

Avoid these “Christian” denominations and organizations

by Sandy Simpson. 5/13/25

If you are a Christian (follower of Christ) who is truly born again you will heed the warnings in the Bible to mark and avoid “churches” that proclaim false teachings, false prophecies and promote worldly unbiblical lifestyles and experiences.

Revelation 18:3-5

For all the nations have fallen because of the wine of the passion of her sexual immorality, and the kings of the earth have committed acts of sexual immorality with her, and the merchants of the earth have become rich from the excessive wealth of her luxury.” I heard another voice from heaven, saying, “Come out of her, my people, so that you will not participate in her sins and receive any of her plagues; for her sins have piled up as high as heaven, and God has remembered her offenses.

This covers churches that accept and even promote LGBTQ, ordain LGBTQ pastors, and other sexual immorality (such as promoting watching porn to improve marriage as Paula White and her latest husband Jonathan Cain did at her church

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iSY1UlhMk5I&t=493s>).

2 Timothy 3:4-6

treacherous, reckless, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, holding to a form of godliness although they have denied its power; avoid such people as these. For among them are those who slip into households and captivate weak women weighed down with sins, led on by various impulses,

This covers, among other things, televangelists who cater to women with emotionalism and promises of blessings based on their lying on of hands and “slain in the spirit”.

Romans 16:17

Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them. (KJV)

Christians are to mark and avoid teachers who teach doctrines contrary to what the Bible teaches, in particular those who teach ideas against the core doctrines such as the Trinity, the dual nature of Christ, salvation by grace along through faith alone in Christ alone, that the Bible is a Christians highest authority in all matters of faith and practice and that Jesus Christ will return bodily to earth to rule and judge.

2 Thessalonians 3:6

Now we command you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you keep away from every brother or sister who leads a disorderly life and not one in accordance with the tradition which you received from us.

Churches that are scenes of wild manifestations and behavior are not in accordance to what the Bible teaches and we are to keep away from them.

2 Corinthians 4:2

but we have renounced the things hidden because of shame, not walking in trickery nor distorting the word of God, but by the open proclamation of the truth commending ourselves to every person's conscience in the sight of God.

We are to renounce and not follow those who practice distorting the Word.

Titus 2:12

instructing us to deny ungodliness and worldly desires and to live sensibly, righteously, and in a godly manner in the present age,

Churches that promote ungodliness and worldly things are to be denied, such as any number of the liberal denominations and unbiblical New Apostolic and Word of Faith churches listed below.

1 Corinthians 6:18

Flee sexual immorality. Every other sin that a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body.

True believers must avoid churches that promote sexual immorality.

1 Timothy 6:10-12

For the love of money is a root of all sorts of evil, and some by longing for it have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs. But flee from these things, you man of God, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, perseverance, and gentleness. Fight the good fight of faith; take hold of the eternal life to which you were called, and for which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.

Word of Faith followers take note as your leadership promotes the love of money and at the same time a disrespect for the sovereignty of God by ordering Him to provide money and blessings just because a person is a "Christian".

Now on to the warning to avoid the following:

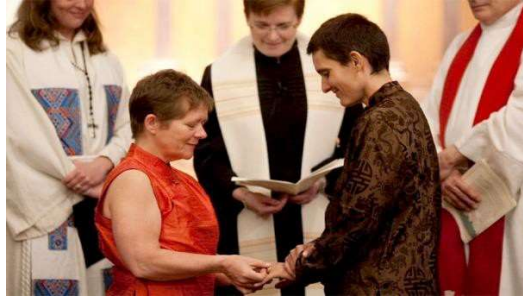
United Methodist Church

Methodism came out of the Wesley and Revivals of the past. Today the **UMC** initially split with other Methodist churches. In 1844, 40 percent of Methodist congregations split off to form a pro-slavery splinter congregation (<https://www.vox.com/24155873/methodist-church-lgbtq-rights-schism-vote-america>). The most recent split was over the issue of legitimizing LGBTQ. The UMC has fallen to the point where many of its pastors openly question Christ's exclusive

salvation, elevating social activism over genuine repentance and turning God's call to holiness into an emotional “feel good” experience. Bishop Karen Aletto declared that Believers must recognize a non-binary god, a claim that blatantly contradicts Scriptures. Seminaries within the UMC teach liberal theology undercutting core doctrines like the authority of God's word and the necessity of personal conversion. Official denominational websites celebrate LGBTQ events while sidelining conservative voices that still uphold biblical standards.



In many congregations, pastors bless same-sex unions, ignoring straightforward biblical commands on sexuality.



Lesbian marriage

Instead of loving sinners by urging them to repent the UMC affirms sinful lifestyles, robbing people of the true power of the Gospel. Traditionalists who object are silenced, labeled hateful or pressured to leave. Because of this attendance has tanked as congregations think the Holy Spirit has “left the building” in churches that exalt the culture rather than Christ. This is how liberalism kills. Once biblical convictions are sacrificed, moral confusion and theological chaos take over the historical Methodist message of the Gospel. Instead, what is termed “Social Gospel” that pleases the masses has taken hold. Some UMC leaders even push universalism, claiming all faiths lead to the same end. The “Narrow Path” has been avoided for the wide path of catering to worldly cultural sinfulness.

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



Ordaining women

The **ELCA** has long ago abandoned biblical truth for cultural applause. This church once proudly stood on Martin Luther's battle cry of scripture alone but now has thrown away real Biblical Authority just to please the culture. ELCA pastors regularly mock core Christian doctrines. Some call the “virgin birth” a myth. Others claim Jesus resurrection

is only symbolic. In one especially outrageous example high-profile Pastor Nadia Bolts Weber declared Jesus sometimes got things wrong, basically accusing God of making mistakes. She claims this on a video she made:

“What I've seen work in people's lives. Let it go. You're actually, you're enough, you're enough. Let it go. There's plenty in the world, in God's world, in the universe, in other people's hearts, to carry you and I find that people flourish (when) they find out different things about themselves, when they just stop trying so hard. (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vPurWJT0yLk>)



