

# FRIDAY CHURCH NEWS NOTES

## FAMILIES OF GEORGE FLOYD AND TRYVON MARTIN SPEAK OUT AGAINST DEFUNDING POLICE

The families of George Floyd and Trayvon Martin, two high-profile cases that have been used by Black Lives Matter, have come out in opposition of BLM's call for defunding the police. Trayvon was shot to death in 2012 by George Zimmerman, a neighborhood watch volunteer. Trayvon's mother, Sybrina Fulton, who is running for county commissioner in Miami-Dade County, Florida, said, "I think we need more police. We need police with better standards, and police with better ethics and better work habits. I want residents to feel safe. I want to bridge the gap between the law enforcement and the community" ("Trayvon Martin's Mother," *Washington Examiner*, June 11, 2020). George Floyd was killed by a Minneapolis police officer who brutally kneeled on the helpless man's neck for nearly nine minutes. George's brother, Philonise, told a House Judiciary Committee hearing on police accountability and *Fox News Sunday*, "What I would like is for all police around America to get their jobs and do it the right way, the correct way." Floyd family attorney Ben Crump added, "What we want is people from both sides of the aisle, people from communities of color, community partners to get with law enforcement and come up with solutions. That (defunding the police) has not come from Philonise Floyd's family or anybody working with us. We need to try and work together. We need to restructure and work together. This is not a black problem or a white problem. This is an American problem and the only way we can heal this country is by working together" ("Floyd family attorney," *Fox26 Houston*, June 15, 2020).



Philonise Floyd

Sybrina Fulton

## THREE BLACK CONSERVATIVE AMERICAN VOICES

**HORACE COOPER**, Project 21 co-chair and the author of *How Trump is Making Black America Great Again* -- "There is a class of Americans whose entire livelihood is based on the existence of victims. If people got a good education, if people had great jobs, if people controlled their own lives, a whole large number of people [whose income is based on victimization] couldn't get that new auto, they couldn't go off to Aspen for their ski trip. There is a strong sentiment among the so-called problem-solving class to keep things as they are. We've spent \$22 trillion [on social spending] and all we've done is enriched the problem-solving class and we've not done the basic kinds of things that would be good for Americans black, white or brown. ... We had a president, a black man, a man who came from circumstances of struggle, rose up and got to be president. He is an example of what's possible in



continued on NEXT PAGE

## THREE BLACK CONSERVATIVE AMERICAN VOICES

...continued from FRONT PAGE

America. And instead of telling people that, he said, 'America, it's a place where you don't have a chance.' He said, 'You can try all you want, but it's not going to work out for you.' And that has taken hope away" (*Tucker Carlson Tonight*, June 9, 2020).

**DAVID CLARK**, retired sheriff of Milwaukee County, Wisconsin -- "The biggest losers in all this [the calls for defunding police] will be poor black people in crime-ridden ghettos. The police are the



only thing standing between them and violent criminal predators. You'd have to loathe black people to do that to them. ... [It isn't a serious

public policy proposal, it's buffoonery. Police departments are already underfunded. Why not just turn policing into a 9 to 5, Monday through Friday operation? That is all they'll have money for. The first thing we need to do is a self-examination of our black community. Leave white men out of this for now. Look at the cultural dysfunction, the growing underclass, the ineffective parenting, the fatherless homes, the school failure, dropping out of school early, joining gangs, drug and alcohol abuse, teenagers having kids. ... We're going to burn the United States and call for huge policy changes from an anomaly?" (*WorldNetDaily*, June 8, 2020).

