The New Independent Fundamental Baptist (New IFB) Movement

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KEY POINTS
The New Independent Fundamental Baptist (New IFB) movement is a loose, growing network of independent churches concentrated in the U.S. connected by their belief in certain religious doctrines and a shared brand of deeply anti-LGBTQ and antisemitic teachings.

Pastor Steven Anderson founded the movement's flagship, Faithful Word Baptist Church in Arizona in 2005, though most of the churches affiliated with the movement today were founded in the past five years.

New IFB pastors frequently call for LGBTQ people to be killed and make other disparaging, violent remarks about the LGBTQ community.

New IFB pastors promote antisemitism, claiming that Jewish people today worship Satan and are not “true” Jews.

Unlike many traditional evangelical Christian churches, the New IFB is staunchly anti-Zionist.

An extensive digital strategy allows New IFB pastors to reach millions of people online, despite attempts by tech companies to deplatform New IFB-affiliated channels for hate speech violations.

The New IFB movement is not affiliated with any mainstream Baptist denominations.

**BACKGROUND**

The New Independent Fundamental Baptist (New IFB) movement is a loose, growing network of approximately 30 churches in the United States and around the world that promotes hate and bigotry under the guise of religious doctrine. Anti-LGBTQ bigotry and antisemitism are fundamental to New IFB ideology, as demonstrated by the doctrinal statements on their websites and the content of their sermons.

New IFB churches are not affiliated with any mainstream Baptist denomination, and in fact regularly level strong criticisms at certain Christian beliefs and
New IFB pastors themselves have also been the target of criticism from some mainstream Christian pastors and other religious leaders.

New IFB churches present themselves as autonomous entities and do not consider New IFB to be an official denomination or designation, but use the label to informally indicate their shared values and distinguish themselves from traditional “old” IFB churches.

Social media has enabled the New IFB movement to reach hundreds of thousands, if not millions, thanks to a tech-savvy strategy that includes daily video and audio content posted to numerous channels and platforms. New IFB pastors boast of their ability to outsmart technology companies’ efforts to deplatform their hate speech by constantly reuploading content to new channels.

The New IFB’s expansive digital footprint is coupled with a strong emphasis on on-the-ground “soul winning” efforts to attract people to the movement, as well as the establishment of new churches around the world. The majority of churches which are currently affiliated with the New IFB movement were founded in the last five years.

Despite various controversies and infighting among New IFB pastors and churches, Pastor Steven Anderson, who jumpstarted the movement in 2005 from his Faithful Word Baptist Church in Arizona, continues to enjoy a prominent role within the New IFB movement.

**IDEOLOGY**

Many New IFB pastors do not make any effort to hide their bigotry. They openly promote extreme, hateful rhetoric, and when challenged on these views, double down. The most common forms of bigotry incorporated into New IFB teachings include anti-LGBTQ bigotry, antisemitism, anti-Zionism, misogyny and more. A review of sermons and other church materials demonstrates this shared ideology.
While homosexuality and same-sex marriage are denounced by certain other Christian denominations or independent churches, New IFB churches take an extreme position on the issue. New IFB pastors have repeatedly advocated for members of the LGBTQ community to be killed or to kill themselves, including specifically calling for LGBTQ people to be executed by the government. In sermons and other materials, New IFB pastors refer to members of the LGBTQ community using derogatory homophobic and transphobic slurs and promote longstanding anti-LGBTQ tropes, such as linking homosexuality to pedophilia.

Jonathan Shelley, a Texas-based New IFB pastor who is regularly promoted by Anderson and others within the movement, exemplified some of these anti-LGBTQ beliefs in a 2020 sermon: “I wish every fag and tranny would kill themselves right now. All of them. And if they won’t kill themselves, you know what? Our government should take them out and stone them to death.”

“I'm not going to apologize for wanting all these people to be put to death. It’s wonderful. It’s righteous. It’s great,” he concluded in another anti-LGBTQ sermon, demonstrating the defiant, open bigotry that frequently characterizes New IFB teachings.