God doesn't say we are "enough". He says we are sinners without hope of redemption apart from hearing the Gospel, being convicted of sin by the Holy Spirit, believing Jesus Christ is our only Savior, and confessing and repenting of our sins. Weber's solution is to realize "you are enough". On their official website they openly push same-sex marriage and even defend polyamory against the Bible's clear standards for sexual purity. Many ELCA congregations obsess over secular social justice causes leaving their people spiritually starved without the Gospel. They brag about inclusion meanwhile membership is dropping fast showing how liberal theology rots churches from the inside. Once you ditch biblical truth you're left with moral chaos. Lutherans who used to proudly teach salvation by grace alone now stand by helplessly as their leaders promote beliefs that directly attack scripture. Conservative pastors are either bullied into silence or forced out while the denomination bends over backward to follow every new social trend. Luther's thunderous "here I stand" has become a timid bow to whatever the world demands. This downward spiral shows how liberal ideology hijacks churches. The ELCA's leaders love to flaunt inclusivity but they shove aside anyone clinging to historic Christian doctrine. ELCA is a cautionary tale of what happens when you chase approval from a Godless culture instead of staying faithful to God's unchanging Word.

Presbyterian Church USA (PCUSA)



New woke logo

Presbyterianism grew out of the theology and teachings of Protestant reformers such as John Calvin. His writings in 16th-century Geneva crystallized much of the Reformed thinking that came before him, including an emphasis on the grace of God in Jesus Christ and church government by representative assemblies called presbyteries (<https://pcusa.org/about-pcusa/who-we-are/history>). Reformed theology including Calvinism and a willingness to be tied to the Roman Catholic Church were always a problem. But the **Presbyterian Church USA** of today is a denomination where liberal theology has taken an even more brazen form of open defiance against biblical truth. This denomination started by watering down the Bible's authority then pushed feminist ideas and now ordains openly gay ministers. Their official statements and website boast about progressive politics cheering for abortion rights and redefining marriage all while downplaying sin to please modern tastes. Leaders even talk about "queering" the Bible claiming scripture must be rewritten to match today's social trends. The result is a gutted gospel, no real power of the Cross, and no conviction from the Holy Spirit. PCUSA sermons rarely call people to repent as they promote a cheap Grace that shrugs off Christ's sacrifice. Membership continues to collapse with churches splitting or closing under the weight of confusion and heresy. Conservative Presbyterians who once cherished the church's confessions are attacked for standing by truth their forefathers defended. Meanwhile social activism replaces preaching about sin and redemption, twisting bible verses to fit whatever is popular. Pastors who dare question this Progressive agenda risk punishment or expulsion. In one jaw-dropping case a PCUSA pastor declared God evolves alongside humanity so our moral standards must progress. This reflects the Theistic Evolution stance of the PCUSA. The statement "God evolves alongside humanity" reflects a specific theological perspective known as theistic evolution, which is compatible with the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). This view suggests that God's creative activity is ongoing, and that evolution is a mechanism through which God works in the universe (<https://biologos.org/articles/jurgen-moltmann-on-evolution-as-gods-continuous-creation>). What was sin in past centuries may not be sin today. This statement reveals a deep unbelief in God's wholly unchanging nature. The PCUSA's downfall shows how liberal theology destroys a denomination leaving behind nothing but spiritual wreckage and a legacy of betrayal.

Episcopal Church USA (ECUSA)



The **Episcopal Church USA** plunges even deeper by brazenly discarding core biblical truths. Episcopal leaders regularly trash key Christian doctrines. Bishop John Shelby Spong, in his book "Resurrection: Myth or Reality," argues that the literal, physical resurrection of Jesus is not essential for Christian faith. Spong suggests that the resurrection narrative is a symbolic account of a profound spiritual experience that transformed the disciples. He believes that the impact of this experience, rather than the literal resurrection, is what truly matters for Christians (<https://considerthegospel.org/2012/04/30/considering-the-resurrection-from-the-eyes-of-its-denier-bishop-spong-2/>). This idea guts the gospel at its core. Spong's widely published works and speeches exemplify the theological decay infecting Episcopal leadership, revealing a denomination proudly broadcasting heresy from its pulpits. The official Episcopal website flaunts Progressive agendas championing clergy who live in open sexual sin. But it doesn't stop there. Many Episcopal Bishops scoff at the authority of scripture calling it culturally outdated. One even sneered that biblical commands must adapt to modern realities, flat-out denying the eternal truths of God's word. In practice Episcopal parishes often blend fancy liturgical ceremonies with worldly activism, trading true reverence for empty political correctness. Traditional believers who defend historic Biblical doctrine are ostracized or labeled dinosaurs stuck in the past. Meanwhile membership has crashed so hard that experts predict the entire denomination could nearly disappear in a few decades. Shockingly Episcopal leaders celebrate this collapse as a needed rebirth, insisting they're evolving into something new though they can't define what it is. Ironically every attempt to appease secular culture only speeds the decline. If Jesus' resurrection is optional and the Bible is just a flexible document why bother attending at all. The resulting vacuum is filled with hollow rituals and moral relativism starving congregations of real spiritual nourishment. Episcopal seminaries make things worse by teaching the Bible as just human writing riddled with errors and patriarchal bias. This mindset sets the stage for a total rewrite of Christianity to fit whatever social trend is hottest. But a church cut off from biblical bedrock cannot survive. The Episcopal story screams a dire warning; throw away God's timeless Truth for worldly approval and you kill genuine faith and ruin your gospel witness. Anyone

seeking authentic worship and fidelity to scripture must flee this devastating drift into unbelief before it sucks them under for good.

Vineyard



The **association of Vineyard churches** was founded by John Wimber. The Toronto Airport Fellowship, part of the Vineyard movement, spawned the global Toronto “Blessing” (TB). Wimber was kicked out of Calvary chapel along with Lonnie Frisbee who started “slain in the spirit” antics at Wimber’s church before the TB began. In the TB churches, emotional spectacle eclipses scripture which is even mocked by its adherents who appear to be drunk “in the spirit”, as they call it. Infamous for uncontrollable laughter, bizarre convulsions and people collapsing under alleged power, the Vineyard chases sensational experiences while skimping on real expository preaching.

Benny Hinn and Rodney Howard Browne were some of the first in our modern times to promote “holy laughter” which is another leg of the stool of this false revival.



