

PART III

SCANDALS AND GREED

Aimee Semple McPherson died in 1944 from an overdose of barbiturates.

Following a 1967 Kuhlman meeting in Philadelphia, Dr. William A. Nolen conducted a case study of 23 people who claimed to have been cured during her services.⁸⁻¹¹ Nolen's long-term follow-ups concluded there were no cures in those cases.

1977: Oral Roberts claimed to have seen a 900-foot-tall Jesus who told him that the vision would soon be realized and that the hospital would be a success. The City of Faith opened in 1981.

1987, November: Roberts announced that the City of Faith medical clinic will close in three months.

1988, January: The free medical tuition program was cancelled despite his claim God told him to make it a world outreach program.

1988, March: The medical scholarship fund went bankrupt. Students were required to repay scholarship funds at 18 percent annual interest if they transferred to another school rather than stay at ORU medical school and start paying the high tuition.

Jim Bakker was forced to resign from his position as president of the PTL Club and Heritage USA on March 19, 1987, following the revelation that he had paid Jessica Hahn \$279,000 to keep secret her allegation that Bakker and another minister had raped her.

Bakker also ran afoul of the law and following a 16-month Federal grand jury probe he was indicted in 1988 on eight counts of mail fraud, 15 counts of wire fraud and one count of conspiracy. In 1989, after a five-week trial which began on August 28 in Charlotte, the jury found

him guilty on all 24 counts, and Judge Robert Potter sentenced him to 45 years in federal prison and a \$500,000 fine.

Peter Popoff, a self-proclaimed prophet and faith healer, was exposed as a fraud by James Randi and Steve Shaw. They showed that Popoff was not given information about members of his audience from God, but from his wife. She transmitted the information to Popoff through a radio transmitter who received it via an in-ear receiver. Some members of the audience were asked to fill out cards giving their name, address and medical problem.

ABC News conducted an investigation and revealed on ABC's Primetime Live (November 21, 1991) that Robert Tilton's staff threw away prayer requests without reading them, keeping only the money or valuables sent to them by viewers.

Like Peter Popoff, W. V. Grant was investigated by James Randi regarding his faith healing claims. He was found to be a fraud and then was imprisoned for tax evasion in 1996.

In November 2004, the CBC Television show "The Fifth Estate" did a special titled "Do You Believe in Miracles" on the apparent transgressions committed by Benny Hinn's ministry.^{36d} With the aid of hidden cameras and crusade witnesses, the producers of the show demonstrated Benny's apparent misappropriation of funds, his fabrication of the truth, and the way in which his staff chose crusade audience members to come on stage to proclaim their miracle healings.^{36d} In particular, the investigation highlighted the fact that the most desperate miracle seekers who attend a Hinn crusade – the quadriplegics, the brain-damaged, virtually anyone with a visibly obvious physical condition – are never allowed up on stage; those who attempt to get in the line of possible healings are intercepted and directed to return to their seats.

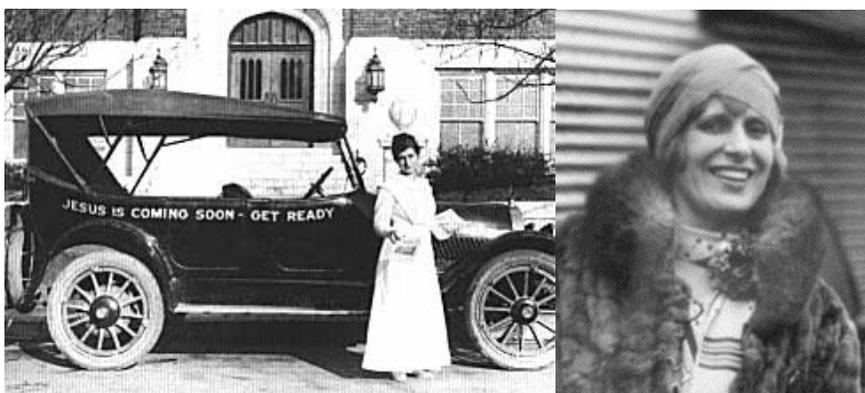
In September 2004 the Los Angeles Times reported that Crouch in 1998 paid Enoch Lonnie Ford, a former employee, a \$425,000 formal settlement to end a wrongful termination lawsuit which alleged a homosexual tryst with Crouch.^{37b} TBN officials acknowledge the settlement, which required Ford to maintain silence regarding the alleged incident, but contested the veracity of the accusations and credibility of Ford, who is a repeat offender in the CA court systems.

SEVEN

SCANDALS

PENTECOSTAL/CHARISMATIC SCANDALS

Every denomination has its share of scandals, but it seems as though the Pentecostals and Charismatics have more than their fair share.



McPherson with her “Gospel car” 1918 and in 1920

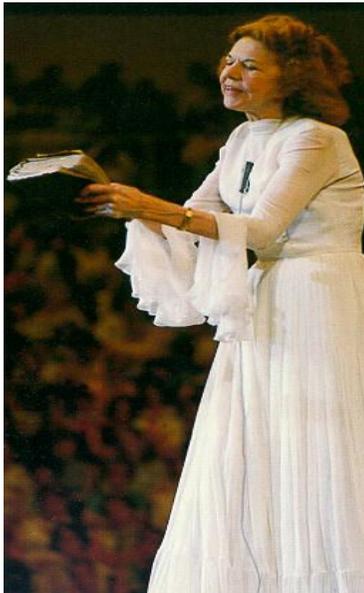
Aimee Semple McPherson (1920s–40s)

One of the most famous evangelist scandals involved Canadian-born Aimee Semple McPherson in the 1920s, who allegedly faked her own death. She later claimed that she had been kidnapped, but a grand jury could neither prove that a kidnapping occurred, nor that she had faked it. Roberta Semple Salter, her daughter from her **first marriage**, became estranged from Semple McPherson and successfully sued her mother’s attorney for slander during the 1930s. As a result of this she was cut out of her mother’s will. Aimee Semple McPherson died in 1944 from an **overdose of barbiturates**.^{1a-b}

Jack Coe (1946-1956)

Jack Coe began his career as a faith healing in 1946 and ten years later he was dead. He began by buying the biggest tent he could find and claimed he had the biggest revival tent in the world holding more than 22,000 people. His short career was wrought with scandals.

In 1955 at a Jack Coe revival service in Miami, Florida, Coe told the parents of a three year old boy that he healed their son who had polio. He told the parents to remove the boy's leg braces but he was not cured of polio and removing the braces left the boy in constant pain.^{2a} As a result, Coe was arrested and charged on February 6, 1956 with practicing medicine without a license. The case was dismissed on grounds that Florida exempts divine healing from the law.^{2b-4} Later that year Coe was diagnosed with bulbar polio, and died a few weeks later at Parkland Hospital in Dallas, Texas on December 17, 1956.⁵⁻⁷



Kuhlman in St. Louis 1975

Kathryn Kuhlman (1940-1970s)

Kathryn Kuhlman traveled around America and in many other countries holding “healing crusades” between the 1940s and 1970s. She

also had a weekly television show in the 1960s and 1970s called “I Believe In Miracles” that aired nationally. Even though she did not claim to have the ability to heal people she said God healed many people through her.

Following a 1967 Kuhlman meeting in Philadelphia, Dr. William A. Nolen conducted a case study of 23 people who claimed to have been cured during her services.⁸⁻¹¹ Nolen’s long-term follow-ups concluded there were no cures in those cases.¹²⁻¹³ Furthermore, “one woman who was said to have been cured of spinal cancer threw away her brace and ran across the stage at Kuhlman’s command; her spine collapsed the next day, according to Nolen, and she died four months later.”¹⁴

In 1976, Kuhlman died in Tulsa, Oklahoma, following open-heart surgery.¹⁵ Apparently she did not have enough faith to be healed or God did not desire to heal her.

Marjoe Gortner (1940s-1970s)

Marjoe Gortner rose to fame in the late 1940s as a child preacher, but he had simply been trained to do this by his parents and he had no personal faith. He was able to allegedly perform “miracles” and received large amounts of money in donations. After suffering a crisis of conscience, he invited a film crew to accompany him on a final preaching tour. The resulting film, *Marjoe*, mixes footage of revival meetings with Gortner’s explanations of how evangelists manipulate their audiences. It won the 1972 Academy Award for Best Documentary Feature, but was never screened in the Southern United States due to fears that it would cause outrage in the Bible Belt.²²

Billy James Hargis (1970s)

Billy Hargis was a prolific author and radio evangelist. He founded the American Christian College in 1971 to teach fundamentalist Christian principles. However, a sex scandal erupted at the College, involving claims that Hargis had sex with male and female students. He was forced to resign his office of president and further scandals erupted when members of his youth choir, the “All American Kids,” accused Hargis of sexual misconduct as well. The college eventually closed down in the mid-1970s. Hargis denied the allegations.²³



Oral Roberts (1970-1980s)

Oral Roberts resigned his pastoral ministry with the Pentecostal Holiness Church to found Oral Roberts Evangelistic Association (OREA).²⁴ He conducted evangelistic and faith healing crusades in America and around the world. Thousands of sick people would wait in line to stand before him so he could pray for them. He conducted more than 300 crusades on six continents, and personally laid hands in prayer on more than 2 million people. During his six decades of work is generated several scandals:

1977: He claimed to have seen a 900-foot-tall Jesus who told him that the vision would soon be realized and that the hospital would be a success. The City of Faith opened in 1981.^{24a-c}

1986: He said God had told him, “I want you to use the ORU medical school to put My medical presence in the earth. I want you to get this going in one year or I will call you home. It will cost \$8 million and I want you to believe you can raise it.” (Abundant Life, Jan/Feb. 1987).^{24f-g}

1987, January: He said God told him to raise \$8 million by March 1 or God would take him home. Roberts said the money would be used to provide full scholarships for medical missionaries who would be sent to Third World countries. He said \$3.5 million had been raised and all he needed was \$4.5 million before March 1 of that year.^{24f-g}

1987, April: He announced that he had raised \$9.1 million – \$1.1 million more than needed. Of the money raised, \$1.3 million was given by a dog track owner, Jerry Collins.^{24h-i}

1987, November: Roberts announced that the City of Faith medical clinic will close in three months. **[Authors’ note:** During this time and afterward, Roberts maintained his love of fine clothing and jewelry. One obituary claimed that even when times become hard, “he continued to wear his Italian silk suits, diamond rings and gold bracelets – airbrushed out by his staff on publicity pictures.”^{24j-k}]

1988, January: The free medical tuition program was cancelled despite his claim God told him to make it a world outreach program.

1988, March: The medical scholarship fund went bankrupt. Students were required to repay scholarship funds at 18 percent annual interest if they transferred to another school rather than stay at ORU medical school and start paying the high tuition.

1988: Harry McNevin said that the ORU Board of Regents “rubber-stamped” the “use of millions in endowment money to buy a Beverly Hills property so that Oral Roberts could have a West Coast office and house.”^{24l} In addition, he said a country club membership was purchased for the Roberts’ home. The lavish expenses led to McNevin’s resignation from the Board.

1989: Roberts decided to close the medical school and the City of Faith hospital to pay off debts. His organizations were also affected by scandals involving other televangelists^{24m} and the City of Faith hospital was forced to close in 1989 after losing money. Roberts was forced to respond with the sale of his holiday homes in Palm Springs and Beverly Hills as well as three of his Mercedes cars.^{24j}



President Ronald Reagan and Jim Bakker²⁵

Jim Bakker (1986)

Jim Bakker was forced to resign from his position as president of the PTL Club and Heritage USA on March 19, 1987, following the revelation that he had paid Jessica Hahn \$279,000 to keep secret her allegation that Bakker and another minister had raped her.^{25a}

Jessica Hahn worked as a staff secretary at Bakker's religious business. She was paid off through Bakker associate Roe Messner, who later married Tammy Fay Bakker.^{25a} Bakker, who apparently made all of the financial decisions for the PTL organization, allegedly kept two sets of books to conceal the accounting irregularities. Reporters from *The Charlotte Observer*, led by Charles Shepard, investigated and published a series of articles regarding the PTL organization's finances.^{25b}

Bakker reluctantly acknowledged he met Hahn at a hotel room in Clearwater Beach, Florida, but denies raping her. Following his resignation as PTL head, he was succeeded in late March, 1987, by Jerry Falwell.^{25c} He allegedly called Bakker a "liar, an embezzler, a sexual deviant," and "the greatest scab and cancer on the face of

Christianity in 2,000 years of church history.” Bakker’s son, Jay, wrote in 2001 that the Bakkers felt betrayed by Falwell, who they thought, at the time of Bakker’s resignation, intended to help in Bakker’s eventual restoration as head of PTL.^{25d}

Bakker also ran a foul of the law and following a 16-month Federal grand jury probe he was indicted in 1988 on eight counts of mail fraud, 15 counts of wire fraud and one count of conspiracy.^{25a, 25e} In 1989, after a five-week trial which began on August 28 in Charlotte, the jury found him guilty on all 24 counts, and Judge Robert Potter sentenced him to 45 years in federal prison and a \$500,000 fine.^{25f-25g}



Jimmy Swaggart making his famous confession

Jimmy Swaggart (1986 and 1991)

In 1986, evangelist Jimmy Swaggart began on-screen attacks against fellow televangelists Marvin Gorman and Jim Bakker. He uncovered Gorman’s affair with a member of Gorman’s congregation, and also helped expose Bakker’s infidelity (which was arranged by a colleague while on an out-of-state trip).²⁵ These exposures received widespread

media coverage. Gorman retaliated in kind by hiring a private investigator to uncover Swaggart's own adulterous indiscretions with a prostitute.²⁶ Swaggart was subsequently forced to step down from his pulpit for a year and made a tearful televised apology in February 1988 to his congregation, saying "I have sinned against you, my Lord, and I would ask that your precious blood would wash and cleanse every stain until it is in the seas of God's forgiveness."²⁷⁻²⁸

He did not white wash his sin by blaming others. He took full responsibility for his sin of adultery saying:

I do not plan in any way to whitewash my sin. I do not call it a mistake, a mendacity; I call it sin. I would much rather, if possible – and in my estimation it would not be possible – to make it worse than less than it actually is. I have no one but myself to blame. I do not lay the fault or the blame of the charge at anyone else's feet. For no one is to blame but Jimmy Swaggart. I take the responsibility. I take the blame. I take the fault.

I want to address myself as best as I know how to those that I have wronged, that I have sinned against. First of all, my wife, Frances – God never gave a man a better helpmate and companion to stand beside him. And as far as this gospel has been taken through the airwaves to the great cities of the world and covered this globe, it would never have been done were it not for her strength, her courage, her consecration to her Redeemer, the Lord Jesus Christ. I have sinned against you. And I beg your forgiveness.

But to its thousands and thousands of pastors that are godly, that uphold the standard of righteousness, its evangelists that are heralds and criers of redemption, its missionaries on the front lines... holding back the path of hell – I have sinned against you and I have brought disgrace and humiliation and embarrassment upon you. I beg your forgiveness.

To my fellow television ministers and evangelists, you that are already bearing an almost unbearable load, to continue to say and tell the great story of Jesus' love, I have made your load heavier and I have hurt you. Please forgive me for sinning against you.

And to the hundreds of millions that I have stood before in over a hundred countries of the world, and I've looked into the cameras and so many of you with a heart of loneliness, needing help, have

reached out to the minister of the gospel as a beacon of light. You that are nameless – most I will never be able to see except by faith. I have sinned against you. I beg you to forgive me.

And most of all, to my Lord and my Savior, my Redeemer, the One whom I have served and I love and I worship. I bow at His feet, who has saved me and washed me and cleansed me. I have sinned against You, my Lord. And I would ask that Your precious blood would wash and cleanse every stain, until it is in the seas of God's forgetfulness, never to be remembered against me anymore.^{29a}

Swaggart was caught again by California police three years later in 1991 with another prostitute, Rosemary Garcia. She was riding in his car when he was stopped for driving on the wrong side of the road. When asked why she was with Swaggart, she replied, "He asked me for sex. I mean, that's why he stopped me. That's what I do. I'm a prostitute."^{29b}



**Peter Popoff
(1987)**

Popoff, a self-proclaimed prophet and faith healer, was exposed as a fraud by James Randi and Steve Shaw. They showed that Popoff was not given information about members of his audience from God, but

from his wife. She transmitted the information to Popoff through a radio transmitter who received it via an in-ear receiver. Some members of the audience were asked to fill out cards giving their name, address and medical problem.^{30a}

In 1998 the Washington Post reported that Popoff was making a recovery, and that “Popoff is seeking to jump-start his ministry by repackaging himself for an African American audience, buying time on the Black Entertainment Television network.”^{30b} Consequently, Popoff, along with Don Stewart and Robert Tilton, received “criticism from those who say that preachers with a long trail of disillusioned followers have no place on a network that holds itself out as a model of entrepreneurship for the black community.”^{30b} Popoff’s infomercials can be seen late nights and early mornings in the US and Canada on BET, The Travel Channel, The Learning Channel (TLC), Global Television, TV One, The Word Network and Vision TV. This includes television in Australia on Nine, in the United Kingdom, and New Zealand.



**Morris Cerullo
(1990s)**

There are many claims that people at his rallies were healed of serious medical conditions by the power of prayer. After the prayer

many people came forward giving testimony of miracles that they feel have happened to them or to those they have brought with them to the meetings. His posters for a London appearance featured abandoned canes and wheelchairs.

In 1991 British authorities suspended the license of a satellite station for broadcasting the program, “Victory with Morris Cerullo.” The license was reinstated after the station agreed to precede the program with the disclaimer, “Morris Cerullo World Evangelism cannot substantiate the claims made by those participants featured in this program,” and advising all persons suffering from illness to seek medical attention.^{31a-b}

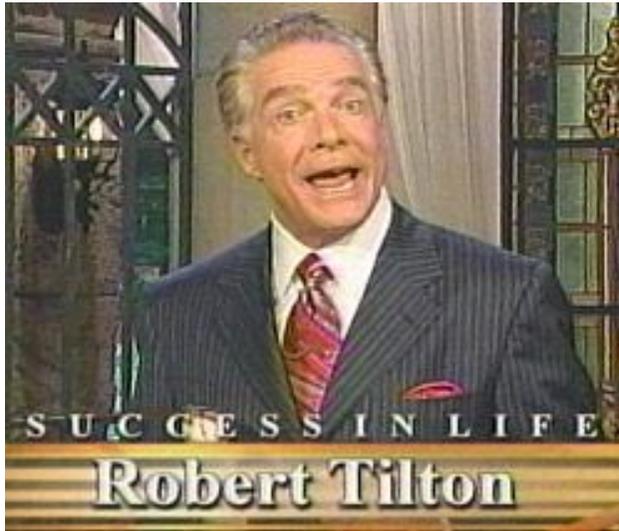
Following his Mission to London in 1992, a documentary on BBC, “Newsround,” reported that a lady called Audrey Reynolds stopped taking medication for epilepsy (although she was never instructed or advised to do so by the ministry) after she believed herself to have been healed during Cerullo’s rally. She subsequently died following a seizure in her bath. The story was also reported in a Christian newspaper.^{31c-d} Another report from this crusade claimed that Cerullo pronounced a four year old cancer sufferer to be free from the disease, yet she died from it just two months later.^{31e-g}

Subsequently, Cerullo was challenged on British television to produce his three best examples of claimed miraculous healing for scrutiny by a panel of doctors. Their final report was “there is no evidence that anything has occurred that is outside the realm of normal clinical experience.”^{31h}

Cerullo resigned from the Evangelical Alliance in 1996 after the Advertising Standards Authority upheld four complaints against him relating to his claims of being able to offer miraculous healing to the disabled.^{31i-j}

Cerullo was expelled from India in 1992 after disturbances erupted at one of his rallies. The Times of India reported, “A so-called miracle healer, Morris Cerullo, who prefers to call himself a man of God, was declared ‘persona non grata’ and bundled out of the country by Calcutta police this morning after mass healing services on Park Circus Maidan yesterday evening turned into a fiasco when members of the crowd stormed the dais challenging the efficacy of his healing power.”^{31k-l} A later article in the San Diego Union Tribune suggested that “Cerullo worked a crowd of 30,000 – many of them sick – into a frenzy for two hours and then pronounced them cured, prompting many in the crowd to call him a cheat.”^{31m}

He also produced fund-raising material which was condemned as unethical by a number of religious leaders, as it implied that giving money to his organization would result in family members becoming Christians.³¹ⁿ



**Robert Tilton
(1991)**

Robert Tilton is an American televangelist who achieved notoriety in the 1980s and early 1990s through his paid television program *Success-N-Life*. At its peak, it aired in all 235 American TV markets. In 1991, Diane Sawyer and ABC News conducted an investigation and revealed on ABC's *Primetime Live* (November 21, 1991) that his staff threw away prayer requests without reading them, keeping only the money or valuables sent to them by viewers. He was raking in over \$80 million a year.

In the original ABC investigation, one of Tilton's former prayer hotline operators claimed that the ministry cared little for desperate followers who called for prayer, saying that Tilton had a computer installed in July 1989 to make sure that the phone operators were off the line in seven minutes. Tilton sued ABC for libel in 1992, but the case was dismissed in 1993, and Tilton's show was off the air by October 30, 1993.^{32a}

The decline of *Success-N-Life* led to the end of Tilton's 25-year marriage to his wife Marte, who had been administrative head of the

Word of Faith Family Church and World Outreach Center in 1993. Dallas lawyer Gary Richardson, who represented many of the parties **suing Tilton for fraud**, attempted to intervene in the Tiltons' divorce, citing the potential for the divorce settlement to be used to hide financial assets that were currently part of the many fraud cases. His petition to have the divorce action put on hold until after the fraud cases were settled was denied.^{32b} Marte intervened in Tilton's second divorce from Leigh Valentine, who had asked the court to include the church and all its property as community property in the proceedings. Under Texas law, property accumulated during a marriage is considered community property and thus subject to division between the parties in a divorce. The jury eventually ruled against the request.^{32c}

Tilton returned to television in 1994 with a new show called *Pastor Tilton*. He emphasized "demon blasting" practices usually involving him shouting as loudly as possible at demons supposedly possessing people suffering from pain and illness. It was cancelled by the end of the year.

In 1997 Tilton returned to the airwaves after moving to Fort Lauderdale, Florida. He broadcast a new version of *Success-N-Life*, in which he asked for "vows of faith" from viewers instead of exorcisms. His show began airing on Black Entertainment Television (BET) in 1998. He frequently appeared with his third wife, Maria Rodriguez, and their four French poodles.^{32d}

The Word of Faith Family Church and World Outreach Center was dissolved by Tilton in 1996, although Tilton was still listed as the church's senior pastor. He stopped preaching and named Bob Wright as senior associate pastor. Its membership declined to less than 300^{32b} and it was sold off in 1999.

Tilton became the pastor of a church in Hallandale close to his home in Miami Beach. He succeeded televangelist David Epley and changed the name to "Christ the Good Shepherd Worldwide Church." In 2007 the 200 member moved into a new location in Miami and was officially renamed "Word of Faith Church."

In 2005 he established a church in Las Vegas, Nevada, naming it "Christ the Good Shepherd Worldwide Church." It was renamed the "Word of Faith Church."^{32a}

Tilton is going strong and raking in millions of dollars. There is no telling how long he will continue to promise his followers unlimited wealth as long as they keep giving him their hard-earned money.

W. V. Grant (1996 & 2003)

Like Peter Popoff, W. V. Grant was investigated by James Randi regarding his faith healing claims. He was found to be a fraud and then was imprisoned for tax evasion in 1996. He immediately restarted his business after being set free. A television investigation found that his claims of healing he made at a 2003 revival in Atlanta were false.^{33a}

In 2003 Atlanta television station WAGA-TV conducted an investigation on Grant and found that he arrived early at his revivals. They did the same with hidden cameras and caught him speak to several people. Many of them were people Grant later picked out of the crowd and “miraculously” announce their name and their disease.”^{33b}

The report concluded that of three people Grant claimed to heal, two were in worse condition after, and one assisted Grant with the setup with no sign of the condition he claimed during the service.^{33b} In addition, “healing the short leg” is a magic trick demonstrated on a reporter by magician James Randi.^{33b}

2010: *Free Inquiry*, the magazine of the Council for Secular Humanism, discussed how Grant's act had changed little in the preceding twenty years and detailed his “miracles” at a venue.^{33c}

Bob Moorehead (1998)

Bob Moorehead, pastor of the Overlake Christian Church from the 1970s to June of 1998 was arrested in July 1996 on a charge of indecent exposure in a public restroom in Daytona Beach, Florida. He stepped down amid allegations of molestation of adult members during baptism and wedding ceremonies that went as far back as 20 years earlier.³⁴

Molesting believers while baptizing them is beyond the pale. It is inexcusable and bizarre.

Roy Clements (1999)

Clements was a prominent figure within British evangelical Christianity. In 1999, he revealed he was in a homosexual relationship with another man, resigned his pastorship, and separated from his wife.

He had written a number of well-received books which were withdrawn from sale when the news broke.³⁵

It is hard to imagine why a pastor who has a successful “ministry” would even think about destroying it by committing an abominable sin, much less carrying it out. What are these men thinking about? Is sin so powerful it has absolute control over these men who claimed to be filled with the Holy Spirit?



Benny Hinn
(2001-2011)

In April 2001, HBO aired a documentary entitled, “A Question of Miracles” that focused on Hinn and a well-documented fellow Word-of-Faith German minister based in Africa, Reinhard Bonnke.^{36a} Both Hinn and Bonnke offered full access to their events to the documentary crew, and the documentary team followed seven cases of “miracle healings” from Hinn’s crusade over the next year. The film’s director, Antony Thomas, claimed to CNN’s Kyra Phillips that they did not find

any cases where people were actually healed by Hinn.^{36b} Thomas said in a New York Times interview that “If I had seen miracles [from Hinn’s ministry], I would have been happy to trumpet it... but in retrospect, I think they do more damage to Christianity than the most committed atheist.”^{36c}

In November 2004, the CBC Television show “The Fifth Estate” did a special titled “Do You Believe in Miracles” on the apparent transgressions committed by Benny Hinn’s ministry.^{36d} With the aid of hidden cameras and crusade witnesses, the producers of the show demonstrated Benny’s apparent misappropriation of funds, his fabrication of the truth, and the way in which his staff chose crusade audience members to come on stage to proclaim their miracle healings.^{36d} In particular, the investigation highlighted the fact that the most desperate miracle seekers who attend a Hinn crusade – the quadriplegics, the brain-damaged, virtually anyone with a visibly obvious physical condition – are never allowed up on stage; those who attempt to get in the line of possible healings are intercepted and directed to return to their seats. At one Canadian service, hidden cameras showed a mother who was carrying her Muscular Dystrophy-afflicted daughter, Grace, being stopped by two screeners when they attempted to get into the line for a possible blessing from Benny. The screeners asked the mother if Grace had been healed, and when the mother replied in the negative, they were told to return to their seats; the pair got out of line, but Grace, wanting “Pastor Benny to pray for [her],” asked her mother to support her as she tried to walk as a show of “her faith in action,” according to the mother. After several unsuccessful attempts at walking, the pair left the arena in tears, both mother and daughter visibly upset at being turned aside and crying as they explained to the undercover reporters that all Grace had wanted was for Benny to pray for her, but the staffers rushed them out of the line when they found out Grace had not been healed.^{36d} A week later at a service in Toronto, Baptist evangelist Justin Peters, who wrote his Masters in Divinity thesis on Benny Hinn^{36e} and has attended numerous Hinn crusades since 2000 as part of his research for his thesis and for a seminar he developed about the Word of Faith movement entitled “A Call for Discernment,”^{36f} also demonstrated to the hidden cameras that “people who look like me” – Peters has cerebral palsy, walks with arm-crutches, and is obviously and visibly disabled – “are *never* allowed on stage[...]*it’s* always somebody who has some disability or disease that cannot be readily seen.” Like Grace and her mother, Peters was quickly

intercepted as he came out of the wheelchair section (there is one at every crusade, situated at the back of the audience, far away from the stage, and never filmed for Hinn's TV show) in an attempt to join the line of those waiting to go onstage, and was told to take a seat.^{36d} This segment was later edited with new footage and shown on *Dateline: NBC* in November 2005.

Ministry Watch, issued a Donor Alert against the ministry in 2005^{36g} and Benny Hinn Ministries is not a member of the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability.^{36h}

In December 2006, BHM sent out a mailing asking for donations towards a new Gulfstream G4SP jet valued at an estimated **\$36 million** and costing over **\$600,000** a year to maintain and operate.³⁶ⁱ

On November 6, 2007, Senator Chuck Grassley of Iowa announced an investigation of Hinn's ministry by the Senate Committee on Finance. In a letter to BHM,^{36j} Grassley asked for the ministry to divulge financial information^{36k} to the Senate Committee on Finance to determine if Hinn made any personal profit from financial donations, and requested that Hinn's ministry make the information available by December 6, 2007. The investigation also scrutinized five other televangelists: Paula White, Kenneth Copeland, Eddie L. Long, Joyce Meyer, and Creflo Dollar.^{36l-m} On December 6, 2007, Hinn told the Associated Press that he would not respond to the inquiry until 2008.³⁶ⁿ Hinn's ministry has since responded to the inquiry, and Senator Grassley commented that, "...Benny Hinn [has] engaged in open and honest dialogue with committee staff. They have not only provided responses to every question but, in the spirit of true cooperation, also have provided information over and above what was requested."^{36o}

Hinn married Suzanne Harthern on August 4, 1979.^{36p} The couple have four children together. Harthern filed papers in Orange County, California, Superior Court on February 1, 2010 seeking a divorce, citing "irreconcilable differences."^{36q-r}

In July 2010, both Hinn and fellow televangelist Paula White denied allegations in the *National Enquirer* claiming that the two were engaged in an affair.^{36s} In February 2011, Hinn was sued by the Christian publishing house Strang Communications, which claimed that a relationship with White took place and that Hinn had violated the morality clause of his contract with the company.^{36t}



Paul Crouch (2004)

Paul Crouch is the founder and president of the Trinity Broadcasting Network, or TBN, the world's largest evangelical Christian television network, as well as the former host of TBN's flagship variety show, "Praise the Lord."^{37a}

In September 2004 the Los Angeles Times reported that Crouch in 1998 paid Enoch Lonnie Ford, a former employee, a \$425,000 formal settlement to end a wrongful termination lawsuit which alleged a homosexual tryst with Crouch.^{37b} TBN officials acknowledge the settlement, which required Ford to maintain silence regarding the alleged incident, but contested the veracity of the accusations and credibility of Ford, who is a repeat offender in the CA court systems. Ford has convictions in criminal cases in Orange County Courts case numbers: 04CC05609, 01CF0559.^{37c} Solano Courts case number: FCM107776 San Bernardino County: M618996^{37d-e} TBN officials stated that the settlement was made in order to avoid a lengthy and expensive lawsuit.^{37f}

Ford, who wrote a book manuscript about the lawsuit, was forbidden by a court appointed arbitrator to publish it because of a previous settlement, in which he agreed to not publicize the allegations he made. From prison (for violation of a previous probation agreement from a past felony conviction), Ford's attorney offered to sell TBN the rights to the book for \$10 million, but his offer was rejected by TBN's attorneys, who called it extortion. In October 2004, Judge Robert J. O'Neill awarded Paul Crouch \$136,000 in legal fees to be paid by Ford for his violation of the terms of the settlement agreement, specifically the prohibition of discussing the settlement's details. On March 15, 2005 Ford appeared at the taping of the ION Television show Lie Detector. The show's Producers decided not to air the show, and the outcome of the lie detector test was never released.

Crouch family members control the boards of all Trinity Network entities, which makes Trinity "ineligible to join" the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability, an evangelical self-regulating group.

In 2000, Crouch was sued for \$40 million^{37g} by author Sylvia Fleener, who accused Crouch of plagiarism in his popular end-times novel (and subsequent movie), *The Omega Code*. Fleener's lawsuit alleged that the movie's plot was taken from her own novel, *The Omega Syndrome*. A former Crouch personal assistant, Kelly Whitmore, revealed that she had encountered a loose-leaf binder in Jan Crouch's luggage that the Crouches referred to as "the End Times project" and that he often called it "The Omega" but said he disliked the working title, "especially the word 'Syndrome.'" After the defendant's motion for summary judgment failed^{37h} the case was settled out of court for an undisclosed sum.^{37g, i}

Douglas Goodman (2004)

Douglas Goodman, an evangelical preacher, and his wife Erica were pastors of Victory Christian Centre in London, England. The church was one of the largest in the United Kingdom. He came into notoriety when he was jailed for three and a half years for the sexual assault of four members of his congregation in 2004. VCC was closed by the Charity Commission, but his wife Erica started a new church, Victory to Victory, in Wembley. Douglas has upon his release resumed full pastoral ministry alongside his wife.^{38a-e}

Gilbert Deya (2006)

Kenyan-born Deya moved to the United Kingdom in the 1990s and started a number of churches. He claims to have supernatural powers that allow him to make infertile women become pregnant and give birth. However, police investigations in the UK and Kenya concluded that Deya and his wife were stealing Kenyan babies. Deya was arrested in London during December 2006 and as of April 2010 he is currently fighting extradition to Kenya.³⁹



Richard Roberts (2007)

In October 2007 three former professors filed a lawsuit in Tulsa County, claiming to have been wrongfully terminated. They also alleged Roberts misused university assets and illegally ordered the university to participate in Republican candidate Randi Miller's political campaign for Tulsa mayor. Roberts claimed that this occurred while the tax-exempt university was working lawfully with the Republican National Committee on out-of-state projects as part of a long-standing, pre-approved curriculum which had been in place for several years.^{40a}

Other allegations against Roberts include claims he used university funds to pay for his daughter's trip to the Bahamas by providing the university jet and billing other costs to the school, maintained a stable

of horses on campus and at university expense for the exclusive use of his children, regularly summoned university and ministry staff to the Roberts house to do his daughters' homework, remodeled his house at university expense 11 times in the past 14 years, allowed the university to be billed both for damage done by his daughters to university-owned golf carts and acquired a red Mercedes convertible and a white Lexus SUV for his wife Lindsay through ministry donors.^{40b-c}

Richard Roberts responded by saying, "This lawsuit ...is about intimidation, blackmail and extortion."