New IFB ideology promotes the antisemitic notion that Jews today are imposters who are not “true” Jews described in the Bible. They often claim that Jews today worship Satan and that the Star of David represents the Devil. New IFB doctrine promotes the notion of an Antichrist, whom they claim will be Jewish. In their sermons, various New IFB pastors often openly state that they “hate” Judaism. In addition to criticizing Judaism as a religion, many New IFB pastors also promote antisemitic tropes about Jewish power and control over sectors like finance, news media and entertainment.

New IFB pastors have also promoted Holocaust denial. In 2015, Pastor Steven Anderson presented a number of false claims in a video specifically addressing the so-called “Holocaust hoax.” “The numbers don’t add up and the facts don’t add
“up,” he alleged. Anderson acknowledged that “some Jews” were among the many “casualties on both sides,” but blamed these deaths on starvation and poor conditions, claiming that “just because people were rounded up and put in forced labor camps, that does not mean that they were systematically exterminated and cremated to the tune of six million.”

Anderson also asserted that Holocaust survivors who recall Jews being burned in crematoria are “paid liars” and that Jews lied about the Holocaust to justify creating the State of Israel. “Why would it surprise you that the people who deny the Christ, they deny that Jesus is the Messiah, would lie to you about something else?...The real burnt offering,” he concluded, “is going to be when all of these Jews that don’t believe in Jesus Christ go to hell for eternity. That’s the oven that they ought to be worried about.”

In a more recent example, New IFB Pastor Aaron Thompson of Sure Foundation Baptist Church in Vancouver, WA, told congregants in 2020: “I don’t believe that [six million Jews died] for one second. If you believe in the whole Holocaust thing, whatever, but you know I’ve studied it and I just don’t think the math adds up.”

Unlike many in the evangelical movement, New IFB churches are staunchly anti-Zionist and anti-Israel. They decry Zionism as “Jew worship” and view traditional support for Israel among evangelical Christians as the result of Jewish deception in support of the Antichrist. In line with their broader antisemitic views of Judaism as a false and evil religion, the modern nation of Israel is regularly characterized as “wicked” and a “fraud.”

**HISTORY**

**Founding under Steven Anderson**

Steven L. Anderson founded Faithful Word Baptist Church in Tempe, AZ, on Christmas Day in 2005. After initially meeting in the Anderson family's living
room, the congregation moved into a strip mall a year and a half later as the church membership grew. By 2017, the congregation included over 300 people.

Prior to starting the New IFB movement, Anderson was involved in the Independent Fundamental Baptist (IFB) movement (which he now sometimes refers to as the “old IFB”), including traveling to Europe as a young adult to proselytize. Since breaking from that movement, Anderson has criticized traditional IFB pastors and other Baptists who are, in his opinion, too “scared” of the reaction they might receive to preach the “hard truths” of the Bible.

**Growth and infighting**

Although Anderson founded Faithful Word Baptist Church in 2005, the New IFB movement has mostly taken off in the past five years.

Anderson laid out his multi-part “strategy to evangelize the entire world” in a series of 2017 blog posts, emphasizing the role of door-to-door soul-winning, missionaries, and mission trips, in addition to the “Internet ministry” of YouTube and other online platforms. He outlined his goal of having 54 affiliated churches in major cities across the United States by 2026 and reaching every home in the country through soul-winning by 2041.

The New IFB movement has added more than 20 new locations since 2016. New IFB-affiliated churches are concentrated in the United States, though they also have a growing presence abroad, including in Australia, Canada, the Philippines and South Africa.

New IFB churches promote themselves as independent, autonomous entities which do not belong to a broader structure. Nonetheless, in addition to sharing a similar set of doctrines, there is frequent collaboration among pastors and cross promotion of sermons or other materials.
In more recent years, multiple internal disputes have fractured the movement, leading some pastors to split from their previous association with Anderson, though the churches maintain similar doctrinal beliefs. Anderson himself also continues to maintain a prominent role among many New IFB pastors and churches.

**Major controversies**

Anderson's vitriolic rhetoric and other activities have been making headlines for over a decade.