**Rodney Howard-Browne
commissioned by Benny Hinn to
bring “holy” laughter**

Leaders give personal prophecies and modern revelations that treat scripture as less important. Many Gatherings devolve into wild scenes passed off as Holy Spirit manifestations yet rarely address sin, repentance or the Gospel. The transferable impartation, which has no basis in Scripture, is exactly what gurus have been doing in Kundalini Yoga “Shaktipat”. This technique was amply demonstrated by Bhagwan Shri Rajneesh in his cult in Oregon

(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bvdXI7MWCy8&t=1s>). The TB features endless talk of signs and wonders but rarely any mention of testing Spirits or anchoring experiences in Scripture. This anything-goes climate is dependent on seeking signs and wonders rather than the unchanging truth of God's word. Vineyard pastors often defend these odd displays as proof of revival, accusing critics of quenching the Spirit. In reality unrestrained emotionalism opens the door to manipulation and even counterfeit miracles. Their casual concert-style approach to worship may bring crowds but it trivializes meeting a holy God. Entertainment overshadows reverence and confronting sin. The TB chaotic legacy still lingers in Vineyard circles, where momentary excitement eclipses lasting discipleship. This path is a sobering warning of what happens when a church prioritizes spectacle and self-made revival instead of the life-giving power of God's Word.

Oneness Pentecostalism (OP)

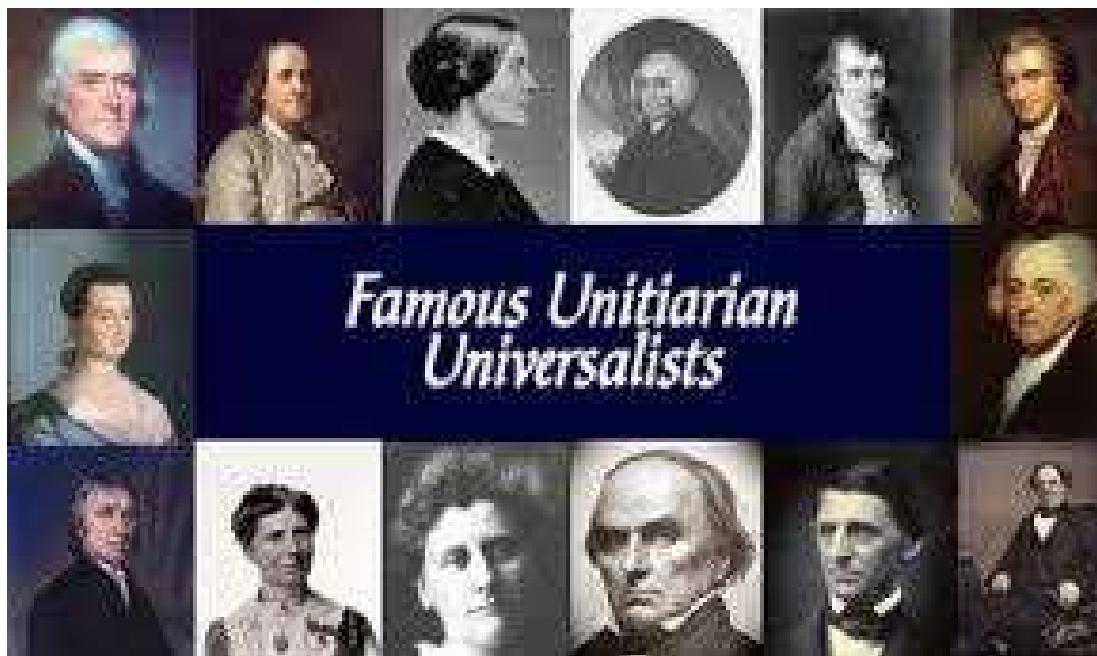


TD Jakes with Steven Furtick

Oneness Pentecostalism (OP) is a movement that discards the Trinity in favor of an outright heresy, classically known as Modalistic Monarchianism. The doctrine of the Trinity teaches that there is one God eternally coexisting in three distinct persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. OP rejects this instead claiming God is a single person who merely switches modes. This heresy shreds scriptures clear teaching of the Father, Son and Spirit as co-equal and co-eternal. Oneness pastors insist believers must be

baptized in Jesus' name only, dismissing the exact formula Christ himself gave (Matt. 28:19) They also demand that people speak in tongues to prove they had received the Spirit. One Oneness preacher even asserted anyone who baptizes in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit is mocking God. In many Oneness churches strict rules on dress, hair length and entertainment dominate, being piled on members as marks of holiness. These human regulations bury people under guilt, diverting them from genuine heart transformations. Services often descend into wild emotional frenzies, shouting, uncontrolled dancing while real Bible teaching is sparse. The Holy Spirit's work of renewal is drowned out by spectacle leaving many to wonder if they've done enough to keep their salvation. Some pastors teach that all who affirm the Trinity are doomed cutting members off from the larger Christian Community. Their websites go so far as to claim Trinitarians worship three gods. Families are routinely pressured to keep rigid purity codes with public shaming if they fail. Oneness Pentecostalism diminishes Jesus eternal relationship with the Father turning the Son into a mere mode of God instead of the Divine word incarnate. Ultimately Oneness Pentecostalism stands outside historic Christianity by rejecting the one God in three persons. The doctrine of the Trinity is a core doctrine of the Faith and cannot be sidelined.

Unitarians



Unitarianism is a nontrinitarian sect of Christianity. Unitarian Christians affirm the unitary nature of God as the singular and unique creator of the universe, believe that Jesus

Christ was inspired by God in his moral teachings and that he is the savior of mankind, but he is not equal to God himself. Accordingly, Unitarians reject the Ecumenical Councils and ecumenical creeds, and sit outside traditional, mainstream Christianity. (<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Unitarianism>) Unitarianism is best understood in distinction from Trinitarianism. Whereas Trinitarianism teaches that God is three in one (triune), Unitarianism teaches that God is simply one (unity). Unitarianism rejects the doctrines of the Trinity and the deity of Christ. (<https://www.gotquestions.org/unitarianism.html>) Trinitarianism is a core doctrine of the Christian Faith, therefore Unitarians fall outside of true Biblical Christianity.