On October 12, 2007 the plaintiffs filed an amended version of the lawsuit alleging three days after the original lawsuit was filed, Roberts fired the university's financial comptroller (who had been employed by ORU for 26 years) and "witnesses have reported voluminous materials and documents were shredded and destroyed, constituting spoliation of evidence." In a written statement the university denied "purposely or improperly" destroying documents. Upon review it was discovered that the shredded documents had nothing to do with any allegations and were a part of normal policy, required by law for the privacy and protection of students and ministry donors.^{40d-e}

On October 17, 2007 Roberts asked for and was granted an indefinite leave of absence from the school by the university's board of regents, citing the "toll" the lawsuit and attendant allegations have taken on him and his family.^{40f} In a statement Roberts said, "I don't know how long this leave of absence will last... I pray and believe that in God's timing, and when the Board feels that it is appropriate, I will be back at my post as President."^{40f} Billy Joe Daugherty of Victory Christian Center was named executive regent of the board of regents and interim president.^{40g} Chairman of the board of regents George Pearsons noted the temporary resignation was not an admission of guilt.^{40g}

On November 13 the tenured faculty of Oral Roberts University approved a non-binding vote of no confidence in Roberts.^{40h} The vote was nearly unanimous according to a professor in attendance.⁴⁰ⁱ

In a wrongful termination lawsuit filed against the university on November 21, former ORU accountant Trent Huddleston claimed he had been ordered to help Roberts and his wife "cook the books" by misclassifying nearly \$123,000 in funds allegedly spent by the university on remodeling the Roberts' home. Huddleston had been an employee for less than one year. The lawsuit was eventually thrown out due to a lack of evidence. ORU claimed he was nothing more than a

disgruntled employee.^{40j} Roberts tendered his resignation to the university's board of regents on November 23, 2007, effective immediately. In an emailed statement he said, "I love ORU with all my heart. I love the students, faculty, staff and administration and I want to see God's best for all of them."^{40k}

On January 14, 2008 the outgoing ORU board of regents voted unanimously to name Richard Roberts president emeritus in honor of his work during 15 years as president.^{40l}

By the spring of 2009 all of the lawsuits had been settled or dismissed.^{40m}

According to Charity Navigator, in 2008 Richard earned \$107,332 a year as President and CEO of Oral Roberts Evangelistic Association and \$328,108 from affiliated organizations.⁴⁰ⁿ

The university was given a donation of \$8 million by entrepreneur Mart Green, and although the lawsuit was still in process, the school submitted to an outside audit, and with a good report an additional \$62 million was given by Green.^{40o-p}

Earl Paulk (2007)

Earl Paulk (no relation to John Paulk) was the founder and head pastor of Chapel Hill Harvester Church in Decatur, Georgia from 1960 until the 1990s. A number of women from the congregation came forward during the 1990s claiming that Paulk had sexual relations with them. Some of these claims have subsequently been proven correct. Moreover, Donnie Earl Paulk, the current senior pastor of the church and nephew of Earl Paulk, had a court-ordered DNA test in 2007 which showed that he was Earl's son, not his nephew, which means that Earl and his sister-in-law had had a sexual relationship which led to Donnie's birth.⁴¹

Thomas Wesley Weeks, III (2007)

Thomas Weeks married fellow evangelist Juanita Bynum in 2002, but they separated in May 2007. In August 2007, Weeks physically assaulted Bynum in a hotel parking lot and was convicted of the crime in March 2008. The couple divorced in June 2008 and Weeks remarried in October 2009.⁴²

Michael Reid (2008)

Bishop Michael Reid (born 1944) is a Christian evangelist in Essex, England and founder of Michael Reid Ministries who resigned from the role of pastor at Peniel Church in April 2008, after admitting to an eight-year extra-marital sexual relationship. The scandal was widely reported online^{43a-c} and in UK newspapers.^{43d-e} He has since re-developed an itinerant evangelistic ministry and has been speaking at a number of churches in the UK and overseas.^{43f}



Todd Bentley (2008)

Canadian Todd Bentley rose to prominence as the evangelist at the Lakeland Revival in Florida, which began in April 2008. He claimed that tens of thousands of people were healed at the revival. However, in August 2008, he stepped down permanently when it was revealed he was separating from his wife, Shonnah, and was in a relationship with Jessa Hasbrook, a member of his staff.

Bentley announced his separation from his wife, Shonnah, in August 2008,^{44b} and resigned from the Board of Fresh Fire.^{44c} A statement released by the remaining Board members said, “Todd Bentley has entered into an unhealthy relationship on an emotional level with a female member of his staff,” and that he would “refrain from all public ministry for a season to receive counsel in his personal life.”^{44d-e}

Some of Bentley's Christian contemporaries called for Bentley to step down in the wake of the scandal, stating that Christian leadership is incompatible with marital unfaithfulness.^{44f-g} In response, a committee made up of Rick Joyner, Jack Deere, and Bill Johnson was formed to oversee the process of spiritually restoring Bentley's family. In November 2008, the Board of Fresh Fire announced that Bentley was not submitting to the process.^{44i-j} On March 9, 2009, Rick Joyner announced that Bentley had remarried.^{44k-l}

A 2009 "Charisma Magazine" interview with Rick Joyner refuted adultery claims while characterizing the relationship as wrong and premature. Joyner told *Charisma* that the new couple was committed to their marriage and would "continue to serve the Lord in the best way that they can."^{44j}



Eddie L. Long (2010)

September 2010 several civil complaints were filed against Eddie L. Long by men that stated Mr. Long used his position as the church leader to entice or coerce the men into consensual sexual relationships in exchange for money, travel and goods. At a press event on September 26, 2010 Mr. Long stated he would fight the civil complaints in court and would not comment on the allegations. On December 7, 2010, Long settled the matter out of court.^{45a}

On August 28, 2005 the "Atlanta Journal-Constitution" reported that during the period between 1997 to 2000, Long received more than \$3.07 million worth of compensation and benefits from his non-profit charity, Bishop Eddie Long Ministries Inc. He contended that the charity did not solicit donations from members but instead gained its income from royalties, speaking fees and several large donations.^{45b} In

2007, Senator Chuck Grassley announced an investigation into the tax-exempt status of six ministries under the leadership of Benny Hinn, Paula White, Eddie L. Long, Joyce Meyer, Creflo Dollar, and Kenneth Copeland by the United States Senate Committee on Finance.^{45c}

CNN has said “Long frequently denounces homosexual behavior.”^{45d} Long has ministered “homosexual cure” programs to recruit gays and lesbians for what he called “Sexual Reorientation” conferences and his church offers an ongoing “Out of the Wilderness” ministry to help convert homosexuals into heterosexuals.^{45e}

In 2004, Long led a march with Bernice King to the grave of her father, Martin Luther King, Jr. The march was a protest against same-sex marriage and in support of a national constitutional amendment to limit marriage rights to couples comprising “one man and one woman.”^{45f}

In 2006, Long’s appearance at Atlanta’s Interdenominational Theological Center’s spring graduation stirred up controversy, and led to some students discussing a boycott. Long’s invitation prompted Black liberation theologian James Cone – who was scheduled to receive an honorary degree – to boycott the ceremony. Thirty-three graduating seniors sent a letter to the seminary’s president “questioning Long’s theological and ethical integrity to be their commencement speaker.” Many students did not agree with Long’s beliefs that God can “deliver” homosexuals and his teachings on prosperity.^{45g}

On September 21 and 22, 2010, Maurice Robinson, Anthony Flagg, and Jamal Parris filed separate lawsuits in DeKalb County Superior Court alleging that Long used his pastoral influence to coerce them into a sexual relationship with him. In June, one of the accusers, Robinson, was arrested and charged with burglary in connection with a break-in to Long’s office. An iPhone, iPad and other items – more than \$1,300 worth – were taken from the office, according to the police report.^{45h-i} On September 24, Spencer LeGrande, a member of a New Birth satellite church in Charlotte, North Carolina, filed a similar suit, making him the fourth man to file a lawsuit claiming sexual misconduct by Long.^{45j} The plaintiffs state that Long placed the men on the church’s payroll, bought them cars and other gifts, and took them separately on trips to destinations such as Kenya, South Africa, Turks and Caicos Islands, Trinidad, Honduras, New Zealand, and New York City.^{44j-1} The lawsuits stated that Long would “discuss the Holy Scripture to justify and support the sexual activity.”^{44k} Flagg’s suit claims that Long presided over a “covenant” ceremony between the

two of them; Flagg’s attorney said that the ceremony was “essentially a marriage ceremony, with candles, exchange of jewelry, and biblical quotes.”^{45h}

Long denied the allegations through his attorneys and spokesman. In a prepared statement, Long said, “I have devoted my life to helping others and these false allegations hurt me deeply.[...]But my faith is strong and the truth will emerge. All I ask for is your patience as we continue to categorically deny each and every one of these ugly charges.”^{45m-o}

Roland Martin, a commentator for TV One, was scheduled to interview Long during a segment on the *Tom Joyner Morning Show* to discuss the two lawsuits. However, the lawsuit filed by Parris on September 22 prompted Long’s legal team to cancel the Martin interview as well as a planned news conference;^{45d} Long’s attorney spoke to Martin on behalf of his client on Joyner’s show instead.^{45p}

On September 26, 2010, Long spoke to the New Birth congregation but he did not address the issue directly. Long spoke of painful times and said, “I’ve been accused. I’m under attack. I want you to know, as I said earlier, I am not a perfect man, but this thing, I’m going to fight.”^{45q} Long’s unwillingness to address the accusations by name prompted a group of over 70 people, headed by the pastor of a small church in South Carolina, to hold a protest rally on the steps of the Georgia state Capitol on 31 October 2010, calling for Long’s resignation.^{45r}

The “Atlanta Journal-Constitution” reported on May 27, 2011, that the lawsuits were settled out-of-court; terms were undisclosed.^{45s}

On 30 May 2011, an episode of the documentary series, “Sex Scandals In Religion”^{45t} aired on Canadian television, VisionTV. It was an investigative look at the allegations of inappropriate sexual behavior by Bishop Long with young men in his care.

Long finally announced on December 4, 2011, that he would take a leave from his mega-church, the New Birth Missionary Baptist Church in DeKalb County, Georgia, but would remain its pastor. He made the announcement a few days after Vanessa, his wife of 21 years, filed for divorce.^{45u} **[Authors’ note:** How many Pentecostal/Charismatic televangelists have to be caught committing grievous sins before Christians stop worshipping them and become content being a member of an average church pastored by men who do not want to be famous, rich and powerful?]



Marcus Lamb (2010)

Marcus Lamb, with his wife Joni Lamb by his side, confessed in 2010 on his show “Celebration” on Daystar Television Network based in Texas. The televangelist admitted that he cheated on his wife. He made the announcement to stop people he said were trying to extort millions of dollars from him.

The couple’s website, Daystar Television Network, also displayed a special message about the incident. The message said, “At the top of the program, the Lambs shared a compelling, transparent account of a personal challenge in their marriage that occurred several years ago, involving an inappropriate relationship between Marcus and another woman.”⁴⁶

Stephen Green (2011)

Stephen Green, a former Chairman of the Conservative Family Campaign who attends an Assemblies of God Church, is head of Christian Voice, a Conservative Christian pressure group in the UK.

In January 2011, Green's former wife, Caroline Green, accused him of repeatedly physically assaulting her and their children, including one incident where he allegedly beat her with a weapon until she bled, and another in which their son allegedly required hospital treatment after having been beaten with a piece of wood.⁴⁷

Albert Odulele (2011)

In February 2011, televangelist and senior pastor of Glory house London: Dr. Albert Odulele was charged with two counts of sexual assault, one involving a 14-year-old boy and another on a 21-year-old man. Although he initially denied the charges, he later pleaded guilty and confessed that he had been battling with his sexuality for many years. He was subsequently sentenced at Woolwich crown court to 8 and 6 months in Prison to run concurrently. He will be on the sex offenders register for 5 years. He is currently serving his sentence.⁴⁸

Senate probe

In 2007, Senator Chuck Grassley (R-IA) opened a probe into the finances of six televangelists who preach a "prosperity gospel."^{49a} The probe investigated reports of lavish lifestyles by televangelists including: fleets of Rolls Royces, palatial mansions, private jets and other expensive items purportedly paid for by television viewers who donate due to the ministries' encouragement of offerings. The six that were investigated are:

1. **Kenneth Copeland** and **Gloria Copeland** of Kenneth Copeland Ministries of Newark, Texas;
2. **Creflo Dollar** and **Taffi Dollar** of World Changers Church International and Creflo Dollar Ministries of College Park, Georgia;
3. **Benny Hinn** of World Healing Center Church Inc. and Benny Hinn Ministries of Grapevine, Texas;
4. **Eddie L. Long** of New Birth Missionary Baptist Church and Bishop Eddie Long Ministries of Lithonia, Georgia; DocuSeries - SEX SCANDALS and RELIGION did a 2011 investigative episode on his alleged sexual misconduct ^{49b}
5. **Joyce** and **David Meyer** of Joyce Meyer Ministries of Fenton, Missouri; and

6. **Randy White** and ex-wife **Paula White** of the multiracial Without Walls International Church and Paula White Ministries of Tampa, Florida.^{49c}

On January 6, 2011 Senator Grassley released his review of the six ministries response to his inquiry. He called for a further congressional review of tax-exemption laws for religious groups.^{49d}

Grassley was concerned over the following problems he learned about the “prosperity preachers”:

Kenneth and **Gloria Copeland** of Kenneth Copeland Ministries of Newark, Texas, a \$20 million organization and prosperity gospel pioneer. Questions were raised about the **transfer of church assets** to a for-profit company, Security Patrol Inc., a **\$1 million loan** from Gloria Copeland to the group, and a **“personal gift”** of more than \$2 million given to Kenneth Copeland to mark the ministry’s 40th anniversary.

A Copeland spokeswoman released a statement saying the ministry is working on a response to Grassley’s letter, follows all laws and best practices governing churches and religious non-profit groups, and “will continue to do so.”

Creflo and **Taffi Dollar** of World Changers Church International and Creflo Dollar Ministries of College Park, Georgia. Grassley’s letter asks for records on private planes, board makeup, compensation and donations and “love offerings” to visiting ministers. In a statement, Dollar called his ministry an “open book” and said he would cooperate. He also questioned whether the investigation could “affect the privacy of every community church in America.”

Benny Hinn of World Healing Center Church Inc. and Benny Hinn Ministries of Grapevine, Texas, was asked about use of a private jet, a home in Dana Point, California and “layover trips” while traveling on ministry business. Hinn did not respond to requests for comment.

Bishop **Eddie Long** of New Birth Missionary Baptist Church and Bishop Eddie Long Ministries of Lithonia, Georgia, was questioned about his salary, a \$1.4 million real estate transaction and whether he, and not the board, holds sole authority over the organization. Long plans to fully comply with the Senate’s request, and his church has “several safeguards” to ensure transactions comply with laws

governing churches, according to a statement from Long's spokesman.

Joyce and David Meyer of Joyce Meyer Ministries of Fenton, Missouri, were quizzed about receiving donations of money and jewelry and the handling of cash from overseas crusades. They also were asked about expenditures at ministry headquarters, including a \$30,000 conference table and a \$23,000 “commode with marble top.”

The ministry's lawyer released a statement describing the ministry's work and public release of several years' worth of audits. He also said the IRS found in October that the group continues to qualify for tax-exempt status.

Randy and Paula White of the multi-racial Without Walls International Church and Paula White Ministries of Tampa, Florida, were asked about home purchases in San Antonio, Texas, Malibu, California, and New York, credit card charges for clothing and cosmetic surgery and the purchase of a Bentley convertible as a gift for Bishop **T.D. Jakes**, a prominent Texas preacher and televangelist. An e-mail to a spokeswoman for Jakes was not immediately returned.

In a statement, Randy and Paula White declined to comment on specifics, saying they needed time to review the letter with their lawyers. But the Whites called the Grassley letter “unusual, since the IRS has separate powers to investigate religious organizations if they think it's necessary.”

Hinn, Copeland and Dollar sit on the board of regents for **Oral Roberts University**, which is mired in a financial scandal of its own.

The Senate Finance Committee has chided secular non-profits for governance and compensation problems in the past, but this level of scrutiny for what are basically “non-pulpit churches” is unprecedented, said Ken Behr, president of the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability. Because the groups have tax status as churches, they are not required to file tax forms open to public inspection.^{49e} [**Authors' note:** Virtually every televangelist has been involved in a scandal of some kind. Why is this? Could it be that the “manifestation gifts” do not bear the fruit of holiness, but instead bear the fruit of the flesh? Is that why the believers in Corinth were the most worldly believers of the first century?]

Non-Pentecostal/Charismatic scandals

Pentecostals and Charismatics do not have the scandal market cornered. There are plenty of non-Pentecostals/Charismatics that have been caught engaging in immoral behavior. Below are just a fraction of those men who have been caught and publicly exposed.

Jack Hyles (1971-1989)

Jack Hyles (1926-2001), pastor of the First Baptist Church of Hammond in Hammond, Indiana, from 1959 until his death. He was well-known for being an innovator of the church bus ministry that brought thousands of people each week from surrounding towns to his church.¹ He built his church from about a thousand members to over 100,000. In 1993 and 1994 he boasted that 20,000 people attended his church every Sunday, making it the most attended Baptist church in the United States.^{2-4 50a-c} In 2001, at the time of his death, 20,000 people were attending church services and Sunday school each week.^{1 50d} He was accused of several controversies while pastoring the church, and his doctrinal positions were criticized by other Christians, including other fundamental Baptists.

Yet in 1971 or possibly earlier he embarked on a two decade-long adulterous affair. He stopped having relations with his wife and began to have relations with a married woman. In 1971 he tried to get his mistress to divorce her husband. He refused, but agreed to stop having relations with his wife. He lived in the basement of his house and in 1983 Hyles built a guest room for him to live in over the garage at a cost of \$10,306. His mistress worked in an adjacent room to his office.^{50e}

John Paulk (2000)

John Paulk (no relation to Earl Paulk) is a former leader of Focus on the Family's Love Won Out conference and former chairman of the board for Exodus International North America. His claimed shedding of homosexuality is also the subject of his autobiography *Not Afraid to Change*. In September 2000, Paulk was found and photographed in a Washington, D.C. gay bar, and accused by opponents of flirting with

male patrons at the bar. Later questioned by gay rights activist Wayne Besen, Paulk denied being in the bar despite photographic proof to the contrary. Initially, FoF's Dr. James Dobson sided with Paulk and supported his claims. Subsequently, Paulk, who himself had written about his habit of lying while he openly lived as a homosexual, confessed to being in the bar, but claimed he entered the establishment for reasons other than sexual pursuits. Paulk retained his Board seat for Exodus, however he did so while on probation. Paulk did not run again for chairman of the board of Exodus when his term expired.⁵¹



Ted and Gayle Haggard^{52a}

Ted Haggard (2006)

Ted Haggard was the pastor of the New Life Church in Colorado Springs, Colorado and was the president of the National Association of Evangelicals (NAE) from 2003 until November 2006. Haggard's position allowed him occasional access to President George W. Bush. In 2006 it was alleged that Haggard had been regularly visiting a male prostitute who also provided him with methamphetamine. Haggard admitted his wrongdoing and resigned as pastor of New Life church and as president of the NAE. The high-profile case was significant also because it immediately preceded the 2006 mid-term elections and may have even affected national voting patterns. In January 2009, Haggard admitted to a second homosexual relationship with a male church member on CNN-TV and other national media, and when asked, would not directly answer a question about his other possible homosexual relationships.^{52b} Ted Haggard has started a new church.^{52c}

Paul Barnes
(2006)

Paul Barnes is the founder and former senior minister of the evangelical church Grace Chapel in Douglas County, Colorado. He confessed his homosexual activity to the church board, and his resignation was accepted on December 7, 2006.⁵³

He started the church in his basement and watched it reach a membership of 2,100 in his 28 years of leadership. This scandal was notable because it was similar to Ted Haggard's, it occurred in the same state (Colorado) and around the same time (late 2006).

Lonnie Latham
(2006)

In 2006, Latham, the senior pastor of South Tulsa Baptist Church and a member of the powerful Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee, was arrested for "offering to engage in an act of lewdness" with a male undercover police officer.^{53b}

Joe Barron
(2008)

Joe Barron, one of the 40 ministers at Prestonwood Baptist Church, one of the largest churches in the United States with 26,000 members, was arrested on May 15, 2008 for solicitation of a minor after driving from the Dallas area to Bryan, Texas, in order to allegedly engage in sexual relations with what he thought to be a 13 year-old girl he had met online. Barron's online communications had in fact been with undercover law enforcement official.^{54a-b}

George Alan Rekers
(2010)

Penn Bullock and Brandon K. Thorp of the *Miami New Times* reported on May 4, 2010, that on April 13, 2010, Christian leader George Alan Rekers was encountered and photographed at Miami International Airport returning from an extended overseas trip with a twenty-year-old "rent boy," or gay male prostitute, known as "Lucien"

(later identified as Jo-Vanni Roman). Given his opinion on homosexuals and homosexual behavior, the scandal surrounds Rekers' decision to employ a homosexual escort as a traveling companion, and how that runs contrary to Rekers' public stances on such issues.

Rekers claimed that Lucien was there to help carry Rekers' luggage as Rekers had allegedly had recent surgery, yet Rekers was seen carrying his own luggage when he and Lucien were spotted at the airport.^{55a} On his blog, Rekers denied having sex with the man.^{55b} In subsequent interviews, Roman said Rekers had paid him to provide nude massages daily, which included genital touching.^{55c}

Vaughn Reeves (2010)

Special Judge Dena Martin ordered former pastor Vaughn Reeves to serve consecutive six-year terms for each of nine fraud counts, in a scheme that cost about 2,900 investors \$13.1 million.^{56a} Among aggravating factors, Martin found Reeves targeted people over age 65 and used religion to influence them. Reeves' attorney plans to appeal.

Investigators said Reeves and his three sons used their defunct company, Alanar, to trick about 11,000 investors into buying bonds worth \$120 million secured by mortgages on church construction projects.^{56b} Instead, Reeves and his sons diverted money from new investments to pay off previous investors, pocketing \$6 million and buying luxury items.^{56b}

Conclusion

There are numerous scandals among preachers in all denominations, yet there appears to be more scandals in the Pentecostal and Charismatic denominations. The only cause of this can be their focus on signs. The Christians in Corinth focused on the "manifestation gifts" and in so doing they walked by sight (by signs), not by faith. This caused them to focus on the world and the things of the world, and their two major problems were the love of money and immorality.

Paul addressed them as "*men of flesh*" and "*babes in Christ*" and because of their spiritual immaturity he fed them spiritual milk instead of solid food (1 Corinthians 3.1-2). They exhibited numerous sins of the flesh such as jealousy and strife (3.3), sexual immorality (5.1-2; 6.13, 15-

20), civil lawsuits (6.1-8), idolatry (10.14), drunkenness (11.21), misuse of the “manifestation gifts” (14.23), women were disrupting services (14.34), they were fellowshiping with the lost (2 Corinthians 6.14-16), they were not giving to the Lord (9.6-9; 11.8-9), they had false apostles among them (11.13-15), and angry tempers, disputes, slander, gossip, arrogance, disturbances, impurity, immorality and sensuality (12.20-21). They were so backslidden Paul asked them if he should pay them a visit with a rod (1 Corinthians 4.21). They were in such poor spiritual condition he challenged them to check themselves out:

Try your own selves, whether ye are in the faith; prove your own selves. Or know ye not as to your own selves, that Jesus Christ is in you? unless indeed ye be reprobate. (2 Corinthians 13.5)

Is it possible that some of the members of the church in Corinth were not saved? Is it possible that some members of Pentecostal and Charismatic churches today are not saved? What group of people did Jesus prophecy about who think they are saved but are not?

*Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father who is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, did we not **prophecy** by thy name, and by thy name **cast out demons**, and by thy name **do many mighty works**? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity. (Matthew 7.21-23)*

What denominations focus on those things? If it is not a prophecy about Pentecostals and Charismatics who was Jesus talking about?

Notes

1a. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aimee_Semple_McPherson.

1b. “Sister Aimee’s Death Is Ruled An Accident.” UPI, Washington Post. 10.14.1944.

2a. “Faith healer Dies – Victim of Bulbar Polio.” Daily Courier. 12.18.1956. & Harrell, David Edwin, Jr. *All Things Are Possible*. Bloomington, Indiana. Indiana University Press. 1979. p. 101.

2b. “The Week In Religion.” Walla Walla Union-Bulletin. July 1, 1956.

3. “Charges Against Texas Faith Healer Dismissed.” St. Petersburg Times. February 21, 1956. <http://news.google.com/newspapers?id=etsOAAAIBAJ&sjid=CXYDAAAIBAJ&pg=7419,2676337&dq=jack-coe+dismissed>.

4. "Faith Healer' Cleared Of Illegal Practice." Washington Post. 2.21.1956. http://pqasb.pqarchiver.com/washingtonpost_historical/access/121256820.html?dids=121256820:121256820&FMT=ABS&FMTS=ABS:FT&date=FEB+21%2C+1956&author=&pub=The+Washington+Post&desc='Faith+Healer'+Cleared+Of+Illegal+Practice&pqatl=google.

5. "Faith Healer Jack Coe Dies." Corpus Christi Times. 12.17.1956. http://search2.ancestry.com/gg-pg.ashx?db=News-TE-CO_CH_TI&pid=501629967.

6. "Jack Coe, Evangelist, Dies of Polio." Washington Post. 12.17.1956. http://pqasb.pqarchiver.com/washingtonpost_historical/access/121322882.html?dids=121322882:121322882&FMT=ABS&FMTS=ABS:FT&date=DEC+17%2C+1956&author=&pub=The+Washington+Post&desc=Jack+Coe%2C+Evangelist%2C+Dies+of+Polio&pqatl=google.

7. "JACK COE IS DEAD AT 38; Texas Evangelist Succumbs to Bulbar Polio." New York Times. 12.17.1956. <http://select.nytimes.com/gst/abstract.html?res=F00614FB3A54157B93C5A81789D95F428585F9>.

8. Greenville News. "Psychic Healing? Investigator declares no." 8.16.1975. www.newspaperarchive.com/newspapers1/na0030/5967824/21003862_clean.html. Also see: William Nolen, *Healing: a doctor in search of a miracle*. New York: Random House.

9. San Mateo Times. "Dr Nolen Looks at Faith Healing." 3.07.1975. www.newspaperarchive.com/newspapers1/na0022/6795006/48320964_clean.html.

10. Michaelson, Michael. "Men of medicine and a medicine man." New York Times. 2.02.1975. <http://select.nytimes.com/gst/abstract.html?res=F10F12F83D5C10708DDDAB0894DA405B858BF1D3>.

11. Time. "Extra-Dispensary Perceptions." 3.17.1975. www.time.com/time/magazine/article/0,9171,913003,00.html.

12. Pittsburgh Post-Gazette. "Inside Religion: Kuhlman Tested By md's Probe." 11.08.1975. <http://news.google.com/newspapers?id=cOQNAAAIBAJ&sjid=iG0DAAAIBAJ&pg=5291,834959&dq=kathryn+kuhlman+william+nolen>.

13. "A follow-up study of 23 patients 'cured' in a Kathryn Kuhlman service." St. Petersburg Times. 11.02.1974. <http://news.google.com/newspapers?id=4vMNAAAAIBAJ&sjid=TNkDAAAIBAJ&pg=5343,1149932&dq=kathryn+kuhlman>.

14. Randi, James. *The Faith Healers*. Prometheus Books. 1989. p. 228.

15. Settle, Gary. "Kathryn Kuhlman, Evangelist And Faith Healer, Dies in Tulsa." New York Times. 2.22.1976. <http://select.nytimes.com/gst/abstract.html?res=F10B12F63C5511718DDDAB0A94DA405B868BF1D3>.

22. New York Times Movies Academy Award listing. <http://movies.nytimes.com/movie/31480/Marjoe/details>.

23. Olson, James Stuart. *Historical Dictionary of the 1970s*. Greenwood Publishing. 1999. p. 187.

24. www.oralroberts.com/oralroberts.

24a. Biddle, Wayne; Slade, Margo. "IDEAS AND TRENDS; Oral Roberts's Word on Cancer." New York Times. 1.30.1983. www.nytimes.com/1983/01/30/weekinreview/ideas-and-trends-oral-roberts-s-word-on-cancer.html?scp=1&sq=Ideas%20and%20Trends:%20Oral%20Roberts's%20Word%20on%20Cancer&st=cse.

24b. Reifenberg, Anne. "Oral Roberts' Ministry Hits a 'Low Spot.'" Dallas Morning News. 1.05.1986. http://nl.newsbank.com/nl-search/we/Archives?p_product=DM&p_theme=dm&p_action=search&p_maxdocs=200&p_topdoc=1&p_text_dir

- t-0=0ED3CE2C0203AD50&p_field_direct-0=document_id&p_perpage=10&p_sort=YMD_date:D&s_trackval=GooglePM.
- 24c. “Oral Roberts tells of talking to 900-foot Jesus.” *Tulsa World*. 10.16.1980. www.tulsaworld.com/news/article.aspx?articleid=20080326_222_67873.
- 24d. Ostling, Richard; Winbush, Don. “Religion: A Family That Prays Together.” *Time*. 7.04.1983. www.time.com/time/magazine/article/0,9171,950927,00.html.
- 24e. Herbut, Paula. “Oral Roberts Seeking Millions for Holy Mission Against Cancer.” *Washington Post*. 1.22.1983. [http://pqasb.pqarchiver.com/washingtonpost_historical/access/131157672.html?FMT=ABS&FMTS=ABS&date=Jan+22%2C+1983&author=-+Paula+Herbut&pub=The+Washington+Post++\(1974-Current+file\)&edition=&startpage=C11&desc=Oral+Roberts+Seeking+Millions+for+Holy+Mission+Against+Cancer](http://pqasb.pqarchiver.com/washingtonpost_historical/access/131157672.html?FMT=ABS&FMTS=ABS&date=Jan+22%2C+1983&author=-+Paula+Herbut&pub=The+Washington+Post++(1974-Current+file)&edition=&startpage=C11&desc=Oral+Roberts+Seeking+Millions+for+Holy+Mission+Against+Cancer).
- 24f. Randi, James (1989). *The Faith Healers*. Prometheus Books. p. 186.
- 24g. Ostling, Richard. “Raising Eyebrows and the Dead.” *Time*. 7.13.1987. <http://jcgi.pathfinder.com/time/magazine/article/0,9171,964970,00.html>.
- 24h. Hand, Gary A. “Oral Roberts.” *On Doctrine*. www.ondocctrine.com/10rob_ero.htm.
- 24i. Swindle, Howard. “Direct-market evangelist brings in millions lawyer says it all goes.” *Dallas Morning News*. 3.10.1996. <http://docs.newsbank.com/g/GooglePM/DM/lib00376,0ED3D68534F95845.html>.
- 24j. Christopher, Reed. “Oral Roberts obituary.” *London: Guardian*. 12.15.2009. www.guardian.co.uk/world/2009/dec/15/oral-roberts-obituary.
- 24k. “Oral Roberts.” *Telegraph*. 12.16.2009. www.telegraph.co.uk/news/obituaries/religion-obituaries/6827907/Oral-Roberts.html.
- 24l. Juozapavicius, Justin. “Oral Roberts’ Son Accused of Misspending.” *Washington Post (AP)*. 11.08.2007. www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/11/08/AR2007110801341_pf.html.
- 24m. Juozapavicius, Justin. “Evangelist Oral Roberts dies in Calif. at age 91.” *Associated Press*. 12.15.2009. www.ctpost.com/news/article/Evangelist-Oral-Roberts-dies-in-Calif-at-age-91-288912.php.
25. <http://jimbakkershow.com/photo-galleries/Our%20History>.
- 25a. Ostling, Richard N. “Jim Bakker’s Crumbling World.” *Time magazine*. 12.19.1988. www.time.com/time/magazine/article/0,9171,956551,00.html.
- 25b. Ostling, Richard N. “Enterprising Evangelism.” *Time*. 8.03.1987. www.time.com/time/printout/0,8816,965155,00.html.
- 25c. Ostling, Richard N. “Taking Command at Fort Mill.” *Time magazine*. 5.11.1987. www.time.com/time/magazine/article/0,9171,964322-1,00.html.
- 25d. Jay Bakker, *Son of a Preacher Man*. NY: Harper Collins, 2001. pp. 33-37.
- 25e. *U.S. v. Bakker*, (C.A.4, 1991), 925 F.2d 728, 740, case no. 89-5687.
- 25f. Jay Bakker, *Son of a Preacher Man*. New York: Harper Collins, 2001. p. 52.
- 25g. Peifer, Justice Paul E. “Jim Bakker’s Federal Court Appeal.” 4.12.2000. Supreme Court of Ohio website. www.sconet.state.oh.us/Justices/peifer/column/2000/jp041200.htm.
- 26a. “Transcript: Interview with Jessica Hahn.” *Larry King Live (CNN)*. 7.14.2005. <http://transcripts.cnn.com/TRANSCRIPTS/050714/lkl.01.html>.
- 26b. “Swaggart Is Barred From Pulpit for One Year.” *New York Times*. 3.30.1998. <http://query.nytimes.com/gst/fullpage.html?res=940DE6D7143EF933A05750C0A96E948260&sec=&spon=&pagewanted=all>.

27. King, Wayne. "Swaggart Says He Has Sinned; Will Step Down." New York Times. 2.22.1998. <http://query.nytimes.com/gst/fullpage.html?res=940DE0D71F30F931A15751C0A96E948260&sec=&spon=&pagewanted=all>.