In 2009, Anderson drew the attention of both protesters and the Secret Service when, in a sermon titled “Why I Hate Barack Obama,” he told congregants that he prayed for the then-president's death. When speaking to local media, Anderson reaffirmed his position and stated that "I'd like him to die of natural causes. I don't want him to be a martyr, we don't need another holiday. I'd like to see him die, like Ted Kennedy, of brain cancer." A day after listening to Anderson's sermon, Christopher Broughton, one of the congregants at Faithful Word Baptist Church, brought an AR-15 rifle to Obama's event in Phoenix.

Anderson's history of hate speech and discrimination has drawn condemnation both locally and internationally, causing him to be barred from entering numerous countries. In 2016, South Africa banned Anderson, with the country's Minister of Home Affairs Malusi Gigaba stating that “we have a duty to prevent harm and hatred, in all forms, against LGBTI as against any other person in a democratic state." Days later, Anderson was deported from neighboring Botswana, which he had been visiting before the planned trip to South Africa.

In 2019, ahead of an announced visit to Dublin, Anderson became the first foreigner to be banned from Ireland under the exclusion powers of its 1999 Immigration Act. Months after he was banned from Australia, Anderson claimed in early 2020 that the wildfires ravaging the country were “the judgement of God” for "banning and deporting preachers of the Gospel." Anderson has also been
banned from Canada, Jamaica, New Zealand, the United Kingdom, and the 26 member states of Europe's Schengen Area which share a common visa policy.

Other New IFB pastors and churches have also regularly drawn the attention of critics and protesters.

After the 2016 terrorist attack at the Pulse gay nightclub in Orlando, FL, in which nearly 50 people were murdered and more than 50 others were injured, multiple New IFB pastors drew attention nationwide for their virulently homophobic responses to the violence. Pastor Anderson gave a sermon celebrating the murder of gay people, stating that “the good news is that there's 50 less pedophiles in this world, because, you know, these homosexuals are a bunch of disgusting perverts and pedophiles.”

New IFB Pastor Roger Jimenez of Verity Baptist Church in Sacramento, CA, echoed Anderson's words: “I think that’s great. I think that helps society...The tragedy is that more of them didn’t die. The tragedy is—I’m kind of upset that he didn’t finish the job.” He continued, “I wish the government would round them all
up, put them against a firing wall, put a firing squad in front of them, and blow their brains out.”

Although some mainstream faith leaders denounced Jimenez’s comments, fellow New IFB Pastor Donnie Romero, who at the time was affiliated with Stedfast Baptist Church in Fort Worth, TX, agreed with Jimenez: “These 50 sodomites are all perverts and pedophiles and they are the scum of the earth and the earth is a little bit better place now.”

Controversy erupted in 2019 surrounding Grayson Fritts, the New IFB pastor of All Scripture Baptist Church in Knoxville and a 20-year employee of the Knox County (TN) Sheriff’s Office, after local media reported on a sermon in which Fritts called for the government to execute members of the LGBTQ community.

Elected officials and community members quickly condemned the comments and the Knox County District Attorney General’s Office reviewed its open cases involving Fritts for potential bias, causing prosecutors to drop charges in a pending retrial rather than call the embattled detective to testify. Fritts, who had already requested early retirement from the Sheriff’s Office shortly before delivering the sermon, was placed on paid sick leave and officially retired at the end of July 2019.

New IFB Pastor Adam Fannin, the now former pastor of Stedfast Baptist Church in Jacksonville, FL, received international attention in August 2019 after a video clip of him verbally attacking comedian Sarah Silverman went viral online. The clip showed Fannin preaching from the Stedfast Baptist pulpit: “[Silverman] is a witch. She is a jezebel. She is a God-hating whore of Zionism. I hope that God breaks her teeth out, she dies. She is a wicked person. And she is, like, the perfect representation of religious Judaism.”