Nazarenes

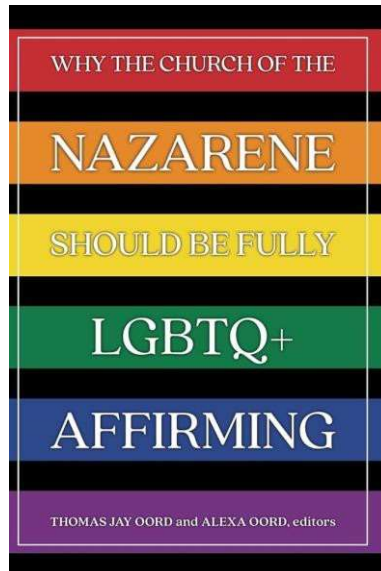


The **Nazarene Church** denomination has shamefully drifted into liberal theology. Nazarene seminaries openly question whether the Bible can truly be trusted teaching progressive ideas that destroy the foundation of Christian faith. They have, for the most part, drifted into the ideas of the Emergent Church and New Age. Nazarene Professors proudly encourage contemplative prayer and mystical practices borrowed from Eastern religions, confusing young pastors by mixing biblical truth with pagan spirituality.



Prayer labyrinth

Many Nazarene congregations now openly embrace LGBTQ Lifestyles as completely acceptable directly defying scriptures commands on morality. Some churches publicly affirm same-sex relationships as valid expressions of Christian love, twisting clear Biblical teaching to please a sinful culture.



One Nazarene Pastor shockingly stated we must reimagine scripture to embrace and celebrate LGBTQ identities rather than exclude them. They have increasingly focused on secular social justice issues echoing trendy political slogans instead of the power of the Cross official Nazarene websites often feature vague calls to inclusivity and Justice barely mentioning sin or repentance. Younger Generations are leaving as they realize the Nazarene Church looks no different from the world around them. Once thriving congregations now barely survive as spiritual apathy spreads.

United Church of Christ (UCC)



The United Church of Christ was born out of the church split in the Congregational Denomination over inerrancy of Scripture. They split in the 1950s and became the UCC in the US and the conservative CCCC (4 C's) in Canada. The UCC then took over the mission work that had been done all over the world by the Congregationalists.

The United Church of Christ (UCC) is a socially liberal mainline Protestant Christian denomination based in the United States, with historical and confessional roots in the Congregational, Restorationist, Continental Reformed, and Lutheran traditions, and with approximately 4,600 churches and 712,000 members. The UCC is a historical continuation of the General Council of Congregational Christian churches founded under the influence of New England Puritanism. Moreover, it also subsumed the third largest Calvinist group in the country, the German Reformed. Notably, its modern members have theological and socio-political stances which are often very different from those of its predecessors. (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_Church_of_Christ)

The United Church of Christ is a religious tradition, with roots that are historically Christian, that has been called the most liberal and progressive mainline Protestant denominations in the world today. The UCC has over 700,000 members. Former President Barak Obama is one of its most famous members.

(<https://christianityfaq.com/what-is-the-united-church-of-christ/>) They are a member of the World Council of Churches.



They are at ease with Islam. For example, the present UCC doesn't embrace the same views and positions as other conservative "evangelical" churches do on most theological and social matters. The UCC values liberal and progressive positions on theological and social issues. The denomination only loosely embraces historic orthodox Christian doctrine as it retains some of the language and customs. (<https://christianityfaq.com/what-is-the-united-church-of-christ/>) If you are a born-again believer and follower of Christ and the written Word, you should definitely avoid this denomination.

Bethel Church of Redding, CA



“Fire” tunnel

A good source of information on Bethel and Bill Johnson can be found on the ACT website here: <http://www.deceptioninthechurch.com/newapostolic.html#bjohnson> and on video here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tY5N6lcmgk&list=PLI3k90liCIAZO-C4YOmJz3xGARK47AX2T>

Bill and Brenda Johnson are the Senior Pastors of Bethel Church in Redding, California. Bethel Church is firmly aligned with the Word-Faith movement and identifies with the New Apostolic Reformation (NAR), or the Third Wave Movement with its “prophets,” “apostles,” and alleged manifestations. Bill Johnson is called an “apostle” by C. Peter Wagner (See *TBC* 5/97, 2/07). His theology has amounted to what some call a “*de facto* denial of the deity of Christ.” By this, they are referring to Johnson’s teaching that Christ set aside His deity during His earthly sojourn. Johnson has said, “Jesus was (and is) God. Eternally God. That never changed. But He chose to live with self-imposed restriction while living on earth in the flesh—as a man. In doing so, He defeated sin, temptation, the powers of darkness as a man. We inherit His victory—it was for us. He never sinned!” (Bill Johnson, Facebook 3/21/2011). (The Berean Call)

Bill Johnson & Kris Vallotton are both big fans of the creepy cult leader William Branham (1909-1965). Branham was so detached from Biblical Christianity that even Word of Faith founder Kenneth Hagin called him a false teacher and predicted he would die two years before it happened from a car accident in 1965. Although he died on Dec. 24, 1965, Branham’s followers refused to bury his body since they believed he would

rise from the dead. They finally gave up and buried him on April 11th of the next year. Branham didn't believe in the Trinity. Branham believed he was the end-time "Elijah." Branham taught that Eve and the serpent had sexual intercourse and Cain was born, and that consequently every woman potentially carried the literal seed of the devil, so he always believed women to be inferior and untrustworthy. Branham was a pathological liar who told many variations of stories for decades with conflicting details. Bill Johnson and Kris Vallotton have stated that they want the "mantle" of William Branham. For more information on Branham, get this book:
<https://letusreason.org/book%20w.branham.htm>

A partial list of unbiblical and heretical manifestations as a result of the "transferable impartation" they practice are as follows: laughing, crying, shaking, running around the building, fast dancing, running, etc, followed by collapse; barking-howling, trances, drunkenness, falling out, oinking, being "hot", fanning self or blowing, walking like chickens, high pitched whine reminiscent of a lively horse, mooing and crowing, swimming in the spirit-on the back and also breast stroke style, women going through imaginary birth pangs, loss of consciousness, trying to soar like eagles, hissing and moving like a snake, inability to speak and involuntary body spasms, kung fu-like stances, vomiting in the spirit and holy head-banging, and stripping.