28. Swaggart, Jimmy. "Reverend Jimmy Swaggart: Apology Sermon." American rhetoric.com. <http://americanrhetoric.com/speeches/jswaggartapologysermon.html>.

29a. Apology sermon delivered February 21, 1988, at the Family Worship Center, Baton Rouge, LA www.americanrhetoric.com/speeches/jswaggartapology_sermon.html.

29b. "Swaggart Plans to Step Down." New York Times. 10.15.1991. <http://query.nytimes.com/gst/fullpage.html?res=9D0CE5DA1E3BF936A25753C1A967958260>.

30a. Randi, James. *The Faith Healers*. Prometheus Books. 1989. p. 141.

30b. "White Preachers Born Again on Black Network; TV Evangelists Seek to Resurrect Ministries." Washington Post. 9.03.1998. www.highbeam.com/doc/1P2-669259.html?refid=gg_x_02

31a. Tomasson, Robert E. "Chronicle." New York Times. 8.14.1991. www.nytimes.com/1991/08/14/style/chronicle-631591.html.

31b. "Evangelist's Miracle Healing." Milwaukee Sentinel. 8.17.1991. <http://news.google.com/newspapers?nid=1368&dat=19910817&id=ceAVAAAIBAJ&sjid=yRIEAAAIBAJ&pg=4594,4086501>.

31c. "The Strange History of Pentecostalism." <http://solascriptura-tt.org/Seitas/Pentecostalismo/TheStrangeHistoryOfPentecostalism3-Cloud.htm>.

31d. Haville, Mark. "Giving their lives to the faith." Evangelicals Now. June 1997. www.e-n.org.uk/136-Giving-their-lives-to-the-faith.htm.

31e. In 1992 Christians were shocked by the death of Audrey Reynolds, a 25 year-old from Clapham in London who died after attending Morris Cerullo's Mission to London. Audrey drowned in her bath having abandoned her epilepsy medication.

31f. YouTube clip of Cerullo claiming the healing www.youtube.com/watch?v=c2yG96OqNN0.

31g. Haville, Mark. "Giving their lives to the faith." Evangelicals Now. June 1997. www.e-n.org.uk/136-Giving-their-lives-to-the-faith.htm. "Another sad case from the Mission to London 1992 was that of the beautiful four year-old African girl Natalia Bamed who had neuroblastoma (a childhood cancer growing above the kidney). She was pronounced healed by Cerullo after she showed an absence of pain. The following day Cerullo led the congregation in thanks to God for healing of the cancer. Tragically, within two months, she had died of that same disease."

31h. "Miracles at Earls Court." www.healthwatch-uk.org/newsletterarchive/nlett15.html#miracles.

31i. Intotruth.org, Quoting the Christian Herald of 23 December 1995, *The Advertising Standards Authority has upheld four complaints about advertisements by Morris Cerullo that offered miraculous healing to the disabled*.

31j. Prasch, Jacob. "A tribute and modern history lesson." Christian Witness Ministries. 2001. www.christian-witness.org/archives/van2001/davidp13.html. "...which saw Cerullo resigning from The Evangelical Alliance after he was found guilty of all four charges against him by the UK Advertising Standards Council (sic)." www.christian-witness.org/archives/van2001/davidp13.html.

31k. Andrews, Cecil (2008-04-29). "Mandate 2008 with Colin Dye: Another cause for concern." Take Heed Ministries. www.takeheed.net/Assorted_Articles/Contemporary/mandate_2008_article.htm A front-page feature article in The Times

of India on October 17, 1992 reported: "A so-called miracle healer, Morris Cerullo, who prefers to call himself a man of God, was declared 'persona non grata' and bundled out of the country by Calcutta police this morning after mass healing services on Park Circus Maidan yesterday evening turned into a fiasco when members of the crowd stormed the dais challenging the efficacy of his healing power." The article went on to declare that "For indulging in undesirable activities Morris Cerullo was put on a plane bound for the US this morning." It was reported that the crowd became restive as Mr. Cerullo could not prove his healing power. However, it must be said there have been many incidents of religious intolerance in India (even though by law a person has the right to choose his religion in India). A recent violent example is the burning alive of missionary Graham Staines and his two young sons by Hindu militants. Graham Staines and his son perished in the fire."

31l. "Morris Cerullo's misadventure in India." Skeptic Tank. www.skepticfiles.org/atheist/cerullo.htm "Last Friday the Indian government banished Cerullo for causing a riot. The riot started as his inability to heal people, contrary to his promises, became apparent; Cerullo had lured 30,000 people to a meeting in Calcutta(!), among them hundreds of invalids and sick people, some of whom had arrived in ambulances. The crowd tolerated Cerullo for two hours, which, judging from the previous post, is no mean feat, but when he had the audacity to state that everyone(!) present was healed, the trouble started. Judging from the article I read, the occasion was quite a drama with the enraged relatives of the afflicted climbing onto Cerullo's stand and accusing him of being the charlatan he is. Due to the timely(?) intervention of the police, the crowd failed to tear Cerullo to shreds."

31m. "San Diego-based evangelist accused of evading taxes." <http://legacy.signonsandiego.com/news/metro/20050712-1741-ca-evangelist-taxfraud.html>.

31n. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Morris_Cerullo.

32a. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robert_Tilton.

32b. "The Prophet of Prosperity: Robert Tilton and the Gospel of Greed" (DVD produced by The Trinity Foundation).

32c. Jones, Jim. "Tilton's Church to Retain Assets." 3.03.1997. www.christianitytoday.com/ct/1997/march3/7t363b.html

32d. Blow, Steve. "Bob's Back, and More Entertaining than Ever." *Dallas Morning News*. 9.25.2004. www.trinityfi.org/press/dallasnews-tilton.html.

33a. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/W._V._Grant.

33b. "Reverend W.V. Grant: An I-Team Investigation," WAGA-TV News. 11.03.2003, as posted in the Wayback Machine Internet Archive. <http://web.archive.org/web/20031226065057/http://fox5atlanta.com/iteam/wvgrant.html>.

33c. Shaffer, Ryan. "Spiritual Healing Revisited" *Free Inquiry*. Vol. 30, No. 1; p. 37.

34. Moore, Art. "Sex Allegations: Megachurch Pastor Quits, Denies Wrongdoing." 7.13.1998. www.ctlibrary.com/ct/1998/july13/8t8026.html.

35. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roy_Clements.

36a. "A Question of Miracles." Internet Movie Database.

36b. Do Miracles Actually Occur?, CNN.com transcripts. 4.15.2001.

36c. Finn, Robin. "COVER STORY; Want Pathos, Pain and Courage? Get Real." *New York Times*. 4.15.2001.

36d. McKeown, Bob. "Do You Believe in Miracles?" The Fifth Estate Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. 12.2004. www.cbc.ca/fifth/main_miracles.html#bio.

- 36e. Peters, Justin. "Benny Hinn and Healing." CBC News. www.cbc.ca/fifth/thesis.pdf.
- 36f. Peters, Justin. "Seminar overview for A Call for Discernment." http://justinpeters.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=5&Itemid=5.
- 36g. MinistryWatch.com Recommends that Donors Withhold Giving to Benny Hinn Ministries, Ministry Watch, May 2005.
- 36h. Benny Hinn: Apologetics Research Resources.
- 36i. "'Dove One' brochure." Benny Hinn Ministries. Archived from the original on 6.04.2007. http://web.archive.org/web/20070604203321/http://www.bennyhinn.org/external/pdf/dove_one_brochure.pdf.
- 36j. "Read Grassley's Letters." npr.org. 12.04.2007. <http://media.npr.org/documents/2007/nov/grassley/hinn.pdf>.
- 36k. "Senator Probes Megachurches' Finances by Kathy Lohr." npr.org. 12.04.2007. www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=16860611.
- 36l. "Televangelists Living Like Kings?" CBS News. 11.06.2007. www.cbsnews.com/stories/2007/11/06/cbsnews_investigates/main3462147.shtml.
- 36m. Lohr, Kathy. "Senator Probes Megachurches' Finances." National Public Radio. 12.04.2007. www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=16860611.
- 36n. "Hinn joins Dollar in refusing to answer questions in Senate investigation." Tulsa World. 12.06.2007. www.tulsaworld.com/news/article.aspx?articleID=071206_1__Aseco62017.
- 36o. Senator Chuck Grassley. "Grassley Update on Ministry Responses, Background Questions and Answers." Press release. 7.07.2008. http://grassley.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?FuseAction=PressReleases.Detail&PressRelease_id=fe9bb4ffe266-e111-a62f-f246986f15ce&Month=7&Year=2008.
- 36p. "Finding His Life Partner, Suzanne Hinn" BennyHinnBiography.com.
- 36q. www.huffingtonpost.com/2010/02/18/benny-hinn-divorce-wife-s_n_468296.html.
- 36r. www.cbn.com/cbnnews/us/2010/February/Hinn-Speaks-Out-about-Divorce-Announcement.
- 36s. "Evangelists Hinn, White Deny Affair Allegations." Christian Broadcasting Network, 7.26.2010.
- 36t. "Benny Hinn Sued by Strang Co." Christianity Today. 2.21.2011.
- 37a. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paul_Crouch.
- 37b. Olsen, Ted. "Former TBN Employee Alleges Gay Tryst With Paul Crouch." Christianity Today. 9.01.2004. www.ctlibrary.com/ct/2004/septemberweb-only/9-13-11.0.html.
- 37c. www.occourts.org/online-services/case-access.
- 37d. www.solanocourts.com/Courts/CriminalCourt.html.
- 37e. <http://170.164.31.10/openaccess/CRIMINAL/defendantcharges.asp?courtcode=X&defnbr=2058051&defseq=1&otnmseq=0&casenumber=M618996&dsn=>
- 37f. "Bad faith, blackmail and a troubled TV evangelist." The Independent. 9.14.2004. <http://news.independent.co.uk/world/americas/article32197.ece>.
- 37g. News Service Report. "West Virginia Woman Settles Suit with Network." The Post-Standard (Syracuse, New York) p. B-2. 1.05.2002.
- 37h. *Fleener v. Trinity Broadcasting Network*, 203 F. Supp. 2d 1142 (5 September 2001, United States District Court for the Central District of California).
- 37i. Coker, Matt. "A Clockwork Orange." *OC Weekly*. p. 10. 1.11.2002.

- 38a. "Scandal in the second biggest Pentecostal church in Britain." www.rickcross.com/reference/clergy/clergy322.html.
- 38b. "Disgraced Douglas Goodman out of prison and back into the pulpit. Is this right?" <http://jesusblogger.wordpress.com/2008/05/06/disgraced-douglas-goodman-out-of-prison-and-back-into-the-pulpit-is-this-right>.
- 38c. "Downfall of a preacher man." BBC News. 5.06.2004. http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk_news/england/london/3020832.stm.
- 38d. "Scandal in the church." <http://chiefshepherd.com/2008/03/scandal-in-the-church>.
- 38e. "Fall from grace." www.jamaica-gleaner.com/gleaner/20090621/news/news4.html.
39. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gilbert_Deya.
- 40a. Tulsa World. October 2007. "Swails, Brooker, Brooker v. Oral Roberts University, et al." (PDF). United States District Court for the Northern District of Oklahoma. www.tulsaworld.com/webextra/content/2007/pdfs/Swails_vs_ORU.pdf.
- 40b. "Oral Roberts president faces corruption lawsuit." MSNBC. 10.05.2007. www.msnbc.msn.com/id/21156263/page/1.
- 40c. Justin Juozapavicius, Associated Press, "Scandal Brewing at Oral Roberts U." 10.05.2007. www.democraticunderground.com/discuss/duboard.php?az=view_all&address=102x3018040.
- 40d. Online copy of revised Swails lawsuit against ORU. 10.12.2007.
- 40e. Tulsa World, "Lindsay Roberts, ORU deny latest claims." 10.13.2007.
- 40f. Blumenthal, Ralph. "President of Oral Roberts to Take Leave of Absence." New York Times. 11.18.2007. www.nytimes.com/2007/10/18/us/18oral.html?fta=y.
- 40g. Marciszewski, April. "Roberts takes ORU leave." Tulsa World. 10.18.2007. www.tulsaworld.com/news/article.aspx?articleID=071018_1_A1_hTheO62814.
- 40h. "Faculty Opposes Oral Roberts President." Associated Press. New York Times. 11.14.2007. www.nytimes.com/2007/11/14/education/14oral.html.
- 40i. Marciszewski, April. "ORU faculty gives vote of no confidence." Tulsa World. 11.15.2007. www.tulsaworld.com/news/article.aspx?articleID=071114_1_A1_spAnc48573.
- 40j. Estus, John. "ORU hit with three new lawsuits." Oklahoman. 11.22.2007. www.rickcross.com/reference/oru/oru7.html.
- 40k. "Oral Roberts President Resigns." A.P. 11.23.2007. www.bishop-accountability.org/news2007/11_12/2007_11_23_AP_OralRoberts.htm.
- 40l. Marciszewski, April. "\$62 million for ORU." Tulsa World. 1.15.2008. www.tulsaworld.com/news/article.aspx?articleID=20080115_1_hThea88026.
- 40m. "OCIS Case Summary for CJ-2007-6543- SWAILS, DR JOHN v. ORAL ROBERTS UNIVERSITY (Tulsa County District Court)." The Oklahoma State Courts Network. www.oscn.net/applications/oscn/GetCaseInformation.asp?submitted=true&viewtype=caseGeneral&casemasterID=2032027&db=Tulsa.
- 40n. "Oral Roberts Evangelistic Association." Charity Navigator. www.charitynavigator.org/index.cfm?bay=search.summary&orgid=4272.
- 40o. "Oral Roberts University takes \$62M gift." USA Today. 1.15.2008. www.usatoday.com/news/education/2008-01-14-oralroberts-gift_N.htm.
- 40p. Marciszewski. "ORU moves to trim its debt." Tulsa World. 2.14.2008. www.tulsaworld.com/news/article.aspx?articleID=20080214_1_A1_hTrus02181.
- 40q. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Richard_Roberts_%28evangelist%29.

41. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Earl_Paulk.
42. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thomas_Wesley_Weeks,_III.
- 43a. Crawley, William. "Family Values campaigner resigns after admitting adultery." 4.08.2008. www.bbc.co.uk/blogs/ni/2008/04/family_values_campaigner_resig_1.html.
- 43b. Bartholomew, Richard. "British Ally of Oral Roberts and Earl Paulk Resigns over Adultery." www.talk2action.org/story/2008/4/8/8338/23733.
- 43c. HYPOCRISY IS THE GREATEST LUXURY, BEFOREiFORGET blog 9th April 2008.
- 43d. "Bash Bishop is a Jerry Sinner." The Sun. 4.09.2008. www.talk2action.org/story/2008/4/8/8338/23733.
- 43e. Levy, Andrew. "Bishop who preached family values finally admits: I am an adulterer." Daily Mail. 4.10.2008. <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-558365/Bishop-preached-family-values-finally-admits-I-adulterer.html>.
- 43f. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Michael_Reid_%28evangelist%29.
- 44b. Albie Martin. "Evangelist Bentley stepping down." 8.19.2008. www.onenewsnw.com/Church/Default.aspx?id=219700.
- 44c. "Update on Todd Bentley from Fresh Fire Ministries." oaktree.org.uk. 8.16.2008.
- 44d. www.freshfire.ca/printpage_content.php?id=1065.
- 44e. Steve Strang. "It's Time for Spiritual Fathers." Strange Report. 8.13.2008. <http://strangreport.com/index.php/2008/08/its-time-for-spiritual-fathers.html>.
- 44f. David Roach. "Faith healer Todd Bentley separates from wife, draws criticism from charismatics." 8.19.2008. www.sbcbaptistpress.net/BPnews.asp?ID=28727.
- 44g. Revival Alliance. "PUBLIC STATEMENT ON TODD BENTLEY FROM REVIVAL ALLIANCE." www.bjm.org/regarding-todd-bentley.html.
- 44i. "Todd Bentley Remarries, Begins Restoration Process." www.charismamag.com/index.php/news/20004-todd-bentley-remarries-begins-restoration-process.
- 44j. "Plans to marry Nanny." www.religionnewsblog.com/23011/evangelist-todd-bentley-unrepentant-plans-divorce-from-wife-to-marry-nanny-of-his-children.
- 44k. Lee Grady. "The Tragic Scandal of Greasy Grace." 3.11.2009.
- 45a. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eddie_L._Long.
- 45b. Blake, John. "Bishop's charity generous to bishop." Atlanta Journal Constitution.com. 8.28.2005. www.ajc.com/news/2005-ajc-report-bishop-619032.html.
- 45c. "Read Grassley's Letters." npr.org. 12.04.2007.
- 45d. CNN Wire Staff. "Atlanta pastor cancels interview, news conference about sex scandal." cnn.com. CNN. 9.23.2010. www.cnn.com/2010/CRIME/09/23/georgia.pastor.allegations/index.html?hpt=T1.
- 45e. Kirven, C.D. "'Ministering Treachery,' The Truth Concerning Bishop Eddie Long's Spiritual Wilderness." lezgetreal.com. 9.23.2010. <http://lezgetreal.com/2010/09/%e2%80%9cministering-treachery%e2%80%9d-the-truth-concerning-bishop-eddie-long%e2%80%99s-spiritual-wilderness>.
- 45f. "Eddie Long, Atlanta Bishop, Denies Accusations Of Sexual Abuse By Male Parishioners." huffingtonpost.com. Associated Press. 9.21.2010. www.huffingtonpost.com/2010/09/21/eddie-long-atlanta-bishop-sexual-abuse-allegations_n_733953.html.
- 45g. "Bishop Eddie Long tackles controversy." New Pittsburgh Courier (high beam.com). 5.17.2006. www.highbeam.com/doc/1P3-1096044091.html.

- 45h. CNN Wire Staff. "Men allege sexual coercion by prominent Atlanta pastor." CNN. 9.21.2010. www.cnn.com/2010/CRIME/09/21/georgia.pastor.abuse/?hpt=Sbin
- 45i. Matterucci, Megan. "Third lawsuit filed against Bishop Eddie Long." The Atlanta Journal-Constitution. 9.22.2010. www.ajc.com/news/third-lawsuit-filed-against-618703.html.
- 45j. Bluestein, Greg. "4th Man Sues Ga. Megachurch Pastor." ABCNews.com. 9.24.2010. <http://abcnews.go.com/US/wireStory?id=11721274>.
- 45k. Matteucci, Megan; Boone, Christian. "Bishop Eddie Long Radio interview, press conference canceled in wake of 3rd lawsuit." [ajc.com. Atlanta Journal-Constitution. 9.23.2010. www.ajc.com/news/dekalb/bishop-eddie-long-radio-619062.html](http://www.ajc.com/news/dekalb/bishop-eddie-long-radio-619062.html).
- 45l. Gay, Mara. "Preacher Eddie Long Faces Third Sex Abuse Claim." [aolnews.com. 9.22.2010. www.aolnews.com/nation/article/celebrity-preacher-eddie-long-denies-gay-sex-abuse-claims/19643958](http://www.aolnews.com/nation/article/celebrity-preacher-eddie-long-denies-gay-sex-abuse-claims/19643958).
- 45m. Boone, Christian; Craig Schneider, Megan Matteucci and Ernie Suggs. "Bishop Eddie Long." Atlanta Journal Constitution. 9.24.2010. www.ajc.com/news/dekalb/bishop-eddie-long-4th-620773.html.
- 45n. Poole, Sheila M.; Craig Schneider. "Bishop Eddie Long: Pastor, attorney speak out about lawsuits. Is it enough?" Atlanta Journal Constitution. 9.23.2010. www.ajc.com/news/dekalb/bishop-eddie-long-pastor-620267.html.
- 45o. Haines, Errin. "Atlanta Megachurch Pastor Long Denies Sex Claims." ABC.com. 9.22.2010. <http://abcnews.go.com/US/wireStory?id=11693887>.
- 45p. Martin, Roland. "Bishop Eddie L. Long Must Step Down." [creator.com. 9.24.2010. www.creators.com/opinion/roland-martin/bishop-eddie-l-long-must-step-down.html](http://www.creators.com/opinion/roland-martin/bishop-eddie-l-long-must-step-down.html).
- 45q. "Ga. megachurch pastors congregation standing by him despite claims of sexual relationships." [foxnews.com. Associated Press. 9.27.2010. www.foxnews.com/us/2010/09/27/ga-megachurch-pastors-congregation-standing-despite-claims-sexual-relationships](http://www.foxnews.com/us/2010/09/27/ga-megachurch-pastors-congregation-standing-despite-claims-sexual-relationships).
- 45r. Jabali-Nash, Naimah. "Bishop Eddie Long Scandal: Rally Calls for Embattled Pastor to Resign." CBS News Crimesiders. 11.01.2010. www.cbsnews.com/8301-504083_162-20021344-504083.html.
- 45s. Poole, Shelia M.; Boone, Christian. "Eddie Long case officially dismissed." Atlanta Journal-Constitution. 5.27.2011. www.ajc.com/news/dekalb/eddie-long-case-officially-958537.html.
- 45t. www.sexscandalsinreligion.com.
- 45u. Newcomb, Alyssa. "Megachurch Pastor Eddie Long Leaves Church, After Wife Files For Divorce." ABC News. <http://abcnews.go.com/blogs/headlines/2011/12/megachurch-pastor-eddie-long-leaves-church-after-wife-files-for-divorcePhoto-credit-for-Marcus-Lamb-www.daystar.com/marcus-lamb-photos>.
46. <http://religion.blogs.cnn.com/2010/12/01/televangelist-says-he-cheated-on-wif-e-2>.
47. Hardy, Frances. "In public he rails against immorality as the voice of Christian Britain but in private he is a wife beater, says his former partner." Daily Mail. 1.28.2011. www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1351585/Stephen-Green-rails-immorality-voice-Christian-Britain-private-wife-beater-says-partner.html#comments.
48. <http://us2.startpage.com/do/metasearch.pl?&www.channel4.com/news/evangelical-pastor-odulele-sentenced-for-sex-offences>.
- 49a. "Grassley seeks information from six media-based ministries." 11.06.2007. http://grassley.senate.gov/news/Article.cfm?customel_dataPageID_1502=12011. (Archived by WebCite at www.webcitation.org/5s5pjHGfO).

- 49b. www.earthbook.tv/religion/channelhome/channelvideos/150/630.
- 49c. USA Today. "Sen. Grassley probes televangelists' finances." A.P. 11.07.2007. www.usatoday.com/news/washington/2007-11-07-televangelist-probe_N.htm.
- 49d. <http://finance.senate.gov/newsroom/ranking/release/?id=5fa343ed-87eb-49b0-82b9-28a9502910f7>.
- 49e. USA Today. "Sen. Grassley probes televangelists' finances." A.P. 11.07.2007. www.usatoday.com/news/washington/2007-11-07-televangelist-probe_N.htm.
- 50a. Lehmann, Daniel J. "Fundamentalists Shun a Society They Try to Save." Chicago Sun-Times. 6.06.1993. p. 5.
- 50b. Lehmann, Daniel J. "Pastor Linked to Sex Abuse Lashes Out." Chicago Sun-Times, June 2, 1993. pg. 5
- 50c. Chalfant, H. Paul, *Religion in Contemporary Society* (3rd Edition), Itasca, Illinois: F.E. Peacock Publishers (1994); pgs. 363-364
- 50d. Janega, James. "Rev. Jack Hyles; Led bus ministry." Chicago Tribune. 2.09.2001.
- 50e. www.biblicalevangelist.org/jack_hyles_chapter3.php51.
51. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Paulk.
- 52a. www.tedhaggard.com/about_us.htm.
- 52b. "Disgraced pastor Haggard admits second relationship with man." CNN-TV Larry King, 1.29.2009. http://articles.cnn.com/2009-01-29/us/lkl.ted.haggard_1_ted-haggard-head-pastor-church-staff-member?_s=PM:US.
- 52c. Gaine, Adrienne S. "Ted Haggard Starts New Church in Colorado." 6.02.2010. www.charismamag.com/index.php/news/28337-ted-haggard-starts-new-church-in-colorado-.
- 53a. "Pastor of 2nd Colorado evangelical church resigns over gay sex allegations" Seattle Times. 2006-12-12. http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/nationworld/2003473739_webcolopastor12.html & http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/nationworld/2003473739_webcolopastor12.html.
- 53b. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lonnie_Latham.
- 54a. Eisener, Tanya and Hodges, Sam. "Minister at Prestonwood Baptist charged in Internet sex sting." Dallas Morning News.
- 54b. "Police say Texas minister caught in Internet sex sting." Fort Worth Star-Telegram, May 16, 2008.
- 55a. Miami New Times. "Christian right leader George Rekers takes vacation with 'rent boy.'" 5.04.2010.
- 55b. "MISLEADING INTERNET REPORTS ABOUT PROFESSOR GEORGE REKERS." WordPress.com. 5.05.2010. <http://professorgeorge.wordpress.com/2010/05/05/misleading-internet-reports-about-professor-george-rekers>.
- 56a. Trigg, Lisa. "Vaughn Reeves sentenced for role in fraud." Tribune-Star. 12.08.2010. <http://tribstar.com/news/x278369072/NEW-Reeves-sentenced-for-role-in-fraud>.
- 56b. "Ex-pastor going to prison for duping investors." Atlanta Journal-Constitution. Associated Press. 12.07.2010. www.ajc.com/news/nation-world/ex-pastor-going-to-769066.html.

EIGHT

GREED?

Christianity began as a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. When it went to Athens, it became a philosophy. When it went to Rome it became a corporation. When it went to Europe it became a culture. When it came to America it became a business.

L. Ron Hubbard (Founder of Scientology) once said, “Writing for a penny a word is ridiculous. If a man really wanted to make a million dollars, the best way would be to start his own religion” and that is what he did.

Donor alert

Donor alert for 2009 and 2010 from **MinistryWatch.com** had these televangelists on its lists – David Cerullo, Morris Cerullo, Kenneth Copeland, Paul Crouch, Creflo Dollar, Benny Hinn, T.D. Jakes, Eddie Long, Mike Murdock, Joel Osteen, RHEMA (Kenneth Hagin Ministries), Robert Tilton, Robert Schuller and Paula White.¹⁻²

The following ministries are listed by **MinistryWatch.com** as non-transparent – Benny Hinn Ministries, Creflo Dollar Ministries, Crystal Cathedral Ministries, John Hagee Ministries, Kenneth Copeland Ministries, Kenneth Hagin Ministries, TD Jakes Ministries, Trinity Broadcasting Network.

Average salary of mega-pastors

God’s messengers should receive a salary to help provide for their families and to meet their necessities. According to a 2010 survey performed by the Leadership Network the “median of \$139,000 for the average senior pastor in a megachurch – generally defined with a weekend attendance of 2,000 and higher.”

Compare their salaries to the CEOs of non-profit organizations. According to Guidestar’s national compensation study released in 2010 here are the median salaries for CEOs for the year 2008:

CEOs who headed non-profits with budgets between \$2.5 million and \$5 million – \$112,639.

CEOs who headed non-profits with budgets between \$5 million and \$10 million – 137,668.

CEOs who headed non-profits with budgets between \$10 million and \$25 million – \$173,457.³

If we extrapolate from this a CEO who handles \$50 million should make about \$220,000 and a CEO who handles \$100 million should make about \$300,000 maximum. Many of the televangelists in this appendix handle \$50 to \$100 million so a salary and benefits package of \$220,000 to \$300,000 is not out of line.

This appendix lists the earthly treasures that the leading Pentecostal and Charismatic preachers/televangelists have accumulated. It is up to you, the reader, to decide if they love money more than they love Jesus and have “*pierced themselves with many griefs*” (1 Timothy 6.10).

The Televangelists

The most famous or infamous televangelists in America are presented for you to determine if they have a problem with greed or if they deserve the millions of dollars they have raked in.

Pat Robertson

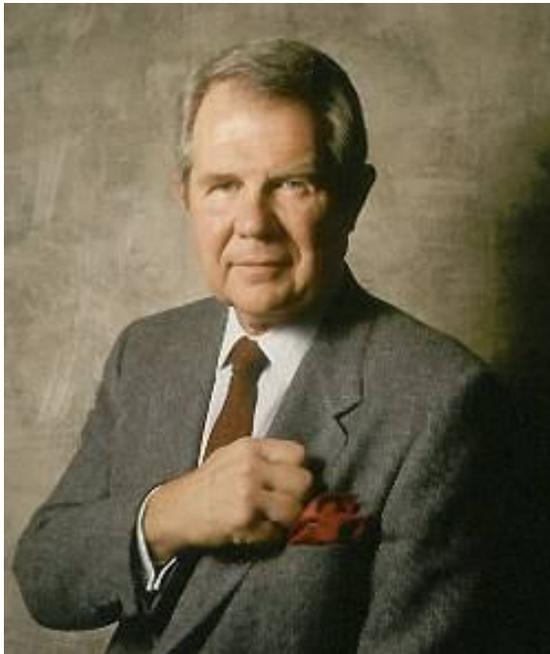
Marion Gordon “Pat” Robertson, son of U.S. Senator A. Willis Robertson, was an ordained Southern Baptist minister (1961) before becoming a charismatic televangelist.

He is the founder of numerous organizations and corporations – the American Center for Law and Justice (ACLJ), the Christian Broadcasting Network (CBN), the Christian Coalition, Flying Hospital, International Family Entertainment Inc., Operation Blessing International Relief and Development Corporation, and Regent University.⁴⁻⁵ He is best known for being the host of the “700 Club,” a Christian television program airing worldwide.⁴

Robertson did not hesitate to **boldly lie** about his service in the Army during the Korean War. “I ended up at the headquarters

command of the First Marine Division,” he said. “The Division was in combat in the hot and dusty, then bitterly cold portion of North Korea just above the 38th Parallel later identified as the ‘Punchbowl’ and ‘Heartbreak Ridge.’ For that service in the Korean War, the Marine Corps awarded me three battle stars for ‘action against the enemy.’”⁶⁻⁷

Former Republican Congressman Paul “Pete” McCloskey, Jr., who served with Robertson in Korea, wrote a public letter in which he explained that Robertson was spared combat duty because his father, the senator, intervened on his behalf. He said Robertson spent most of his time in an office in Japan and his main duty keeping the officers’ clubs supplied with liquor. Robertson filed a \$35 million libel suit against McCloskey in 1986,⁸ but dropped the case in 1988, before it came to trial and paid McCloskey’s court costs.⁹ He then campaigned to become the GOP nominee for president in 1988.



Pat Robertson giving a Masonic hand signal.

Estimates of Robertson’s net worth vary between between **\$200 million and \$1 billion.**¹⁰ He lives on the **top of a Virginia mountain**, in a **huge mansion** with a **private airstrip**. He bought a thoroughbred horse for **\$520,000** (Mr. Pat) that never won a race.¹¹⁻¹² He owns the Ice Capades, a small hotel, diamond mines in Zaire, and the Kalo Vita vitamin company which is a multi-level marketing scheme along the

lines of Amway. He recently sold International Family Entertainment in 1997 to Fox Kids Worldwide, Inc. for **\$1.9 billion**.¹³

According to a June 2, 1999, article in the *Virginian-Pilot*,¹⁴ Robertson had extensive business dealings with Liberian president Charles Taylor. Taylor gave Robertson the rights to mine for diamonds in Liberia's mineral-rich countryside. Robertson used his Operation Blessing planes to haul diamond-mining equipment to his mines in Liberia, despite the fact that he was telling his 700 Club viewers that the planes were sending relief supplies to the victims of genocide in Rwanda. Two Operation Blessing pilots blew the whistle on Robertson reporting the facts to the state of Virginia for investigation in 1994. Congress passed a bill in November of 2003 providing for a two million dollar reward for the capture of Taylor. Robertson accused George W. Bush of "undermining a Christian, Baptist president to bring in Muslim rebels to take over the country." At the time Taylor was harboring Al Qaeda operatives who were funding their operations through the illegal diamond trade.¹⁵



Robertson's home is a mansion fit for a televangelist.

In his war crimes trial at the Hague, Taylor testified that Robertson was his main political ally in America and that he had volunteered to make Liberia's case before administration officials in exchange for concessions to Robertson's Freedom Gold, Ltd., to which Taylor gave a contract to mine gold in southeast Liberia.¹⁶ In 2010, a spokesman for Robertson said that the company's arrangements – in which the Liberian government got a 10 percent equity interest in the company and Liberians could purchase at least 15 percent of the shares after the

exploration period – were similar to many American companies doing business in Africa at the time.¹⁷

Besides his ties to the convicted Liberian dictator he had dealings with Mobutu Sese Seko of Zaire,¹⁵ Both dictators were denounced for their human rights violations. Robertson was also criticized for calling for the assassination of democratically elected President of Venezuela, Hugo Chavez.¹⁵ [**Authors’ note:** He does not believe he should love his enemies as Jesus commanded all Christians to do (Matthew 5.44). Instead he believes they should be murdered.]

Robertson has also been a governing member of the Council for National Policy (CNP): Board of Governors 1982, President Executive Committee 1985–86, member, 1984, 1988, 1998.¹⁸

The CNP is a “right-wing” think tank similar to the Council on Foreign Relations (CFR). The CFR is the Rockefeller family’s private think tank that promotes world government, a world economic system and a world church – the New World Order – that they plan to run with the Rothschild family of Europa. The CNP does not have nearly the influence that the CFR has, but it is a key “right-wing” think tank which is controlled by the Rockefeller family.