In January 2021, the New IFB congregation First Works Baptist Church in El Monte, CA, was targeted by a homemade bomb, which damaged the building that houses the church. No one was injured in the explosion, which occurred overnight.
while the church was empty. The El Monte church had been the site of protests in the weeks leading up to the incident due to the anti-LGBTQ bigotry of its pastor, Bruce Mejia. Afterward, Mejia and other New IFB pastors quickly blamed these so-called “sodomite” protesters for the bombing, however, law enforcement said there was no indication that the protesters were linked to the bombing.

Bruce Mejia, the pastor of First Works Baptist Church in El Monte, CA (formerly called Faithful Word Baptist Church Los Angeles) delivers a 2019 sermon in which he declares that LGBTQ—the acronym for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer or questioning—should stand for “Let God Burn Them Quickly.” (source: YouTube)

TACTICS

New IFB adherents believe in evangelism and share a sense of obligation to draw other people to their faith. New IFB pastors take advantage of the modern age of technology, the Internet and social media to spread their message of hate beyond the walls of their churches. They are also committed to growing their movement through in-person “soul-winning,” which includes traveling around the country and the world to preach their interpretation of the Bible.

“Soul-Winning”
“Soul-winning,” in which church members evangelize in one-on-one, door-to-door interactions, is a central tenet to New IFB doctrine, often placed on the same foundational level as their belief in the use of the King James Bible or in salvation through faith alone. “Planting churches all over the United States and sending out foreign missionaries are important goals for each local church, but don’t underestimate your own personal reach...Whether you are a man or woman, a child or an older person, you can have a part in this task of evangelizing the world,” Anderson explained in 2017.

Churches carefully map out their soul-winning strategy to maximize their efforts to reach as many individuals as possible, setting aside time for soul-winning on a daily, weekly and monthly basis. Soul-winning participants are prepared to distribute materials in multiple languages, including pamphlets and business cards which direct recipients to New IFB YouTube content, and post videos of themselves soul-winning to demonstrate successful interactions.

Soul-winning is not limited to the regions surrounding a New IFB church location. Anderson and other pastors organize “soul-winning marathons,” during which they travel to other cities, states or countries to evangelize to different populations. New IFB pastors and their congregations often join together for these “marathons.”

An advertisement for a “Soul-Winning Mega-Marathon” in 2018. The photograph features Pastors (L-R) Manly Perry, Steven Anderson, David Berzins, Roger Jimenez, Donnie Romero and Joe Major. (source: Facebook)
New IFB pastors consistently make their sermons accessible through multiple audio, video and text-based formats. The majority of New IFB churches feature extensive archives directly on their websites, which make the sermons available for download and also direct viewers to third party platforms like YouTube and SoundCloud. New IFB pastors further promote their materials on other social media platforms, like Facebook and Twitter.

Some pastors also attempt to broaden their audience and increase accessibility by providing full-length transcripts of their sermons or making their sermons available in other languages. Anderson claims that his materials have been translated into over 100 languages.

YouTube is a particularly popular platform for New IFB churches, with dozens of channels actively posting New IFB-related content and frequently drawing thousands of views per video. Before YouTube eventually terminated it in 2020, Anderson’s primary “sanderson1611” channel had accumulated over 120,000 subscribers and tens of millions of views.

Anderson and his followers have repeatedly circumvented deplatforming efforts, reuploading content to numerous smaller YouTube channels. The conspicuously named “Pastor Anderson Sermons” channel, for example, in apparent anticipation of potential deplatforming, instructs followers to “backup, save & re-upload all videos” from the channel. New IFB content continues to be uploaded daily and easily found on the platform.

The spread of New IFB content online has translated into an offline influence around the world. In Canada, for example, a judge ruled in 2020 that a New IFB father should not have a role in the “religious and spiritual upbringing” of his young children due to the impact that his hateful beliefs could have on them. The man and his ex-wife had separated in 2018 over religious differences, which manifested after he began watching online videos of pastors Anderson and
Jimenez and subsequently joined a local New IFB church in Surrey, British Columbia.

In addition to online platforms, Anderson also distributes CDs, DVDs and USB flash drives of his sermons, including handing out these materials during soul-winning activities and sending them to his associates for distribution in foreign countries. He has encouraged other New IFB pastors to also utilize this strategy.

