

Friday Church News Notes

Rick Warren Prays in the Name of a False Christ

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The following is excerpted from Daniel Cordell, "Praying in the Name of Isa," LovefortheTruth.com, Jan. 20, 2009: "Today, in his Presidential Inauguration prayer, Rick Warren prayed in the name of 'Yeshua, Isa, and Jesus.' It seems the three names Warren used were to imply the three 'Abrahamic Faiths' (as they are so-called), Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. What's significant is the name 'Isa' being prayed by the 'evangelical' Warren. 'Isa' is strictly Koranic and used by Arab Muslims. Even Arab Christians don't refer to 'Isa,' but to 'Yesua.' I've lived and studied Arabic in one of the same Muslim countries that Warren has visited, and I think he probably knows that the Arab Christian communities only refer to Jesus as 'Yesua' and not 'Isa' as the Muslims. 'Isa' was not Jewish, but Palestinian. 'Isa' did not die on the cross but instead had someone die in his place. 'Isa' is a Muslim prophet. 'Isa' is only found in the Koran. The name 'Isa' doesn't have any Biblical support or any meaning found in Biblical scholarship. Yet, Rick prayed in the name of 'Isa.'"



RICK WARREN APPLAUDED OBAMA'S INVITATION TO HOMOSEXUAL BISHOP

Rick Warren applauded Barack Obama's invitation to homosexual Episcopal Bishop V. Gene Robinson to pray at the presidential inauguration on Tuesday (Christianity Today Blog, Jan. 13, 2009). Warren said, "President-elect Obama has again demonstrated his genuine commitment to bringing all Americans of goodwill together in search of common ground. I applaud his desire to be the president of every citizen." For his part, Robinson, who was more candid, said that the God that Warren prays to is "not the God that I know" and that he would pray in the name of an idol he calls "the God of our many
CONTINUED NEXT PAGE

HENRY KISSINGER CALLS ON OBAMA TO CREATE NEW WORLD ORDER



Influential U.S. statesman Henry Kissinger is calling on Barack Obama to use the financial and "climate change" crises as an opportunity to help create a new world order. Kissinger, who served as national security adviser and secretary of state under Presidents Richard Nixon and Gerald Ford, says: "The alternative to a new international order is chaos. ... America and its potential partners have a unique opportunity to transform a moment of crisis into a vision of hope" ("The Chance for a New World Order," *International Herald Tribune*, Jan. 12, 2009). Internationalism is a sign of the times. Under the antichrist there will be a one-world political system and religion. "... power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations" (Revelation 13:7). On pain of death, no one anywhere will be able to carry out commercial transactions without permission of the government (Revelation 13:16-17). The antichrist's government will be the revived Roman Empire, but its reach will be even more extensive.

Homosexual Bishop, from page 1.....

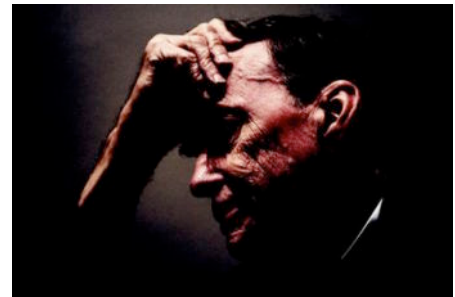
understandings” (“All Things Considered,” National Public Radio, Jan. 13, 2009). This is further evidence of Rick Warren’s deep spiritual compromise. It might be Barack Obama’s job to “be the president of every citizen” (which tells me he shouldn’t have chosen one of the most polarizing men in America, a man who is helping to destroy an entire denomination, to lead in prayer), but as a preacher, Rick Warren’s job is to preach God’s Word in the midst of an evil and an adulterous generation, not to speak politically-correct gobbledygook. He should have spoken out plainly that V. Gene Robinson is not qualified to be a “bishop.” In fact, as an unrepentant moral pervert who broke his marriage vows to live carnally with a man, he isn’t qualified even to be a church member. The members of the church at Corinth had been all sorts of sinners before they were saved, but they had repented and been converted. “Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God. And such WERE some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God” (1 Corinthians 6:9-11).

A WARNING ABOUT THE GROWTH OF CALVINISM

The following is from a reader in California: “I am thankful to our Lord for your distinct Biblical opposition to Calvinism. I am even now re-reading a piece of yours titled ‘Calvinism’s Proof Text Examined.’ I thought that you might appreciate any information which further confirms your views that Calvinism is a threat to Biblical churches. To wit, my family and I just left a church which we attended for a year having only recently discovered that it was Calvinist. The pastor at this church is from Master’s Seminary. Master’s is cranking out Calvinists faster than even the SBC. John MacArthur has become increasingly Reformed notwithstanding his eschatology, and more worldly I may add. I cite the ‘Resolved Conference’ for youth as evidence of both. The conference is hosted by Grace Community Church, in Palm Springs. It features Mr. MacArthur, John Piper and C.J. Mahaney, etc. Succinctly, it is a Reformed rock concert, a sanitized equivalent of your average collegiate spring break. ... It has a following of thousands of young, and not too young, people.”