Controversies surrounding Robertson include his earlier work as a faith healer,¹⁹ and his claims of having the power to deflect hurricanes through prayer.²⁰



Paul and Jan Crouch

The fruit of God is on their life. If they weren’t prospering, I’d say, “Wait a minute. I don’t see any evidence [of God’s blessing]

in their life.” (Tennille Lowe, a computer analyst in Phoenix City, Alabama, watches TBN every day)²¹

Paul Crouch, son of Pentecostal missionaries, became interested in amateur radio and by the age of 15 he was a licensed operator. In a high school essay, he wrote that he “would one day use this invention of shortwave radio to send the Gospel around the world,” according to his autobiography, *Hello World! A Personal Message to the Body of Christ*.²¹

After graduating from the Central Bible Institute and Seminary in Springfield, Missouri in 1955 with a degree in theology he married Janice Bethany in 1957, the daughter of a leading Assemblies of God pastor. Before leaving CBI he helped build an educational AM station (KCBI-AM) on campus. His first job in broadcasting came in 1957 as an announcer at KRSD in Rapid City, South Dakota. He quickly worked his way up to program director and finally to manager of sister station KRSD-TV (NBC affiliate in Rapid City).

Then in 1961 he was appointed by the general council of the Assemblies of God to organize and operate their newly-formed Department of Television and Film Production in Burbank, California. He moved on to general manager of KREL radio in Corona, California from 1965 to 1970. After leaving KREL in 1970 he was invited to serve as general manager for KHOF-FM and KHOF-TV in San Bernardino, California.²²

In 1973 he boldly founded the Trinity Broadcasting Network (TBN) and the following year purchased his first TV station, KLXA-TV (now KTBN-TV), DT channel 23, in Southern California. He had help from Jim Bakker, who according to Crouch, tried to take legal control of TBN away from Crouch. When Bakker failed he moved on.²¹ Since then TBN has grown to become the largest Christian television network in America,²³⁻²⁴ and the third largest group owner of television stations with CBS, FOX, and NBC holding the 4th, 5th and 6th places.²⁵ It is seen globally on 70 satellites and more than 18,000 TV and Cable affiliates²⁴ in 75 countries.

The jewel of the TBN empire is its complex in Costa Mesa. It also has a similar complex near Dallas and a Christian entertainment center outside Nashville.

The Crouches were in serious financial trouble just two days after starting TBN. Very few people were calling the donation lines. Paul was desperate and told Jan to announce on the air that an anonymous donor had promised to give \$20,000 – on condition that viewers pledge

the same amount that night. The anonymous donor was the Crouches and the \$20,000 was the money they had already lent the network. If viewers came through with \$20,000, they would cancel the loan. That night they got \$30,000 in pledges which kept TBN on the air.

“Without really realizing it at the time, I had put into motion one of God’s most powerful laws – the law of giving and receiving, sowing and reaping,” Crouch wrote in his book *Hello World!* “Thirty-, 60- and 100-fold blessing is, indeed, a glorious truth and blessing for those who will simply obey the word of the Lord!”²⁶ [Authors’ note: As we noted in Chapter 13, God does not promise to give a Christian 30 or 60 or 100 times what they give to Him. If that promise was in the Bible every Christian would be a multi-millionaire, not just the televangelists. The Scripture that Crouch and all of the televangelists use to compel people to give them money is Matthew 13.3-8, the parable of the sower. This parable concerns sharing the Gospel with the lost. The seed is the Word of God and the thirty, sixty and hundredfold are people who are saved. This parable has nothing to do with giving money to the Lord. Study the refutation we give concerning the “prosperity gospel” on page 127.]

The Crouches have made billions of dollars peddling their brand of religion. For the year of 2009 TBN raked in **\$164 million** but paid out **\$166 million**. The depression is taking its toll. Yet it still has net assets of **\$857,854,267**.²⁴ In 2002 TBN held **\$238 million** in Treasury bonds and other government securities and **\$31 million in cash**.²¹

In the process of making billions of dollars over the last 38 years they have spent millions of those funds on themselves. Paul Crouch drew a salary/expenses package of **\$402,256** for 2009.²⁷ and Jan was paid **\$361,000**.²¹ Paul Jr., is paid **\$90,800** a year as vice-president of TBN. Matthew has been given a grand total of **\$32 million** to produce movies since 1999.²¹ TBN owns a total of 30 private residences in Texas, Tennessee, Ohio and California. Two of those homes are located in a posh gated community in Newport Beach, California, overlooking the Pacific Ocean. One of those mansions was recently listed for \$8 million. A real estate advertisement said it featured “11,000 square feet of opulent European luxury with regulation tennis courts and a rambling terraced hillside orchard with view of the blue Pacific.”²¹

Their most extravagant home is a **16,520 square-foot \$9 million mansion** with **8 bedrooms** and **11 bathrooms** in posh **Beverly Hills** that sits on 2.21 acres. They also have at their disposal a mountain retreat near Lake Arrowhead and a **66 acre ranch** in Texas with nine homes. TBN also spent **\$13.7 million** to acquire Twitty City, a tourist

attraction on the former Nashville-area estate of country singer Conway Twitty, along with some adjacent property. After extensive renovations, the site reopened as Trinity Music City USA, a Christian entertainment park with TV studios, a church, a concert hall and a movie theater.²¹



Beverly Hills mansion⁶¹

The Crouches travel the world in a **\$25 million**, 19-seat Bombardier 850 Challenger owned by TBN. Trinity spent **\$332,237** on pilots, according to Trinity of Florida's 2008 federal tax return:

Martin Aviation of Santa Ana, which was paid **\$140,002**,
John Hylton Jr. of Seattle, who was paid **\$100,572**,
Flightsong of Seattle, which was paid **\$91,663**.^{21a}



The TBN jet the Crouches fly around the world in.

Rumor has it that the Crouches plan to buy a classier jet, a Gulfstream G650 costing \$65 million.^{21b}

They drive luxury cars and have purchased expensive dinners and furniture with TBN credit cards.²¹ Kelly Whitmore, a former personal assistant to Jan Crouch, said in interviews with the Los Angeles Times that she used a TBN American Express card to make numerous personal purchases for the Crouches, including groceries, clothes, cosmetics, **alcohol** and a tanning bed.²¹

In the 1990s, Paul Crouch hosted dinners with TBN employees in a private room of Mario's, an upscale Italian restaurant, spending \$180 or more per person for parties of up to a dozen. A former top TBN official described **heavy consumption of wine and liquor** at a dozen such dinners. The ex-official spoke on condition of anonymity, citing **a fear of retaliation**. "I have no problem with people drinking, but I have a problem drinking with [prayer] partners' money," he said.²¹

In separate interviews, Whitmore, the former TBN official and a third person who traveled and socialized with ministry leaders said that at the end of a dinner, Paul Crouch would sometimes hold up a TBN credit card and say: "Thank you, little partners!"²¹

TBN officials said Crouch was sincere in thanking his "partners" for the dinner. They also said it is appropriate for TBN to pay for dinners at which network business was conducted. They also claimed that when network credit cards were used to pay for personal expenses or for alcohol, the Crouches or other TBN officials reimbursed the ministry. [**Authors' note:** Believe whom you will, but does Crouch have to conduct business meetings over dinner? Does he have to order alcohol? It seems as though more work could be done in an office than in a public restaurant.]

Whitmore said she regularly used ministry money and a network-owned van to stock the bars in Paul's and Jan's separate condominiums at Trinity Music City. She also said the Crouches directed her to make the purchases at a store called Frugal McDougal, hoping it would not be recognizable on credit-card statements as a liquor store.

Credit card receipts show that in December of 1994, TBN bought about 40 items from Cool Springs Antiques in Brentwood, Tennessee, including a three-piece **wine cabinet for \$10,000**, a **\$2,800 candelabrum**, a **\$350 birdbath** and a seven-piece bedroom suite that cost \$3,995.²¹

At Harris Antiques and Imports in Forth Worth, Texas, TBN spent **\$32,851 in a single day** in 1995. The purchases included two **French**

chests for about **\$1,900** each, a **\$1,650 brass planter** and a **\$1,095 bronze urn.**²¹ [**Authors' note:** Does a man or woman of God need these things to serve God better? It seems as though the Crouches have their eyes more on the things of this sinful world than on Jesus Christ.]

The board of directors of TBN consists of Paul and Jan Crouch and Paul's sister Ruth Brown. In a 2001 legal deposition, Jan said she did not know she was a corporate officer and could not recall the last board meeting she attended.²¹ [**Authors' note:** That is understandable.]

It should be noted that even though the Crouches have exorbitant salaries today it was not always like that. During the first 21 years of TBN, Paul was paid less than \$40,000 a year on average and Jan less than \$35,000. It was in 1994 that their salaries skyrocketed.²¹

The Crouches have also had a few scandals along the way. In September of 2004 the Los Angeles Times reported that in 1998 Crouch paid Enoch Lonnie Ford, a former employee, a \$425,000 formal settlement to end a wrongful termination lawsuit.²⁸ Ford alleged that he and Paul Crouch had a homosexual tryst while Ford was employed by TBN.²⁹ TBN officials acknowledge the settlement, but contested the credibility of Ford who is a convicted felon, with crimes ranging from child sexual molestation to using illegal drugs such as crack cocaine.

Crouch family members control the boards of all Trinity Network entities, which makes Trinity "ineligible to join" the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability, an evangelical self-regulating group. [**Authors' note:** This is a serious red flag that should make everyone who considers donating their hard-earned money to TBN stop and think about it.]

In 2000, Crouch was **sued for \$40 million** by author Sylvia Fleener, who accused him of plagiarism in his popular end-times novel (and subsequent movie), *The Omega Code*. Fleener's lawsuit alleged that the movie's plot was taken from her own novel, *The Omega Syndrome*. A former Crouch personal assistant, Kelly Whitmore, revealed that she had found a loose-leaf binder in Jan Crouch's luggage that the Crouches referred to as "the End Times project" and that Paul called it "The Omega" but said he disliked the working title, "especially the word 'Syndrome.'" After the defendant's motion for summary judgment failed³⁰ the case was settled out of court for an undisclosed sum.³¹⁻³² [**Authors' note:** It is unlikely the Crouches would have settled out of court if they did not steal the plot and information for their novel and movie from Fleener.]

Matthew Crouch was given more than \$32 million in tax-free donor money by his parents to fund his first three movies. They gave him a whopping \$16 million to finance his latest film, "One Night with the King." All four of his films have lost millions of dollars.

His film company, Gener8Xion, has the expertise of Sean Abbananto, vice president of marketing. His prior industry experience was as an actor in several adult films and he had no marketing experience. The screenwriter for "Omega Code" was Barton Green, who had no movie credits to his name. During production, he was arrested in San Bernardino County on suspicion of soliciting a child for sex over the Internet and attempted child molestation. His target, according to court records, was a police officer posing as a child online. Writing credits went to Hollis Barton so the sex scandal would not be connected to the movie.

Matthew and his wife, Laurie, live in a modest \$1.15 million Hollywood Hills mansion and own a mere eight vehicles, including a \$240,000 Bentley Arnage.

James Eugene Ewing

Once a traveling tent-revival preacher, James Eugene Ewing built a direct-mail empire from his mansion in Los Angeles that brings in millions of dollars flowing to his Tulsa, Oklahoma, post office box. He has raked in than **\$100 million** from 1993 to 1999, including **\$26 million** in 1999, the last year he made the tax records of his church public.

Saint Matthew's Churches thrives on a computerized mailing operation that sends out more than one million letters per month. The letters contain an alluring promise of a "seed faith" message that says if one sends Saint Matthew's money God will reward him with cash, cure disease and give him other blessings. Ewing mails out gimmicks such as prayer cloths, a "Jesus eyes handkerchief," golden coins, communion wafers and "sackcloth billfolds." Recipients are often warned to open the letters in private and not discuss them with others.

"He capitalizes on the isolation of the loneliest and poorest members of our society, promising them magical answers to their fears and needs if only they will demonstrate their faith by sending him money," Ole Anthony, founder of the Trinity Foundation, says.

"He is, quite literally, the father of the modern-day 'seed-faith' concept that fuels the multibillion-dollar Christian industry known as

the ‘health-and-wealth gospel.’ The only ones becoming rich are the men like Ewing.”

Ewing’s flair for effective, dramatic direct-mail appeals won him jobs writing for evangelists including Robert Tilton, Rex Humbard and Ike. In many cases, the letters are identical but contain different signatures.

“We had nine different televangelists essentially sending out the same letter,” Anthony said. “He (Ewing) makes most of his money by selling these packages to televangelists.”

One Ewing letter, written for Humbard, brought in \$64 for each copy mailed. Another mailing by Humbard contained a “sackcloth billfold” that asked recipients to mail a “seed offering” of \$19 to a Boca Raton, Florida post office box. A similar letter from Tilton also contained a “sackcloth billfold” but encouraged recipients to return a “seed of faith” of at least \$709.³³



Kenneth^{34a} and Gloria Copeland^{34b}

The Copelands

Kenneth Copeland was a pilot and a recording artist on the Imperial Records label prior to his conversion. He had one Billboard Top 40 hit “Pledge of Love,” which charted in the Top 40 on April 20, 1957, stayed on the charts for eight weeks. It peaked at number 12.^{34c}

Following his conversion in November of 1962 he became a pilot and chauffeur for Oral Roberts. In the fall of 1967, he enrolled in Oral Roberts University in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

He was a member of the Oral Roberts University Board of Regents until it was replaced in 2008 with a new board that promised to hold to higher standards of financial accountability.³⁵ In October 2007 a lawsuit against the university was filed for financial and political wrongdoing.³⁶ Copeland's daughter, Terri, is married to George Pearsons,³⁷ who served until January 2008 as the ORU Board chairman.

In 1967 Kenneth and his wife, Gloria, founded Kenneth Copeland Ministries (KCM) in Fort Worth, Texas, and in 1979 they began airing their weekly broadcast, "Believer's Voice of Victory," which is seen by millions worldwide. They generate over \$100 million a year in revenue and they have spent millions for themselves through their 44 years of preaching the "prosperity gospel."

Copeland's **18,000 square-foot home** which is valued at **\$6.2 million** and his private jets are just some of the reasons that Kenneth Copeland Ministries was included in a Senate investigation into the finances of six ministries that focus on the "prosperity gospel."³⁸

A review of the Tarrant County Appraisal District records indicates that Eagle Mountain International Church (EMIC) owns a **18,280 square-foot residence** built in 1999. The house is located on 25 acres next to a lake and has tax-exempt status. As of the tax year 2008, the property was valued at **\$6,249,000**.



The 25 acre Copeland ranch valued at a mere \$6,249,000.

EMIC owns five aircraft that it uses in connection with its tax-exempt religious purposes. The fleet consisted of – a 1962 Beech H-18

twin, a 1973 Cessna 421B Golden Eagle, a 1975 Cessna 500 Citation, a 1998 Cessna 550 Citation Bravo and a 2005 Cessna Citation X (750C).

A former ministry employee said **Gloria** used a **jet** to fly to Naples, Florida, **to shop** for clothing, sculptures, furniture and personal items. John Copeland and ministry employees, Craig Atnip, Steve Poteet and others have used church jets to take hunting trips. Ken Copeland uses the jets to travel back and forth to Arkansas to see a chiropractor and also to take short stays at his cabin there. The **Copelands also use the jets to take vacations** at their home in Steamboat Springs, Colorado.



Cessna Citation X (750C)

In October of 2007, Brett Shipp of WFAA TV conducted an investigative report regarding the Copeland family’s personal use of church jets. He learned that they took trips to Steamboat Springs, Colorado and hunting trips to southern Texas in the EMIC jets. They also took frequent commercial air trips to Hawaii.³⁹

Copeland told donors to KCM that a **\$20 million jet** would only be used for EMIC/KCM business. Yet in the response to a Senate investigation the ministry acknowledged there was **some personal use of the ministry jet by the Copelands**, but no details were provided.

Copeland’s Eagle Mountain International Church and three other organizations under investigation refused to cooperate with the Senate committee. On July 7, 2008, Times Online reported that “Televangelist Kenneth Copeland refuses to render unto taxman.” Copeland’s statement concerning turning over the financial records of his ministries was, “It is not yours, it is God’s, and you are not going to get it.”⁴⁰ The Times reported that “strong tactics to prevent former employees from speaking about the organizations, even to Committee staff.”

Copeland bought his own airport for his fleet of private jets – Kenneth Copeland Airport. It is a private airport located eighteen miles northwest of the central business district of Fort Worth, in Tarrant County, Texas, USA.⁴¹ It is used mainly by Kenneth Copeland

Ministries which is located nearby. It was formerly known as the Marine Corps Air Station at Eagle Mountain Lake.

In December 2008, Copeland's 1998 Cessna Bravo 550, which is valued at \$3.6 million, was denied tax exemption after Copeland refused to submit to disclosure laws for the state of Texas.⁴²

According to Senator Grassley numerous televangelists who were invited to the Copeland's 40th anniversary in the religious business were urged to raise **\$1,000,000** to give to them as a **gift** (Proverbs 22.16). Creflo Dollar is thought to have raised \$500,000.^{42a} Happy Caldwell, pastor of Little Rock's Agape Church (Arkansas) said the televangelists gave the Copeland's a gift of **\$2.1 million**. He also noted it was the Copeland's son John who spearheaded the fundraising.^{42b}

The Copelands are not members of the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability and they have refused to co-operate Senator Grassley's Finance Committee. "Kenneth Copeland Ministries of Newark, Texas, and the affiliated Eagle Mountain International Church, was one of those that had been holding out. In a July 15 news release, the ministry said it has acted in good faith to respond to inquiries from Grassley but maintained any investigation should be done through an official Internal Revenue Service church tax inquiry, not one initiated by the Senate Finance Committee" (142 DTR G-6, 7/24/08).^{42c}

The Finance Committee's statement concerning the Copelands' cooperation was:

Kenneth and Gloria Copeland of Kenneth Copeland Ministries submitted partial responses to the majority of questions but did not provide a response to any of the compensation questions. Staff deems this submission to be not responsive and is hoping to engage the attorneys for the ministry in a dialogue to secure responses to all of the questions. However, since Kenneth Copeland has declared publicly that he will not submit responses even if a subpoena is issued, staff also is consulting with Senate attorneys about next steps.^{42d}

[**Authors' note:** The Copelands appear to be holding something back. Have they misused church funds for their personal benefit? If they have not used church funds for themselves why do they refuse to cooperate with the Senate investigation? Have they never read Romans 13.1-7? Do they believe they do not have to submit to the "governing authorities"? It certainly appears as though there is something wrong with the leadership of KCM and EMIC.]



Benny Hinn

Toufik Benedictus “Benny” Hinn was born to Palestinian Christian parents and reared in the Eastern Orthodox tradition.⁴³ Soon after the 1967 Arab-Israeli War, his family immigrated to Toronto, Ontario. It was as a teenager in Toronto that he converted from Greek Orthodoxy to Pentecostalism. He says that on December 21, 1973, he traveled by charter bus from Toronto to Pittsburgh to attend a “miracle service” conducted by Kathryn Kuhlman. Although he never met her personally, he often attended her “healing services” and has often cited her as a major influence in his life.

In 1983 he founded the Orlando Christian Center in Orlando, Florida he began to hold “healing services” which he called “Miracle Crusades.” He quickly expanded his operations to stadiums and large auditoriums around the world and started televising them in 1989. It was in 1990 that he launched a new daily talk show called *This Is Your Day*, which is seen on several cable and satellite networks worldwide. It premiered on the Trinity Broadcasting Network of Paul Crouch, who is a frequent guest.

Hinn is one of the wealthiest, most popular and influential televangelist in the world raking in about **\$100 million** a year. The audited financial statements of Benny Hinn Ministries for 2006, which were provided to the Senate Finance Committee that is investigating Hinn’s religious business and those of five other televangelists, show total revenue of **\$97.93 million**.

In March 2005 Ministry Watch issued a donor alert against the ministry urging donors to prayerfully consider withholding contributions to Benny Hinn Ministries/World Outreach Church.⁴⁵

On March 6, 2005, NBC Dateline aired a segment about Hinn entitled, “A Preacher’s Life.” It took several years to complete and hidden cameras were used to get the real story about Hinn’s claims of healing. Some of the shocking facts uncovered were:

Hinn’s salary is somewhere between **\$500,000 and \$1,000,000**. He also gets royalties from the sales of his books.

Personal perks for Hinn, his family and staff include a **\$10 million seaside mansion**; a private jet (Grumman Gulfstream II worth about **\$5 million** that cruises at 581 mph and carries 19 passengers) with annual operating costs of about **\$1.5 million**; a Mercedes SUV and a Mercedes convertible.

What the church termed “layovers” between crusades included hotel bills ranging from **\$900 per night** to royal suites that cost almost **\$3,000 for one night’s stay**. Layover locations included **Hawaii, Cancun, London, Milan** and other exotic locations.

Beverly Hills shopping sprees and receipts showing his **daughter received \$1,300 in petty cash**; her boyfriend got **\$2,550 for babysitting**; \$23,000 in cash dispersed to him and his wife; and \$25,000 in cash for expenses for a crusade that was just 30 minutes away by car from Hinn’s home.⁴⁶

Operatives of Trinity Foundation founder Ole Anthony discovered more embarrassing facts in Hinn’s trash in 1997. They found:

... a travel itinerary for Benny Hinn, the Trinity Broadcasting Network’s superstar faith healer who has filled sports arenas with ailing believers seeking miracles cures. Hinn’s itinerary included **first-class tickets on the Concorde from New York to London (\$8,850 each)** and reservations for **presidential suites at pricey European hotels (\$2,200 a night)**. A news story, including footage of Hinn and his associates boarding the jet, ran on CNN’s “Impact.”

In addition, property records and videos supplied by Trinity investigators led to CNN and Dallas Morning News coverage of another Hinn controversy: fund-raising for a \$30-million healing center in Dallas that has yet to be built.⁴⁷

An IRS investigation into Hinn's finances found that his income for 2004 was **\$1.325 million**.⁴⁸

Just after Hinn announced his move from Florida to Texas he said God told him to build a "World Healing Center." He raised \$30 million, but never built it. In April 2000, Hinn told Trinity Broadcasting Network's Paul Crouch, "I'm putting all the money we have in the ministry to get out there and preach. The day (to build the healing center) will come. I'm in no hurry; neither is God."⁴⁹ [**Authors' note:** He most likely decided to bank the money and spend it on himself by purchasing a \$3 million Oceanside mansion in Dana Point, cars and other worldly goods.]

When the NBC Dateline team checked more than a year-and-a-half later they could find no sign of any construction. But the Hinn web site kept promising that construction would be finished in, "a few short months." The official in charge of construction told Dateline that Hinn's ministry had not even been issued a building permit. He continued to solicit donations by posting a sign at its 'temporary orphanage,' which appeared to be empty, and on his web site.⁵⁰

In April 2000 his ministry began building a 58,000 square-foot office building in Irving, Texas, but in August a subsidiary company of Hinn's ministry began building a "parsonage" – a **\$10 million, 7,200 square-foot oceanfront home**, in Dana Point, California.



Hinn's \$10 million, 7,200 square-foot oceanfront home.

Allegations of financial impropriety by one of Hinn's former associates, dubious claims of healings and details of the pastor's

luxurious lifestyle caused a furor. Hinn tried to limit the damage by rebutting the charges in front of faithful viewers on the Trinity Broadcasting Network. He boldly looked into the camera and said the attacks were orchestrated by Satan. He claimed that he has repeatedly prayed to the Lord. “I injure Your name, take me out. Before I harm Your kingdom, kill me.” His pious claim did not work and donations dipped by 12% for the first quarter of 2003.

Hinn tried to save his reputation by meeting a Times reporter at the Four Seasons hotel in Newport Beach. He stepped out of his new **Mercedes-Benz G500**, an **\$80,000 SUV**, with **bodyguards** in tow. The reporter asked him what his annual salary was and Hinn “Look, any amount I make, somebody’s going to be mad,” he said. (He told CNN in 1997 that he earns between **\$500,000 and \$1 million** annually, including book royalties.)

Yet he voluntarily admitted that in 2002 he raked in **\$89 million** which was a record haul for his business. He had double-digit growth during the past three years through direct-mail requests, viewer donations and offerings taken at the Miracle Crusades.⁵¹



The \$80,000 Mercedes Benz G500 model SUV that Hinn owns.

Hinn ran afoul of his publisher by appearing to have an affair with Paula White. The Orlando Sentinel ran an article by Rene Stutzman entitled, “Faith healer violated our morality clause”:

A Lake Mary book publisher is suing tele-evangelist and faith healer Benny Hinn, saying he violated a morality clause in their contract when he began an “inappropriate relationship” with another evangelist, and thus, must pay \$250,000.

In August [2010], Hinn admitted to a friendship with evangelist Paula White after *The National Enquirer* published photos of them in Rome, holding hands. Hinn was married at the time. His wife, Suzanne, had filed for divorce a few months earlier.

Three years earlier, Hinn had signed a three-book deal with Strang Communications Co. of Lake Mary. He was paid a \$300,000 advance on the first one, *Blood in the Sand*, according to the suit. Hinn acknowledged to his publisher “his inappropriate relationship” with White in August, according to the suit, and agreed that the publisher should get back its money, but he has yet to pay up.⁵²

Hinn appears to be cooperating with Senator Grassley who is investigating him and five other prominent televangelists:

Benny Hinn of World Healing Center Church provided extensive answers to all questions in a series of submissions. Staff continues to review the materials submitted but is finding the responses to be in good faith and substantively informative.^{52a}



Joel Osteen

Joel Osteen, son of John Osteen, a former Southern Baptist pastor who became a Charismatic preacher in the late 1950s. John founded Lakewood Church on Mother's Day in 1959.⁵³ His church grew to 6,000 members with an active TV ministry, conferences, missionary support and food distribution before Joel took over upon John's death in 1999. Joel had produced his father's television programs for 17 years before succeeding him. He had only preached once in his life, the week before his father's death.⁵⁴

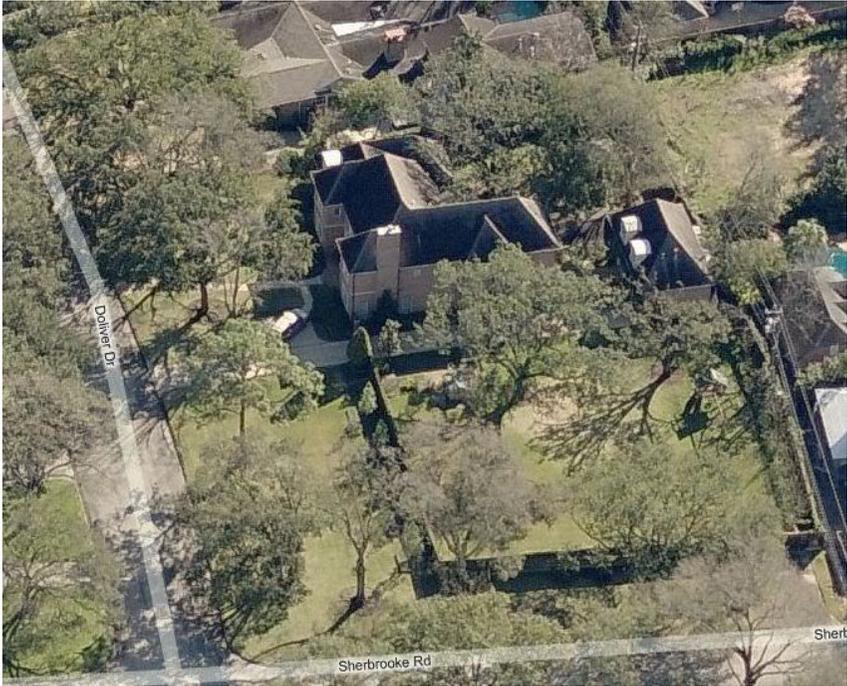
Lakewood Church services are seen in over 100 nations⁵⁵ and Osteen's first book, *Your Best Life Now: 7 Steps to Living at Your Full Potential*, sold millions. His second book, *Become a Better You: 7 Keys to Improving Your Life Every Day*, topped the New York Times Best Sellers List with a first printing of four million copies.⁵⁶

His popularity led to him being featured as one of ABC News' "10 Most Fascinating People of 2006,"⁵⁷ and he was named "Most Influential Christian in America" in 2006 by the Church Report.⁵⁸

All of his accomplishments have not come due to education. He is a college dropout⁵⁹ who never attended seminary.^{59a} He has made millions of dollars through his charismatic preaching and focusing on the blessings of God rather than on His justice and punishment of sin. He rarely if ever talks about Hell and the Lake of Fire.

Osteen collected his last salary in 2004 (\$200,000), but since then has relied solely on sales of his books for income. He sold about three million copies since 2005.⁵⁹

The Osteens moved to a **\$10.5 million** mansion in River Oaks, while keeping their former Tanglewood residence, valued at **\$2.9 million**. They are attempting to sell a vacant lot next to their Tanglewood home for **\$1.1 million**.⁶⁰ The new mansion is situated on **1.86 acres** and surrounded by an ornamental fence. It has six bedrooms, six bathrooms, three elevators and five wood-burning fireplaces, with a one-bedroom guest house and pool house.⁵⁹



This is the old home of the Osteens worth just \$3,000,000.



John Hagee founder of Christians United for Israel.

John Hagee

Since John Hagee and his wife, Diana, founded GETV 25 years ago, the organization has gone from a back-room operation broadcasting Sunday sermons to San Antonio area viewers only to a 50,000-square-

foot multimedia studio broadcasting to 127 television stations and 82 radio stations nationwide.

According to the 990 forms for GETV, the organization made a net profit of \$12.3 million from donations in 2001, \$4.8 million in profit from books and tapes, and another \$1.1 million from other sources for a grand total of net profit of \$18.2 million.

Hagee received **\$540,000** from GETV and **\$411,561** in benefits, including contributions to a retirement package. He even was paid a salary and benefits of **\$302,005** from Cornerstone Church making his take **\$1,253,566**.

He set up the John Hagee Rabbi Trust which includes a **\$2.1 million 7,969-acre** ranch outside Brackettville, with five lodges, a manager's house, a smokehouse, a skeet range, three barns and a gun locker. The Hagees also have three other homes worth \$6 million between them.⁶¹ One is a **5,275 square-foot**, 6 bedroom mansion in one of San Antonio's most exclusive gated communities (The Dominion). The house is appraised at **\$737,000** as of 2007.^{61b}

Hagee's compensation was among the highest pay packages for television evangelists in 2001, according to IRS 990 filings. In addition Hagee's wife received compensation of **\$67,907** as vice president of GETV and **\$58,813** as special events director for Cornerstone Church. The Hagees' total take for 2001 was a whopping **\$1,380,286**.⁶² There is no telling what the Hagees are raking in 10 years later.



One of the untold homes John Hagee owns.⁶¹



Another of the untold homes John Hagee owns.⁶¹



Morris and Theresa Cerullo

Morris Cerullo

Morris Cerullo, an ordained Assembly of God Minister and Healing Evangelist, was born in Passaic, New Jersey to a Russian-Jewish/Italian family. His parents died in an automobile accident when he was only two years old. He was then raised in an Orthodox Jewish orphanage in nearby Clifton, New Jersey, because of his Jewish heritage. He claims he was led out of Judaism by heavenly messengers. This experience led him to receiving Jesus Christ as his Savior at age fourteen. It was at the young age of sixteen that he began preaching the gospel after receiving a vision from God in which he saw people suffering in Hell. After graduating from divinity school in New York in 1953 he began ministering with the help of his bride to be Theresa.⁶³

He held conferences outdoors which he called “Schools of Ministry” in the Netherlands, Mexico, Brazil, Korea, Zimbabwe, South Africa, Kenya, Nigeria, Indonesia, the Phillipines and other countries. After leading people in a commitment to Jesus Christ he would then pray for healings to happen in the crowd. Cerullo stated that it was not he who did the healing, but Jesus Christ.⁶³

The federal bankruptcy court allowed Cerullo to purchase Jim Bakker’s PTL’s cable television network, The Inspirational Network, for \$7 million. It was renamed, “INSP-The Inspiration Network” and transferred into a separate entity – the “Inspiration Networks.” Cerullo’s son David has served as the corporation’s President and CEO, and as a member of its Board of Directors since its formation. In 2005 he was elected to serve as its chairman. The organization, located in Charlotte, North Carolina, built a new multi-million dollar broadcast headquarters facility known as “The City of Light” in Lancaster County, South Carolina, which opened on March 1, 2009.⁶³

Over the years Cerullo has been criticized for the manner and style of his fundraising practices in the developed countries to finance his mission work.⁶⁴⁻⁶⁵ While no charges were brought against Cerullo’s religious business, he was found to have under-represented his income for 1998 through 2000. He was indicted by a federal grand jury in 2005 on three counts of **filing false individual income tax returns**, which allegedly under-reported his income by **\$550,000**.⁶⁶ Yet no trial was held due to a legal technicality.⁶⁷

Cerullo’s **12,000 square-foot, \$12 million** mansion is nestled behind two secured gates in Ranch Sante Fe neighborhood, purported to be the richest in the country. Cerullo and his wife are the only ones who live there a mere 30% of the year because their extensive travel schedule.⁶⁸

The Cerullus fly around the world in their Gulfstream G4, worth **\$50 million**. He has two full-time pilots and a stewardess who said in depositions that the plane has a gold-plated interior. He has previously owned three private jets.⁶⁹

David Cerullo

David Cerullo, the son of international evangelist Morris Cerullo, is a graduate of Oral Roberts University with a degree in Business Administration and Management.

Under Cerullo's leadership, the Inspiration Networks – INSP, Inspiration Network International (INI), and La Familia Cosmovision, a Spanish-language network for Hispanic families – have a combined viewership of more than 150 million households around the world.

Senator Charles Grassley (R-Iowa) has been trying to pry open the books of televangelists he suspects of living extravagant lifestyles at the expense of their followers. He questions whether they deserve the tax exemption they enjoy. A recent report that Cerullo spent around **\$4 million** on his new mansion has Grassley concerned.

Cerullo's new **9,000 square-foot** home with a **2,000 square-foot porch** overlooks Lake Keowee. Meanwhile, Inspiration and its subsidiaries have laid off a number of workers, frozen wages, stopped 401K contributions, and turned the thermostat in its headquarters down to 65 degrees in 2008. His home is more than four times the average square footage of homes in America and his porch alone is larger than the homes of most Americans. That is an extremely large house for a family of four. Maybe David's five grandchildren live with him.