“We live in a time when evil people are trying to prevent the gospel from being spread under the guise of labeling biblical preaching as 'hate speech,'” Anderson cautioned in 2016. “With the future of internet regulation uncertain, it is imperative to find alternative ways to spread sound doctrine on a large scale.”

**Documentaries**

New IFB pastors use so-called “documentaries” to expand on many of the topics frequently featured in their traditional sermons, including an emphasis on anti-LGBTQ and antisemitic themes. These videos include excerpts from previous sermons, as well as new content, and regularly rack up significant view counts on social media.

“The Sodomite Deception,” created by New IFB Pastor Jonathan Shelley and released in 2021, claims to expose how the LGBTQ community is contributing to the collapse of modern society. The documentary celebrates historical laws that criminalized homosexuality and criticizes more recent laws that expanded LGBTQ rights. In the film, Shelley advocates for the death penalty to be used on the LGBTQ community and uses anti-LGBTQ slurs. Other New IFB pastors are also featured, including pastors Anderson, Jimenez, Mejia and Thompson.

“Deported,” another anti-LGBTQ film, documents Anderson’s trip to Botswana and South Africa in 2016, including him being banned and deported for promoting anti-LGBTQ hate speech. It was produced by conspiracy theorist Paul
Wittenberger, a friend of the Andersons whose Framing the World Productions frequently promotes and collaborates with New IFB pastors.

In an antisemitic documentary released by Anderson and Wittenberger in 2015, titled “Marching to Zion,” Anderson purports to describe the history of the Jewish religion and the evolution of Jewish beliefs. Anderson uses the film to present many of the New IFB’s most common antisemitic assertions. He claims that, according to scripture, the Jewish Messiah is actually the Antichrist, and that the Star of David actually represents the Devil.

The documentary included not only New IFB pastors, but Jewish rabbis who Anderson claimed confirmed New IFB teachings. Prior to the film’s release, the rabbis reported that Anderson misrepresented himself and used deceptive methods to elicit quotes for the film.

**Conferences**

Like their documentaries, conferences are another channel through which some New IFB pastors collaborate and spread their bigoted beliefs.

Multiple New IFB pastors have promoted “Make America Straight Again” conferences in recent years. The first iteration of this conference was held in 2019, on the weekend of the third anniversary of and in the same city as the Pulse gay nightclub shooting in Orlando. Speakers included pastors Anderson, Jimenez, Mejia, Thompson, Patrick Boyle, and Tommy McMurtry. Another iteration of the conference planned for 2020 appears to have been postponed due to the coronavirus pandemic.
New IFB pastors held an antisemitic “Anti-Israel Conference (AKA Marching to Zion Conference)” in October 2018. A three-disc DVD set of the conference was made available for purchase online from New IFB-associate Paul Wittenberger’s Framing the World website. “Christians all over the world need to wake up and understand who God’s elect are. There’s nothing more frustrating than seeing a Christian drool over a Christ-rejecting, God-hating, Judaising, pervert, who calls himself a Jew,” the DVD description reads. The conference featured Pastors Anderson, Boyle, Fritts, McMurtry, Mejia, Shelley, Thompson, David Berzins and Joe Major.

Other New IFB-affiliated conferences include annual “Red Hot Preaching Conferences” featuring anti-LGBTQ and antisemitic seminars, a “Post-Trib Bible Prophecy Conference” in 2017 promoting deeply antisemitic and anti-Zionist views related to the New IFB belief in a “post-tribulation pre-wrath rapture,” and a
IN THEIR OWN WORDS - BIGOTED COMMENTS FROM PASTORS AFFILIATED WITH THE NEW IFB MOVEMENT

Anti-LGBTQ

Steven Anderson, Faithful Word Baptist Church (Tempe, AZ), November 2014: “I actually discovered the cure for AIDS...It was right there in the Bible all along. And they're out spending billions of dollars in research and testing. It's curable. Right there. Because if you executed the homos like God recommends, you wouldn't have all this AIDS running rampant.”