Hillsong

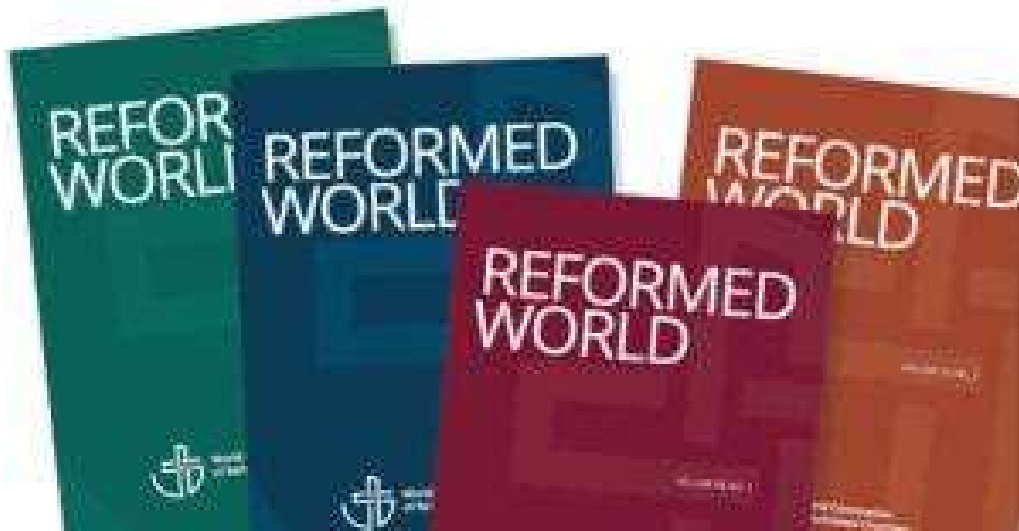


Hillsong music

Hillsong Church, commonly known as Hillsong, is a charismatic Christian megachurch and a Christian association of churches based in Australia. The original church was established in Baulkham Hills, New South Wales, as Hills Christian Life Centre by Brian Houston and his wife, Bobbie Houston, in 1983. Hillsong was a member of the Australian Christian Churches – the Australian branch of the US-based Assemblies of God – until 2018, when it separated to form a new denomination. (Wikipedia)

Hillsong has been rocked by many scandals in its leadership. They are proponents of Word of Faith and New Apostolic theology. Their music cleverly disguises their divergence from Biblical theology. Read this testimony from a young worship leader against the false teachings in Hillsong, Bethel, Elevation and other worship music creators. (<https://www.christianpost.com/news/worship-leader-blasts-hillsong-elevation-bethel-music.html>)

Reformed Churches/Calvinism



The Christian Reformed Church in North America is a Protestant Calvinist Christian denomination in the United States and Canada. Having roots in the Dutch Reformed Church of the Netherlands, the Christian Reformed Church was founded by Dutch immigrants in 1857 and is theologically Calvinist.

(https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Christian_Reformed_Church_in_North_America) The CRC was teaching “Kinism” which forbade interracial marriages until their synod deemed it heresy. There are many problems with the Christian Reformed Church. First, the church is too dogmatic. They believe in predestination and that God has already decided who will be saved and who will not. This is not only unbiblical, but it also makes the church inaccessible to many people. Second, the church is too hierarchical. They believe that only the leaders of the church have the authority to make decisions.

(<https://ministryanswers.com/christian-beliefs/what-is-wrong-with-the-christian-reformed-church/>) They supported the “Evangelicals and Catholics Together” document put forth by Chuck Colson. They also are very heavily stressing 5-point Calvinism. They tend

toward being Preterists and Amillennialists. Many are also Cessationists regarding the gifts of the Spirit.

Church of England (COE)



Holy Trinity Brompton (COE)

The Church of England is the established Christian church in England and the Crown Dependencies. It is the mother church of the Anglican tradition, with foundational doctrines being contained in the Thirty-nine Articles and The Books of Homilies. (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Church_of_England) In Great Britain, a Church of England publication reported that some 2000 congregations have experienced the so-called "Toronto Blessing." Christian Week reports that by the end of 1994, an estimated 75,000 had attended the Airport Vineyard services, a cumulative attendance approaching 200,000, and among them some 10,000 clergy and pastors. (<https://reformedreflections.org/faith-and-life/sp-toronto-blessing.html>) So they jumped full steam into the river of the Latter Rain and the New Apostolic. The TB took over Holy Trinity Brompton church via Nicky Gumbal, who in turn passed on the "transferable anointing" to Steve Hill who then started the Brownsville "Revival".

Roman Catholicism



Traditionally biblical Christian denominations do not classify Roman Catholicism or Orthodox as a denomination. They are actually an aberration of true Christianity from their origins. They are not the “mother church” as they claim as they do not conform to the first century churches. Emperor Constantine called together church leaders, assembling the First Council of Nicaea in A.D.325. Constantine, in order to bring some peace to the Roman Empire, melded together elements of Christian teaching with Babylonian, Egyptian, Grecian and Roman pagan religions (see *Study on Church History* compiled by Sandy Simpson

<https://www.deceptioninthechurch.com/ChurchHistory&CoreDoctrines.pdf>). Therefore, the modern push for getting back together with Catholicism is impossible for believers who are want to remain true to the Scriptures.

Greek & Eastern Orthodox



The terms "Greek Orthodox" and "Eastern Orthodox" are often used interchangeably, but there is a subtle distinction. "Eastern Orthodox" refers to the broader communion of Orthodox Churches, including those with diverse national or cultural backgrounds. "Greek Orthodox" specifically refers to the Eastern Orthodox Church within the jurisdiction of the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople and its traditions. Catholic and Orthodox both had their beginning with Constantine at the council of Nicaea. They also hold to many false teachings derived from both Christian and pagan religions. The Eastern Orthodox church rejects the Bible's teaching that man is in spiritual bondage due to the corruption of his nature through the fall of Adam. Therefore, the Eastern Orthodox church also rejects the doctrine of the imputed guilt of all mankind, having sinned in Adam. Eastern Orthodoxy teaches that men are guilty only for their own sins rather than being already under condemnation as a consequence of Adam's fall, before they have done any good or evil of their own. Authentic Christianity, in contrast, declares the doctrine of original sin and the guilt of all men in Adam, and the necessity of the person and work of Christ as the Second Adam who redeems them from that condemnation. Additionally, like Roman Catholicism, Eastern Orthodoxy holds that salvation commences with water baptism. Eastern Orthodox theology falsely claims that no one can be saved unless he is baptized with water. These among many other false teachings prove they are a cult of Christianity as are their Catholic counterparts.