Cerullo's 9,000 square-foot home that overlooks Lake Keowee.

According to the Charlotte Observer, Cerullo's network brought in close to **\$100 million** in 2007, much of from donations. It has also received up to **\$26 million in incentives** over the past few years from the state of South Carolina. These were given to lure the network from its former home in Charlotte. Cerullo receives over **\$1.5 million** a year in salary. His wife received **\$198,000** and his children and their spouses

raked in **\$400,000.**⁶⁹⁻⁷⁰ That is a whopping **\$2 million** for David Cerullo's family. Incredible!

Grassley points to the tax code language prohibiting non-profit organizations from paying unreasonable compensation to the executives. What is reasonable, he asks? In this case, I think the people to answer that question are those who donated to the Inspiration Network. Are you content that some of your money went for a **\$4 million** home for Cerullo?⁷⁰

Everyone who gives money to the Cerullos or any televangelist needs to ask himself if YAHWEH truly wants them to live like kings spending hundreds of millions of dollars on themselves which could be used to feed millions of starving babies around the world, and send the Gospel to billions of people headed straight to Hell and the Lake of Fire for ALL ETERNITY!

They also need to ask themselves if they want to be a partner of the televangelists and what they will say to Jesus Christ on Judgment Day.



Cathy and Jesse Duplantis

Jesse Duplantis

Jesse Duplantis, reared a Roman Catholic, was a member of the "Summer Wine" band. Using the stage name "Jerry Jaxon" he earned a living as an opening act and back-up band for rock groups. He even performed as a heavy metal replacement guitarist for several high profile bands on tour. But it was after hearing Billy Graham preach that he was converted and soon started preaching himself.

He preached his first sermon in 1976⁷¹ and later was introduced by John Hagee as “The Apostle of Joy” on a TBN broadcast. He made that title his professional public relations slogan. He has been a full-time evangelist since 1978 relying heavily on his musical and comedic talents. He is the founder of Jesse Duplantis Ministries (JDM), and along with his wife, Cathy, they founded Covenant Church in 1997.⁷²⁻⁷³

Duplantis claims Jesus told him he would get his own private plane. He has had three private jets which are owned by his religious business – one of those jets had the registry number N770JD. He owned a Cessna Citation 500 (**\$1.25 million**), but his current jet appears to be a Dessault Falcon 50 (**\$3 million**) or a Dessault Falcon 50EX (**\$10 million**).⁷⁴

Since 2000 he has taken nearly 2,500 trips on those jets. Two of those trips were to Hawaii and eleven to Las Vegas. Just one 17-day trip to Hawaii cost his religious business **\$40,000**.⁷⁴ [Authors’ note: How many starving babies in Africa could Duplantis have fed with that money? Is his down time more important than the eternal soul of millions of starving babies?]



The 22,000 square-foot 6 bedroom, 7 bathroom Duplantis mansion.

In 2010 his religious business built him a two-story 25-room, **22,000 square-foot 6 bedroom and 7 bathroom** mansion on the corner of River Road and Ormond Boulevard in Destrehan, Louisiana. The ministry rectory has an additional **13,000 square-feet** of accessory space including the attached garage. This incredible mansion is estimated to cost a mere **\$3 million**. The first floor of the rectory has two bedrooms, 4 1/2 bathrooms, a kitchen, a dining room, a breakfast room and a parlor. The second floor has four bedrooms, three full bathrooms, two half bathrooms, a fun room and a theater.⁷⁴



Peter Popoff

Peter Popoff, a German-born American “faith healer,” rakes in millions of dollars each year by airing television infomercials. His religious business, Ministry People United for Christ Inc., is based in Upland, California. He was very successful in the 1980s making millions of dollars by pretending to heal the sick and receive information about audience members directly from God. Yet he went bankrupt in 1987 after James Randi and Alexander Jason⁷⁵ exposed his method of receiving information about revival attendees from his wife via an in-ear receiver.⁷⁶

He has since returned to his religious business with infomercials offering “supernatural debt relief” in exchange for offerings of hundreds or even thousands of dollars. This business is so lucrative that according to IRS documents, he raked in **\$23.5 million** and paid himself and his immediate family more than **\$1 million** in 2009.⁷⁷⁻⁷⁸

As of 2011 his paid infomercial can be seen daily on Black Entertainment Television,⁷⁹ the Discovery Channel,⁸⁰ the WORD Network,⁸¹ the Travel Channel, the Learning Channel, Global Television, TV One as well as over 25 local stations. In Canada his infomercial is on Vision TV⁸² as well as the Super Channel.⁸³ He has also expanded his operations into Europe and Australia.

The “Performer Pigasus Award” for 2010 for “Best Comeback” went to televangelist Peter Popoff. He has made a comeback and is once again preying on victims of the second Great Depression.⁷⁷

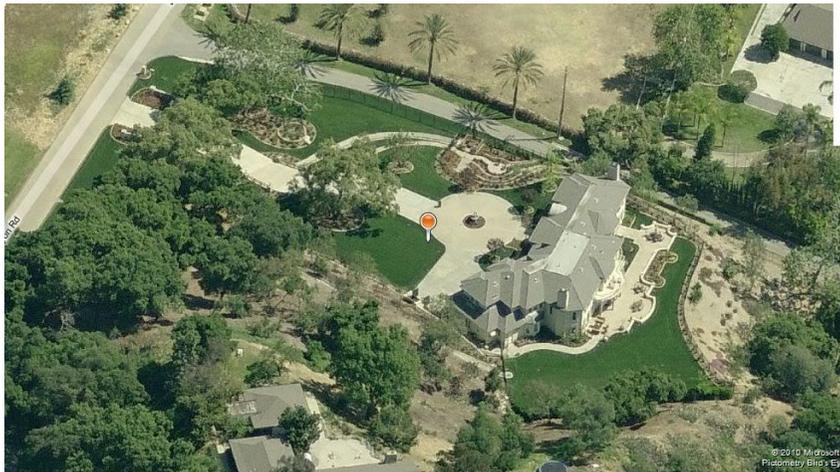
The Popoffs' homes



Home number one of the Popoff's.



The second Popoff home.



The third home of the Popoffs⁶¹

A couple questions everyone must ask himself who believes that one, some or most of the televangelists are holy men of YAHWEH are:

Why do they live like Hollywood movie stars and virtually never interact with the average man in their audience?

Since Jesus ate with the average person and lived like a pauper, and all Christians are commanded to imitate Him (Matthew 16.24; 1 Peter 2.21) are the televangelists failing to follow Jesus?

Are they so important that they cannot waste their time dealing with people in person?

Must they spend all of their time preaching on television and in stadiums?

Are they greater than Jesus Christ who preached to only a few hundred or a few thousand at a time?

Do they need to live in multi-million dollar mansions, flying in private jets, drive high-priced cars, wear expensive clothing and jewelry to make people believe that what they preach is true?

Did Jesus, Peter, Paul, John and all the apostles make a mistake in wearing poor men's robes and not buying fancy horses, chariots, homes and jewelry?

Could they have saved more people had they lived like kings?



Lindsay and Richard Roberts

Richard Roberts

In 1980, Oral's son, Richard Roberts, began his own healing ministry and also became President of Oral Roberts Ministries. Roberts holds healing rallies around the world and hosts a nightly interactive healing television program, "The Place for Miracles." His wife, Lindsay hosts a daily half-hour program, "Make Your Day Count," that ministers to the needs of women.^{83a}

He inherited a religious empire (Oral Roberts Evangelistic Association) and took advantage of it as long as he could. In 2007 it earned \$12,952,755, but spent \$14,966,687 leaving a deficit of \$-2,013,932.^{83b} The "Net Assets" in 2007 were \$-15,261,450^{83b} and Roberts was paid \$477,122 as president and CEO. His wife, Lindsay, earned \$196,818 as executive vice president, and his late father, Oral, received \$161,872 as a trustee.^{83b} Charity Navigator gives OREA an overall efficiency rating of 1 out of 4 stars.^{83c}

It has been alleged that Roberts used university funds: so Lindsay, could go on a \$39,000 shopping spree; to pay for his daughter's \$29,411 trip to the Bahamas by providing the university jet and billing other costs to the school; to maintain a stable of horses on campus and at university expense for the exclusive use of his children; to remodel his house at university expense 11 times in 14 years, pay for damage done by his daughters to university-owned golf carts; and regularly

summoned university and ministry staff to the Roberts house to do his daughters' homework. He also acquired a red Mercedes convertible and a white Lexus SUV for Lindsay through ministry donors.^{83d-f}

In a wrongful termination lawsuit filed against the university on former ORU accountant Trent Huddleston claimed he had been ordered to help Roberts and his wife “cook the books” by misclassifying nearly \$123,000 in funds allegedly spent by the university on remodeling the Roberts' home. Huddleston had been an employee for less than one year. The lawsuit was eventually thrown out due to a lack of evidence. ORU claimed he was nothing more than a disgruntled employee.^{83f} Roberts tendered his resignation to the university's board of regents on November 23, 2007, effective immediately. In an emailed statement he said, “I love ORU with all my heart. I love the students, faculty, staff and administration and I want to see God's best for all of them.”^{83e}

Huddleston also claims that he discovered an “unrestricted” account used to funnel “unusually large” sums of money through the university each month – which would exceed \$1 billion on an annual basis – that was not used for any legitimate university purpose.^{83g}

[**Authors' note:** Where would a billion dollars a year be coming from? Is it possible that ORU and other religious businesses are being used to launder illegal earnings? If this report is true it confirms the suspicion of this author, R. W. Keller, that the CIA has used many religious businesses to launder drug money and has funded them to push specific ideologies that further its goals.]



Mike Murdock

Mike Murdock, the son of a Pentecostal pastor who attended Southwestern Assemblies of God University in Waxahachie for three semesters before dropping out, is a televangelist and pastor of the

Wisdom Center ministry based in Fort Worth, Texas, who preaches the “prosperity gospel” harder than most televangelists.⁸⁴

He gained notoriety in the 1980s on the PTL Club television show with Jim and Tammy Bakker. Murdock was not hurt by the PTL scandal and went on to develop his own television ministry.

In 2000, Mike Murdock received a compensation package that was on a par with that of some of the highest-paid directors of Christian charities in the country. But those executives oversaw a collective \$1.5 billion in revenue in 2000. That year, the Mike Murdock Evangelistic Association brought in a mere \$3.9 million. Murdock gave himself a salary of \$104,819 and benefits worth \$138,000.⁸⁵

While Murdock preaches that ministry employees should prosper, his staff does not share in the abundance. No one earns more than \$50,000 a year, according to the most recent IRS forms. Federal and county records show that some ministry employees live in manufactured homes valued at less than \$50,000 that they rent or have bought from the ministry. Other longtime employees have lived in apartments.⁸⁵

In 1998, when Murdock received \$199,784 in salary and \$138,000 in expenses for a total of **\$337,784**, the ministry told at least four employees that it could not pay overtime, according to a memo dated June 17, 1998.⁸⁵

IRS records show his salary and compensation package from 1993 to 2000 averaged **\$241,685** a year, or about nine percent of the \$21,040,299 the ministry took in during that period.⁸⁵ [Authors’ note: From 1983 to 1985, Murdock received an average salary of \$27,912 a year and had no expense account or benefits. His salary was 3.6 percent of the ministry’s revenue.]

In 2000, when the ministry received \$3,858,637, it spent a paltry \$2,056 on “needy families and benevolence.” That same year, it spent **\$65,348 on flowers and gifts**. At year’s end, the ministry had \$451,805 more revenue than expenses.⁸⁵

In 1999, the ministry spent a whopping \$24,990 for the needy, but that amount still represented a tiny part of its revenue – \$2,955,011. It is not even one percent. In 1998, it spent only \$2,257 on “needy families and benevolence” out of \$2,644,681 in revenue, less than one-tenth of one percent.⁸⁵

Another charity that Murdock gives to is the Marion Zirkle Children’s Ministry, which operates a children’s foundation in Guatemala. In 2000 the Mike Murdock Evangelistic Association gave

an incredible \$2,700 to the children's ministry; a whopping \$625 in 1999, and an astounding \$700 in 1998.⁸⁵ [Authors' note: At least he increased his giving to these orphans by a considerable amount in 2000. We believe he probably spent more on just one dinner with his wife and friends several times in 1998 and 1999 that totaled more than he gave to the orphans for an entire year.]



Apollo 5000 GT Coupe

Details of Murdock's lifestyle were pieced together from documents obtained by the Trinity Foundation, a televangelist watchdog group in Dallas; Denton County property-appraisal records; a report of a burglary at his home; interviews; and excerpts from his broadcasts and books. They show a man living a Hollywood lifestyle.

Murdock describes himself as a "Wal-Mart guy" but he wears a **\$25,000 Rolex** and he takes notes with a **\$4,500** fountain pen. He says he drives a BMW 745 (**\$70,000**), but he prefers driving a Porsche to the ministry. He has had at his disposal a ministry owned Corvette, Jaguar, Mercedes, Lincolns, a rare Apollo 5000 GT Coupe (one of 90 made) and a Cessna Citation 500 corporate jet valued at a mere **\$500,000**.⁸⁵

He lives in a 3,177-square-foot adobe house that he calls Hacienda de Paz (House of Peace). It sits on a 6.8-acre estate, east of Argyle. There is also a 1,660-square-foot building on his estate whose use is unclear. The property was valued at a modest **\$482,027** in 2002.⁸⁵



Hacienda de Paz⁶¹

His hacienda is protected by a black wrought-iron fence. The gates are monogrammed with MM. His well-kept estate has a tennis court and four gazebos. At various times he has had a lion, camel, antelope, donkey and numerous llamas, ducks, geese and dogs. His ponds are stocked with koi and catfish. He also has a “NBA-style” basketball court to shoot baskets on. Murdock also has his own gym, a home theater, a swimming pool and a Jacuzzi.⁸⁵



Joyce Meyer

According to her web site Joyce Meyer is a Charismatic Christian author and speaker who teaches on hundreds of subjects. In 1985 she

founded Life in the Word which later became Joyce Meyer Ministries, headquartered in the St. Louis suburb of Fenton, Missouri, to share her “prosperity gospel” with the world. So far she has authored over 80 books, in over 80 different languages. More than 12 million of her books have been distributed around the world, and in 2007 more than 3.2 million copies were sold.⁸⁷

It has been reported that Meyer reduced her annual salary from **\$900,000** to **\$250,000** after an expose by the St. Louis Post Dispatch. However the royalties from her many books are estimated to be worth anywhere from hundreds of thousands to millions of dollars a year.⁸⁸ Like many of the “prosperity preachers” she has an honorary doctorate in divinity from Oral Roberts University in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Her religious business is said to have provided more than 11.5 million meals to people around the world in 2006, and over the years has built more than 190 wells to provide clean drinking water. “The ministry funds more than 40 orphanages across Asia, and locally it works with Ronald McDonald House and St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, among other organizations.”⁸⁹

Meyer’s headquarters is a **158,000 square-foot**, three-story red brick building with emerald-color glass that, from the outside, has the look and feel of a luxury resort hotel. Built in 2001 for **\$20 million** and currently valued at **\$30 million**, the building and grounds which are highlighted by a five-story lighted cross are meticulously cared for.⁹⁰

The driveway to the office complex is lined on both sides with the flags of dozens of nations reached by the ministry. A large bronze sculpture of the Earth sits atop an open Bible near the parking lot. Just outside the main entrance, a sculpture of an American eagle landing on a tree branch stands near a man-made waterfall. A message in gold letters greets employees and visitors over the front entryway: “Look what the Lord Has Done.”⁹¹ [**Authors’ note:** God did not give Meyer her millions. She made millions by teaching false doctrines.]

The building is decorated with religious paintings, sculptures, and quality furniture. A Jefferson County assessor’s list offers a glimpse into the value of many of the items: a **\$30,000** malachite round table, a **\$23,000** marble-topped antique commode, a **\$19,000** pair of Dresden vases, six French crystal vases bought for **\$18,500**, a **\$14,000** custom office bookcase, an **\$11,219** French clock, an **\$8,000** Dresden porcelain depicting the Nativity, a **\$7,000** Stations of the Cross in Dresden porcelain, a **\$6,300** eagle sculpture on a pedestal, another eagle made of silver bought for **\$5,000**, two **\$5,800** curio cabinets, a **\$5,700** porcelain

of the Crucifixion, a pair of German porcelain vases bought for **\$5,200** and numerous paintings purchased for **\$1,000 to \$4,000** each.⁹¹

As of 2003, the ministry also owned a fleet of vehicles with an estimated value of **\$440,000**. The Jefferson County assessor has been trying to get the complex and its contents added to the tax rolls but has failed.⁹¹

Meyer drives the ministry's 2002 Lexus SC sports car with a retractable top, valued at **\$53,000**. Her son Dan, 25, drives the ministry's 2001 Lexus sedan, with a value of **\$46,000**. Meyer's husband drives his **\$107,000** Mercedes-Benz S55 AMG sedan.⁹¹

The Meyers keep the ministry's Canadair CL-600 Challenger jet, which Joyce says is worth **\$10 million**, at Spirit of St. Louis Airport in Chesterfield. The ministry employs two full-time pilots to fly the Meyers to conferences around the world. She calls the plane a "lifesaver" for her and her family. "It enabled us, at our age, to travel literally all over the world and preach the gospel" with better security than that offered on commercial flights, she said.⁹¹ [Authors' note: Meyer's jet is currently valued at **\$4.5 million**. Why does Meyer need security? Who does she think she is?]

Minutes of ministry board meetings show that for 2002 and 2003, the board approved compensation packages of up to **\$900,000** for Joyce and up to **\$450,000** for her husband. Any personal use of the ministry's corporate plane or automobiles was to be deducted from those totals. 66] Their children are also on the payroll. According to tax records for 2003, the ministry paid David \$101,076; another son, Daniel, received \$49,453 and daughter Laura Holtzmann who works part time was paid \$14,250. In 2001, their other daughter, Sandra McCollom, was paid \$50,203.⁹²

Since 1999, the ministry has spent at least **\$4 million** on five homes for Joyce and her four children in St. Louis County. Her house, the largest of the five, is a **10,000 square-foot** Cape Cod style estate home with a guest house and a garage that can be independently heated and cooled and can hold up to **eight cars**. The three-acre property has a large fountain, a gazebo, a private putting green, a pool and a pool house where the ministry recently added a **\$10,000** bathroom.^{91, 93}

The ministry pays for utilities, maintenance, landscaping and renovation costs of all the homes. The Meyers ordered major rehab work at the ministry's expense right after the ministry bought three of the homes. The ministry bought one home, leveled it and then built a new home on the site to the specifications of Meyer's daughter Sandra

and her husband. Even the property taxes (**\$15,629**) are paid by the ministry.⁹¹ The ministry even gives the Meyers a **\$50,000** annual housing allowance.⁹⁴

Meyer called the homes a “good investment” for the ministry and said the ministry bears the cost of upkeep and maintenance because the family is too busy to take care of such tasks. “It’s just too hard to keep up with something like that when you travel as much as we do,” Meyer said.⁹¹ [**Authors’ note:** Does Meyer believe she is too busy to let someone in her religious empire hire the work done and then pay for it herself? Is she too busy to write a check for the upkeep costs?]

She said that federal tax law allows ministries to buy parsonages for their employees, so the arrangement does not violate any prohibitions against personal benefit. Meyer also said the decision to cluster the families together was a way to build a buffer to better ensure privacy and security. “We put good people all around us,” she said. “Obviously, if I was trying to hide anything or thought I was doing anything wrong, I wouldn’t live on the corner of Gravois and 270.”⁹¹

Last year, the Meyers bought a **\$500,000** atrium ranch lakefront home in Porto Cima, a private-quarters club at Lake of the Ozarks. A few weeks later, they bought two watercrafts similar to Jet Skis and a **\$105,000** Crownline boat painted red, white and blue that they named the Patriot.⁹¹ [**Authors’ note:** Does Joyce and her family need the expensive homes they live in, the luxury cars and all of the incredibly expensive furnishings to serve God? Did the Apostles have all of those worldly things? Did John the Baptist and the Old Testament prophets need vast riches to serve God? Why do Joyce, her family and most televangelists?]

In 2000 Joyce also bought her parents a \$130,000 home just a few minutes away from their compound. The Mercedes, the lake house, the boat and her parents’ home are in an irrevocable trust, an arrangement that tax experts say would help protect them from any financial problems at the ministry.⁹¹ [**Authors’ note:** Why does Joyce and her children not live in homes worth just a paltry \$130,000 like the one Joyce bought for her parents? Does Joyce love herself and her children more than her parents?]

Meyer says she should not have to defend how she spends the ministry’s money. “We teach and preach and believe biblically that God wants to bless people who serve Him,” Meyer said. “So there’s no need for us to apologize for being blessed.”⁹¹ [**Authors’ note:** We wonder why God has allegedly “blessed” all televangelists with

millions of dollars each while he gave virtually all the Old Testament prophets, John the Baptist, the great apostle Paul and the other apostles just enough to live on and most of them died martyrs. Does He love the televangelists more than the great heroes of the faith?]

Senator Grassley said Meyer was cooperating with him: “Joyce Meyer Ministries provided extensive answers to all questions. Staff continues to review the materials submitted but generally is finding the responses to be in good faith and substantively informative.”^{94a}

The Meyer houses

Residence of: Joyce and Dave Meyer

Bought: April 27, 1999

Purchase Price: About \$800,000

Square Footage: 10,000

Cost of Improvements: \$1.1 Million (Total value: \$1.9 million)

Features: 6 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, putting green, swimming pool, 8 car heated/ac garage, a gazebo and a 2 BR guest house.

Residence of: Son, David Meyer and his wife Joy.

Bought: June 18, 2001

Purchase Price: \$725,000 (Asking price in 2007 – \$1.25 million)

Square Footage: 4,000

Cost of Improvements: Unknown

Features: 2 story colonial, 4 bedrooms, 2 1/2 bathrooms, 2 garages and a utility shed.

Residence of: Daughter, Sandra McCollom and husband Steve

Bought: February 12, 2002

Purchase Price: \$400,000 (Asking price in 2007 – \$1.3 million)

Square Footage: About 5,000

Cost of Improvements: About \$250,000

Features: 4 bedrooms, 3 full and 2 half bathrooms, all-seasons room, prayer Room, media center and a home office.

Residence of: Daughter, Laura Holtzmann and husband Doug

Bought: March 7, 2001

Purchase Price: \$350,000

Square Footage: 2,358

Cost of Improvements: \$3,000

Features: 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms and a fireplace.⁹⁵



Joyce Meyer's mansion⁶¹

Bottom line of JMM for 2009

Total income 2009	\$102,458,152
Program expenses	\$92,649,430
Fund raising expenses	\$6,199,178
Admin. Expenses	\$13,474,177
Total expenses	\$112,322,785
Expenses in excess of income	\$9,864,633
Beginning net assets	\$73,228,598
Ending net assets	\$63,363,965
Total liabilities	\$7,529,603
Total assets	\$70,893,568 ⁹⁶



Paula White with her Chihuahua.⁹⁷

Randy and Paula White

Randy and Paula White, founders of Without Walls International Church (WWIC), made millions preaching the “prosperity gospel” until their divorce in 2007.

The Whites lived in two residences – a mansion in Tampa Florida and a condo in New York City. According to the Hillsborough County property records, from 2002 until their divorce in August of 2007, the Whites owned an **8,072 square-foot** home located in the very prestigious area of Bayshore in Tampa, Florida. The 2008 market value of their home with a waterfront view of Tampa Bay is **\$2,681,211**. The Whites purchased the property in 2002 and borrowed \$2 million from Suntrust Bank. An insider told the Senate committee staffers investigating the Whites and five other prominent televangelists that an accounting firm hired by WWIC told the Whites to purchase the largest house they could find. In 2003 the Whites hired a pool contractor to build them a pool and spa.^{97a}

According to an insider the Whites also purchased a **\$3.5 million** condo in **Trump Tower** in New York City. Trump Tower is a 68-story skyscraper located at the corner of East 56th Street on the Upper East Side of Manhattan. There is a five-level atrium in the lobby that is crowned with a skylight and contains shops, a café, a seven-story waterfall that flows over rose, peach, pink and orange Breccia Perniche

marble, and a pedestrian bridge that crosses over the waterfall's pool. The Atrium is "a showcase for 40 purveyors of super luxury wares such as Loewe of Madrid, Asprey's of London and the jewelers, Cartier, Harry Winston and Buccellati."⁹⁸



Paula White owned an apartment in Trump Tower, NYC.

Without Walls International Church and Paula White Ministries (PWM) raked in **\$21 million** in 2004, **\$28 million** in 2005 and nearly **\$40 million** in 2006.⁹⁷

The Whites refuse to make public what compensation they receive but an audit found their ministries paid out about **\$5.5 million** in salaries for 2006. Since they will not say how many employees they have on staff it is hard to determine how much they make. Yet an employee testified to the Senate Finance Committee that Paula and Randy both draw a salary of over **\$1 million** and housing allowances of **\$714,000** in 2005 **\$883,000** in 2006. Their children were paid **\$420,000** in 2004, **\$560,000** in 2005, **\$700,000** in 2006 and **\$1,075,000** in 2007.⁹⁷

The Whites flew around in a 1969 Gulfstream II (N374PS) which they bought in 2006 for **\$1.2 million**. Prior to that they flew in chartered jets and jets owned by Duplantis and Hinn. Their favorite places to vacation at was the Cayman Islands. Their travel expenses for 2005 totaled a whopping **\$2.4 million** and **\$2.9 million** in 2006.⁹⁷ [Authors' note: Considering the fact that their salaries were over **\$1 million** each and their housing allowance for 2006 was **\$883,000**, they

were the highest paid televangelist couple in the world with a combined income of over **\$3 million**. This excludes revenues from books, DVDs, etc. Their dreams crashed in 2007 when they divorced.]

If one can afford a **\$2.6 million** home on Bayshore Boulevard and a **\$3.5 million** Trump Tower condo in New York, giving away a **\$280,000 Bentley** as a birthday gift is no big deal. For T.D. Jake's 50th birthday, Paula gave him a black convertible Bentley. It was intended to be a quiet gift, but a zealous member of Jakes' ministry leaked it.

"Some people thought 'Why would you do that?'" White later explained, saying that Jakes is her spiritual father. "I thought, 'Well, why wouldn't I? That's not even an option.'"⁹⁹

The greed of the Whites reached an all-time low in 1999 when they cheated Ruth McGinnis, an 85-year-old widow, out of her life's savings leaving her homeless and destitute. When they were confronted with their crime they denied it and refused to answer questions.¹⁰⁰⁻¹⁹

[**Authors' note:** Paula can give T.D. Jakes a Bentley worth **\$280,000** yet **steal** a widow's house worth **\$170,000**. Maybe she justified stealing the widow's house by giving Jakes the present eight years later.]

What goes around comes around

Whoso stoppeth his ears at the cry of the poor, He also shall cry, but shall not be heard. (Proverbs 21.13)



The White's modest mansion while married.

On August 23, 2007, Randy and Paula White announced to their congregation that they would divorce. According to The Christian Post, Paula White says the divorce was amicable, and her husband agreed to take the responsibility for their failed marriage.¹⁰¹

According to blackchristiannews.com “Without Walls sputtered without her.”¹⁰¹ The church membership dropped rapidly and it soon faced foreclosure. The bank that gave the Whites a loan of **\$12 million** for the property, including the 4,000-seat sanctuary, demanded immediate repayment.¹⁰²

The divorce shattered the image of a power couple that was united in purpose by their faith. At their peak, the Whites preached a “prosperity gospel” and enjoyed a lavish lifestyle, expensive homes and cars – even a private jet – but the church went bankrupt after they reneged on their marriage vows to each other and to God. The congressional investigation into their business and five other religious businesses was the final nail in the coffin. The Senate questioned the way the Whites were spending the millions of dollars Without Walls was collecting.¹⁰²

Randy White was arrested and charged in May of 2011 with driving under the influence. Tampa police stopped him around 11:30 p.m. near Ashley Drive and Interstate 275. Police recorded his blood-alcohol content at 0.093 percent and 0.095% according to jail records. The legal limit in Florida is 0.08 percent.¹⁰³

Michael Mille

Michael Mille, head of White Dove Fellowship, is a “prosperity gospel” preacher who has a new angle on greed. He purchases private residences and sells them to his religious foundation for a hefty profit. He began by buying a property in 2006 for \$10,000. He built a house on it at a cost of \$107,400, and then sold it to WDF for \$148,000 giving him a profit of about **\$30,000**. In that same year he bought a property for \$57,000 and sold it eleven months later to WDF for \$105,000 a profit of **\$48,000**. In 2007 for \$850,000 and sold it three months later to WDF for \$1.2 million in 2007 for a massive profit of **\$350,000**. He currently owns seven homes in his name worth **\$2 million**. Mille's religious business also owns a private jet he purchased from fellow televangelist Jesse Duplantis.⁸⁶



T.D. and Serita Jakes

Thomas Dexter Jakes is the chief pastor of The Potter's House, a non-denominational American mega-church, with 30,000 members, located in Dallas, Texas. According to TDJ Enterprises, he is a prolific author of more than 30 books, two of which reached No. 3 on the New York Times Best Sellers list. Jakes' music label Dexterity Sounds, has produced many music projects, including the Grammy Award-winning "A Wing and a Prayer." He has appeared as a guest on Dr. Phil, The Doctors, Oprah, CNN and MSNBC. He has also been profiled in Forbes Magazine, the Washington Post, Essence, Time, Ebony and D Magazine."¹⁰⁴

His church services and evangelistic sermons are broadcast on "The Potter's Touch," which airs on the Trinity Broadcasting Network, Black Entertainment Television, the Daystar Television Network, the Word Network and the Miracle Channel in Canada. Other aspects of his ministry include an annual revival called "MegaFest" (which draws more than 100,000 people), an annual women's conference called "Woman Thou Art Loosed," and gospel music recordings.

Jakes justifies his lifestyle of the rich and famous by using Jesus as an example. He contends that Jesus "employed" 12 people to help spread his message, implying that He paid them for their services. "Why else would Roman soldiers have gambled for his cloak as Jesus lay dying on the cross, if the cloak hadn't been unusually valuable?..."

The myth of the poor Jesus needs to be destroyed, because it's holding people back,” he explained.¹⁰⁵

Jakes works as hard as any CEO and makes no apologies for living like one. He has a movie/television production company, a music recording studio and his own record label. He has distribution deals with Sony, EMI, Time Warner, Clear Channel and Trinity Broadcasting.

According to Jakes, “Living well in America is not wrong, it’s how you go about getting the money that’s an issue. It gives me a great deal of credibility, whether I am working with ex-inmates, to say that it is possible to have the American dream without selling drugs. I cannot say that if I haven’t done it myself.”¹⁰⁶

Jakes owned a **\$2.6 million** pink brick house mansion that is surrounded by a tall iron gate. The luxurious seven-bedroom home with a swimming pool and four-car garage is located in the White Rock Lake area of Dallas. Next door is the former mansion of oil tycoon H.L. Hunt, once known as the richest man in Texas.¹⁰⁷ He apparently upgraded his residence to a **10,511 square-foot** mansion on **10 acres** in White Rock Lake costing **\$10.4 million**. It includes a **2,400 square-foot basement/wine cellar**, a two-story guest house, a pool house, four-lane bowling center, **16-car auto facility**, lighted tennis courts, heated pools, putting greens and gazebo. Jakes sold this mansion to buy something a bit bigger.



Jakes' old home

His current home is a **12,160 square-foot** mansion sitting on **16.6** acres. It has a mere four bedrooms with 5 bathrooms. We have no information of how large the garage is or the guest house. Even though it is bigger it is cheaper at a mere **\$5.8 million**.¹⁰⁸



Jakes' new home

Jakes reaps millions of dollars from his books, music, plays and speaking engagements. In 1996, income of Jakes and his wife was **\$1.6 million**.¹⁰⁹



Frederick Price

Frederick K.C. Price, founder and pastor of the 16,000 member Crenshaw Christian Center (CCC) in California, was reared a Jehovah Witness who converted to Christianity in 1953. He gained internationally renown through his “Ever Increasing Faith Ministries” broadcast that is aired weekly on both television and radio.



Price's Crenshaw Christian Center in Los Angeles



Price's Eastcoast Headquarters, the former First Church of Christ, Scientist building in Manhattan, New York

He has **no traditional training in the Bible** having been given an **honorary** diploma from Kenneth Hagin's Rhema Bible Training Center (1976) and an **honorary** Doctor of Divinity degree from Oral Roberts University (1982).

In 1990 he founded the Fellowship of Inner City Word of Faith Ministries (FICWFM) which includes churches and ministers from all over the United States and several countries. They meet regionally throughout the year and hold an annual convention.¹¹⁰

Price has made a career of preaching the "prosperity gospel" stating that he can quote Scripture after Scripture proving it is God's will for Christians to be materially prosperous as he is.

Price's nearly **8,000 square-foot** house in the pricey Palos Verdes Estates of Southern California, is said to be valued at over **\$3 million**. He owns two Rolls Bentleys¹¹¹ and claims he is following in the foot steps of Jesus Christ by driving them:

The whole point is I'm trying to get you to see-to get you out of this malaise of thinking that Jesus and the disciples were poor and then relating that to you thinking that you, as a child of God, have to follow Jesus. The Bible says that He has left us an example that we should follow His steps. That's the reason why I drive a Rolls Royce. I'm following Jesus' steps (TBN, "Ever Increasing Faith" program, 12.19. 1990).