Dillon Awes, Shield of Faith Baptist Church (Boise, ID), September 2019: “There's nothing more disgusting and wicked and vile than a homosexual...I cannot fathom anything more disgusting than being a sodomite. I would rather be strangled to death. I would rather be killed in the most brutal way than to become a homo. It's the most disgusting thing I could possibly think of.”

Patrick Boyle, Friendship Baptist Church (Lakemore, OH), October 2020: “When the world starts coming in with the homosexual movement or they start coming in with all these filthy wicked things, a lot of times people say, ‘Hey, what’s the big deal? You know, let them use the word marriage, we don’t care about that.’ Well, you think that as soon as they get the word marriage, you think they’re done? No. They’re not done. That's just one worm who’s eaten to his satisfaction and then here comes the next worm and here comes the next one until you and I are no longer part of society. That’s their goal.”

Grayson Fritts, All Scripture Baptist Church (Knoxville, TN), January 2021: “Bigot, homophobe—I don’t care what you want to call me. It's unnatural. It's filthy. It's wicked...Some kid walking in there with eyeliner on and makeup and he's taking all these hormones and he walks into a girl's locker room because 'I identify as a
Roger Jimenez, “Psychopath Reprobates” (documentary), March 2018: “We’re not gonna bring them in...’Well, we should bring in the homosexuals and we should minister to them and we should love.’ No! From such turn away! That’s what the Bible says. Leave them alone! That’s what Jesus said. We don’t minister to them. There’s no hope for them. They’re worthy of death.”

Joe Major, Faith Baptist Church (Violet, LA), September 2020: “You know the homo agenda. They’re not producers, they’re recruiters...They recruit by defiling and molesting children. And then they take them, and they make them feel accepted into their lifestyle, and they brainwash that child into that lifestyle and into that and make them feel accepted, and they try to recruit those children. That is evil, wicked and sick, and these individuals can’t sleep unless they do it.”

Bruce Mejia, Faithful Word Baptist Church Los Angeles (El Monte, CA), June 2019: “Look, we’re not the church that just says, ‘well, we’re just gonna preach against them, we don’t agree with their lifestyle.’ No. We believe they should be put to death. They should die. And I will never grieve over a sodomite that is killed, or that is put to death, or any other way that they die. I will never grieve for that. In fact, I will rejoice over that.”

Donnie Romero, Stedfast Baptist Church (Fort Worth, TX), December 2014: “I’m not going to let any of these dirty faggots inside my church. These guys, they are all pedophiles. Look into the Bible...They’re always trying to rape and hurt other people. They’re relentless. They are relentless. They are predators. And given an opportunity to snatch one of your children, they would do it in a heartbeat.”

Jonathan Shelley, “The Sodomite Deception” (documentary), January 2021: “One thing that’s for certain is that those who are sodomites are evil. They’re wicked, they’re destroying our culture, they’re destroying society. All they do is bring destruction to everything that they come in contact with. And we need to go back
to the past where men of God used to preach against these filthy disgusting freaks, against sodomites, against fags.”

Jonathan Shelley, Stedfast Baptist Church (Fort Worth, TX), December 2020: “There's nothing truly 'gay' about them, because gay means happy inside. They're full of evil and wickedness and rottenness. They hate themselves. That's why so many fags kill themselves, that's why so many of these trannies kill themselves. It's because they're even disgusted with themselves. You know what? I wish every fag and tranny would kill themselves right now. All of them. And if they won't kill themselves, you know what? Our government should take them out and stone them to death like they did in the 1600s and the 1700s and the 1800s. If we're gonna make America great again, I know where to start. Let’s go to Hollywood and let’s start putting some fags to death.”

Antisemitism and Anti-Zionism

Steven Anderson, Faithful Word Baptist Church (Tempe, AZ), August 2014: “We know that today, the modern state of Israel is an ungodly place. First of all, they reject the Lord Jesus Christ. 99% of those that are 'Jews' over there, reject the Lord Jesus Christ. That in itself makes them ungodly. They blaspheme Christ in their 'holy book,' the Talmud. And also, there's a lot of sodomy and homosexuality in Israel today. There are gay pride parades, go down the streets of Jerusalem. There are abortion clinics in Israel. There's all kinds of wickedness and ungodliness. And it's a Christ-rejecting, wicked place. So why should we believe that we're supposed to just help Israel militarily, no matter what?”

