

# Friday Church News Notes

## Rick Warren to Give the Invocation at Obama's Inaugural

Friday Church News Notes, November 21, 2008, [www.wayoflife.org](http://www.wayoflife.org)

Southern Baptist pastor Rick Warren has agreed to give the invocation at Barack Obama's inaugural swearing-in ceremony on January 20. Warren said, "The Bible admonishes us to pray for our leaders. I am honored by this opportunity to pray God's blessing on the office of the President and its current and future inhabitant, asking the Lord to provide wisdom to America's leaders during this critical time in our nation's history" (Christiannewswire.com, Dec. 18, 2008). While the Bible does admonish believers to pray for those in authority (1 Timothy 2:1-4), it also forbids them to yoke together with unbelievers (2 Corinthians 6:14). It is one thing to pray for our nation privately and in our churches; it is quite another to appear at a wicked man's inaugural and pray for God's blessing on him. It is impossible to imagine the apostle Paul appearing in an inaugural ceremony for a pagan Caesar, but that is equivalent to what Warren is doing. Instead of calling Obama to repentance, Warren is going to appear with him and smile with him and pray for God's blessing on him, a man who supports the unrestricted murder of unborn children and the "marriage" of homosexuals. "And Jehu the son of Hanani the seer went out to meet him, and said to king Jehoshaphat, Shouldst thou help the ungodly, and love them that hate the LORD? therefore *is* wrath upon thee from before the LORD" (2 Chronicles 19:2).

## BEE ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERS

The following is excerpted from Creation Moments, <http://www.creationmoments.com/radio/transcript.php?t=2196>: "Honeybees like to keep their hives at a constant 95° F and their way of doing it is quite ingenious. When the weather is cold, bees collect at the centre of the hive where they generate extra heat by increasing their metabolisms through rapid breathing. Other bees position themselves around the sides

of the hive to serve as insulation. If it remains cool outside, the bees at the warm centre of the hive rotate with the bees at the cooler walls of the hive. If the weather gets too warm, some of the bees act as fans, circulating outside air into the hive. If this does not provide enough cooling, other bees leave the hive to bring water back that will be spread on the hive walls by other bees. Now the fanning of the other bees will actually cause the walls of the hive to cool by evaporation of the water. The intelligence we see at every level of the creation offers strong evidence against the claim that intelligence is a product of evolution. Intelligence is a gift of the Creator to His creatures!"



## DUTCH LEGISLATOR SAYS "THERE IS NO MODERATE ISLAM"



Speaking at a conference on jihad in Jerusalem, Dutch legislator Geert Wilders said that "as the terrorist attacks in Mumbai proved, there's no moderate Islam," and it is time for the West to realize it is "in a conflict with the Muslim faith at large" ("There Is No Moderate Islam," Haaretz.com, Dec. 15, 2008). David Bukay of the Haifa University agreed, saying that "moderate Islam" does not exist and that the Koran could not be reformed or modernized. Because of publishing a short movie consisting of Muslim hate sermons and gory images of terrorist attacks, Wilders has received death threats and must be accompanied by bodyguards.