Word of Faith (WOF)



The Word of Faith/Positive Confession and Dominion theology adopt teachings which are distinctly similar to the metaphysical cults such as: New Thought, Christian Science, Unity School of Christianity, Mind Science, and Religious Science. The doctrine of deification was taught in the church by E.W. Kenyon who believed one is able to reach godhood. Kenyon has taught that man is a little god "in God's class" and therefore can use the same faith-force that God does.(1) Kenneth Hagin who popularized Kenyon, not only expanded Kenyon's errors but added to them as well. The progression from bad to worse has continued with people like Kenneth Copeland and Charles Capps, and then sunk to new depths through ministry leaders as Frederick Price, Benny Hinn, Robert Tilton, Steven Furtick and a whole host of others.

It is not a scandalous idea to speak about God becoming man in the person of Jesus Christ. The Bible teaches that God ". . . was made flesh, and dwelt among us. . ." (John 1:14). However, to speak about man becoming God or a god has been considered as the ultimate heresy in the history of the Christian Church. Sadly, there is an influence amongst charismatics that one can attain godhood. Not all charismatics teach this but among the leading preachers who espouse the "little god's" theory are Kenneth Copeland, Kenneth Hagin, Robert Tilton, Charles Capps, Fred Price, Benny Hinn, Bill Hamon, and Earl Paulk. Many of these names you will note are popular televangelists who are broadcasting into homes their misrepresented theories about God and misleading many into grave error. (The Doctrine of Deification by Neil Rivalland, <https://www.deceptioninthechurch.com/deification.html>

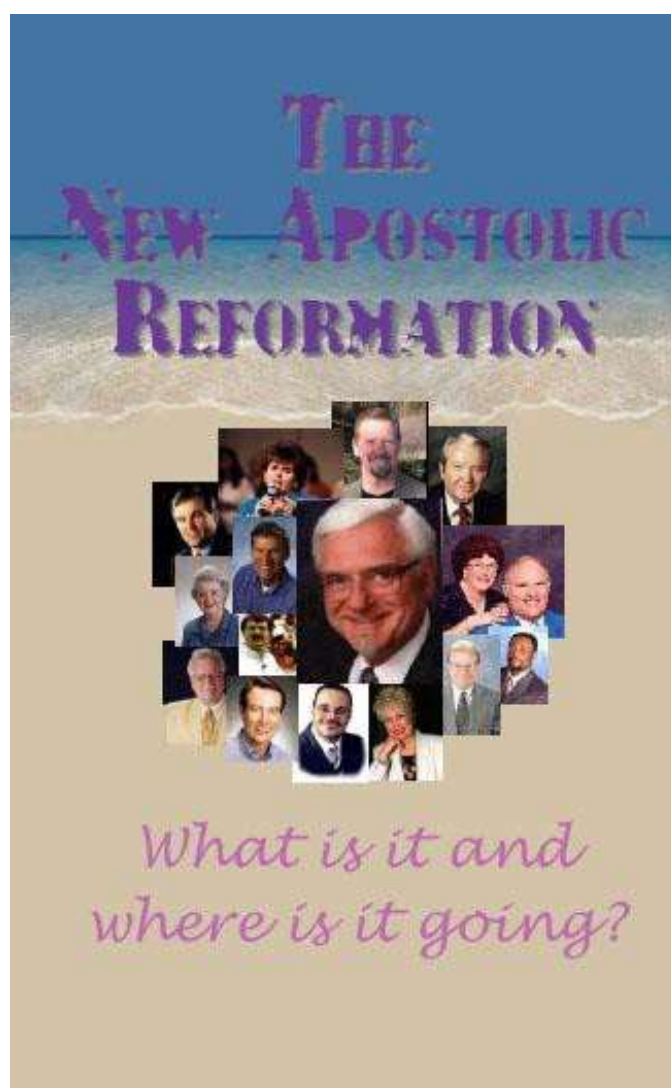
Word of Faith teachers also teach the false doctrines of the Latter Rain. William Branham taught many Word of Faith doctrines and WOF leaders call Branham their mentor. For more information about Branham, read "A Man and his angel" by Mike Oppenheimer. You can order the book here: <https://letusreason.org/bookw.branham.htm>

The New Apostolic Reformation (NAR)



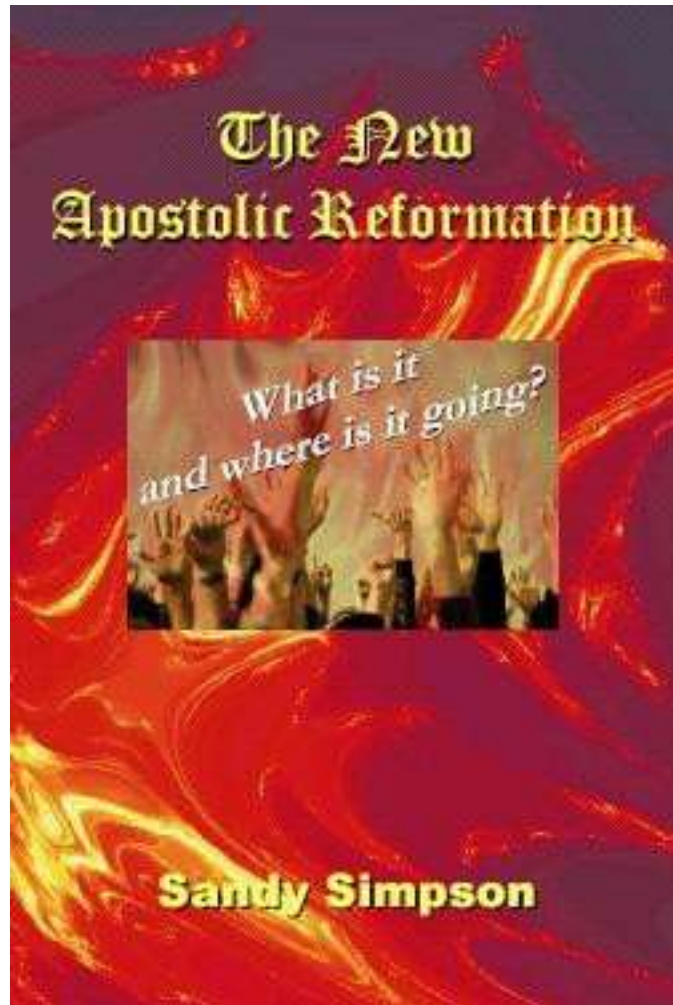
The International Coalition of Apostles headed by C. Peter Wagner is the most influential purveyor of the New Apostolic Reformation, a term coined by Wagner. This organization is really an extension of the New Order of the Latter Rain whose influences and mentors include William Branham, Franklin Hall, the Hawtin brothers, and more recently Bill Hamon, Paul Cain and the Kansas City Prophets. The doctrines of the Latter Rain have influenced most of the televangelists on TV today, and so have crept deceptively into many denominations. The main heretical teachings of the New Order Of The Latter Rain, as ruled in 1949 at the General Council of the Assemblies of God held in Seattle, were as follows: (1) The restoration of foundational apostles and prophets in the churches. (2) The teaching and promotion of a transferable impartation or anointings

