda.

Graham announced last Friday that he was pulling the \$128 million account for his nonprofit organization, The <u>Billy</u> <u>Graham Evangelistic Association</u>, <u>out of Wells Fargo bank</u>. (It's truly astounding that it has that much money in the bank—you would think that the Christian thing to do is spend at least a few million on those in need.)

So why did Graham pull this huge sum of money from Wells Fargo? Did bank executives burn down a church or sponsor an abortion-a-thon? Nope. The bank simply ran an ad that featured a lesbian couple.

This really outraged Graham. So in a moment of What Would Jesus Not Do, he <u>posted on Facebook</u>, "Have you ever asked yourself: How can we fight the tide of moral decay that is being crammed down our throats by big business, the media, and the gay & lesbian community?" Graham's answer: Don't do business with Wells Fargo.

And then on Monday, Graham took to the airwaves of the Family Research Council's radio program to call on other Christians to follow his lead and boycott any business that <u>"promotes the gay lifestyle," including Wells Fargo, Starbucks, Tiffany's, and Nike</u>. (Interestingly ISIS also recently banned Nike again proving that <u>religious radicals share much</u> <u>common ground</u>.)

Not content to simply advocate a boycott, Graham added during his radio appearance that "practicing" gays and lesbians, if accepted by Christian churches, will not only destroy the church in our nation, but also <u>hasten the end of times</u>. (Not sure what defines a "practicing" gay in Graham's mind but I bet he's pictured it.)

But Graham's demonization of the LGBT community is nothing new. For example, last year he <u>publicly applauded</u> <u>Russian leader Vladimir Putin's horrific anti-gay laws</u>, stating that the Russian president "has taken a stand to protect his nation's children from the damaging effects of any gay and lesbian agenda."

And Graham has often sought to stir up hate against LGBT community members who want to adopt children by warning that this was their way to <u>"recruit" children to be gay</u>. He also supports discrimination against gay teens from being able to join the Boy Scouts.

Let's be clear. Graham's anti-LGBT words, including his new call for a boycott of Wells Fargo, is not just about opposing marriage equality. It is more than that. He doesn't want gays and lesbians to be viewed as typical Americans with the

same hopes and dreams as the rest of us. Instead he wants Americans to view them and their "agenda" as a threat to our nation. He wants them to be shunned, vilified, and marginalized. (Much the same way he has demonized Muslims, even warning that Muslim Americans in our government are in essence are <u>a threat to Christians</u>.)

And worse, in my view, Graham's words have radicalized other good Christians. Just this weekend we saw...

To read this article in its entirety, go to: <u>http://www.thedailybeast.com/articles/2015/06/11/anti-lgbt-minister-franklin-graham-hates-for-jesus.html</u>

Note from Pastor Kevin Lea: We learn from Sodom and Gomorrah (Genesis 19), and what happened in Gibeon during the time of the Judges (Judges 19), that if the homosexual agenda is embraced by the people, it quickly infects the entire society until judgment comes. Therefore, I would agree with this author that the time is coming where the only place to deposit money will be in a mattress or better yet, in preaching the gospel of Jesus to a dying and soon-to-be-judged world, while we still can.

Consider the following Scriptures which warn us about these troubling days where God and those who love Him and His laws will be hated for taking a stand on righteousness.

For even His [Jesus'] brothers did not believe in Him. Then Jesus said to them, "My time has not yet come, but your time is always ready. The world cannot hate you, but it hates Me **because I [Jesus] testify of it that its works are evil**. John 7:5-7 NKJV

"If the world hates you, you know that it hated Me before it hated you. If you were of the world, the world would love its own. Yet because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you. Remember the word that I said to you, 'A servant is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you. If they kept My word, they will keep yours also. John 15:18-20 NKJV

Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world — the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life — is not of the Father but is of the world. And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever. 1 John 2:15-17 NKJV

Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. Galatians 5:19-21 NKJV

And he said to me, "Do not seal the words of the prophecy of this book, for the time is at hand. He who is unjust, let him be unjust still; he who is filthy, let him be filthy still; he who is righteous, let him be righteous still; he who is holy, let him be holy still. And behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to give to every one according to his work. I [Jesus] am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End, the First and the Last. Blessed are those who do His commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city. But outside are dogs and sorcerers and sexually immoral and murderers and idolaters, and whoever loves and practices a lie. I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things in the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, the Bright and Morning Star." Revelation 22:10-16 NKJV

Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; Who put darkness for light, and light for darkness; Who put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter! Woe to those who are wise in their own eyes, And prudent in their own sight! Isaiah 5:20-21 NKJV