

## Rick Warren - What He Teaches

### **Rick Warren on the Fundamentals of the Faith:**

*'Today there really aren't that many Fundamentalists left; I don't know if you know that or not, but they are such a minority; there aren't that many Fundamentalists left in America.'*

*Now the word 'fundamentalist' actually comes from a document in the 1920s called the Five Fundamentals of the Faith. And it is a very legalistic, narrow view of Christianity'.*

**On Catholicism:** *'The small group structure is the structure of renewal in every facet of Christianity - including Catholicism. I would encourage you to look at this evolving alliance between evangelical Protestants and Catholics, particularly in the evangelical wing of Catholicism. Now when you get 25 percent of America, which is basically Catholic, and you get 28 to 29 percent of America, which is evangelical, together, that's called a majority. And it is a very powerful bloc, if they happen to stay together on particular issues'.*

**Warren's mentor:** *:'Peter Drucker (Famous secular motivational speaker)...he's my mentor. I've spent 20 years under his tutelage learning about leadership from him.'*

**Ecumenism:** *'Who's the man of peace in any village - or it might be a woman of peace - who has the most respect, they're open and they're influential? They don't have to be a Christian. In fact, they could be a Muslim, but they're open and they're influential and you work with them to attack the five giants. And that's going to bring the second Reformation. Last week I spoke to 4,000 pastors at my church who came from over 100 denominations in over 50 countries. Now, that's wide spread. We had Catholic priests, we had Pentecostal ministers, we had Lutheran bishops, we had Anglican bishops, we had Baptist preachers'.*

**On the Gospel:** In the video that accompanies the '40 Days of Purpose', Warren leads his listeners in prayer at the end of the first session. The prayer goes like this:

*'Dear God, I want to know your purpose for my life. I don't want to base the rest of my life on wrong things. I want to take the first step in preparing for eternity by getting to know you, Jesus Christ. I don't understand how but as much*

*as I know how I want to open up my life to you. Make yourself real to me. And use this series in my life to help me know what you made me for'. Warren goes on to say: 'Now if you've just prayed that prayer for the very first time I want to congratulate you. You've just become a part of the family of God'.*

Warren would be hard-pressed to find biblical backing for this presentation of the gospel. We find nothing here about sin, grace, repentance, the person of Christ, Calvary, faith, judgment or the resurrection. This is the ultimate in a mutilated, seeker-sensitive gospel: the seeker comes to Christ in order to find his purpose in life, not to receive forgiveness from sin and the righteousness of God. Then, to pronounce someone a fully-fledged member of the family of God because he prayed such a prayer (based on minimal, if any, understanding of the person and work of Christ), is tragic.

**On Music:** *'Rick Warren at his saddleback Church 25th anniversary 'did something he had wanted to do for a long time'. He sang Jimi Hendrix's drug drenched song 'Purple Haze' to his congregation, accompanied by his 'praise and worship band'! There has never been anything innocent and pure about Rock-'n'-roll (not to speak of holy). From it's inception it has had two grand themes: licentiousness (sex, drugs, etc) and rebellion, and this is nowhere more evident than in the music of Jimi Hendrix..' ('O Timothy', No.5, 2005)*

**On Separation:** *'Rick Warren was in Birmingham, England last week and spoke before the Baptist World Alliance. He said that the Southern Baptist Convention leaving the apostate Baptist World Alliance was 'silly'. If anyone can look at what belongs to the Baptist World Alliance and claim that the SBC leaving it was 'silly', I have one thing to say: God help you. Warren went further and said, 'I see absolutely zero reason in separating my fellowship from anybody'. Rick Warren has positioned himself in direct opposition to Holy Scripture which tells us in 2Corinthians 6:17, 'Come out from among them and be ye separate and touch not the unclean thing'. Scripture also tells us, 'And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness but rather reprove them', (Ephesians 5:11). Rick Warren is in gross disobedience and worse, is leading millions astray. [An article on why the SBC left the Baptist World Alliance followed]...*

(Source: Apostasy Alert, July-August/2005)

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### Revival or Apostasy?

*'So what kind of revival do we really need and what brings it about? Does it involve manuals and workbooks, 40-Day programs, 50 Day Spiritual Adventures (remember those back in the 80's and 90's?), Alpha programs...Purpose-Driven lives, 5-point Peace Plans, churches that are emerging, churches that are retreating, fun churches, mystical churches, rule-driven churches...Marches for Jesus...*

*...What does real revival entail and what or who brings it about? Clearly not the evangelical pulp mills. They're laughing all the way to the bank and the church is sicker than ever...'*

(Apostasy Alert, July/2005)

### Church Applies For Liquor License

*'Paddington Uniting church is the first church in the state to apply for a liquor license...'having a beer in the church hall is not so different to sharing wine in the communion service', according to parish minister the reverend Warwick Cadenhead.*

*And hosting alcoholics anonymous meetings during the day and functions with alcohol at night was not a contradiction, he said...*

*Mr Cadenhead said the church wished to foster creativity by providing a performance venue for struggling artists....'*  
*Daily Telegraph, June 8th, 2005 (Sth Australia)*