that are passed on "by" the laying on of hands "by" the will of man. (3) Confession and deliverance from sin to men. (4) The impartation of spiritual gifts by the laying on of hands such as the gift of languages for missionary service and other "ministry skills". (5) The extreme and unscriptural practice of imparting or imposing personal leadings by the means of the gifts of utterance, "word of knowledge" or prophecy. (6) Distortions of scripture interpretations, which are in opposition to teachings and practices generally accepted among the Church. These doctrines deemed heretical by the Assemblies Of God in 1949, which are now common fare because of the Brownsville 'Revival' and the Third Wave movement, are all being promoted today in the New Apostolic Reformation. The video exposes, by way of video and quotes from written materials by adherents of the ICA, the false apostles, false prophets and false teachers of the New Apostolic Reformation.

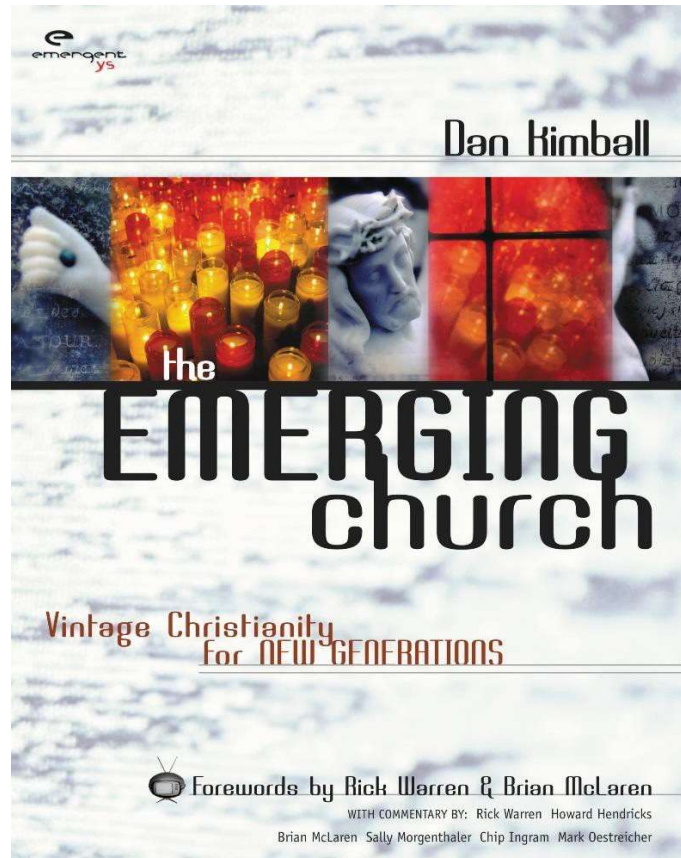


A number of the individuals mentioned by name in this video claim to be Bible-believing born again evangelicals. But in reality they are teaching and promoting doctrines that are not only dangerous, but tear down many or all of the core doctrines upon which the

Christian Faith is built. Many of those we will examine on this video have fairly decent doctrinal statements they endorse, but by what they are teaching and doing they end up denying the basic doctrines of the Church. We want you to know that we do not hate those who teach heresy or those who follow their teachings, but rather admonish you in love if you have been deceived by teachings that deviate from the basic doctrines of the Faith. The reason for this book is the hope it will help many to come back to a complete faith in Christ and come under the authority of the Word. Get my book entitled The New Apostolic Reformation *What is it and where is it going?* here: <https://www.deceptioninthechurch.com/narbook.html>



Emergent Church



Dan Kimball book endorsed by Rick Warren

An ecumenical/interfaith New Age movement that has invaded many churches with Catholic and Eastern mystical practices.

If the Emerging Church continues unfolding at the present pace, mainstream evangelical Christianity will be reinvented and the gospel of Jesus Christ according to the Scriptures will be considered too narrow and too restrictive. In other words, the narrow way to heaven that Jesus proclaimed will eventually be abandoned for a wider way that embraces pagan experiential practices. I call this reinvented, re-imagined form of Christianity that is unfolding—"Christian Babylonianism."