Bentley Mulsanne 1980-1992

He also had this to say about being extremely wealthy and driving around in a Rolls Royce:

You can talk about me all you want while I'm driving by in my Rolls Royce that's paid for, and I got the pink slip on it. Talk all you want. Bad mouth all you want. Don't hurt me in the least. Doesn't bother me. It's a whole lot easier to be persecuted when I'm riding in my car and I got the pink slip than it is when I'm riding in a car and owe my soul to the company store. (TBN, "Ever Increasing Faith" program, 3.29.1992)

Price commutes between his two churches, the Crenshaw Christian Center in Los Angeles and another in Manhattan by private jet. The ministry operates an Aviation Partners Blended Winglets-equipped Gulfstream IISP based at LGB (Long Beach, California) and crewed by 2 full-time pilots and a flight attendant. It is worth about **\$5 million** that cruises at 581 mph and carries 19 passengers. "Make no mistake about it-this is a business," says Price. "We have the same needs for corporate jets and productivity tools as any other business. Other aircraft types might have done the job for us, but we got stuck in the Cadillac showroom and we didn't get any further," he said.¹¹²



The Aviation Partners Blended Winglets-equipped Gulfstream IISP.

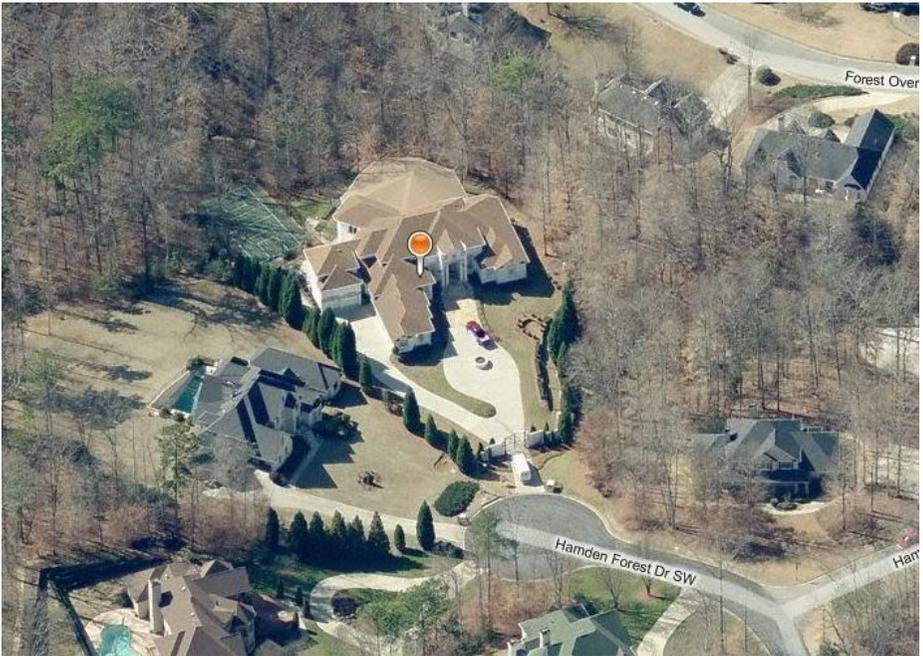


Creflo and Taffi Dollar

Creflo Dollar, founder and senior pastor of World Changers Church International (WCCI) in College Park, Georgia, with 30,000 members, and World Changers Church in New York City, with 6,000 members, numerous satellite churches around America and offices on six continents,^{113-113a} loves to drive his Rolls-Royce and travel in his private jets. He has a **10,000 square-foot**, nine bedroom, ten bathroom mansion in Atlanta on one acre of land that was worth **\$1.5 million** in 1995. He also has a **\$2.5 million** Manhattan apartment.¹¹⁴



Rolls Royce Silver Spur/Spirit 1980-1998.



The Dollars' 10,000 square-foot, 9 bedroom, 10 bathroom mansion.

The Senate committee investigating him learned that the Atlanta home was deeded to the Dollars from WCCI in 2000. Committee staff was unable to determine if the Dollars paid their ministry for the home. Fulton County property records reveal that from July of 2000 until October of 2003 there were no mortgages on the property. According to Fayette County real estate records, a second property with 27 acres was deeded to the Dollars from WCCI in 2004. The Dollars signed a note to pay WCCI **\$2,065,000**.¹¹⁵

The ministry's income is unavailable, but newspaper accounts say the ministry paid **\$18 million in cash** for his new 8,000-seat World Changers Church International in Atlanta. He drives a black **Rolls-Royce** that his congregation gave him^{115a} worth \$280,000^{113a} and flies to speaking engagements across the nation and in Europe in a **\$5 million** private jet, a 1984 Gulfstream G-1159 (N103CD) that cruises at 581 mph and carries 19 passengers. His second jet is a 1973 Learjet 25B (N65A) and his third is a 1969 Gulfstream II (N102AB). The third jet was eventually sold to Kenneth Copeland Ministries in 2001. He even owned a Sabreliner 60 for a time.^{115b} [**Authors' note:** The Dollars are like all of the other televangelists who prey on gullible sheeple. They love to spend millions of dollars on themselves while millions of starving babies around the world die every year.]



Same model Gulfstream II (G-1159) that Dollar owns.

His ministry became a focus of a court case involving boxer Evander Holyfield in 1999. The lawyer for Holyfield's ex-wife estimated that the fighter gave Dollar's ministry \$7 million. Dollar refused to testify in the case.¹¹⁶

Dollar's salary is a tightly guarded secret, but according to church officials the New York church collects an average of \$345,000 a month or a bit over \$4 million a year. About \$800,000 of it goes toward renting the theatre in Madison Square Garden; an additional \$84,000 pays for the church's rented office space nearby and only \$120,000 is spent on the salaries of three people who are on staff. The remaining \$3 million is designated for the church's building fund, according to church officials. The church hopes to raise \$200 million for a complex in the city. His Atlanta church's operating budget is \$80 million a year.^{116a} **[Authors' note:** He could easily give himself a salary of one million dollars or more each year. It is also possible the money being set aside for the \$200 million may be used for his retirement fund. We will have to wait and see.]

Dollar is not a member of the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability for obvious reasons. He also has not cooperated with Senator Grassley who is investigating his business practices:

Creflo and Taffi Dollar of World Changers Church International/ Creflo Dollar Ministries have declined to provide any of the requested information. Staff has engaged the church's attorneys in a number of conversations but the attorneys have indicated that the church's decision not to respond remains the same. Staff has reached out to church officials directly to confirm the church's decision.^{116b}



Eddie Long

Eddie Long is the senior pastor of New Birth Missionary Baptist Church, a mega-church in DeKalb County, Georgia.¹¹⁷ When Long became pastor of New Birth in 1987 there were 300 church members who have multiplied their numbers to over 25,000. His weekly sermons are heard in 170 nations.

His 10,000-seat, \$50 million sanctuary sits on 240-acres. A Christian school of more than 200 students, a bookstore, a computer lab and a fully equipped Samson Fitness Center with racquetball and basketball courts and saunas are included in his religious campus. He also has Satellite churches in Charlotte and Savannah. He flies about in his 22-seat Grumman jet that is registered to Long Charter Air.¹¹⁸

On August 28, 2005 the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution* reported that from 1997 to 2000 Long received more than **\$3.07 million** worth of compensation and benefits from his non-profit charity (Bishop Eddie Long Ministries Inc. (BELMI). Long contended that the charity did not solicit donations from members, but instead received its income from

royalties, speaking fees and several large donations.¹¹⁹ It is just one of at least 20 non-profit and for-profit corporations that Long founded after becoming pastor of New Birth Missionary Baptist Church in 1987. His businesses include a music publishing company and a transportation service.

The charity's compensation to Long over that four-year period included:

A \$1.4 million 6-bedroom, 9-bath home on **20 acres** in Lithonia; use of a **\$350,000 luxury Bentley** automobile and more than **\$1 million** in salary, including **\$494,000** in 2000.

Additionally, the report said that "Long and his wife, Vanessa, were two of the charity's four board members. The charity gave a third board member, Terrance Thornton, a \$160,000 loan in 1999 to buy a home site across the street from Long's house."¹²⁰

Long justified his compensation saying, "We're not just a church, we're an international corporation. We're not just a bumbling bunch of preachers who can't talk and all we're doing is baptizing babies. I deal with the White House. I deal with Tony Blair. I deal with presidents around this world. I pastor a multimillion-dollar congregation. You've got to put me on a different scale than the little black preacher sitting over there that's supposed to be just getting by because the people are suffering."¹²¹

A 2010 New York Times article noted that Long is often seen in a Bentley attended by bodyguards. He favors Gucci sunglasses, gold necklaces, diamond bracelets and Rolex watches. He lives in a 5,000 square-foot house, which he bought for **\$1.1 million** in 2005.¹²²

He is **not** a member of the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability and for good reasons. He has a great deal to hide. When Senator Grassley subpoenaed Long for information about his ministries the response was lacking:

Eddie Long of New Birth Missionary Baptist Church/Eddie L. Long Ministries submitted a response that contained only general information about the organization's operations as well as copies of articles of incorporation and bylaws (which the committee did not request) for the organization's affiliates and subsidiaries. Staff deems this submission to be not responsive as a result and is engaged in dialogue with attorneys for the ministry to secure responses to the remaining questions. ("Grassley Says ECFA

Membership Is Important,” Senate Finance Committee, 7.07.2008)^{122a}

Long’s conspicuous display of wealth is in keeping with his “prosperity gospel” theology. He frequently tells his congregation that God wants them to be wealthy and asserts that Jesus was not poor. [Authors’ note: Jesus was probably the poorest person in the world. All He had was the clothes on His back, a staff and possibly a wineskin. He had no money, home or possessions of any kind (Matthew 8.20; 17.24-27). He relied solely on God the Father to meet His physical needs day-in and day-out throughout His life.]



Juanita Bynum

Juanita Bynum rose to fame in 1997 when she released her “No More Sheets” video and audiotape series about her change of lifestyle out of sexual promiscuity. She had been married in the 1980s but divorced soon after marrying. In 1996 T.D. Jakes invited her to attend one of his singles’ conferences. Within two years she went from attendee to guest speaker. She re-preached “No More Sheets” message at Jakes’ “Woman, Thou Art Loosed!” conference in Atlanta before a crowd of 52,000. She then began to make regular appearances on the Trinity Broadcasting Network as an “anointed prophetess.”¹²³

In 2000 the “Women’s Weapons of Power Conference” was launched and it was held annually through 2006.¹²³ But it was in 2002 that Bynum made a splash in the “prosperity gospel” swimming pool. She had her best-selling book, *Matters of the Heart* published and her

“**million-dollar**” wedding to Thomas W. Weeks III. The spectacular event featured a wedding party of 80, 1,000 guests, a 12-piece orchestra, and a **7.76-carat diamond** ring. The black-tie wedding cost “**more than a million,**” Bynum said, and it included flowers flown in from around the world. “My dress took nine months to make. All of the crystals (Swarovski) on the gown were hand-sewn. The headpiece was sterling silver, hand-designed,” she told Charisma Magazine. “As a young girl, I dreamed of having a beautiful wedding.” She got her wish.¹²⁴

“Prophetess Bynum looked like a 21st century princess prepared for a royal coronation,” said Joyce Rodgers, an evangelist with the Church of God in Christ, who traveled from Texas to attend the wedding. Other guests included Texas televangelist John Hagee, who assisted with the ceremony, and an eight-member camera crew from the Trinity Broadcasting Network (TBN).¹²⁴

In 1997 Juanita Bynum said she was waiting for the Holy Spirit to send her a good man. Apparently Weeks was not the man the Holy Spirit has for her. Her **million dollar marriage** to Weeks came apart at the seams when they met in August 2007 to talk about reconciliation after having been separated for several months. The meeting ended with Weeks physically assaulting Bynum in the parking lot of the Renaissance Hotel. After turning himself in, he spent six hours in the Fulton County Jail before being released on \$40,000 bond. He was charged with aggravated assault for allegedly choking, kicking and hitting Bynum. Weeks had an excellent excuse. “**The devil made me do it,**” he said.¹²⁵

A few months after the parking lot altercation, Ware County Tax Commissioner Steve Barnard says Bynum’s **\$4.5 million** estate was on the verge of being auctioned off. Barnard says that he filed a lien against her **30-acre property** in early June because Bynum failed to pay **\$32,007.56** in 2006 property taxes, plus a \$3,200 penalty and \$2,240 in interest.¹²⁶

The property near Waycross, Georgia boasts of a **7,487 square-foot** mansion, a smaller **6,748-square-foot** mansion and a modest **1,366 square-foot** house. The lake-view property was purchased to house the headquarters of Juanita Bynum Ministries and the Mt. Olive Country Spa for women seeking **pampering**, prayer and spiritual guidance.¹²⁶

Bynum is seeking a tax exemption for her retreat but the Ware County tax commissioner said he doubts Bynum qualifies for an

exemption because she does not have a congregation and it is not open to the general public.

Bynum is not a member of the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability which makes some believers question her sincerity. It is obvious she has a lot to hide.



Robert Tilton

According to Robert Tilton's autobiographical materials, he had a conversion experience to Christianity in 1969¹²⁷ and began his ministry in 1974.¹²⁸ Tilton preached to small congregations and revivals throughout Texas and Oklahoma. Tilton and his family settled in Dallas, Texas, and built a small church in Farmers Branch, Texas, called the "Word Of Faith Family Church" in 1976.¹²⁹ The church also started a local television program then known as "Daystar" (not related to the Daystar Television Network, though both were started in the Dallas area).¹²⁹

The church was growing steadily, but *Daystar* failed to expand beyond the Dallas area until Tilton took a vacation in Hawaii in 1981. He claimed it was his forty days and nights in the wilderness.¹³⁰ He spent his time in the "wilderness" fishing, drinking, and watching a new form of television programming – the late-night infomercial.¹³⁰

The infomercials of real estate promoter Dave Del Dotto who showed his glamorous life in Hawaii influenced Tilton. Del Dotto constantly told his audience that they could get rich by following the principles in his "get rich quick" books. He also had students of his program give testimonials about the success in life they were now enjoying because of his teachings.¹³⁰

When Tilton returned from Hawaii he got a **\$1.3 million** loan from Dallas banker Herman Beebe.¹²⁸ He turned his *Daystar* show into an hour-long “religious infomercial” and renamed it *Success-N-Life*.¹³⁰

His new religious infomercial brought him instant fame and riches. It was aired in all 235 American markets and at its peak it Tilton raked in nearly **\$80 million** a year. It was described as “the fastest growing television ministry in America.”¹³¹

Tilton’s religious empire collapsed after ABC’s Primetime Live television show aired an expose into his fundraising practices. “The Apple of God’s Eye,” which aired on November 21 and 28, 1991, launched a series of investigations into his business. Within two years he was off the air and crawled out of public sight.¹³²

ABC exposed the lie that Tilton told his devotees that he and others on staff prayed over every request and read every personal correspondence sent to him. ABC staff found thousands of those requests and viewers’ letters dumped in garbage bins in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Checks, money orders, cash, food stamps and even wedding rings were removed and the prayer requests were trashed. Tilton claimed the trashed prayer requests were part of a plot against the church. Jim Moore of Response Media, which handled telemarketing for Tilton admitted on camera, “The mail goes to the bank, and they put the money in your account. We just get the paper with the person’s name and how much they gave.”¹³²

The expose featured a college buddy of Tilton who remained anonymous being shown in silhouette. He confessed that both he and Tilton would attend tent revival meetings as “sport” and would claim to be anointed and healed at the meetings. They frequently talked about setting up their own roving revival ministry after graduation “and drive around the country and get rich.”¹³²

In a July 1992 update to the investigation, Primetime Live interviewed Tilton’s former maid, who claimed that prayer requests sent to Tilton’s house were ignored. After piling up around the house he told her to put them in the garage. “They stacked up and stacked up,” she said. Finally he had them thrown away.¹³²

His former secretary said Tilton lifted excerpts from “get rich quick” books and used them in his sermons. She also said she never saw him perform normal pastoral duties.¹³²

Viewership and donations declined dramatically and when Tilton announced the cancellation of his “Success-N-Life” show in 1993,

viewership had fallen 85% and monthly donations had dropped from \$8 million to \$2 million. The last episode aired on October 30, 1993.¹³³

He did not waste time hiding in shame by returning to television in 1994 with a new show called “Pastor Tilton.” He spent most of his time in the show shouting as loudly as possible at demons supposedly possessing people suffering from pain and illness. The show did not last long and in 1996 he moved to Fort Lauderdale, Florida, where he revived his old “Success-N-Life,” show buying airtime on independent television stations primarily serving inner-city areas. The gimmick of asking for “vows of faith” from viewers was used again to raise money. The program began airing on Black Entertainment Television (BET) in 1998 as part of the two-hour late night umbrella rotation block of religious programming called “BET Inspiration.” By 2008 his show also ran on the Word Network.¹³⁴

The televangelist business is very profitable. Tilton owned a **\$500,000** waterfront vacation home in the Rio Vista, Florida, and his 38-foot fishing boat that he was forced to sale due to his divorce settlement. He proceeded to purchase a 50-foot Carver motor yacht in 1996 for **\$500,000** and he built a two-story home on a **\$1.39 million** oceanfront lot on an island in Biscayne Bay near Miami Beach. His religious corporation also owns a **50-foot yacht**.¹³⁵

A quick glance at the titles of some of Tilton’s books show what he was selling:

How to Be Rich & Have Everything You Ever Wanted

How to Pay Your Bills Supernaturally

Strike It Rich

How to Receive & Keep Your Healing

God’s Miracle Plan For Man

Oh Lord I Pray, Send Now Prosperity

Fear No Evil

How to Kick The Devil Out Of Your Life

God’s Million-Heirs

[**Authors’ note:** Tilton is **not** a member of the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability for obvious reasons. He is hiding everything about his personal wealth. He watches babies around the world starve to death while he lives like a king.]

The Convict



George Herbert Walker Bush and Jim Bakker¹³⁶

Jim Bakker

Jim and Tammy Bakker began their religious career working for Pat Robertson in 1966. The “Jim and Tammy Show” aired on Robertson’s Christian Broadcasting Network. After boosting Robertson’s 700 Club ratings they moved to California where they helped Paul and Jan Crouch with their fledgling Trinity Broadcasting Network. They created the “Praise the Lord” show and after just one year they moved to North Carolina where they created their own Praise the Lord Club. Their PTL Club show was picked up by more than 100 stations and they quickly formed their own PTL Television Network (a.k.a. PTL The Inspirational Network). In 1978 they opened a Christian amusement park called Heritage USA in South Carolina.^{136a}

The Bakkers were the poster couple of shameless consumption. They bought mansions, luxury cars, and their doghouse was air-conditioned.¹³⁷

Greed took total control of the Bakkers from 1984 to 1987. During that time they sold \$1,000 “lifetime memberships” to PTL which entitled buyers to a three-night stay once a year in the luxury hotel at Heritage USA. Jim Bakker was prosecuted for fraud for selling tens of thousands of memberships with only one 500-room hotel to accommodate the “lifetime members.” Prosecutors determined that Bakker had sold more “exclusive partnerships” than could be

accommodated, while raising more than twice the money needed to build the actual hotel. A large portion of the money raised was used to pay the operating expenses of Heritage USA. Bakker also kept **\$3.4 million** for himself and made a **\$279,000 payoff** to church secretary Jessica Hahn with whom he had an adulterous affair. The payoff was made through Roe Messner who later married Tammy Bakker.¹³⁸ The Bakkers kept two sets of books to conceal the accounting irregularities. A series of articles regarding the Bakkers' unethical financial practices were published by the Charlotte Observer.¹³⁹

On March 19, 1987, Bakker resigned from his position of leadership at PTL due to the revelations that Jessica Hahn made claiming Bakker and another pastor had raped her. In late March, Jerry Falwell took over leadership of PTL¹⁴⁰ and raised \$20 million to keep the Heritage USA Theme Park solvent.¹⁴¹ Falwell called Bakker a liar, an embezzler, a sexual deviant, and "the greatest scab and cancer on the face of Christianity in 2,000 years of church history."¹⁴²

A 16-month Federal grand jury probe resulted in Jim Bakker being indicted in 1988 on eight counts of mail fraud, 15 counts of wire fraud and one count of conspiracy.^{138, 143} In 1989 the jury found him guilty on all 24 counts, and Judge Robert Potter sentenced him to 45 years in federal prison and a \$500,000 fine.¹⁴⁴⁻¹⁴⁵

He served time in the Federal Medical Center in Rochester, Minnesota, sharing a cell with activist Lyndon LaRouche and skydiver Roger Nelson.¹⁴⁶

A federal appeals court upheld Bakker's conviction on the fraud and conspiracy charges in 1991, but voided his 45 year sentence, as well as the \$500,000 fine.¹⁴⁵

The Bakkers divorced on March 13, 1992 and on November 16 Jim's sentence was reduced to eight years.¹⁴⁷ He was transferred to a minimum security prison in Jesup, Georgia in August of 1993 and granted parole in July 1994, after serving nearly five years of his sentence.¹⁴⁸ He was released from prison on December 1, 1994.¹⁴⁹

A North Carolina jury threw out a class action suit in 1996 that was filed on behalf of more than 160,000 onetime supporters who contributed as much as \$7,000 each to the PTL Club in the 1980s.

Bakker got religion in prison and renounced his past teachings on prosperity theology. In his 1996 book, *I Was Wrong*, he admitted that the **first time** he actually read the Bible all the way through was in prison, and that it made him realize he had taken certain passages out of

context which he had used as “proof texts” to back up his prosperity teachings. He made this shocking confession in his book:

The more I studied the Bible, however, I had to admit that the prosperity message did not line up with the tenor of Scripture. My heart was crushed to think that I led so many people astray. I was appalled that I could have been so wrong, and I was deeply grateful that God had not struck me dead as a false prophet!¹⁵⁰

Bakker made a successful comeback to television in 2003 with his daily *Jim Bakker Show* co-hosted with his second wife, Lori Graham. It is carried on the DISH and DirecTV satellite networks and the CTN cable network.

The Departed



Oral Roberts (1918-2009)

Oral Roberts was the fifth and youngest child of the Reverend Ellis Melvin Roberts and Claudius Priscilla Roberts,¹⁵¹ who was reared in poverty and nearly died of tuberculosis at age 17.¹⁵²

At the age of 17 while he was dying of tuberculosis, he claims the Lord told him, “Son, I am going to heal you, and you are to take My healing power to your generation.” God also added, “And someday, you are to build Me a university based on My authority and on the Holy Spirit.” That day he was healed of both tuberculosis and stuttering.

He studied for two years each at Oklahoma Baptist University and Phillips University. He started preaching at small revival meetings while attending college and at one of them a man standing across the street fired a bullet within a few inches of his head propelling him into the national spotlight. Evelyn Lutman Fahnestock, the daughter of a preacher with whom he had been corresponding with finally accepted a marriage proposal. The two were married in Westville, Oklahoma on Christmas Day in 1938.¹⁵³

He dropped out of college to pursue his career of evangelism. He struggled until 1947 when he claims his Bible fell open to 3 John 2, “*Dear friend, I pray that you may enjoy good health and that all may go well with you, even as your soul is getting along well.*” He started preaching the “prosperity gospel” claiming God wants all Christians to be rich. The next day he bought a Buick and said God personally told him to start healing people.¹⁵⁴

He conducted his first healing service that year in downtown Enid, Oklahoma. More than 1,200 people were present. At the service, a woman’s hand that allegedly had been totally stiff for 38 years was instantly healed launching his healing ministry.¹⁵⁵

According to a Time Magazine profile of 1972, Roberts made a name for himself with a large mobile tent “that sat 3,000 on metal folding chairs” where “he shouted at petitioners who did not respond to his healing.”¹⁵⁶

It was in 1947 that Roberts resigned his pastoral ministry with the Pentecostal Holiness Church to found Oral Roberts Evangelistic Association (OREA).¹⁵⁷⁻¹ He conducted evangelistic and faith healing crusades in America and around the world. Thousands of sick people would wait in line to stand before him so he could pray for them. He conducted more than 300 crusades on six continents, and personally laid hands in prayer on more than 2 million people.^{152, 158-159}

Roberts also ran direct mail campaigns of seed-faith, which appealed to poor Americans, often from ethnic minorities. At its peak in the early 1980s he was raking in as much as \$120 million a year and employed 2,300 people. His religious empire consisted of a university, medical school, hospital and numerous buildings on 50 acres south of Tulsa, Oklahoma, valued at \$500 million.^{160, 154}

God soon led Oral to Tulsa, Oklahoma, where he began to hold tent meetings. Crowds thronged to hear Oral’s messages and to witness the alleged healing power of God. During the 1950s, Oral expanded his ministry through literature that was printed and distributed to people

around the world, and through his television ministry. He was the first televangelist to air a live healing service.

He founded the Abundant Life Prayer Group in 1958 and soon phone calls for prayer were coming in from people worldwide.¹⁶¹⁻⁶ It was in 1962 that Oral broke ground for the university that would bear his name – Oral Roberts University (ORU). Tens of thousands of young men and women have been educated there under the “whole person” concept – training for spirit, mind, and body – and have taken God’s healing power all around the earth.¹⁶²

Carroll R. Stegall, Jr., pastor of the Pryor Street Presbyterian Church in Atlanta, Georgia, wrote a scathing expose of Roberts that appeared in the *Presbyterian Outlook* in 1955.

Stegall attended several campaigns, interviewed Roberts, and did follow-up interviews with those who had allegedly been healed. He said Roberts was not ‘as bad as some others in the miracle business,’ but he found no basis to support his claims. “I have never seen a vestige of change. I challenge any honest investigator to follow my technique and see whether his findings do not agree with mine,” he said. “So far from glorifying God with this they (the healing evangelists) cause His name to be blasphemed by the world by their excesses. So far from curing, they often kill. Far from blessing, their arrival in a city is rather a curse, a misery, a racket, a destruction of faith in simple people.” (Harrell, David Edwin, *Oral Roberts: An American Life*. Bloomington, Indiana: Indiana University Press, 1985, pp. 163-164)

Proof that Roberts and other “healers” do not have any power to heal was seen in the death of Roberts grandchild. “Within a few hours after his birth, doctors discovered the child was having difficulty breathing. The news, Evelyn recalled, ‘just tore Oral to pieces.’ For over thirty hours, while doctors fought to save the baby, Oral, Richard, and others prayed. Lindsay [the mother] was wheeled up to the baby’s side to pray; Kenneth Hagin and his wife, and other ministers, came to pray for healing. When Richard Oral finally died it ‘devastated Oral.’ He called it the worst tragedy of his scarred life. ‘I think’ Evelyn reflected, ‘because he felt there was so much healing power in that room that they could have healed a thousand people... But he said there was something in that baby and he got it as far as the head and it would not leave ... Some obstacle would not leave. It was stubborn.’

“The family once again faced misfortune bravely, searching for meaning in the death. They immediately announced the addition of an obstetrics suite in the City of Faith Medical Center in memory of

Richard Oral Roberts” (Ibid., pp. 347-348). [Authors’ note: If Oral, Richard, Evelyn, Kenneth Hagin and his wife, and other ministers could not heal the child what makes them think they can heal anyone? If Oral, Richard and Hagin truly had the *pneumatikon charisma* of “healing” why did they fail to heal the child? The evidence shows that the “faith healers” are not true healers, but something else.]

Roberts made billions of dollars through his 70 plus years of preaching and he spent millions of those billions on himself. He lived in several homes, but only the one in Palm Springs, purchased for \$285,000, was in his name. In 1982 ORU endowment funds were used to purchase a \$2,400,000 house in a high-security development in Beverly Hills. Considered a potentially profitable investment, the house served as Oral’s West Coast office and residence.^{163a}

The presidential compound with six houses adjacent to the ORU campus where Oral and Richard lived was sold for \$1.55 million in 2010.^{163b}

In 1981, the Associated Press published Roberts’ personal income figures of \$70,000 in 1976 and \$178,000 in 1978.^{164a} He loved the finer things – wearing \$1,000 Brioni suits and \$100 shoes when average suits cost \$200 and shoes cost \$20. He also wore diamond rings and solid gold bracelets which his employees airbrushed out of his publicity photos. He drove around in luxury cars which were replaced every 6 months and he flew all over the world in a \$2 million fanjet falcon. Roberts and his son, Richard, had membership in the most prestigious and elite country club in Tulsa – the Southern Hills. The membership fee was \$18,000 with \$130 monthly dues. They also were members of the ultra-posh Thunderbird Country Club in Rancho Mirage, California where membership fee was \$20,000.^{164b}

Roberts spread the wealth around to his family. When his daughter Rebecca and her husband Marshall Nash were killed in an airplane crash in 1977 they left a **\$10 million estate!**¹⁶⁵

Besides the loss of Rebecca he has also suffered other family tragedies. His son Richard and daughter-in-law Patti, who were being groomed to take over the ministry, were divorced in 1979. Three years later, his rebellious older son Ronnie committed suicide. In 1984 his 10th grandchild – the son of Richard and his second wife Lindsay and the only heir to be named after him – died two days after birth.¹⁶⁴



**Kenneth Hagin
(1917-2003)**

Kenneth Hagin, the “father” of the “Word Faith Movement,” was sickly as a child who suffered from a deformed heart and what was believed to be an incurable blood disease. He was not expected to live to adulthood. In April 1933 during a dramatic conversion experience, he reported dying three times in ten minutes, each time seeing the horrors of hell and then returning to life. He also claimed that he was raised from a deathbed in 1934 by “the revelation of faith in God’s Word” (Kenneth Hagin, *I Went to Hell and What Faith Is*).

It was two years later that he preached his first sermon as the pastor of a small community church in Roland, Texas. During the next twelve years he pastored five Assemblies of God churches in Texas – Tom Bean, Farmersville (twice), Talco, Greggton, and Van.

He quit the pastor business and became an itinerant evangelist in 1949. When the Full Gospel Business Men’s Fellowship International (FGBMFI) was formed in 1951 he was admitted to it. He joined other evangelists – Oral Roberts, Gordon Lindsay and T. L. Osborn – as part of the Voice of Healing Revival during the 1940s and 50s.

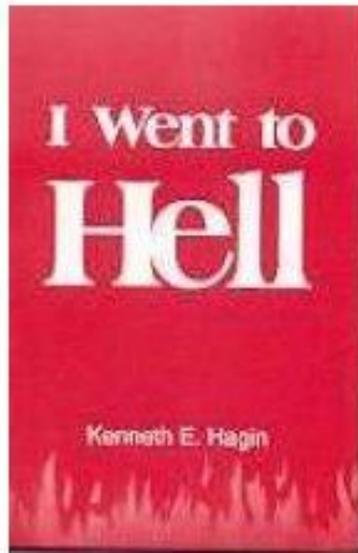
The Kenneth E. Hagin Evangelistic Association was incorporated in 1963 and the offices of his ministry moved to Tulsa, Oklahoma in 1966. It was in that year that he began teaching on radio (KSKY in Dallas). One year later he began a regular radio broadcast that continues today as “Faith Seminar of the Air.” His son, Kenneth Wayne Hagin, is also heard on the program.

Hagin founded RHEMA Bible Training Center in 1974, which now has training centers in fourteen countries and has 30,000 alumni. Then

in 1979 he founded the Prayer and Healing Center there to provide a place for the sick to come to “have the opportunity to build their faith.” Its Healing School continues to be held free of charge twice daily on the RHEMA campus.^{165a}

The personal wealth of Hagin was known only to those close to him. We can only speculate that during his six decades of preaching the “prosperity gospel” that he made tens of millions of dollars. He did not die poor and destitute as many people who gave to him did.

He was not a member of the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability which makes some believers question his sincerity. Was he hiding millions of dollars in personal wealth?



Ike
(1935-2009)

Frederick J. Eikerenkoetter II (Ike) was one of the first black preacher to peddle the “prosperity gospel.” He began his religious career as an assistant pastor at the Bible Way Church in Ridgeland, South Carolina and then founded the United Church of Jesus Christ for All People in Beaufort, South Carolina, the United Christian Evangelistic Association in Boston, Massachusetts, and the Christ

Community United Church in New York City. He was heard on 1,770 radio and television stations across the country with an estimated 2.5 million listeners each week.



“It is the lack of money that is the root of all evil,” he used to say. “The best thing you can do for the poor is not to be one of them.” One of his favorite sayings was, “Forget about the pie-in-the-sky; get yours here and now.”

He used to joke that if it was difficult for a rich man to get into heaven, it would be impossible for a poor man. “He doesn’t even have a bribe for a gatekeeper.”

Tony Norman, reporter of the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, dubbed Ike “our generation’s Father Divine” – “a media-savvy African-American huckster who made up the rules of the prosperity gospel as he went along.”^{165b}

Ike loved **Rolls Royces** and he had a **fleet of 16**. He also had a few **mansions** worth more than **\$2,000,000** each. His personal wealth was a tightly held secret, but he most certainly was worth tens of millions of dollars.

He made untold millions of dollars telling people that if they gave money to God through him they could get rich like him. One of his infamous slogans was **“the lack of money is the root of all evil.”** [Authors’ note: The *“love of money is a root of all kinds of evil”* (1 Timothy 6.10), not the lack of it.]

Ike was **not** a member of the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability which makes sense since he was not a true Bible preacher. He was a get rich quick con-artist.

He died in Los Angeles on July 28, 2009, at 74, failing to recover from a stroke in 2007. His faith in healing was just not strong enough.



Kathryn Kuhlman
(1907-1976)

Kathryn Kuhlman lived a life of mystery and spent money freely. Her clothing was far more than “costly array” that Apostle Paul warned believers to reject (1 Timothy 2.9). She allegedly purchased her wardrobe at the most expensive shops and paid up to \$1,500 for one stage gown. In today’s inflated prices that would be \$15,000. According to her official biographer and ghost writer, Jamie Buckingham, she was “enamored of the Hollywood mystique” (*Daughter of Destiny*, Plainfield, New Jersey: Logos International, p. 262).

