

The Charlie Kirk Apocalypse

By Ben Owens | September 20, 2025

As the news of Charlie Kirk's martyrdom spread, a deep darkness began to settle. We were overtaken by a vague but inescapable sense that things had changed. Something had shifted.

The responses to his death have only confirmed this sense. Reflexively, thousands turned to prayer and mourning. And just as reflexively, many turned to filming themselves staging giddy celebrations. While some call for justice, others offer finger-wagging reminders that Charlie might not have been slaughtered if he had been less confrontational. It's an ugly time.

What will the lasting effects be? September 11 changed our country in ways that most of us did not anticipate. God alone knows what the future holds. But I find myself reflecting more on the apocalypse that is presently upon us. Apocalypse might seem a bit hyperbolic. But I think it's exactly the right term. An apocalypse is a revelation, an unveiling. It is an event that pulls back the curtain to show things as they truly are. What have these events revealed?

We've seen that our culture is even more perverse and fragmented than we realized. I think Charlie had a more accurate assessment of this than most. It was that awareness that energized his efforts to reach young people with the Truth. But for the millions of normal folks who've just been minding their own business—working hard, paying bills, loving family—these events have been shocking. To see a young husband and father struck down in the prime of life—surely we could all unite in condemning *that*! Apparently not.

And it's not been just a handful of unhinged kooks. Nurses, doctors, professors, and teachers. The irony is almost too on-the-nose. Public educators stand to applaud a violent assault on free speech. Nurses give three cheers for death. I'm not here to demonize these people as if they belong to another species. They are our cousins and neighbors. But they have so completely imbibed Leftist propaganda that it's as if they live in an alternate reality. They believe that the attack was warranted, given that Charlie Kirk was a racist, misogynistic fascist. But when you look for evidence of these dark ideas, all you find is the sort of moderate conservatism that all sane people agreed upon just a few decades ago.

Marriage is good. Family is good. Men and women are different. Men can't be women. Sexual immorality is bad. Fatherlessness is bad. Killing babies is bad. People should succeed or fail based on their own merits. Imagine trying to convince average, middle-class Democrat voters in

1960 that these positions would soon be considered right-wing extremism. They would think you were insane. The fact that we have plummeted so far so quickly is not progress. And, as C. S. Lewis once said, "If you are on the wrong road, progress means doing an about-turn and walking back to the right road; and in that case the man who turns back soonest is the most progressive man." Recall that Charlie's organization was called Turning Point. His cause was not a force for darkness but a call to return to the Light.

How have so many successful, intelligent people been radicalized to go to war with reality? There are many answers. Marx, Darwin, and Dewey have each played a part. But here's another factor. Some used to think that the internet would bring consensus. The information is all right there. The truth is unavoidable. Instead, we're finding that the divisions are deeper than ever. The information we consume is mediated through social media platforms. These platforms give us an illusion of objective certainty while they feed us a steady flow of information curated to confirm the positions we already hold. The more evidence we see, the more convinced we are of the correctness of our position—and the more oblivious we are to all the countervailing evidence being algorithmically held just out of view.

The people celebrating Charlie Kirk's death really do live in another world. Ironically, this is the problem Charlie was trying to overcome by engaging in real, in-person conversation. And for this he was killed. This is a revelation. But it's not the only one. In the wake of Charlie's death, there now appears to be a tremendous surge of interest in Christianity. Thousands are recognizing that Charlie was fundamentally committed not just to saying true things, but to pointing people to Jesus, the Way, the Truth, and the Life.

The writer to the Hebrews speaks of a time in which God will shake the earth so that "the things which cannot be shaken remain." As I consider what is shifting in our own nation, I find myself overwhelmingly thankful for the things that remain. Here are a few.

Jesus is still risen from the dead. The apostle Paul proclaimed this historical reality as the fundamental fact of the Christian faith, without which we are a most pitiable people. But Christ is risen. From Hume to Hitchens, skeptics come and go. But there is no escaping the truth that all of the blessings of life and liberty in the West can be traced back to this historical reality. As Sir Norman Anderson used to say, "The empty tomb, then, forms a veritable rock, against which all rationalistic theories of the resurrection dash themselves in vain."

"The Gospel is still the power of God to salvation." The book of Acts tells us that the plot to murder Stephen—the first Christian martyr—began when "they were not able to resist the wisdom and the Spirit by which he spoke" (Acts 6:10). Stephen was reasoning and demonstrating from the Scriptures that Jesus is the Christ. When his synagogue interlocutors could not refute his arguments, they turned to violence. Stephen's murderers laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul who, Luke tells us, was "consenting to his death." Yet, Saul would soon have his own encounter with the risen Christ. Repenting and trusting in the Christ who died and rose for His enemies, Saul was transformed. He would become the greatest Christian missionary in history. Years later he would remind the Corinthians that, "if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new." This conviction—that God forgives and transforms all who trust in Jesus—undergirded all that Charlie Kirk did.

Jesus will still reign over an endless kingdom. When the angel Gabriel announced the coming birth of Christ, he didn't speak *only* of a spiritual Savior from sin. He described a King who will sit on David's throne forever. The Father is gathering all things together in Christ. In Christ, all of Creation will be redeemed to a state of glorious perfection. Justice will be done, every wrong made right, every tear wiped away. "The earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea." This is not just happy talk, of the kind we're used to hearing at funerals. The return and reign of Christ will be as real as His bloody execution and His triumphant resurrection. Jesus will reign and all who have trusted in Him will reign with Him.

This body of truth is still the only enduring basis for civilizational success. Some would conclude that we ought to console ourselves with these truths as we withdraw from public life. But Charlie Kirk cared enough about his countrymen to tell them the truth: "Politics is peanuts compared to Jesus." Jesus Christ the righteous One, alive from the dead, The Savior, the King—still saves all who call upon Him in faith. In Christ we find "wisdom from God—and righteousness and sanctification and redemption." In other words, a nation turning to Christ will be a nation turning from the maladies which are killing us.

Whatever else may be shifting, these truths remain. Slander and obfuscation will continue. They will stop their ears and gnash their teeth. They will take up stones. By God's grace, may we continue to proclaim Jesus, the Way the Truth and the Life.