

Political Assassinations

A Dark Day for Our Nation

On Wednesday, September 10, 2025, during an event at Utah Valley University, conservative activist and Turning Point USA co-founder, Charlie Kirk, was fatally shot in what authorities have labeled as a political assassination as the shooting came from a rooftop targeting him specifically. The assault, witnessed by thousands, has shaken our national conscience.

A Dark Reality in Every Age

Acts of political violence shock the conscience and grieve the heart of God. Whether in ancient kingdoms or modern nations, the ambition to gain or protect power has too often led to bloodshed. The Bible itself records stark examples that warn us of this destructive path and reveal God's unchanging view of such acts.

Biblical Precedents of Political Murder

From Israel's divided kingdoms to the early Christian era, Scripture relays dismal examples of ambition wrapped in bloodshed.

- King Nadab of Israel was slain by Baasha in a power grab in 1 Kings 15:27-29.
- King Joash of Judah was murdered by his own servants in 2 Kings 12:20-21.
- John the Baptist was beheaded under political pressure in Mark 6:17-29.
- James the son of Zebedee, the brother of John, was executed by the sword by King Agrippa in Acts 12:1-2.
- Even the Son of God, Jesus Christ, was executed by crucifixion at the hands of colluding religious and political forces

Each assassination is a sobering caution, the deadly consequence of political violence is never isolated, and it fragments communities and grieves the heart of God.

Scripture That Condemns Violence and Bloodshed

God's Word leaves no room for ambiguity, violence, particularly against the innocent, and is detestable.

- "The earth was filled with violence...behold, I will destroy them with the earth." Genesis 6:11-13.
- "There are six things that the LORD hates...and hands that shed innocent blood." Proverbs 6:16-17.
- "You shall not murder." Exodus 20:13.
- "The LORD...hates the one who loves violence." Psalm 11:5.
- "The LORD abhors the bloodthirsty and deceitful man." Psalm 5:6.
- "Their feet run to evil...they make haste to shed innocent blood." Isaiah 59:7.

New Testament Calls for Peace

Jesus and His followers model a transformative principle of nonviolence.

- “Put your sword in its place, for all who take the sword will perish by the sword.” Matthew 26:52.
- “Repay no one evil for evil...beloved, do not avenge yourselves...’Vengeance is Mine, I will repay,’ says the Lord.” Romans 12:17, 19.
- “See that no one renders evil for evil...but always pursue what is good for all.” 1 Thessalonians 5:15.
- “The wrath of man does not produce the righteousness of God.” James 1:20.
- “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.” Matthew 5:9.
- “I exhort...petitions, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgiving be made for all people...for kings and all who are in authority.” 1 Timothy 2:1-2.

Living as the Church of Peace

The assassination of Charlie Kirk, and the broader rise in political violence, stands as a stark reminder that such acts are an affront to the Creator, a violation of human dignity, and a wound to the body of Christ. As believers, let us respond by:

1. Lamenting the tragedy and lifting the loss and grief of his family, loved ones, and the nation.
2. Condemning political violence, without reservation, wherever it occurs.
3. Praying for all in authority, especially in uncertain times.
4. Rejecting vengeance, modeling peace even amid political division.
5. Working for justice through lawful and compassionate means, never through destruction.

Let the church’s response shine with the Gospel’s peace and steadfast truth. In Christ, our mission is not inflame, but to transform by grace, love and justice.

~Ron Josselet (Assisted by ChatGPT)