Adam Fannin, Law of Liberty Baptist Church (Jacksonville, FL), September 2020: “There is a group that claims to be Jewish today. They're of the Devil. They're literally of Satan. They are doing the Devil's work. They're manipulating politics and finances and religions especially, and I believe they're trying to unite all the other religions to come together to support a Zionistic Antichrist of sorts. They're
Grayson Fritts, All Scripture Baptist Church (Knoxville, TN), August 2020: “Average Christians today have been sold a lie. Judaism has nothing to do with the Bible... Israel today is a wicked nation. They have blood on their hands. The place is just this disgusting, wicked, cesspool. The Bible calls the Synagogue of Satan. It is filled with iniquity; it is a den of iniquity. It’s full of sodomites and filth...It’s a queer sanctuary.”

Roger Jimenez, Verity Baptist Church (Sacramento, CA), February 2020: “How does God feel about this religion? It is a demonic religion. And why should that surprise you when Jesus said to the Jews: ‘ye are of your father the Devil.’ I mean, he says ‘you’re of your father the Devil,’ then he says, ‘you’re worshiping in the Synagogue of Satan.’ So, he’s talking about their enemies and again this is all connected...he’s bringing all these things up for a reason.”

Joe Major, Faith Baptist Church (Violet, LA), September 2019: “That star is not the Star of David. That star is the image of their false god. That’s the image of Moloch. That’s the image of human sacrifice. And isn’t it interesting here tonight that Israel wants to fly that on their flag as their image? And don’t we find it interesting here tonight that it is Israel and Judaism that still today condones human sacrifice?...And you know what, you know who it is that’s behind all of our entertainment out there? Judaism.”

Tommy McMurtry, Liberty Baptist Church (Rock Falls, IL), May 2020: “The Jews have been doing this forever. And most of these people—the news media—are, they’re Jews, they’re owned by Jewish companies. And folks, this is what they do. They stir up the multitudes, they get people going crazy. Why? Because they want to destroy, they want to bring chaos, so they can have power.”

Bruce Mejia, First Works Baptist Church (El Monte, CA), October 2019: “They’ve been kicked out of dozens and dozens of countries because of their rejection of
Christ and their predatory lending practices. 'Oh, you're anti-Semitic.' No, I'm anti-Judaism."

**Jason Robinson, Mountain Baptist Church (Fairmont, WV), December 2017:** "Most Baptist churches, they're afraid to preach a sermon like this [about Judaism being the ‘Antichrist Religion’] because they're too busy kissing the boots of some Jew that hates their Saviour. It makes me sick...They're desecrating my Saviour, and I'm supposed to love that religion? I'm supposed to honor that religion? I'm supposed to couple that with Christianity and say it's Judeo-Christian?...It goes a lot deeper than that...it creeps into our lives. You know, Hollywood is filled with Jews that are perverting the minds of all the people in America and in the world...What are they teaching these Jews? To propagate filth."

**Jonathan Shelley, Pure Words Baptist Church (Houston, TX), October 2018:** "Zionists are racist. Today, they're the most racist people on the planet. And if you say you're against the modern state of Israel, if you say 'I'm against Zionism,' if you say 'I'm not a Zionist,' they'll say you're racist, you're antisemitic, you just hate the Jews. I don't hate any physical Jew; I don't hate him. I hate the religion of Judaism. I hate those that hate the Lord Jesus Christ. I hate those that blaspheme his name."

**Misogyny and Sexism**

**Steven Anderson, Faithful Word Baptist Church (Tempe, AZ), February 2013:** "Today we have ‘women's rights’...What do you think they mean when they say women's rights?...The right to rebel and disobey your husband, the right to divorce him, the right to go out and get a job and make your own money, the right to tell him what to do, the right to go vote for our leaders—as if women should have any say in how our country is run."