## GERMAN GOVERNMENT DROPS CHARGES AGAINST HOMESCHOOLING FAMILY

The following is excerpted from “Homeschoolers Win,” *WorldNetDaily*, Dec. 11, 2008: “Authorities are dropping criminal child-neglect charges pending against a German mother and father who could have faced up to two years in jail and loss of custody for homeschooling five of their children, according to a report from the International Human Rights Group. Spokesman Joel Thornton said his group, which has been working on the case involving the Brause family from Zittau, Germany, heard from local counsel about the government’s decision. ‘We received word from our German counsel in this case, Johannes Hildebrandt, that the court and the prosecutor are dropping the charges against Mr. and Mrs. Brause. This means they no longer face up to two years in prison and the potential loss of their children. The decision of German officials is a huge victory for this family and for homeschool families in Germany,’ Thornton told WND. ... The case involved custody of Rosine, Jotham, Kurt-Simon, Lovis and Ernst Brause. Thornton said the announcement came after the court received a detailed psychiatric report that there is no psychological harm to the children from homeschooling. The report also stated that the children have not been harmed, which is evidenced by their exit exams from high school, he said. ... ‘This is a huge victory for homeschool families in Germany. It means that government officials must be more careful when bringing criminal charges against home school families.’ ... Thornton said the Brause family members are Christians and the parents homeschool for reasons of parental responsibility before God and the law. ... Just a few days ago, the Homeschool Legal Defense Association said it was helping a family with an unusual, first-of-its-kind application: political asylum in the United States from Germany’s oppressive homeschooling laws. The Uwe and Hannelore Romeike family fled their native Bissingen, Germany, to escape persecution under a Nazi-era law requiring all children to attend public school to avoid ‘the emergence of parallel societies based on separate philosophical convictions’ that could be taught by parents at home.”

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## THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD

“The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever” (Psalms 23:1-6).

## MUTILATED CHRISTIAN GIRL FORGIVES ATTACKERS

The following is excerpted from *WorldNetDaily*, Dec. 16, 2008: “Hindu extremists may have burned a 10-year-old Christian girl's face, inflicted shrapnel wounds on 40 percent of her body and forced her family to hide in a forest and flee to a refugee camp in Orissa, India, but her plight hasn't shaken her faith and thankfulness to God this season. ... Nayak's face was severely mutilated after Hindu extremists bombed the home where she was staying on Aug. 26. They broke into the house and burned it while Nayak and her siblings hid in a small bathroom. Before exiting the home, they left a bomb in a dresser, according to the report. While the little girl surveyed the destruction, the bomb detonated and burned her face. The explosion also lodged shrapnel into her face, hands and back. ... Nayak spent 45 days recovering in the hospital. Despite all her troubles, she is cheerful and giving thanks to God for healing her. ... The Hindu attackers have vowed to launch another widespread assault on Christians during Christmas. ... Hindus have offered money, food and alcohol to anyone who murders Christians and destroys their homes--especially pastors. Thousands of homes and churches have been destroyed, and Christians have been forced to flee the violence. Many have been doused with kerosene and torched after refusing to renounce their Christian faith. ... Nonetheless, Nayak urges India's Christians to forgive their Hindu attackers. '[W]e forgive the Hindu radicals who attacked us, who burned our homes,' she told Asia News. 'They were out of their minds, they do not know the love of Jesus. For this reason, I now want to study so that when I am older I can tell everyone how much Jesus loves us. This is my future.'”

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## GOD'S THOUGHTS VS. MAN'S

“For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD” (Isaiah 55:8). Consider some of the ways that this is true. As for beauty, man thinks it is glorious, but God says it is vain (Proverbs 31:30). As for riches, man thinks they are greatly to be desired and praised, but God says the love of money is the root of all evil (1 Timothy 6:10) and “riches certainly make themselves wings; they fly away” (Proverbs 23:5). As for men of high degree, man thinks they are impressive, but God says “men of high degree are a lie” (Psalm 62:9). As for the prosperity of the wicked, man thinks it is desirable and fascinating, but God says it is foolish and casts men into destruction (Psalm 73:18). As for trouble, man thinks it is a nuisance, but God says it brings men to repentance (Psa. 119:67, 71) and spiritual growth (Romans 5-5). As for military might, man trusts in it, but God says safety is of the Lord (Proverbs 21:31). As for poverty, man thinks it is to be avoided at all costs, but God says it can be better than riches (Proverbs 15:16-17; 19:1; James