**WALTER E. WILLIAMS**, professor of economics at

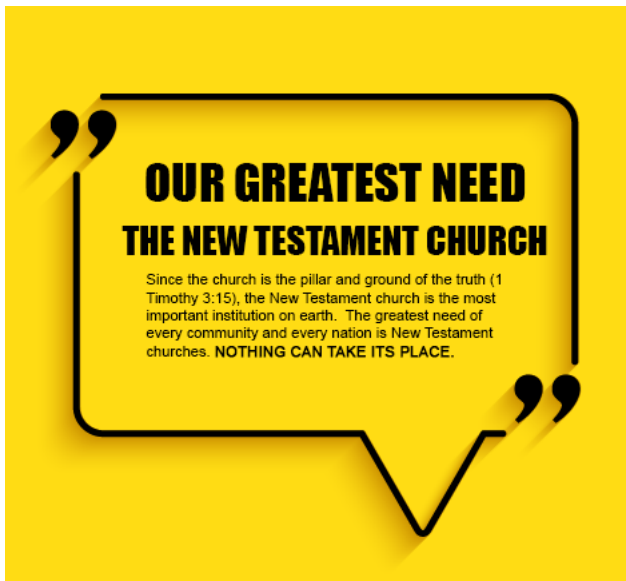


George Mason University -- "While it might not be popular to say in the wake of the recent social disorder, the true plight of black people has little or nothing to do with the police or what

has been called 'systemic racism.' Instead, we need to look at the responsibilities of those running our big cities. Some of the most dangerous big cities are: St. Louis, Detroit, Baltimore, Oakland, Chicago, Memphis, Atlanta, Birmingham, Newark, Buffalo and Philadelphia. The most common characteristic of these cities is that for decades, all of them have been run by liberal Democrats. Some cities--such as Detroit, Buffalo, Newark and Philadelphia--haven't elected a Republican mayor for more than a half-century. On top of this, in many of these cities, blacks are mayors, often they dominate city councils, and they are chiefs of police and superintendents of schools. Democratic-controlled cities have the poorest-quality public education despite their large, and growing, school budgets. Consider Baltimore, Maryland. In 2016, in 13 of Baltimore's 39 high schools, not a single student scored proficient on the state's math exam. In six other high schools, only 1% tested proficient in math. Only 15% of Baltimore students passed the state's English test. That same year in Philadelphia only 19% of eighth-graders scored proficient in math, and 16% were proficient in reading. In Detroit, only 4% of its eighth-graders scored proficient in math, and 7% were proficient in reading. It's the same story of academic disaster in other cities run by Democrats. ... White liberals and black politicians focus most of their attention on what the police do, but how relevant is that to the overall tragedy? According to Statista, this year, 172 whites and 88 blacks have died at the hands of police. To put police shootings in a bit of perspective, in Chicago alone in 2020 there have been 1,260 shootings and 256 homicides with blacks being the primary victims. That comes to one shooting victim every three hours and one homicide victim every 15 hours. Three people in Chicago have been killed by police. If one is truly concerned about black deaths, shootings by police should figure way down on one's list--which is not to excuse bad behavior by some police officers" ("The True Plight of Black Americans," *Townhall*, June 10, 2020).

# POWERLESS CHURCHES HAVE PRODUCED A WICKED NATION

America's fundamental problem is not systemic racism; it is systemic wickedness. And we are convinced that the root problem is the nation's corrupt, worldly, lukewarm churches. That is the root problem in the black communities and in every community. "Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away" (2 Timothy 3:5). "Nevertheless I have *somewhat* against thee, because thou hast left thy first love. Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works; or else I will come unto thee



quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent" (Revelation 2:4-5). **Since the church is the pillar and ground of the truth (1 Timothy 3:15), the New Testament church is the most important institution on earth. The greatest need of every community and every nation is New Testament churches. Nothing can take its place.** But in fulfillment of Bible prophecy, the vast majority of churches today are entirely apostate. I think of Roman Catholic, Greek Orthodox, Unitarian, Seventh-day Adventist, Jehovah's Witness, Mormon, World Council of Churches and all of their affiliates, and many others. **What about "evangelicals"?** Most

