

Alan Colmes Says Franklin Graham's Views on Persecution Are 'Nuts'

At a time when faith leaders like Franklin Graham are saying American Christians may be experiencing the beginning of persecution, progressive *Fox News Channel* host Alan Colmes told WND TV that Graham is "nuts."

During an interview with Pastor Carl Gallups, Colmes rejected arguments that Christians in America are facing the early stages of persecution not unlike what occurred during the Nazi's rise to power in Germany.

"Every nation that has eventually and finally either enslaved its people, or Nazi Germany, just eliminated and exterminated whole sections of the undesirable population, they didn't begin with gun control," Gallups said.

"They began with a marginalization of that population, lampooning, lambasting, making fun of. Of course, back then, they didn't have Hollywood, and media, and movies, and video games, and television shows, and cable TV, and programming, and documentaries, and public education, think 'government education,' government re-education camps."

When Colmes scoffed at this claim, Gallups said his arguments were no different than those made by Graham and other faith leaders. That's when Colmes shot back that Graham and other faith leaders are "nuts."

The exchange follows remarks Graham made after the U.S. Supreme Court legalized same-sex marriage last summer.

"I'm just concerned about where we're headed," Graham told *Fox News* host Todd Starnes after the ruling. "Also, is there going

to be discrimination against churches, against organizations like one I represent who are going to stand by the biblical definition of marriage, or will we be discriminated against by the government?"

Gallups told Colmes that the targeting of Christians has begun and believers need to be prepared for persecution as they navigate the changing world.

"We are being targeted," Gallups said. "It would behoove Christians to prepare."

The WND TV interview comes as Graham is embarking on the Decision America Tour next year. During the tour, Graham will travel to the capitals of all 50 states to hold prayer rallies. He plans to "challenge Christians to get off the sidelines and take a stand for God's truth and righteousness."

"'America is too young to die.'" Believe it or not, my father, Billy Graham, who turns 97 this week, spoke these words nearly 40 years ago," Graham wrote on social media. "He said, 'Will America turn to God at this late hour, or will America continue on the broad road that leads to destruction? There is no possible solution to the problems we face apart from a change in the spiritual atmosphere.' My father then urged Christians to get involved in the political process, and to help shape the kind of country we'd all want for our children and grandchildren."