



Christians in some of the states with the most outrageous restrictions on church gatherings are rising with one voice, risking everything by demanding their God-given, inalienable right to worship. Read on to learn what the media *won't* tell you about the attacks on churches, and how believers are responding. – Mat

If the adage that the church grows when under oppression is true, the church in America surely must be ready to boom! America has never witnessed such obvious and intense attacks on religious freedom.

The fundamental right of Americans to worship according to their own conscience is being actively squashed by many tyrannical state and local leaders. These governors favor anti-God, Marxist revolutionary riots over believers gathering peacefully to worship.

Liberty Counsel's first preliminary hearing in our lawsuit against CA Gov. Gavin Newsom's outrageous edicts takes place on Wednesday. I'll tell you more about that in a moment, but first I want to share with you some remarkable things happening across the country.

This past weekend, something wonderful happened: Even in the face of personal physical violence and threats of imprisonment, Christians in both California and Oregon defied tyranny, risking *everything* to worship and share the Gospel.

**Last week, Pastor Rob McCoy of Godspeak Calvary Chapel in Thousand Oaks, CA, received a restraining order barring McCoy and any one of up to 1,000 "John Does" from setting foot on church property to worship. Violation of this restraining order would result in criminal contempt of court charges, \$1,000 daily fines and jail.**

But Godspeak's pastor made good on his promise to keep his church doors open no matter what illegal edicts the governor or Ventura County officials might throw his way. Godspeak Calvary Chapel opened its doors Sunday morning for three services at which up to 2,500 attendees came in person and another 26,000 participated online! But something even more striking took place: Knowing that the attendees of Godspeak Calvary Chapel could be arrested for attending Sunday services, an entire church body drove from 2 hours away in order to stand in the

parking lot protecting Godspeak's front door so that none of the congregants within would be arrested.

**The members of the other church were willing to sacrifice themselves for arrest so that the members of Godspeak could worship in peace.** And thank God for their sacrifice, because Godspeak baptized hundreds of new believers Sunday... and no one was arrested!

Meanwhile, several hundred miles north, Bethel Music's Sean Feucht decided to take Christ to the heart of darkness. Feucht set up a makeshift praise and worship celebration in Portland, OR. For over 70 days straight, this city has been rocked with smashed windows, burning buildings and intense violence, all to promote an anti-God Marxist revolution.

Others who have tried to witness to the Antifa and BLM protestors in Portland have been met with ridicule and violence, but Feucht and company would not be dissuaded. **They risked their own safety to spread the Gospel to a town that seemed to have turned its back on God.**

Over 7,000 people showed up for the Portland worship service and hundreds were baptized! Even as the violent protests continued just blocks away and attacks were launched (but turned back) on Feucht's group, the Peace and Light of the Lord was brought to thousands living in a city that has been oppressed by spiritual darkness.

*"White, Black, Hispanic – we came and released our song of hope over this city," Feucht said. "People gave their life to Jesus. Hundreds of people. We baptized people in the river behind us. There was so much joy that took over the streets of that city last night."*

### **Darkness will never overcome the light.**

As you know, Liberty Counsel has filed five federal lawsuits against the governors of Maine, Virginia, Kentucky, Illinois and California. In each of these states, governors and local officials have closed churches, squashed religious freedom and criminalized Christian worship, practices and beliefs.

And in California alone, the hundreds of churches we are representing face fines, jail and even having their power and water shut off at their churches *and homes* if they refuse to obey CA Gov. Gavin Newsom's illegal bans on singing and worship, which even extends to home Bible studies and fellowship.

I will be in court this coming Wednesday for our preliminary injunction hearing on behalf of Harvest Rock Church and Harvest International Ministry. I appreciate your prayers for this landmark case.

### **[STAND for People of Faith Against These Anti-God Orders!](#)**

Liberty Counsel is working to bring one of our cases to the Supreme Court so that we can set the precedent once and for all – that no governor will be able to ignore the fact that religious freedom is an INALIENABLE RIGHT!