are leavened with rock & roll worldliness and cultural liberalism (they are friends with, and conformed to, the world, which is spiritual adultery), charismatic and contemplative mysticism, nothing versions (e.g., The Message, the New Living, the Good News), textually corrupt versions (e.g., the NIV, the ESV), kingdom now theology, the social justice gospel, positivism and judge not-ism. They have renounced "separatism" even though it is a clear Bible doctrine. **But what about "fundamentalists"?** A few exceptions notwithstanding, most of the old non-denominational fundamentalist churches are New Evangelical today. The fight is gone; lines are moving. The outspoken have become silent. The holy have become worldly. The black of an unhesitating stand for the truth of God's Word is blending into evangelical gray. **That leaves fundamental Baptists.** But they, too, *overall*, are morphing into a wishy-washy, "Baptist-flavored" evangelicalism. And most, in our experience, are NEARLY POWERLESS. They might still have the right Bible and be sound in doctrine and even have "separation" in their church covenant and still hold to sacred music. *But they are so pathetically powerless.* An older preacher, who founded and pastored a large church with a Bible college and has preached in hundreds of churches, said, "I'm sure I couldn't join 50 churches in America, and I'm being generous. Even many pastors who have [good] music and dress standards are weak and won't 'rock the boat' for anything. It's a sad day. Most of the churches that I could recommend are new works pastored by young men." Consider a simple test. How many churches in America could pass this very basic biblical test, and in truth the test should be much expanded.

**(1) The test of conversions.** How many churches have regenerating power? A massive number of "Bible-believing" churches are seeing frighteningly few life-changing, "turn around and go the other way," biblical conversions. If the baptismal waters are

## POWERLESS CHURCHES HAVE PRODUCED A WICKED NATION

...continued from PREVIOUS PAGE

stirred, it is for children who, when they reach maturity, launch right out into the world, thus demonstrating their unregeneracy.

(2) **The test of the family.** How many churches have the power to build godly homes? A New Testament church is tasked with building godly homes that can raise a godly seed for Christ. Yet a great number of Bible-believing churches don't have the power to make fathers who are the spiritual leaders of their homes and mothers who are the spiritual keepers of the home. Look at the worldly character of the homes. Look at the entertainment, the social media, the conversation, the priorities. Those homes are the products of churches.



(3) **The test of discipleship.** How many churches have the power to produce real disciples of Jesus Christ? God's Word plainly states that every church member is to be equipped to observe all things that Christ has commanded and to be presented perfect in Christ (Matthew 28:20; Col. 1:28). That is the work of a New Testament church, and if a church can't do what Christ has commanded there is something deeply, fundamentally wrong. Where are the churches that are taking this seriously and where this is really, effectually happening?

(4) **The test of Bible skill.** How many churches have the power to produce passionate, skillful Bible students? The Bible plainly says that every saint is to be skillful in Scripture, both in ability to use it and to apply it to daily living so that he or she has a biblical testing mindset (Hebrews 5:12-14).

(5) **The test of the youth.** How many churches have the power to win the hearts of youth to Christ and holiness? Youth are the product of the church and the home; neither institution can escape responsibility. I often ask pastors, "How many of the young people are on fire for the Lord? Are they passionate to become skillful Bible students? Are they surrendered to seeking God's perfect will by the standard of Romans 12?" Powerless churches have produced a wicked nation.

### INFORMATION

The Friday Church News Notes is designed for use in churches and is published by Way of Life Literature's Fundamental Baptist Information Service. Unless otherwise stated, the Notes are written by David Cloud. Of necessity we quote from a wide variety of sources, but this obviously does not imply an endorsement. We trust that our readers will not be discouraged. It is God's will that we know the times (1 Ch. 12:32; Mat. 16:3) and that we be as wise as serpents and harmless as doves. The News Notes remind us that the hour is very late, and we need to be ready for the Lord's coming. Are you sure that you are born again? Are you living for Christ? "And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed. The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light. Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying. But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfil the lusts thereof" (Rom. 13:11-14). This material is sent only to those who personally subscribe to the Fundamental Baptist Information Service mailing list. To SUBSCRIBE, go to <http://www.wayoflife.org/wayoflife/subscribe.html>. TO UNSUBSCRIBE OR CHANGE ADDRESSES, go to the very bottom of any email received from us and click "Manage My Subscription." Way of Life Literature, P.O. Box 610368, Port Huron, MI 48061, 866-295-4143, [fbns@wayoflife.org](mailto:fbns@wayoflife.org).