2:5). As for children, man thinks they are a burden, but God says children are a heritage from the Lord and happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them (Psalm 127). As for evolutionary theory, man thinks it is brilliant science, but God says it is the vain babblings of science falsely so called (1 Timothy 6:20). As for foolish laughter and filthy jesting, man thinks it is fun and cool, but God says it is vanity (Ecc. 7:5-6) and brings His wrath (Ephesians 5:4-6). As for self-promotion and self-praise, man thinks it is wise, but God says, “whosoever shall exalt himself shall be abased; and he that shall humble himself shall be exalted” (Matthew 23:12), and, “Let another man praise thee, and not thine own mouth” (Proverbs 27:2). As for the pride of life, man thinks it is commendable, but God says it is of the devil and will pass away (1 Timothy 3:6; 1 John 2:15-17). As for religious harmony, man thinks it is expedient, but God says Christ has no part with Belial (2 Corinthians 6:14-15). As for human nature, man thinks it is basically good, but God says there is none that doeth good, no, not one

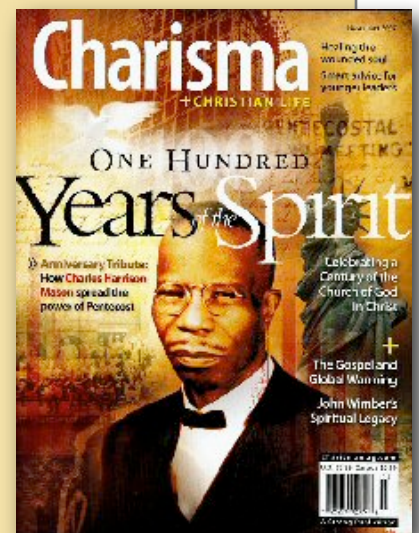
(Romans 3:12). As for religion, man thinks all religions have some truth and lead to the same God, but God says that Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life, and no man cometh unto the father but by Him (John 14:6). As for hell, man thinks that it is a religious myth, but God says it is the destiny of every man that dies without Christ (John 3:36). The wise man will align his thinking with God's by humbling himself before His sovereignty and studying His Word. “... for that which is highly esteemed among men is abomination in the sight of God” (Luke 16:15).



### CHARISMATIC MAGAZINE PREDICTS MIRACLES WILL BLUR DOCTRINAL DIVISIONS

*Charisma* magazine for December 2001 ran an article titled “What Is God Doing in the Earth Today?” which contained predictions for the coming days. The author, David Shibley, hastened to say that the predictions “are not prophecies” but are what he senses “deep in his spirit.” The charismatic prophecy crowd has been proven wrong so many times, that it has started trying to cover its tracks. Be that as it may, following is one of Shibley's predictions: “MIRACLES WILL BLUR DOCTRINAL DIVISIONS. BY THE END OF THE DECADE THIS MAY BE A MOOT ISSUE, WITH THE OVERWHELMING MAJORITY OF BIBLE-BELIEVING CHRISTIANS ENDORSING AND EXPERIENCING

PRESENT-DAY SIGNS AND WONDERS.” This statement reminds us of the extreme danger of the charismatic movement. Where does the Bible say that God is pleased with the blurring of doctrinal divisions? To the contrary, God commands His people to be exceedingly strict about doctrine. Paul instructed Timothy to allow “NO other doctrine” (1 Tim. 1:3). Timothy was to teach sound apostolic doctrine to faithful men who were to teach “the same” doctrine to other men until Jesus comes (2 Tim. 2:2). Thus, the blurring of doctrinal divisions actually displeases God. This confused ecumenical generation thinks God wrote many different and contradicting Bibles and that He is pleased with a variety of conflicting



**CHARISMATIC MAGAZINE, Cont.**

doctrines, but it is wrong on both counts. By the way, Shibley is probably correct in his prediction. The charismatic ecumenical, judge-not philosophy and the charismatic music and the charismatic experiences are sweeping through every denomination. It is influencing, if not actually taking over, everything in its path. One of the biggest problems among churches even in remote places like Nepal is the ecumenical-charismatic movement with its

heretical notions and weird experiences. As for “present-day signs and wonders,” they are bogus. When the New Testament speaks of signs and wonders in the context of the last hours of this age, it speaks of deceiving signs and “lying wonders” (Matt. 24:24; 2 Thess. 2:8-11; Rev. 13:13-14). And that is precisely what I have witnessed when attending major charismatic conferences through the years.

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