Besides marrying a divorced evangelist, Burroughs A. Waltrip, she had a permanent escort, Dino Kartsonakis, who traveled with her. “She,

in turn, found it pleasant to be in the company of a handsome young man who could escort her to dinner, sit beside her on the long plane rides, tip the porters, and hail the taxis. Her employees in the Pittsburgh office called him a gigolo – Kathryn’s paid escort.

“Steve Zelenko, Kathryn’s gadfly in the Pittsburgh office, saw the danger and tried to warn her. ‘Look, Miss Kuhlman, it just doesn’t look good. Okay, so the guy is fun. He’s light, He’s airy. He’s someone to cling to as you grow older. But be careful.’

“Kathryn was sure of herself. ‘I know what I’m doing. I know it looks like he’s using me, riding my coat tails. But I know what I’m doing. Don’t worry about it’” (Ibid. pp. 262-263).

Just what was she doing? Was she doing more than just paying Dino to be her constant companion?

In her last days during the early 1970s Kuhlman fell under the spell of Tink Wilkerson and his wife. They convinced her to purchase a Lear jet for \$750,000 (about \$7 million in today’s dollars). She also had a large jewelry and art collection which she had planned to leave with her sister Myrtle Parrott, Agnes Kuhlman, Geneva Dickson, Marguerite Hartner, Maryon Marsh and Steve Zelenko (Ibid., p. 299). Instead Wilkerson convinced her to change her will leaving them with a mere \$267,500 and with him everything else:

All the rest and residue of my property, real and personal, of every kind and wheresoever situated, whether vested or contingent at the time of my death, I devise and bequeath to Sue Wilkerson and D. B. Wilkerson, Jr., jointly, absolutely free and clear of any conditions or restrictions whatsoever. (Ibid., pp. 300-301.)

In 1975, Kuhlman was sued by Paul Bartholomew, her personal administrator, who claimed she kept \$1 million in jewelry and \$1 million in fine art hidden away. He sued her for \$430,500 for breach of contract.^{165c-d} Two former associates accused her in the lawsuit of diverting funds and illegally removing records, which she denied and said the records were not private. According to Kuhlman, the lawsuit was settled prior to trial.^{165e}

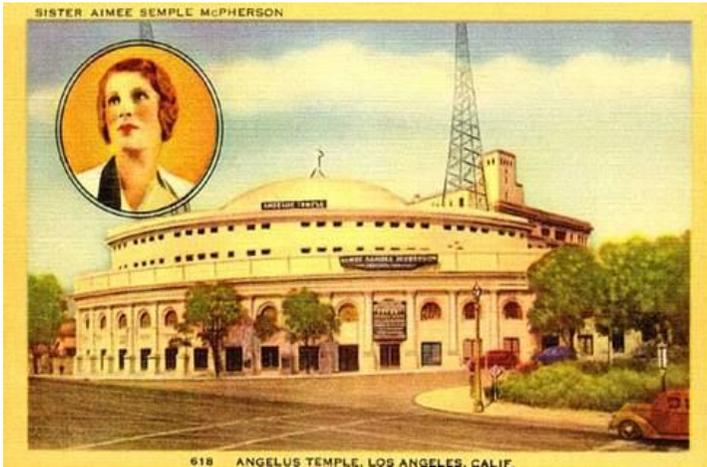
It is obvious that Kuhlman was laying up treasures on Earth as all of the televangelists in this appendix have done. She was no different than today’s generation of televangelists. She had accumulated over \$3 million in cash, a Lear jet, art and jewelry. In today’s dollars her estate would have been worth ten to twenty times that – **\$30 to \$60 million** – depending on how you calculate inflation!



**Aimee Semple McPherson
(1890-1944)**

Aimee Elizabeth Kennedy met Robert James Semple, a Pentecostal missionary from Ireland in December of 1907. After a short courtship they were married on August 12, 1908 and they embarked on an evangelistic tour, first to Europe and then to China. Once in China they both contracted malaria with Robert succumbing on August 19, 1910. Aimee recovered and gave birth to their daughter, Roberta Star Semple, on September 17, 1910. Aimee returned to the United States where she went to work for the Salvation Army. While in New York City she met an accountant named Harold Stewart McPherson. They were married on May 5, 1912, and had a son, Rolf Potter Kennedy McPherson in March 1913.

In 1913 Aimee embarked upon a preaching career touring America and Canada and in June 1915 she began holding tent revivals. By 1918 her husband filed for divorce and was granted a divorce in 1921. Weary from the constant traveling she decided to continue for a few more years in order to raise money for a church in Echo Park in Los Angeles. The “megachurch,” Angelus Temple, was dedicated on January 1, 1923, seating 5,300 people. She also founded the Echo Park Evangelistic and Missionary Training Institute in 1923. Its name was changed to LIFE Bible College and then Life Pacific College. On February 6, 1924 she began broadcasting radio programs on her KFSG station and in 1927 she formed the International Church of the Foursquare Gospel.



Angelus Temple in Los Angeles

On September 26, 1944, McPherson went to Oakland, California, for a series of revivals, planning to preach her popular “Story of My Life” sermon. When McPherson’s son went to her hotel room at 10:00 the next morning, he found her unconscious with pills and a half-empty bottle of capsules nearby. She was dead by 11:15.

The autopsy did not conclusively determine the cause of McPherson’s death. She had been taking sleeping pills following numerous health problems – including “tropical fever.” Among the pills found in the hotel room was the drug Seconal, a strong sedative which had not been prescribed for her. It was unknown how she obtained them.

The coroner stated she most likely died of an accidental overdose compounded by kidney failure. Seconal has a hypnotizing effect which can make a person forgetful about how much medication has been taken and lead to an overdose. The actual cause of death still officially listed as unknown.^{166a} There was some conjecture of suicide but most sources generally agree the overdose was accidental as put forth in the coroner’s report.^{166b}

Aimee Semple McPherson is buried in Forest Lawn Memorial Park Cemetery in Glendale, California. Following her death, the Foursquare Gospel church was led for 44 years by her son Rolf McPherson. The church claims a membership of over 8.7 million, worldwide.^{166c}

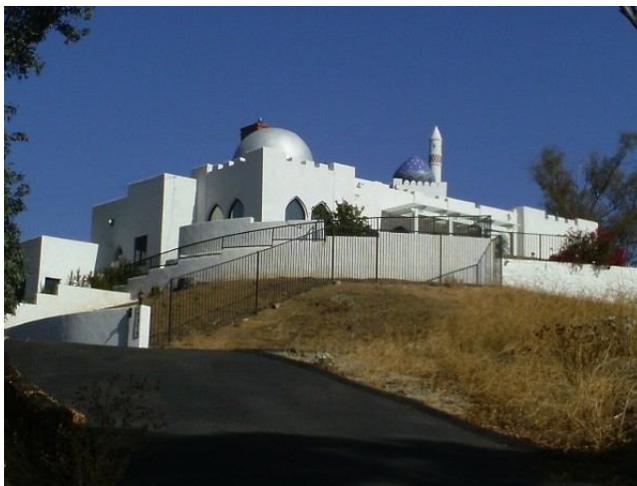
During her 31 years of evangelistic crusades McPherson raised millions of dollars. No one knows how much she kept for herself, but it had to have been in the millions. Her Angelus Temple cost \$1.2 million to build in 1922 and her vacation mansion in Lake Elsinore, California,

cost her \$286,000 to build in 1929. The 5,000 square-foot, 14-room hilltop, Arabian-style mansion with servants quarters and a gym located near Lakeshore Drive and Riverside Drive currently serves as a retreat and conference site for Four Square officials although they put it on the market in 2011.^{166d}



Front view of Aimee's Castle^{166e}

Considering the value of gold was \$20.63 in 1929 she spent the equivalent of \$23,567,620 on a vacation home she rarely used. None of the televangelists today could hold a candle to her extravagance. Her home in Los Angeles could have cost even more. The splendor of her vacation mansion can be seen on You-Tube.^{166f}



Rear view of Aimee's Castle^{166g}

Non-Pentecostal/Charismatic televangelists

Hendrick “Hank” Hanegraaff

Hank Hanegraaff took control of the Christian Research Institute (CRI) in 1989 after the death of its founder, Dr. Walter Martin. Since then he has been criticized for firing or forcing out over 100 employees, erasing the memory of Dr. Martin, plagiarizing authors, embracing Roman Catholicism, misuse of funds, padding his salary, giving his wife a salary for doing virtually nothing and taking bribes to not refute the Worldwide Church of God heresies and those of Phil Aguilar.

His story of being appointed by Dr. Martin to succeed him conflicts with the story of Dr. Robert Morey and Dr. Martin’s family. Hanegraaff said Dr. Martin told him he wanted him to take over CRI when he went home to be with the Lord. Dr. Martin’s wife and his eldest daughter, Jill, said Walter never mentioned to them that he wanted Hanegraaff to succeed him. Dr. Morey said Dr. Martin told him that he wanted him to take over when he died. The contradictions with Hanegraaff’s story are myriad and it is highly unlikely that Dr. Martin wanted Hanegraaff to take over CRI when he passed on.

In 2000, Hank received **\$199,000** and in 2001 he raked in **\$251,886**. His wife, Kathy, pulled down **\$87,600** in 2001.^{167a} In 2002 Hank was paid **\$280,000** and Kathy received **\$111,000** for a grand total of **\$391,000**.¹⁶⁸ CRI also bought the Hanegraaffs a new Lexus in 2002 at a cost of **\$66,000**.^{167b} CRI had been running deficits and in 2002 it was in the red \$560,000.¹⁶⁸

The Hanegraaffs reduced their income due to the deficits that CRI was running caused by the depression. In 2009 Hank had a salary of just **\$224,143** and Kathy received an increase to a whopping **\$130,833** for a total package of **\$354,976**¹⁶⁹ while CRI took in about **\$5.6 million**.¹⁷⁰

In 2003 the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability conducted an audit of CRI’s books and found numerous problems. Hank **reimbursed** CRI a “**significant**” amount of money. He did this only after six faithful employees were **fired** or resigned after complaining that Hank was commingling his money with the Institute’s. Hank denied any wrongdoing although he made a “**significant reimbursement**.”

According to Leadership Network, CEOs who headed non-profits with budgets between \$5 and \$10 million average **\$137,668**. The

Hanegraaffs raked in **\$391,000**, more than twice the average salary for their position.¹⁶⁸ According to William Alnor, Kathy rarely was seen at CRI. She apparently did little or no work for CRI.¹⁷⁰

In 2005, Hanegraaff sold the headquarters building in Rancho Santa Margarita and moved to Charlotte, North Carolina. Many believe he did it to save CRI which had been running deficits for several years.

CRI's 2010 revenue was \$5,976,651 with an excess of \$1,301,275, marking the first year since 2006 that CRI was in the black. That excess pulled it out of the red leaving it a with total net assets of just \$145,616.¹⁶⁹

Salaries of other evangelists/CEOs

According to a 2010 survey performed by the Leadership Network, the “median of \$139,000 for the average senior pastor in a mega-church – generally defined with a weekend attendance of 2,000 and higher.”

Compare their salaries to the CEOs of non-profit organizations. According to Guidestar's national compensation study released in 2010 here are the median salaries for CEOs for the year 2008:

CEOs who headed non-profits with budgets between \$2.5 million and \$5 million – **\$112,639**.

CEOs who headed non-profits with budgets between \$5 million and \$10 million – **\$137,668**.

CEOs who headed non-profits with budgets between \$10 million and \$25 million – **\$173,457**.¹⁷²

Revenue/Income of Christian ministries/CEOs

The chart below lists the Christian ministries that had a revenue of \$7 million or greater for 2007 and 2009 with the exception of CRI which had less than \$6 million. The income (total compensation) for the heads of these ministries is listed. In the case of a wife who is on the payroll she is also listed as well as any children.

Ministry	Revenue	CEO/others	Position	Income
A. Wommack Ministries	\$11,599,749	A. Wommack	CEO/Pres.	\$155,207
Back to the Bible	\$12,262,815	W. Kroll	President	\$110,477
Bible Broadcasting Net	\$13,955,329	L. Davey	President	\$78,375

Billy Graham EA ¹⁷³	\$125,741,822	Billy Graham	Chairman	\$159,545
Billy Graham EA ¹⁷³	\$125,741,822	W.F. Graham	CEO/Pres.	\$106,407
Bob Larson Ministries ¹⁷⁴		NA Larson & wife	President	\$403,310
Christ for all Nations	\$13,367,736	R. Bonnke	President	\$162,165
CRI ¹⁷⁵	\$5,645,691	H. Hanegraaff	President	\$224,143
CRI ¹⁷⁵	\$5,645,691	K. Hanegraaff	Director	\$130,833
Coral Ridge Ministries ¹⁷⁶	\$17,263,536	Hector Padron	Exec. VP	\$116,542
Dayspring International	\$10,640,120	J. Gilman	President	\$99,491
Ed. Media Foundation	\$56,137,718	R. Jenkins	President	\$257,630
Eternal Word TV Net	\$34,458,559	M. Warsaw	President	\$86,897
Family Radio	\$78,306,906	H. Camping	President	\$0
Far East Broad. Co.	\$10,049,291	G. Harris	President	\$103,020
Focus on the Family ¹⁷⁷	\$130,258,480	J. Daly	President	\$232,524
Grace to You	\$12,485,467	J. MacArthur	President	\$160,000
In Touch Ministries ¹⁷⁸	\$66,506,669	C. Stanley	President	\$119,155
Insight for Living	\$18,838,964	Cynthia Swindoll	President	\$149,133
Int. Fellowship of Christians and Jews	\$73,644,288	Yecheiel Eckstein	CEO/Pres.	\$416,004
Jack Van Impe Min. ¹⁷⁹	\$13,773,134	J. Van Impe	President	\$125,823
Jack Van Impe Min. ¹⁷⁹	\$13,773,134	R. Van Impe	Secretary	\$77,954
Jewish Voice Min.	\$8,879,024	J. Bernis	President	\$172,111
Leading The Way	\$10,569,069	M. Youssef	President	\$0
Ligonier Ministries ¹⁸⁰	\$11,501,975	R.C. Sproul	President	\$173,618
Ligonier Ministries ¹⁸⁰	\$11,501,975	Vesta Sproul	Director	\$38,400
Love Worth Finding	\$9,979,543	W. Skelton	President	\$119,472
Luis Palau Assoc.	\$22,155,039	L. Palau	President	\$210,399
New Life Ministries	\$8,207,713	S. Arterburn	CEO	\$183,895
Ravi Zacharias Min. ¹⁸¹	\$11,545,295	R. Zacharias	CEO	\$142,196
Ravi Zacharias Min. ¹⁸¹	\$11,545,295	M. Zacharias	Exec. VP	\$130,208
Relevant Radio	\$15,828,441	Mark Follett	CEO/Founder	\$0
Samaritan's Purse ¹⁸²	\$310,859,899	WF Graham	CEO/Pres.	\$473,440
Thru Bible Radio Net ¹⁸³	\$19,789,328	Leo Karlyn	President	\$0
Turning Point	\$21,419,407	D. Jeremiah	CEO/Pres.	\$115,411
World Vision ¹⁸⁴	\$1,221,382,724	R. Stearns	President	\$380,609

Revenue/Income of the televangelists

Ministry	Revenue	CEO/other	Position	Income
BELMI ¹²⁰	NA	Eddie Long	President (2000)	\$494,000
Benny Hinn Ministries ^{46a}	\$97,930,000	Benny Hinn	President (2006)	\$1,325,000
CBN ^{46b}	\$283,542,307	Pat Robertson	CEO (2010)	\$338,226
GETV/Cornerstone ⁶²	NA	John Hagee	President	\$1,253,566
GETV/Cornerstone ⁶²	NA	Diana Hagee	NA	\$126,720
Inspiration Min. ⁶⁹⁻⁷⁰	NA	David Cerullo	Chairman/CEO	\$1,500,000
Inspiration Min. ⁶⁹⁻⁷⁰	NA	Barbara Cerullo	NA	\$198,000
Inspiration Min. ⁶⁹⁻⁷⁰	NA	Cerullo children	NA	\$400,000
Joyce Meyer Min. ⁹⁶	\$102,458,152	Joyce Meyer	President (2003)	\$900,000
Joyce Meyer Min. ⁹⁶	\$102,458,152	Dave Meyer	NA (2003)	\$450,000
Joyce Meyer Min. ⁹⁶	\$102,458,152	Meyer children	NA (2003)	\$215,000
KC Ministries	\$100,000,000+	Ken Copeland	President	\$???????
Lakewood Church	NA	Joel Osteen	President	Royalties
MCWE ⁶⁷	NA	Morris Cerullo	Pres. (1998-2000)	\$550,000+
O.R.E. A. ¹⁸⁵	\$13,039,187	Richard Roberts	President (2010)	\$373,743
O.R.E. A. ¹⁸⁵	\$13,039,187	Linda Roberts	Exec. VP (2010)	\$203,392
Peter Popoff M. ⁷⁷⁻⁷⁸	\$23,556,469	Peter Popoff	President (2005)	\$686,932
Peter Popoff M. ⁷⁷⁻⁷⁸	\$23,556,469	Elizabeth	Wife (2005)	\$261,146
Peter Popoff M. ⁷⁷⁻⁷⁸	\$23,556,469	Nickolas	Son (2005)	\$189,293
Peter Popoff M. ⁷⁷⁻⁷⁸	\$23,556,469	Amy Cardiff	Daughter (2005)	\$183,330
Kelly Media ⁷⁷⁻⁷⁸	\$1,948,458	Jason Cardiff	Son-in-law (2005)	\$???????
Potter's House ¹⁰⁹	NA	TD Jakes/wife	President	\$1,600,000
TBN ¹⁸⁶	\$164,082,823	Paul Crouch	Pres./Dir. (2009)	\$402,256
TBN ²¹	\$164,082,823	Jan Crouch	NA (2009)	\$361,000
Wisdom Center ⁸⁵	\$3,900,000	Mike Murdock	President (1998)	\$337,784
Without Walls Church ⁹⁷	\$39,900,000	Paula White	President (2007)	\$1,000,000+
W. W. Church ⁹⁷	\$39,900,000	Randy White	(2007)	\$1,000,000+
W. W. Church ⁹⁷	\$39,900,000	White children	(2007)	\$1,075,000
W. W. Church ⁹⁷	\$39,900,000	Housing	(2007)	\$883,000
W. W. Church ⁹⁷	\$39,900,000	Travel expenses	(2006)	\$2,900,000
World Changers ^{42b}	\$70,000,000	Creflo Dollar	(2006)	\$???????

[**Authors' note:** Bernie Dehler, an Evangelical, of FreeGoodNews.com assembled some of the above data about the salary received by the highest executive officers in the 30 largest religious groups in America. These are groups whose revenue exceeds 7 million dollars a year. Of these 29 are Christian, one is Jewish and none are Muslim. Dehler conducted the survey between December 27, 2006 and January 05, 2008. The ministries with a note by them are from Charity Navigator for 2009. The source of revenue and income for the televangelists comes from other sources as noted.

The incomes in **bold** are considered to be excessive by the authors. Even though Richard Stearns of World Vision makes \$380,609 he earned it by raising over one billion dollars with an excess of \$15.5 million. Compare the combined salaries of the Hanegraaff's **\$354,976** with Stearns' at \$380,609. Stearns raised over **one billion dollars** for World Vision with a surplus of \$15.5 million while the Hanegraafs raised a mere \$5,645,691 with a **deficit** of \$529,734 in 2009.

Charity Navigator, the premier independent charity evaluator, works to advance a more efficient and responsive philanthropic marketplace by evaluating the financial health of America's largest charities. The compensation Package of the following CEO's is based on information reported on various organization's most recent Form 990. The compensation package includes salary, cash bonuses, and unusually large expense accounts and other allowances.

The revenue and income figures for some televangelists are not public. In the case of Morris Cerullo all we know is that he understated his income by **\$550,000** from 1998 to 2000. He obviously made much more than that. If he underestimated his income by \$170,000 each of those three years how much did he rake in? No one understates his income by 90% or more. He did not claim he made \$30,000 when he actually made \$200,000. He must have made twice that much or more each year. A minimum guess of his income would be \$350,000 a year back in 1998-2000. Today it is probably over a million dollars a year.

All of these televangelists make big money selling their books and DVDs which is not included in their salary figures.

Now consider this sobering fact: The televangelist who made the least of those listed in this book, Mike Murdock, raked in **\$337,784** in 1998. There is no telling how much he is skimming off the top now. He made nearly 10 times as much as the bottom 40% of the American people and **\$87,784** more than those in the bottom of the top two

percentile! The salaries of all of the televangelists listed previously are in the top 2% of Americans!

48.20% make below \$30,000
58.43% make below \$40,000
66.12% make below \$50,000
72.28% make below \$60,000
79.42% make below \$75,000
87.58% make below \$100,000
97.21% make below \$200,000
99.48% make below \$500,000
99.83% make below \$1 million
99.91% make below \$1.5 million
99.94% make below \$2 million
99.99% make below \$5 million
00.01% make over \$5 million
01% of society makes 17.3% of the income¹⁸⁷

Should televangelists be raking in these incredible salaries and be in the top 1.5% of Americans (above \$500,000) with some in the top 0.17% (above \$1 million)? What percentile is your pastor in? We know of a pastor in a church of 30 members in Arizona who makes \$30,000 and another in California who rakes in \$50,000. A pastor in a church of 200 in California rakes in a staggering \$120,000! Should pastors of small churches be raking in these salaries?

We do not know how much these men and women give to the Lord. They refuse to make that information public. Maybe they want to give in secret as Jesus commanded all believers to do (Matthew 6.3-4) or they do not want the public to know how little they give.

If they are truly humble servants of Jesus who seek to serve Him to the fullest extent why do virtually none of them live at a standard of living of the average person? Did Jesus live like an emperor? Did John the Baptist live like a king? Did the apostles live like kings? Did any of the great fathers of the early Church live like kings? Did Polycarp, Justin Martyr, Irenaeus, Tertullian, Hippolytus, Cyprian, Victorinus, Ephrem and Cyril live like kings? Did the Reformers live like kings?

We have to question the motives of many of the men and women in this appendix. Some of them teach the false prosperity gospel. If they truly believed what they teach they would not live like kings, but would give away every penny above what they needed to live on and let the Lord bless them until they became a multi-millionaire. Then they could

stop giving everything to the Lord and live like a king. Wait. Maybe that is what they did and how they became so fabulously wealthy.

Yet it is also possible that none of them believe the prosperity gospel that they teach and they give less than one percent of their income to religious ministries. It is highly probable that they give a pittance to charities so they can “honestly” say they give to the Lord. They preach the prosperity gospel knowing their gullible devotees will give them their hard-earned money in hopes of getting more back from the Lord. They play on the greed of their sycophants to make them fabulously wealthy.]



Billy Sunday at the White House in 1920.

Billy Sunday (1862-1935)

Exorbitant salaries are nothing new. Billy Sunday, the most celebrated and influential American evangelist of the first two decades of the 20th century, raked in over a million dollars from 1908 to 1920. The average worker in America earned less than \$14,000 during the same period.¹⁸⁸ He made an astounding 70 times more than the people he preached the Gospel to! In today’s dollars that \$1,000,000 would be worth **\$60,000,000** based on the value of gold! The average annual

salary in America as of 2009 was \$51,493.¹⁸⁹ A televangelist who made 70 times that would be raking in **\$3,604,510** per year and during a 13 year period (1908-1920) it would be a whopping **\$46,858,630!** Sunday topped all of the televangelists of today by a factor of 300% or more! The only televangelist who made more than that as of 2009 was Paula White and her husband who skimmed off about **\$7,000,000** in 2007 before they divorced and their business failed.

Conclusion

The men and women who have made tens of millions of dollars from preaching the “prosperity gospel” are very hard working people. We believe they would deserve every penny they made and should spend their millions any way they desire if they left religion and God out of their business. If they were to hold seminars and conferences in which they shared the secrets of financial success, self-motivation, etc. we would have no problem with what they do. Zig Ziglar has made millions of dollars by giving thousands of speeches on self-motivation. Tony Robbins, who is not a Christian, has also made millions of dollars doing the same thing as well as countless others.

It is because they have used God and His Word (the Bible) as the basis of their businesses that we have included this appendix. According to the Bible those who teach the principles found in the Bible are to do so for the glory of God and not for their own glory (1 Corinthians 10.31). They are also to live by the principles in the Bible which means they are not to seek to be rich (Proverbs 23.4-5) and lay up riches in this life (Matthew 6.19-21), but instead they are to give away all excess monies they receive from teaching the Bible to the poor and needy (Psalm 41.1; Proverbs 14.21, 31; 19.17; 22.9; 28.27; James 2.14-17; 1 John 3.17-18), to orphans and widows (James 1.27) and to missionaries (3 John 5-8). They are not to spend the millions of dollars they make from teaching the Scriptures on themselves. Jesus, the Old Testament prophets, John the Baptist, and the apostles did not store up for themselves riches in this life! They stored up riches in the eternal life to come!

Gehazi

A classic example of someone profiting from doing the work of God is that of Gehazi, the servant of Elisha. Elisha healed Naaman, a top

military commander of the king of Syria, and Naaman offered Elisha ten talents of silver, six thousand shekels of gold and ten changes of clothes (2 Kings 5.5). In today's market (December 2011) that would come to approximately **\$428,800** (silver) plus **\$3,600,000** (gold) for a total of **\$4,028,000**.¹⁸⁴ Do you honestly believe any of the televangelists in this appendix would turn down **\$4,028,000**? Would you turn it down? [**Authors' note:** The Hebrew shekel was about 11 grams or .35 troy ounces (about 1/3 of an ounce). If we divide 6,000 shekels by 3 we have 2,000 ounces of gold. Multiply them by \$1,800 (ounce of gold) and we come up with **\$3,600,000**. The talent was 67 pounds. Ten talents of silver is (670 pounds times 16 ounces) 10,720 ounces which comes to **\$428,800** with silver at \$40 per ounce or **\$321,600** at \$30 per ounce.]

Elisha turned it down because he was not laying up treasure on Earth, but instead laying up treasure in Heaven. Gehazi his servant was laying up treasure on Earth. He went after Naaman when Elisha politely refused his gift and asked for something. Naaman gave him two talents of silver (**\$85,760**) and two changes of clothes (2 Kings 5.23). The leprosy of Naaman fell upon him and his descendants (2 Kings 5.27).

Even if you believe the men and women noted in this appendix deserve all of the money they have stashed away in the bank along with the million dollar homes, private jets, fancy cars, antiques, jewelry, fine clothing, Rolex watches and expensive vacations you must ask yourself these questions:

Why do they deserve all of these worldly things when the Old Testament prophets, Jesus, the apostles and the Church fathers who deserved much more turned down all of the pleasures and wealth of the world? They devoted all of their time, talents and treasure to doing the work of God. They did not lay up treasure on Earth and live the "good" life. Read these passages to see how the super-spiritual in Bible times lived (2 Corinthians 11.23-33; Hebrews 11.32-38).

If these televangelists are super Christians why do they not give most of their wealth to the poor and needy and live like the average person that gives them their hard-earned money?

Why do they not give most of their surplus wealth to missionaries to reach the lost?

How many people will spend all eternity in the Lake of Fire because the millions of dollars these televangelists spent on themselves was not given to missionaries to save the perishing?

Why do they not take a salary equivalent to the average salary of the members of their church or the national average?

Why do they not live in a house worth the average cost of homes in the city they live in?

Why do they not drive an average car?

If they are holy men and women of God why do they not make public their salaries, homes, cars, jets and bank accounts?

Do they think if what they give themselves (salary/benefits) and what they own were made public their followers might reduce what they give to them or stop giving to them?

Could the answer to these questions be greed and the fear of public scrutiny? If you want to know the truth about any televangelist, write him a letter telling him you want to see a list of missionaries he supports before you send him anymore donations. If he responds then write a letter to the missionaries he supports and verify he supports them. If you are satisfied that your favorite evangelist is supporting one or more missionaries write him another letter saying you will send your money directly to that missionary and cut out the middleman. Remember, if you are giving to God to get something back it does not matter if you give to God through a televangelist or directly to a poor missionary.

Read these Scriptures carefully and ask yourself if they could apply to the televangelists noted in this book:

Yea, the dogs are greedy, they can never have enough; and these are shepherds that cannot understand: they have all turned to their own way, each one to his gain, from every quarter. Come ye, [say they], I will fetch wine, and we will fill ourselves with strong drink; and tomorrow shall be as this day, [a day] great beyond measure. (Isaiah 56.11-12)

But there arose false prophets also among the people, as among you also there shall be false teachers, who shall privily bring in destructive heresies, denying even the Master that bought them, bringing upon themselves swift destruction. And many shall follow their lascivious doings; by reason of whom the way of the truth shall be evil spoken of. And in covetousness shall they with feigned words

make merchandise of you: whose sentence now from of old lingereth not, and their destruction slumbereth not. (2 Peter 2.1-3)

One thing we can be 100% certain of concerning all of the men and women in this appendix – they are laying up for themselves treasures in this life. They are doing just the opposite of what Jesus Christ commanded all believers to do:

*Lay **not** up for yourselves **treasures upon the earth**, where moth and rust consume, and where thieves break through and steal: but **lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven**, where neither moth nor rust doth consume, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: for where thy treasure is, there will thy heart be also. (Matthew 6.19-21)*

Jesus did not command Christians to lay up treasure on Earth and in Heaven. No! He commanded them to lay up treasure in Heaven only. Why? When anyone gets rich he begins to focus on the things of the world (1 John 2.15-17) and stops setting his eyes on spiritual things as we are commanded to do:

Set your mind on the things that are above, not on the things that are upon the earth. (Colossians 3.2)

It is impossible for people who make and spend millions of dollars on things of the world, as the people in this appendix do, to keep their minds focused on spiritual things. Their minds are split between worldly things and spiritual things. These millionaires most likely spend more time focused on worldly things than on spiritual matters.

Remember what Jesus said concerning serving two masters:

No man can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon. Therefore I say unto you, be not anxious for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than the food, and the body than the raiment? (Matthew 6.24-25)

If the people in this appendix did what Jesus commands them and all believers to do they would keep just enough to live on and no more. They would give the rest to the poor and needy (Psalm 41.1; Proverbs 14.21, 31; 19.17; 22.9; 28.27; James 2.14-17; 1 John 3.17-18), to orphans and widows (James 1.27) and to missionaries (3 John 5-8).

They appear as though they want to be rich and famous in this life. Why would they not want to be rich and famous in the eternal life to come? Why do they appear to spend most of their time working to be rich and famous in this life and paupers in Heaven? Something is wrong here – you need to figure out what it is.

Another thing to remember is that information about any overseas bank accounts and deposits made outside the U.S. after international evangelical crusades is not available to the public. All or some of these televangelists could have millions of dollars in foreign bank accounts. If you decide to write a letter to your favorite televangelist remember to ask him if he has any foreign bank accounts and approximately how many millions of dollars he has in them.

If these televangelists truly believe that God always blesses Christians with financial prosperity who give to Him why are they hoarding up millions of dollars in bank accounts, stocks, securities, bonds, etc? The Crouches' TBN has close to a billion dollars in assets (\$857,854,267 as of 2002)²⁴ with **\$238 million** in Treasury bonds and other government securities and **\$31 million** in cash.²¹ According to their “prosperity gospel” if they gave some or all of their **\$269 million** in liquid assets to the Lord He would bless them 10-fold or more. When they run deficits should they not give what they have to the Lord and He would bless them with donations to make up the deficits? Do they practice what they preach? Or is the “prosperity gospel” only for the little people and not the televangelists?

One last thing to meditate on is this:

Could these televangelists make millions of dollars if the people who listen to them did not have a desire to get rich? The televangelists promise people that God will give them back more than what they give to them. If their followers did not want to get rich would they send these televangelists money? Is it possible that it is the “greed” of their followers that enables televangelists to make millions of dollars?

The classic quote by George Hull says it all – **“There’s a sucker born every minute.”** [Authors’ note: This quote is mistakenly credited to P.T. Barnum. For the story go to – www.historybuff.com/library/ref_barnum.html.]

Maybe Christians need to be taught the truth about giving to the Lord and getting from Him. If they understood this doctrine and lived

accordingly the televangelists would be out of business. Please study Chapter 4, pages 35-41.

Notes

1. 2009 www.ministrywatch.com/pdf/donoralert2009.pdf.
2. 2010 www.ministrywatch.com/pdf/donoralert2010.pdf.
3. http://leadnet.org/blog/post/how_do_pastor_salaries_compare_with_others.
4. "Official biography." www.patrobertson.com/Biography/index.asp.
5. "About Us." Christian Coalition. Archived from the original on March 8, 2007. <http://web.archive.org/web/20070308053058/http://www.cc.org/about.cfm>.
6. www.patrobertson.com/education.
7. "Military Service." The Official Site of Pat Robertson.
8. "Evangelist sues over combat story." *Globe and Mail*. (Toronto, Ont.): p. A.16. 10.23.1986.
9. "ROBERTSON'S LIBEL SUIT BY JUDGE EX-CONGRESSMAN RULED THE LEGAL VICTOR." *Philadelphia Daily News*: p. 14. 3.07.1988.
10. "Palast investigates Pat Robertson." Sullivan-county.com. www.sullivan-county.com/news/pat_quotes/palst.htm.
11. "Complete list of Triple Crown nominees." *Thoroughbred Times*. 2002-02-10. www.thoroughbredtimes.com/racing-news/2002/February/10/Complete-list-of-Triple-Crown-nominees.aspx.
12. "Mr Pat Horse Pedigree." Pedigreequery.com. 4.30.2007. www.pedigreequery.com/mr+pat.
13. Pat Robertson www.rapidnet.com/~jbeard/bdm/exposes/robertson/general.htm
14. Sizemore, Bill. "Robertson, Liberian Leader Hope to Strike Gold in Coastal Africa." *Virginian-Pilot*. 6.02.1999.
15. Blumenthal, Max. "Pat Robertson's Katrina Cash." *Nation Online*. 9.07.2005. www.thenation.com/doc/20050919/blumenthal.
16. "Charles Taylor: Pat Robertson was my man in Washington | Turtle Bay." Turtlebay.foreignpolicy.com. http://turtlebay.foreignpolicy.com/posts/2010/02/05/charles_taylor_pat_robertson_was_my_man_in_washington.
17. Schecter, Anna. "Prosecutor: Pat Robertson Had Gold Deal with African Dictator; Prosecutors in Human Rights Trial Allege Pat Robertson Lobbied George Bush on Behalf of Liberian Warlord Charles Taylor." *ABC News*. 2.04.2010. <http://abcnews.go.com/Blotter/pat-robertsons-gold-deal-african-dictator/story?id=9749341>.
18. See also Barbara A. Simon, Esq., CNP's radical agenda, Institute for First Amendment Studies, Inc., which makes several mentions of Robertson's role in CNP.
19. Randi, James. *The Faith Healers*. Prometheus Books. 1989. pp. 197–206.
20. Media Matters for America. "Pat Robertson's contradictory theology: God won't stop a tsunami – but might respond to Gay Days with an earthquake." 5.02.2005.
21. Lobdell, William. "Pastor's Empire Built on Acts of Faith, and Cash." *Los Angeles Times*. 9.19.2004. www.trinityfi.org/press/latimes04.html.
- 21a. "Trinity Broadcasting's jet plane: Nearer, My God, to Thee!" 10.23.2009. <http://taxdollars.ocregister.com/2009/10/23/trinity-broadcastings-jet-plane-nearer-my-god-to-thee/40757>.