EPISCOPAL BISHOP DENIES HELL, SAYS PEOPLE DON’T NEED TO BE BORN AGAIN

Retired Episcopalian Bishop John Spong says that Hell is an invention of the church. In an interview with Keith Morrison of “Dateline NBC,” August 13, 2006, the deeply confused bishop said: “I don’t think Hell exists. I happen to believe in life after death, but I don’t think it has a thing to do with reward and punishment. Religion is always in the control business. ... The church doesn’t like for people to grow up, because you can’t control grownups. That’s why we talk about being born again. When you’re born again, you’re still a child. People don’t need to be born again; they need to grow up. They need to accept their responsibility for themselves and the world.” In his 1991 book “Rescuing the Bible from Fundamentalism,” Spong said: “Am I suggesting that these stories of the virgin birth are not literally true? The answer is a simple and direct ‘Yes.’ Of course these narratives are not literally true. Stars do not wander, angels do not sing, virgins do not give birth, magi do not travel to a distant land to present gifts to a baby, and shepherds do not go in search of a newborn savior.” A denomination that allows even one preacher to hold heresies and blasphemies like this without discipline doesn’t deserve to be called Christian, and the Episcopal Church in America has been allowing such things since the early twentieth century. No wonder they ordain homosexuals. A “church” that is liberal in theology will also be immoral in practice.



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OZZY OSBOURNE'S FAMILY TO GO BACK ON TELEVISION

An announcement about a new television show featuring rocker Ozzy Osbourne and his dysfunctional family says, "The family of Black Sabbath frontman Ozzy Osbourne, who shocked and delighted audiences for four years on their Emmy-award winning MTV reality show 'The Osbournes,' are up to no good again in a variety-style show featuring skits, impersonations, audience games--and a liberal sprinkling of four-letter words" (Yahoo News, Jan. 14, 2009). There will even be a "pair of mini-Osbournes--child actors who dress, behave and talk as outrageously as Ozzy and wife Sharon themselves." How rock & roll has coarsened and cheapened and corrupted modern society over the past half decade! To think that

such a filthy, rebellious medium could be acceptable to a holy God is beyond my ability to comprehend. "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God" (Romans 12:1-2).



ENTERTAINERS AGOG OVER OBAMA

The filthy entertainment industry is absolutely agog over President Barack Obama. Actor George Clooney said, "He walks into a room and YOU WANT TO FOLLOW HIM SOMEWHERE, ANYWHERE," and actress Halle Berry agreed, "I'LL DO WHATEVER HE SAYS to do. I'll collect paper cups off the ground to make his pathway clear" (*Politico*, Feb. 20, 2008). When New Age billionaire Oprah Winfrey introduced Obama on December 11, 2007, in Columbia, South Carolina, she called him "AN EVOLVED LEADER" and said, "We're here to evolve to a higher plane." She also said he is a "force for peace" who can break down everything that divides, including race and politics and religion. Pop singer/actress Jennifer Lopez gushed, "WASHINGTON NEVER HAD A BIGGER ROCK STAR AT THE HELM; he is just too good" (*The Himalayan Times*, Jan. 21, 2009, p. 14). She is right. Obama is a rock star

because he represents moral relativism, corrupt Christianity and anti-Biblicism (he denies the infallibility of Scripture, hates dogma, rejects the doctrine of hell and salvation through Christ alone), and New Age mysticism (we can create a new world through our own divined initiative and the power of positive thinking). We are rushing on to the end of the age, but it is not time to hide in a hole and stockpile food; it's not time to doubt and fear; it is time to awake out of spiritual lethargy, trust in God, walk in obedience and holiness, and try to win souls to Christ before it is too late. "And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed. The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light" (Romans 13:11-12).

THE MYSTICAL POWER OF ROCK AND ROLL

Rock & roll is not just music. It is a philosophy. It is a way of life. It is a religion. It is a mystical power that captures hearts and souls. It is the background music of end-time apostasy. The book *Rock Facts*, published by the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum in Cleveland, Ohio, says that “rock and roll refers to an attitude, a feeling, a style, a way of life...” (*Rock Facts*, 1996, p. 7). I was reminded of this from an article called “Eight Commonly Misinterpreted Songs” by Vicki Santillano. The author gives examples of how listeners often misinterpret the message of pop songs, being so influenced by the powerful rhythm, the emotional impact, and the social context that they ignore the actual meaning of the words and in fact give the songs a meaning in their hearts that is the opposite of what the authors intended. She says, “Because many of us use music as an outlet for our deepest feelings, we are often shocked when the meanings that we have given to certain songs prove false. ... All too often, we find out that the songs we put on mix tapes for our crushes, or those we listen to on repeat in the midst of bad breakups, were written from a completely different view.” For example, the song “Born in the U.S.A.” by Bruce Springsteen has often been used in patriotic contexts, but in reality it was a protest against the Vietnam War. The Police’s song “Every Breath You Take” and the Dave Matthews Band’s “Crash into Me” aren’t about romance; they’re about stalkers and peeping toms. Santillano says that pop music is “an outlet for our deepest feelings.” As B.J. Thomas sang in 1969, rock music is about being “hooked on a feeling.” To live by one’s feelings rather than objective truth is the heart of mysticism. It is also a recipe for spiritual deception. “Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour” (1 Peter 5:8).

BAPTISTS DIALOGUING WITH MUSLIMS

Representatives of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, the American Baptist Churches USA, and other liberal groups conducted a dialogue with Muslims at the Islamic Center of Boston January 9-11. The participants wanted to correct the “false” thinking of Baptist leaders such as Franklin Graham who called Islam “an evil and wicked religion” and past SBC President Jerry Vines who called Mohammed “a demon-possessed pedophile” (Associated Baptist Press, Jan. 13, 2009). Sayyid Syeed, national interfaith director of the Islamic Society of North America said that “well-meaning Muslims and Baptists” can work together and “contribute to injustice and tyranny around the globe.” It is not those few who are preaching God’s Word faithfully that are giving Baptists a bad name. It is the unconverted compromisers who don’t have enough biblical conviction and personal salvation to care about the

fact that Muslims and all others are going to hell if they die without Christ. If they preached that, you can be sure that their dialogue agenda would collapse. God has called His people to preach the light, not dialogue with darkness. “Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people” (2 Corinthians 6:14-16).

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