



High Meadow Ranch Men's Bible Study

“We Will Not Be Silenced” Series

Chapter 9: Vilify! Vilify! Vilify!

Tuesday, May 3, 2022 | 7:00 PM

Prepared by Chris Alexander (drchrisalexander@outlook.com)

America turns further from Christian values and the core principles of liberty every day. It's frustrating when you feel like you can't assert Biblical truth without facing condemnation. It's sad that outrage and victimhood have replaced respect and reason. How can you stay rooted in your own faith and continue publicly testifying for Jesus?

In *We Will Not Be Silenced*, Dr. Erwin W. Lutzer gets us ready to live out our convictions against a growing spirit of hostility by obtaining a better understanding of non-believers' legitimate hurts and concerns regarding issues such as racism, sexism, and poverty, and identify the toxic responses secular culture disguises as solutions. In the process, we'll evaluate how we can witness, show compassion, and gentleness outside the faith without affirming their beliefs. *We Will Not Be Silenced* (WWNBS) will prepare you to move beyond fear and boldly accept the challenge of representing Christ to a watching world that needs Him now more than ever before.

1. In Saul Alinsky's *Rules for Radicals* he wrote, “Pick the target, freeze it, personalize it, and polarize it.”
 - a. What is meant by “polarizing the target”?

 - b. What are some example where we see this happening today?
2. How was marriage defined according to California's Proposition 8 (page 227)? In what ways were its supporters harassed and shamed?
3. What impact does our being attacked and shamed as Christians have on us? What are some potential consequences for us and the nation with sustained bombardment on our beliefs?
4. David Horowitz is an interesting person (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/David_Horowitz). He was a Marxist who became more conservative in his later years (additional details on him are included on pages 236-237). He also claims to be an agnostic, but is supportive of many Christian values. Read his quote on page 226 of WWBNS and answer the following questions:
 - a. What are the consequences for all Americans with the removal of religion, specifically Christianity, from American public schools?

- b. Why have those who opposed Christian values become so antagonistic in recent days? As I think about this question it seems the divide in our nation is driven more by the abusive and crazy concepts purported by the liberal radicals in our nation, than by conservatives (e.g., last week on Tucker Carlson he had a lady who married her cat).
5. On pages 231 through 235 we read the section entitled, *Hitler's Brownshirts and Antifa's Back Masks*.
 - a. What parallel did the writer in a Jerusalem Post op-ed piece make about the American rioting in the summer of 2020 and *Kristallnacht* that happened in Germany in 1938?
 - b. Elon Musk's recent purchase of Twitter has brought the subject of free speech to the forefront of many discussions across our nation. Do you find it ironic that the social media platforms did not shut down hate speech and accounts of those who contributed to the 2020 riots, but conservatives like President trump were banned?
6. Read the comments / quotes from David Horowitz on page 237.
 - a. What does he say is the source of injustice?
 - b. How does Jeremiah 17:9 align with Horowitz's assessment?
7. As we have discussed so many times in this series, the goal in all of our responses is to be like Jesus. We'll all have to admit there are times when that is very difficult.
 - a. Read Matthew 5:11-12. What encouragement do we receive in reading this passage from Jesus?
 - b. Can you provide examples from the Bible and Church History when followers of Christ were persecuted for their beliefs?
 - c. There is little doubt things are going to get worse for us as followers of Jesus. What can we do about that and how can we prepare ourselves and our families?
 - d. What liberties do we still have at our disposal that we can use to fight the onslaught against our core values as Christians? What weapons can they never take away from us?