**Grayson Fritts, All Scripture Baptist Church (Knoxville, TN), April 2018:** "Very early on it is drilled in little girls’ heads that they're equal with boys: ‘you can do anything that you want to do, you’re just as good as a boy, you can do things better
than a boy.' They have their gender identity blurred from birth...God wants women to get married, to have children, and to guide the house. That is what He says. And to say that ‘God wants your little girl to be a softball star, God wants your little girl to be an astronaut, God wants your little girl to be a senator,’ is to spit in the face of God.”

Bruce Mejia, Faithful Word Baptist Church Los Angeles (El Monte, CA), August 2018: “Don't let your wife work...Much of adultery that takes place in marriage is when a woman is working out in the world. That happens all the time. Why? Because women are weak. I'm not downplaying them; I'm not degrading them. It's fact. It's in the Bible. They are the weaker vessel...That's why my daughter will never work. Ever. I mean, she'll work at the house, but she's never gonna work a secular job. Over my dead body would I ever allow my daughter to work a secular job. Why? Because my daughter's gonna be weak. She's a woman; she's weak.”

Jonathan Shelley, Stedfast Baptist Church (Fort Worth, TX), March 2021: “Unfortunately, our society, and really the world as a whole, has really evolved and changed quite a bit to the point where women are in high-ranking positions of authority in our nation and around the world. And what you have to understand is, this is not a blessing. A lot of people—you know, I've heard this from Christians, I've heard this from all kinds of people—they're just so excited that now we have a woman as the Vice President of the United States. They're so excited we have Kamala Harris and we have these other women who are just in charge and leading and it's such a good example unto women. But really, nothing could be further from the truth. And in fact, women in these positions of leadership and authority are actually a curse upon our nation and they're a curse upon any nation.”

Other Bigotry and Hate

Steven Anderson, Faithful Word Baptist Church (Tempe, AZ), June 2015: “Here's the thing about the Quran: it's not a magnificent book at all. You only have to read a few pages to see how inferior it is to the Word of God...The quality of this book is
simply much lower, and it is clearly a man-made concoction...Today, we’re living in a day of ecumenicalism, where people are trying to say that Christianity and Islam aren’t that different...We need to make a clear distinction between us and them. We need to have nothing to do with Islam. Islam is a wicked religion...This is a major world religion that many people have been duped and deceived by. It’s pretty easy to prove that it is false.”

**Steven Anderson, Faithful Word Baptist Church (Tempe, AZ), April 2015:** “You wonder where these strange doctrines of the Roman Catholic Church come from, because they certainly don't come from the Bible...But then you realize that Buddhism has been around since 500 BC and Hinduism even before that, and that Catholicism shares the same false teachings with these Eastern religions. See? It’s the same Devil that’s behind Roman Catholicism and Eastern mysticism...These are seducing spirits. This is demonic. And so, we need to follow the teachings of the Bible and understand that Christianity is the true religion and that all of these other religions are false and they are demonic.”

**Roger Jimenez, Verity Baptist Church (Sacramento, CA), March 2019:** “The Synagogue of Satan, of course, that’s a reference to the antichrist religion of Judaism and the Jews today. But please understand: this Satan has sanctuaries. He has religious worship centers. And you need to understand this, you need to grasp this: not all religions are good. In fact, most religions are wicked as hell. Literally. Most religions are satanic...Mormonism is satanic. Catholicism—in case I'm not being clear—Catholicism is satanic. Islam is satanic. Jehovah's Witness: satanic.”

**Bruce Mejia, Faithful Word Baptist Church Los Angeles (El Monte, CA), November 2018:** “Those who love every religion are not learning the precepts of God...I’m talking about this attitude, this ecumenical, ‘kumbaya’ Christianity, where if someone names the name of Christ and they’re automatically in the club. No...We need to hate false religions...When a Jehovah's Witness or Mormon or any of these false cults come to your house, you don’t try to debate them. Don’t say, ‘oh, come
on in. Oh man, I'm gonna teach this guy one thing or two. I'm gonna stump him with these verses.' No. This is what you say: 'depart from me you work of iniquity; I pray you die and go to hell.'"