21b. "TBN Preachers Get Ready to Buy New Private Jet." <http://churchtithesandofferings.com/blog/tbn-preachers-gets-ready-to-buy-new-private-jet>. & <http://churchtithesandofferings.com/blog/tag/gulfstream-g650>.

22. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paul_Crouch.

23. www.mediabiz.com/thebridge/?release_id=154#1052.

24. www.highbeam.com/doc/1G1-102725178.html.

25. www.tvnewscheck.com/article/2010/04/07/41240/top-station-groups-stay-the-course.

26. www.trinityfi.org/press/latimes05.html.

27. www.charitynavigator.org/index.cfm?bay=search.summary&orgid=4574.

28. Lobdell, William. "Televangelist Paul Crouch Attempts to Keep Accuser Quiet." 9.12.2004. www.trinityfi.org/press/latimes03.html.

28. Olsen, Ted. "Former TBN Employee Alleges Gay Tryst With Paul Crouch." Christianity Today. 9.01.2004. www.ctlibrary.com/ct/2004/septemberweb-only/9-13-11.0.html.

29. www.multichannel.com/article/79701-TBN_s_Crouch_Rebuts_Sexual_Harassment_Story.php.

30. Fleener v. Trinity Broadcasting Network, 203 F. Supp. 2d 1142 (9.05.2001, United States District Court for the Central District of California).

31. News Service Report. "West Virginia Woman Settles Suit with Network." Post-Standard 1.05.2002. Syracuse, New York. p. B-2.

32. Coker, Matt. "A Clockwork Orange." OC Weekly. 1.11.2002. p. 10.

33. Branstetter, Ziva. "Reaping from faith." Tulsa World Special Report. 4.27.2003. www.trinityfi.org/press/tulsaworld01.html.

34a. www.cbsnews.com/8301-501263_162-3767744-501263.html?tag=contentMain%3bcontentBody.

34b. www.cbsnews.com/video/watch/?id=3767919n.

34c. The Billboard Book of Top 40 Hits, Joel Whitburn, 7th edition.

35. Strickler, Laura. "Televangelists: Who's Accountable?" CBS News. 1.29.2008. www.cbsnews.com/blogs/2008/01/29/primarysource/entry3767306.shtml.

36. "University president's wife 'sickened' by allegations." CNN. 10.15.2007. www.cnn.com/2007/US/law/10/15/oru.suit.

37. "Our Pastors: Terri and George." Eagle Mountain International Church. October 2007. www.emic.org/about/george_terri_bio.php.

38. "Televangelist's \$3.6 million jet not tax-exempt, county says." Fort Worth Star Telegram. 12.05.2008. <http://endtimespropheticwords.wordpress.com/2008/12/07/televangelist-kenneth-copelands-jet-might-bring-him-down>.

39. <http://finance.senate.gov/newsroom/ranking/download/?id=d12db357-ce3f-49f8-babb-4134ff994e50>.

40. <http://cbsdallas.files.wordpress.com/2011/01/emic-copeland-01-5-11.pdf>.

41. Jagger, Suzy. "Televangelist Kenneth Copeland refuses to render unto taxman." 7.07.2008. www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/comment/faith/article4281949.ece.

42. www.airport-data.com/airport/4T2.

42a. <http://media.npr.org/documents/2007/nov/grassley/dollar.pdf>.

42b. "Senate Finance Committee, Minority Staff Review of World Changers Church International, (WCCI) Creflo and Taffi Dollar." prepared by Linda F. Simmons." www.freeworldfilmworks.com/hh-dollarcreflosenatate.pdf.

42c. www.ecfa.org/Content/NewsGrassleySaysSubpoena.

- 43d. www.ecfa.org/Content/RSSMemorandumGrassleySix.
43. Nickell, Joe. "Benny Hinn: Healer or Hypnotist?" Volume 26.3, May/June 2002. *Skeptical Inquirer*.
45. Donor Alert. www.ministrywatch.com/mw2.1/pdf/MWDA_053105_BennyHinn.pdf.
- 46a. Donor Alert. www.ministrywatch.com/mw2.1/pdf/MWDA_053105_BennyHinn.pdf. [Hinn's salary is for 2004 and his ministry's income is for 2006.]
- 46b. Vegh, Steven G. "Donations rise 21% for Robertson's TV ministry." *Virginian-Pilot*. 3.21.2006. http://www.jesus-is-savior.com/Wolves/700_club.htm.
47. Lobdell, William. "Onward Christian Soldier." Reprinted from the *Los Angeles Times*. 12.08.2002. www.trinityfi.org/press/latimes01.html.
48. www.chron.com/disp/story.mpl/metropolitan/3254357.html.
49. McGonigle, Steve. "What happened to Hinn's promised healing center? Evangelist raised funds but never built project; use of money defended" *The Dallas Morning News*. 6.23.2002. www.deceptioninthechurch.com/DallasNews_com%20%20Dallas-Fort%20Worth%20%20News%20DMN%20Stories.htm.
50. NBC News. "Benny Hinn has millions of believers and millions in donations." 12.27.2002. www.religionnewsblog.com/1684/where-does-world-famous-televangelists-money-go.
51. Lobdell, William. "The Price of Healing." Reprinted from the *Los Angeles Times*. 7.27.2003. www.trinityfi.org/press/latimes02.html.
52. Stutzman, Rene. "Publisher: Faith healer violated our morality clause." *The Orlando Sentinel*. 2.17.2011. http://articles.orlandosentinel.com/2011-02-17/news/os-benny-hinn-book-suit-20110217_1_hinn-lives-benny-hinn-televangelist.
- 52a. www.ecfa.org/Content/RSSMemorandumGrassleySix.
53. Christ Notes, Joel Osteen Books and Ministry. www.christnotes.org/_joel-osteen.asp.
54. Mathieu, Jennifer. *Power House*. *Houston Press News*. 4.04.2002. www.houstonpress.com/2002-04-04/news/power-house.
55. Lakewood Church, Joel Osteen Ministries. About Pastors Joel & Victoria
56. "New Osteen Book at Three Million." *Publisher's Weekly*. 4.13.2007.
57. "The 10 Most Fascinating People of 2006." 20/20. ABC. 12.1.2.2006. <http://abcnews.go.com/2020/story?id=2716887>.
58. "The 50 Most Influential Christians in America." *The Church Report*. January 2007. Christy Media, LLC. January 2007. www.thechurchreport.com/mag_article.php?mid=875&mname=January.
59. www.trinityfi.org/press/osteen01.html.
- 59a. Piers Morgan Tonight, January 26, 2011.
60. Pugh, Clifford. "After move to \$10.5 million River Oaks mansion, Joel Osteen offers Tanglewood land for \$1.1 million." <http://houston.culturemap.com/newsdetail/07-04-10-after-move-to-river-oaks-joel-osteen-wants-to-sell-tanglewood-land-for-11-million>.
- 61a. <http://preesi.lefora.com/2010/10/25/the-houses-of-well-known-televangelists>.
- 61b. www.washingtonspectator.org/articles/20080401ministerofwar.cfm.
62. Analisa Nazareno. "Critics say John Hagee's compensation is too high." *San Antonio Express-News*. 6.20.2003. www.rickcross.com/reference/tv_preachers/tv_preachers7.html.

63. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Morris_Cerullo.
64. "A Man of God or a Fraud." www.cephas-library.com/evangelists/evangelist_morris_cerullo_fraud.html.
65. "The Last Great Anointing?" Global Prayer Covering Prayer Watch Volume 2, November 1998. www.deceptioninthechurch.com/morris.htm.
66. Olsen, Ted. "Evangelist Cerullo indicted in tax case." 4.13.2006. www.christianitytoday.com/ct/2005/julyweb-only/31.0a.html.
67. Charisma Magazine. "Federal Judge Dismisses Tax-Evasion Indictment Against Evangelist Morris Cerullo." 8.17.2007. www.charismamag.com/index.php/news/19798.
68. www.christian-witness.org/archives/cetf2002/cerullo02.html.
69. <http://endtimespropheticwords.wordpress.com/category/morris-cerullo>.
70. Barlow, Tom. "Televangelist builds \$4 million home while employees lose jobs." 7.07.2009. www.walletpop.com/2009/07/07/televangelist-builds-4-million-home-while-employees-lose-jobs.
71. TV.com biography.
72. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jesse_Duplantis.
73. Jesse Duplantis Ministries – www.jdm.org.
74. www.youtube.com/watch?v=BhxNVPhY2QM.
75. Randi, James. "James Randi Educational Foundation daily blog for February 22, 2008." www.randi.org/site/index.php/swift-blog/166-swift-february-22-2008.html#17.
76. Randi, James. *The Faith Healers*. Prometheus Books. 1989. pp. 2, 147.
77. www.rationalresponders.com/james_randi_exposes_uri_geller_and_peter_poff.
- 78a. www.randi.org/site/index.php/jref-news/1260-pigasus-2011.html.
- 78b. Avila, Jim. "Selling Salvation." ABC Nightline. 5.11.2007. <http://abcnews.go.com/2020/story?id=3164858&page=1>.
79. www.bet.com.
80. www.dsc.discovery.com.
81. www.thewordnetwork.org.
82. www.visiontv.ca
83. www.superchannel.ca.
- 83a. www.oralroberts.com/about.
- 83b. "Oral Roberts Evangelistic Association." Charity Navigator. 2008. www.charitynavigator.org/index.cfm?bay=search.summary&orgid=4272.
- 83c. "Oral Roberts president faces corruption lawsuit." MSNBC. 10.5.2007. www.msnbc.msn.com/id/21156263/page/1.
- 83d. Juozapavicius, Justin. "Scandal brewing at Oral Roberts U." 10.05.2007. http://www.boston.com/news/education/higher/articles/2007/10/05/scandal_brewing_at_oral_roberts_u.
- 83e. "ORU President Richard Roberts resigns in dishonor." 11.25.2007. <http://news.exchristian.net/2007/11/oru-president-richard-roberts-resigns.html>.
- 83f. "Oral Roberts University accountant sues school, says he was ordered to help cook the books." Arizona Daily Star. 11.22.2007. www.religionnewsblog.com/19945/oru-oral-roberts-university-2.
- 83g. "Suit: Oral Roberts University Funneled \$1B a Year." New York Times. 2.08.2008. www.religionnewsblog.com/20580/oral-roberts-university-25.

84. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mike_Murdock.
85. Barbee, Darren. "Profit in the pulpit." *Star-Telegram*. 3.02.2003. www.trinityfi.org/press/murdock01.html.
86. www.youtube.com/watch?v=BhxNVPhY2QM & Zurik, Lee. "Lee Zurik Investigation: Criminal Investigation into West Bank Televangelist?" 11.17.2010. www.fox8live.com/news/local/story/Lee-Zurik-Investigation-Criminal-investigation/yNw1D3tSf0WHm4M69XnG0A.csp.
87. About Joyce. www.joycemeyer.org/AboutUs/JoyceBio.aspx.
88. Tritto, Christopher. "Growth overseas adds \$3 million to Meyer's coffers." *St. Louis Business Journal*. 8.09.2010. www.bizjournals.com/stlouis/stories/2010/08/09/story3.html.
89. Allen, Matt. "Joyce Meyer Ministries." *St. Louis Business Journal*. 4.12. 2007. www.bizjournals.com/stlouis/stories/2007/04/16/focus11.html.
90. <http://endtimespropheticwords.wordpress.com/category/joyce-meyer>.
91. Tuft, Carolyn and Smith, Bill. "From Fenton to fortune in the name of God." *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*. 11.15.2003. <http://more.stltoday.com/stltoday/news/special/joycemeyer.nsf/0/c5099399d2fcc5fa86256ddf00661c5f?OpenDocument>.
92. <http://healtheland.wordpress.com/2007/11/06/mainstream-media-exposes-joyce-meyer-she-received-millions>.
93. <http://preesi.lefora.com/2010/10/25/the-houses-of-well-known-televangelists>.
94. <http://healtheland.wordpress.com/2007/11/06/mainstream-media-exposes-joyce-meyer-she-received-millions>.
- 94a. www.ecfa.org/Content/RSSMemorandumGrassleySix.
95. <http://healtheland.wordpress.com/2007/11/06/mainstream-media-exposes-joyce-meyer-she-received-millions>. & <http://preesi.lefora.com/2010/10/25/the-houses-of-well-known-televangelists>.
96. www.bbb.org/charity-reviews/national/religious/joyce-meyer-ministries-in-fenton-mo-3113. (The revenue figure is for 2009 and the income figure is for 2003.)
97. www.paulawhite.org/about/photos/photo-gallery-3.
- 97a. Senate Finance Committee Minority Staff Review of Without Walls International Church Paula White Ministries (prepared by Linda F. Simmons) <http://media.tbo.com/tbo/pdfs/010511whites.pdf>.
98. Bender, Marilyn. "The Empire and Ego of Donald Trump." *New York Times*. 8.07.1983. www.nytimes.com/1983/08/07/business/the-empire-and-ego-of-donald-trump.html.
99. Day, Sherri. "Questions tarnish rise to top: Paula White is all polish, but there's pain behind her evangelical rise." 7.15.2007. www.sptimes.com/2007/07/15/Hillsborough/Questions_tarnish_ris.shtml.
100. Michelle Bearden and Baird Helgeson, Baird. "Widow: Pastors Reneged On Deal To Care For Me." *Tampa Tribune*. 5.27.2007. www.religionnewsblog.com/18500/paula-white-3.
101. Kwon, Lillian. "Paula White Breaks Silence on Probes, Divorce, Benny Hinn." *Christian Post*. 4.01.2011. www.christianpost.com/news/paula-white-breaks-silence-on-probes-divorce-benny-hinn-49671.
102. "Paula White Takes over Dying Without Walls International Church in FL." 7.12.2009. <http://blackchristiannews.com/news/2009/07/paula-white-takes-over-dying-without-walls-international-church-in-fl.html>.

103. Wang, Stephanie. "Randy White, Ex-Without Walls Pastor, Charged with DUI." St. Petersburg Times. 5.22.2011. www.theledger.com/article/20110522/NEWS/110529839.
104. TDJ Enterprises. www.tdjakes.com/bishops-bio.
105. Kaylois, Henry. "Bishop Jakes is ready. Are you? The nation's hottest preacher brings his message to Dallas." Dallas Observer. 6.20.1996. www.dallasobserver.com/1996-06-20/news/bishop-jakes-is-ready-are-you/full.
106. MSNBC Report. "TD Jakes and Joel Osteen Enrich Themselves in Jesus' Name." www.youtube.com/watch?v=lGmLFSPkyhs.
107. Copeland, Libby. "With Gifts From God." Washington Post. 3.25.2001. p. F01. www.trinityfi.org/press/tdjakes01.html.
108. <http://preesi.lefora.com/2010/10/25/the-houses-of-well-known-televangelists>.
109. Copeland, Libby. "Bishop T.D. Jakes has made millions by reaching millions. Not that there's anything wrong with that." Washington Post. 3.25. 2001. p. F01. www.trinityfi.org/press/tdjakes01.html.
110. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dr._Frederick_K.C._Price.
111. Semuels, Alana. "Preacher sues 20/20 alleging defamation." Los Angeles Times. 7.25.2007. <http://articles.latimes.com/2007/jul/25/business/fi-price25>.
112. McLaren, Grant. "Matching mission and machine." Pro Pilot Magazine. November 2005.
113. Web site of World Changers Church. About Our Pastors... Creflo A. & Taffi L. Dollar. www.worldchangers.org/About-Creflo-and-Taffi.aspx.
- 113a. Harris, Dan and Marsh, Mary. "'Prosperity Gospel': Give and You Shall Receive?" ABC Nightline. 1.17.2007. <http://abcnews.go.com/Nightline/story?id=4149598&page=1>.
114. Luo, Michael. "Preaching a Gospel of Wealth In a Glittery Market." New York Times. 1.15.2006. <http://query.nytimes.com/gst/fullpage.html?res=9D02E5D7143FF936A25752C0A9609C8B63>.
115. Senate Finance Committee. Minority Staff Review of World Changers Church International (WCCI). Creflo and Taffi Dollar. Prepared by Lynda F. Simmons. <http://finance.senate.gov/newsroom/ranking/download/?id=bedb7313-be71-4bfe-9eb5-b929710f0fa0>.
- 115a. Spillius, Alex. "Pastor Creflo Dollar faces spending inquiry." Daily Telegraph. 12.10.2007. www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/1572114/Pastor-Creflo-Dollar-faces-spending-inquiry.html.
116. St. Louis Post-Dispatch. "Popular TV preachers." 11.18.2003. <http://more.Stltoday.com/stltoday/news/special/joycemeyer.nsf/0/4e2fa20598c3ea2986256de30018cf37?OpenDocument>.
- 116b. www.ecfa.org/Content/RSSMemorandumGrassleySix.
117. "Home." New Birth Missionary Baptist Church.
118. www.religionnewsblog.com/19864/creflo-dollar-7.
119. Blake, John. "Bishop's charity generous to bishop." Atlanta Journal Constitution. 8.28.2008. www.ajc.com/news/2005-ajc-report-bishop-619032.html.
120. John Blake. Bishop's charity generous to bishop: New Birth's Long received \$3 million. Atlanta Journal-Constitution/August 28, 2005. www.rickcross.com/reference/general/general768.html.

121. Metro Atlanta/State News “Bishop Eddie Long benefits from his own church’s charity.” 9.22.2010. www.ajc.com/news/2005-ajc-report-bishop-619032.html.
122. James C. Mckinley And Robbie Brown. Sex Scandal Threatens a Georgia Pastor’s Empire. 9.25.2010. New York Times. www.nytimes.com/2010/09/26/us/26pastor.html.
- 122a. www.ecfa.org/Content/RSSMemorandumGrassleySix.
123. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Juanita_Bynum.
124. Robinson, Vanessa Lowe. “She Tells It Like It Is. A Cinderella Wedding.” Charisma Magazine. www.charismamag.com/index.php/covers/260-cover-story/7987-she-tells-it-like-it-is.
125. <http://skepticalbrotha.wordpress.com/2007/08/27/bishop-weeks-the-devil-made-me-do-it-> & Murray, Jawn “Bishop Beat Down: Thomas Weeks Pleads Guilty To Assaulting Juanita Bynum.” BV Buzz. 3.12.2008. www.blackvoices.com/blogs/2008/03/12/bishop-beat-down-thomas-weeks-pleads-guilty-to-assaulting-juani.
126. D. Aileen Dodd. “Juanita Bynum pays \$32K in taxes, plans to open spa.” Atlanta Journal-Constitution. 10.19.2007. www.religionnewsblog.com/19691/juanita-bynum-32.
127. “Robert Tilton – The Story,” Robert-Tilton.com.
128. Sarles, Ken L. “Prosperity and Healing: Is it Promised to the Believer?” www.biblestudymanuals.net/prosperity.htm.
129. Baradell, Scott. “Robert Tilton’s Heart of Darkness,” Dallas Observer. 2.06.1992. p. 18.
130. “The Apple of God’s Eye,” produced by Robbie Gordon, Primetime Live, first broadcast November 21, 1991.
131. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robert_Tilton#Undercover_investigation.
132. Followup segment to “The Apple of God’s Eye,” Primetime Live, first broadcast November 28, 1991.
133. Rowe, Sean. “The Resurrection of Robert Tilton.” Miami New Times. 1.01.1998. www.trinityfi.org/press/tilton3.html.
134. The Word Network program listing page, 1.08.2007.
135. Rowe, Sean. “Second Coming... A jet-settin,’ Scotch-sippin’ Robert Tilton washes up in South Florida--and he still wants your money.” 11.06.1997. www.dallasobserver.com/1997-11-06/news/second-coming & www.forgottenword.org/tilton.html.
136. <http://jimbakkershow.com/photo-galleries/Our%20History>.
- 136a. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jim_Bakker.
137. The New Straits Times, 10.06.1989.
138. Ostling, Richard N. “Jim Bakker’s Crumbling World.” Time Magazine. 10.06.1989. www.time.com/time/magazine/article/0,9171,956551,00.html.
139. Ostling, Richard N. “Enterprising Evangelism.” Time Magazine. 8.03.1987. www.time.com/time/printout/0,8816,965155,00.html.
140. Ostling, Richard N. “Taking Command at Fort Mill.” Time Magazine. 5.11.1987. www.time.com/time/magazine/article/0,9171,964322-1,00.html.
141. “American Notes: Fund Raising.” Time Magazine. 9.21.1987. www.time.com/time/archive/preview/0,10987,965543,00.html.
142. Tammy Faye Bakker – Obituary. www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/comment/obituaries/article2120961.ece.

143. U.S. v. Bakker, (C.A.4, 1991), 925 F.2d 728, 740, case no. 89-5687.
144. Jay Bakker, *Son of a Preacher Man*. New York: Harper Collins, 2001. p. 52.
145. Applebome, Peter. "Bakker Is Convicted on All Counts; First Felon Among TV Evangelists." 10.06.1989. www.nytimes.com/1989/10/06/us/bakker-is-convicted-on-all-counts-first-felon-among-tv-evangelists.html?src=pm.
146. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jim_Bakker.
147. Jay Bakker, *Son of a Preacher Man*. New York: Harper Collins, 2001. p. 104.
148. Jay Bakker, *Son of a Preacher Man*. New York: Harper Collins, 2001. pp. 116, 130.
149. "James O. Bakker." www.bop.gov/iloc2/InmateFinderServlet?Transaction=NameSearch&needingMoreList=false&FirstName=James&Middle=&LastName=Bakker&Race=U&Sex=U&Age=&x=95&y=16
150. Bakker, Jim. *I Was Wrong*. Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, 1996. p. 535.
151. "Oral Roberts's Mother Dies." New York Times. 4.19.1974. <http://select.nytimes.com/gst/abstract.html?res=F60D10F93F58137B93CBA8178FD85F408785F9>.
152. Arnett, David. "Oral Roberts Dies." Tulsa Today. 12.15.2009. www.tulsatoday.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1429:oral-roberts-dies&catid=58:local&Itemid=106.
153. www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=gr&GRid=10919187.
154. Christopher, Reed. "Oral Roberts obituary." Guardian. 12.15.2009. www.guardian.co.uk/world/2009/dec/15/oral-roberts-obituary.
155. www.oralroberts.com/oralroberts.
156. "Religion: Oral's Progress." Time Magazine. 2.07.1972. www.time.com/time/magazine/article/0,9171,905738-1,00.html.
157. www.oralroberts.com/oralroberts.
158. Behrens, Zach. "Evangelist Dr. Oral Roberts Dies at 91 in Newport Beach." 12.15.2009. http://laist.com/2009/12/15/evangelist_dr_oral_roberts_dies_at.php
159. "ORAL ROBERTS DIES: Funeral Arrangements Pending for Legendary Evangelist." KTUL-TV. 12.15.2009. <http://static.ktul.com/documents/oralroberts.pdf>.
160. Schneider, Keith. "Oral Roberts, Fiery Preacher, Dies at 91." New York Times. 12.15.2009. www.nytimes.com/2009/12/16/us/16roberts.html.
161. www.oralroberts.com/oralroberts/biography/1950-1959.
162. www.oralroberts.com/oralroberts/biography/1960-1969.
- 163a. Harrell, David Edwin, *Oral Roberts: An American Life*. Bloomington, Indiana: Indiana University Press, 1985, p. 355).
- 163b. Sherman, Bill. "Oral Roberts University sells presidential compound." 7.01.2010. www.tulsaworld.com/news/article.aspx?subjectid=11&articleid=20100701_18_0_Oaoetn955139.
- 164a. www.moriel.org/articles/discernment/church_issues/oral_roberts_tragedy.htm.
- 164b. Evangelist R.L. Sumner's review of *Give Me that Prime-time Religion* by Jerry Sholes).
165. http://cnview.com/on_line_resources/the_life_and_ministry_of_oral_roberts.htm.

165a. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kenneth_Hagin.

Ike photo credit - lyle e davis. www.thecommunitypaper.com/archive/2007/05_17/index.php.

165b. Norman, Tony. "The wretched, venal life of Rev. Ike." *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*. 8.04.2009. www.post-gazette.com/pg/09216/988400-153.stm.

Kuhlman photo credit - www.kathrynkuhlman.com/photo_gallery.html.

165c. Evangelist Sued By a Former Aide. *Washington Post*. 7.18.1975. http://pqasb.pqarchiver.com/washingtonpost_historical/access/120169428.html?dids=120169428:120169428&FMT=ABS&FMTS=ABS:FT&date=JUL+18%2C+1975&author=&pub=The+Washington+Post&desc=Evangelist+Sued+By+a+Former+Aide&pqatl=google.

165d. Ex-Aides Sue Kathryn Kuhlman." *Los Angeles Times*. 7.03.1975. <http://pqasb.pqarchiver.com/latimes/access/662183362.html?dids=662183362:662183362&FMT=ABS&FMTS=ABS:AI&date=Jul+03%2C+1975&author=RUSSELL+C+HANDLER&pub=Los+Angeles+Times&desc=Ex-Aides+Sue+Kathryn+Kuhlman&pqatl=google>.

165e. Rev. Lester Kinsolving. "Inside Religion: Kuhlman Tested By MD's Probe." *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*. 11.08.1975. <http://news.google.com/newspapers?id=cOQNAAAIBAJ&sjid=iG0DAAAIBAJ&pg=5291,834959&dq=kathryn+kuhlm+an+william+nolen>.

166a. Note: In the obituary for her daughter-in-law, the cause of Aimee's death is mentioned: "Lorna McPherson, 82, Of the Angelus Temple." *New York Times*. June 18, 1993. <http://query.nytimes.com/gst/fullpage.html?res=9F0CEEDF1738F93BA25755C0A965958260>. "The Rev. Lorna Dee McPherson, daughter-in-law of the famed evangelist Aimee Semple McPherson and a former minister of her Angelus Temple, died on June 11 at her home in the Los Feliz area. She was 82. The cause of death was emphysema and asthma, said the Rev. William Chavez, a longtime friend and fellow minister. Known as Sister Lorna Dee to followers, Mrs. McPherson was a former vice president of the International Church of the Foursquare Gospel, which included more than 600 congregations and a Bible college. Mrs. McPherson was elected to the post in 1944, when her husband, Rolf K. McPherson, succeeded his mother as president and chief minister of Angelus Temple following her death. She is survived by her husband and a daughter, Kay. Aimee Semple McPherson founded Angelus Temple in the early 1920's, when her brand of fundamentalist Christianity, stressing the "born-again" experience, divine healing and evangelism, was popular in the United States. She died on Sept. 27, 1944, of shock and respiratory failure attributed to an overdose of sleeping pills."

166b. "Sister Aimee's' Death Is Ruled An Accident." *United Press International* in the *Washington Post*. October 14, 1944. http://pqasb.pqarchiver.com/washingtonpost_historical/access/279794392.html. "Aimee Semple McPherson, famous evangelist who occupied the headlines almost as often as the pulpit, died of shock and respiratory failure "*from an accidental over-dosage*" of sleeping capsules, a coroner's jury decided today."

166c. www.foursquare.org/landing_pages/2,3.html.

166d. www.timbedley.com/life/aimee01a.htm.

166e. http://lakeelsinore-wildomar.patch.com/blog_posts/photo-gallery-aimees-ca-stle-in-lake-elsinore-de7b02e1#photo-8194696.

166f. www.youtube.com/watch?v=8wQxp2eeYuc.

- 166g. http://lakeelsinore-wildomar.patch.com/blog_posts/photo-gallery-aimees-castle-in-lake-elsinore-de7b02e1#photo-8194671.
- 167a. www.charitynavigator.org/index.cfm?bay=search.summary&orgid=5077.
- 167b. Marshall, Allen. "Christian Research Institute Accused of 'Naive' Bookkeeping." *Christianity Today*. 8.01.2003. www.christianitytoday.com/ct/2003/august/6.19.html.
168. Lobdell, William. "Christian Research Institute Accused of 'Naive' Bookkeeping Evangelist Says Offerings Lost in Mail." *Los Angeles Times*. 1.23.2005. <http://articles.latimes.com/2005/jan/23/local/me-bibleman23>.
169. www.ecfa.org/MemberProfile.aspx?ID=6405.
170. www.williamalnor.com/cristat.htm.
172. http://leadnet.org/blog/post/how_do_pastor_salaries_compare_with_others.
173. www.charitynavigator.org/index.cfm?bay=search.summary&orgid=3367.
174. "Affidavit with Respect to Financial Affairs of Bobby E. Larson," case no. 91DR226, Division 9, District Court, Jefferson County, Colo., p. 2. Also according to court transcripts of divorce proceedings, p. 272. www.cornerstonemag.com/features/iss100/larson.htm.
175. www.charitynavigator.org/index.cfm?bay=search.summary&orgid=5077.
176. www.charitynavigator.org/index.cfm?bay=search.summary&orgid=3570.
177. www.charitynavigator.org/index.cfm?bay=search.summary&orgid=3706.
- Daly received no compensation from FoF, but he was paid by affiliates of FoF.
178. www.charitynavigator.org/index.cfm?bay=search.summary&orgid=3859.
179. www.charitynavigator.org/index.cfm?bay=search.summary&orgid=3913.
180. www.charitynavigator.org/index.cfm?bay=search.summary&orgid=5173.
181. www.charitynavigator.org/index.cfm?bay=search.summary&orgid=4385.
182. www.charitynavigator.org/index.cfm?bay=search.summary&orgid=4423.
183. www.charitynavigator.org/index.cfm?bay=search.summary&orgid=4564.
184. www.charitynavigator.org/index.cfm?bay=search.summary&orgid=4768.
185. www.charitynavigator.org/index.cfm?bay=search.summary&orgid=4272.
186. www.charitynavigator.org/index.cfm?bay=search.summary&orgid=4574.
186. Jan crouch 21. Lobdell, William. "Pastor's Empire Built on Acts of Faith, and Cash." *Los Angeles Times*. 9.19.2004. www.trinityfi.org/press/latimes04.html.
187. www.lazymanandmoney.com/how-many-people-make-more-than-250000-per-year
188. Dorsett, Lyle, W. *Billy Sunday and the Redemption of Urban America*. Grand Rapids, MI: W.B. Eerdmans, 1991. pp. 90-91.
189. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_countries_by_average_wage.

AFTERWORD

As you have seen every person in this book has had one or more major scandals in their life. They have had a sex scandal, a financial scandal or an honesty scandal plague them at one time or another. The vast majority of unsaved people in the world do not believe any of their claims that they make of healing people, working miracles and raising the dead. In the eyes of the lost, who the televangelists are allegedly trying to lead to the Lord, they do not have a good reputation. Instead they have some of the worst reputations that any religious figure could ever have.

Some other things we ask you to consider:

Are the super “manifestation gifts” of healing and miracles only given to the super-pastors who use them to build mega-churches?

Are the churches that have the “manifestation gifts” using them for *“for the perfecting of the saints, unto the work of ministering, unto the building up of the body of Christ”* (Ephesians 4.12)?

Is every member of every Pentecostal/Charismatic church that exercises the “manifestation gifts” being disciplined so he/she can share the Gospel and then disciple others?

Should the super-pastors who have the super-gifts of healing and miracles have the best equipped congregations where every member is being disciplined so they can disciple others?

If the super-pastors who have the super-gifts have congregations that are not equipped to share the Gospel and make disciples why do they have those super-gifts? Are they for their own glorification? Are their congregations supposed to support them so they can do the evangelism and just forget about discipleship?

Is the Great Commission for all Christians and all churches or is it not for the Church today?

Go ye therefore, and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them into the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit: teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I commanded

you: and lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world.
(Matthew 28.19-20)

Should every member of the churches that exercise the “manifestation gifts” be a super-disciple? Should all of them be winning souls and then discipling them?

If the Pentecostal and Charismatic churches of the televangelists and super-pastors have no discipleship programs, and they have few if any members who are capable of making disciples for what good are their “manifestation gifts”?

If the gift of prophecy is extant this means new revelation (new Scripture) can be added to the Bible until the Second Coming of Jesus Christ. This also means the warning to not add to the Word of God (Revelation 22.18) only applies to the book of Revelation. Every Christian cult in the world has claimed new revelation.

When believers go to Heaven will they worship the Lord in the same manner as some Pentecostal and Charismatic congregations do? Will we laugh, cry, bark, growl and roll on the floor?

For a thorough study of the *pneumatikon charisma* order a copy of *Holy Spirit Gifts* from GraceMercyMinistry.com
You can email GMM – beadisciple@yahoo.com