This new form of Christianity will replace biblical faith with a faith that says man can establish the kingdom of God here on earth. The Word will continue to become secondary to a system of works driven by experiences. An ecumenical pattern towards unity with Rome will become more apparent. Those who refuse to embrace this direction will be considered spiritual oddballs that need to be reprimanded. Those who stand up for biblical faith will be considered the obstructions to the one world spirituality that is promoted as the answer for peace. The best way to be prepared for what is coming is to gain an understanding of what is happening now. While there are not many who seem to discern the trend underway, there are some. Without the Bible and the Holy Spirit as our guide, the darkness that is coming would be overwhelming. However, the light of God's Word penetrates the darkness and there are those who are being delivered from deception and see what is taking place. I am convinced we are seeing

apostasy underway, exactly as the Scriptures have forewarned. (Roger Oakland, [How to Know When the Emerging Church Shows Signs of Emerging Into Your Church](#))

Saddleback and related churches



Notice the LGBTQ rainbow

Saddleback Church is an evangelical, non-denominational Christian multi-site megachurch based in Lake Forest, California. It is the largest church in California, and one of the largest in the United States of America. The church has several campuses in California and around the world, as well as a number of extensions. Weekly church attendance was 30,000 people in 2024. Its senior pastor is Andy Wood, and his wife, Stacie Wood, is a teaching pastor. Saddleback was formerly associated with the Southern Baptist Convention, until 2023 (when they were kicked out of SBC for ordaining women).

Saddleback Church Children's Building in Lake Forest, California. In 1979, Rick Warren, recently graduated in theology, settled with his wife Kay in the Saddleback Valley area of Orange County, California. (He graduated from Fuller Seminary where his mentor was C. Peter Wagner). He began to probe the people in his neighborhood to find out what prevented them from coming to church.^[5] The answers that emerged were boredom, distance from everyday life, lack of welcome for visitors, insistence on money and inadequate programs for children. (Wikipedia, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Saddleback_Church)

Warren deviated from sound biblical teaching for the following reasons, among many others.

His use of Scripture. Most notably, this involves using many translations based, at least from an outside perspective, more on what the translations say than on their faithfulness to the original text.

The completeness of the gospel. In *The Purpose Driven Life* he says, “Real life begins by committing yourself completely to Jesus Christ” but really goes no further than that in explaining the gospel. And this in one of the best-selling books of all-time. I have often found that the gospel he preaches stops just a little bit short. It is just a little too easy.

His view of conversion. In *The Purpose Driven Life* he encourages readers to pray this prayer: “Jesus, I believe in you and I receive you” and then welcomes them into the family of God. His view of conversion and his haste to baptize people and welcome them into church membership (you can do all of these in a single day at Saddleback) have often caused alarm.

The role of pragmatism. In *The Purpose Driven Church* he makes a blanket statement that is really startling when you pause to consider it: “never criticize what God is blessing.” This kind of pragmatism in which faithfulness is judged by our perceived results is a hallmark of the Purpose Driven model of church. (Tim Challis, *On Visiting Saddleback Church*, <https://www.challies.com/articles/on-visiting-saddleback-church/>)

Warren copied the pragmatism of his mentor, Wagner, whose books he listed in his dissertation bibliography.

“... we ought to see clearly that the end DOES justify the means. What else possible could justify the means? If the method I am using accomplishes the goal I am aiming at, it is for that reason a good method. If, on the other hand, my method is not accomplishing the goal, how can I be justified in continuing to use it?” (C. Peter Wagner, "Your Church Can Grow - Seven Vital Signs Of A Healthy Church", 1976, pg. 137. - emphasis in original)

Lakeland “Revival”

FRESH FIRE
MUSIC, MINISTRY & REVIVAL



Often uses punches or kicks to “heal”



Left his wife for his secretary



NAR Leadership Endorsing Bentley

Bentley is well read up on Branham- he describes how he conducted his services in detail in his article 'Living in the Supernatural" May 25, 2003. *"When people would come on the platform to receive healing and Branham entered that realm, he would go into visions and tell everyone many details of their life. He did this only as a sign that the Lord would heal them. People would wait in healing lines for hours. They would have to get a card with a number to get into the healing line to even get prayer. He would wait for an angel to come and stand behind him on his left side. He would do nothing until the angel arrived."*

The beginning of the prophetic movement goes back to the 40's where there began what certain Pentecostals call the "Healing Revival." It continued from 1947 to 1957, led by Oral Roberts, T.L. Osborn, Jack Coe, A.A. Allen, and O.L. Jagers. Gordon Lindsay's Voice of Healing magazine recorded many of their astonishing stories. And there was also William Branham who stood out among them all as "the healer and prophet." The Pentecostal Healing Movement was transformed by a number of new teachings he introduced. It was called the Latter-Rain, which began in Canada from Branham who laid hands on the leaders.

From the beginning Branham had unusual manifestations which he attributed to his angel. *"The power invested me by my commission given by Almighty God and ministered to me by an Angel, a Pillar of Light"* (The Revelation of the Seven Seals p.112-113). Branham admits the angel is a pillar of light (this will become important as we look at Todd Bentley's experiences with angels and light). The angel that William Branham had was actually a powerful angel of light- a demonic entity that masqueraded as the angel of the Lord and the Holy Spirit of God. This entity appeared throughout Branham's life from early childhood and eventually led him into all kinds of "serious error." It is crucial to understand what Bentley is claiming, by renewing the call of

William Branham. Bentley's acknowledgement of his angel as Branham's angel via Bob Jones (notwithstanding the many other angels that constantly visit him) puts his imprimatur on Branham being used of God. This is not that unusual, many charismatics endorse Branham, the difference is that he is saying this angel is an influence or power in his ministry. (Mike Oppenheimer, *Todd Bentley "Meet the New thing- Same as the Old thing"*, <https://letusreason.org/Latrain37.htm>)

Todd Bentley, the criminally convicted homosexual pedophile turned drunken heretic and adulterer who kicked old ladies in the face and stomach on *YouTube* at the failed Lakeland, Florida counterfeit revival has entered into a biblically adulterous re- marriage while under a "process of restoration" led by biblically proven false prophet Rick Joyner. Bentley was ring master at a debacle of lunacy and false healing debunked on national TV orchestrated by the infamous Strader family, whom the District Attorney implicated in financial scandals defrauding elderly Christians of millions of dollars. While the Florida District Attorney publicly names Pastor Steve Strader as complicit in the swindling, his brother was sent to prison for over 30 years as a professional gangster under American anti racketeering RICO statutes.

Despite its unbiblical doctrines and practices, Wendy Alec of the so-called "*God Channel*" denounced opponents of the madness and heresy as being of Satan. Lunatic fringe figures such John Arnett, Rick Joyner, Che An, Bill Johnson, and C. Peter Wagner decided this fiasco was a revival in the character of the similarly failed counterfeit revivals in Toronto and Pensacola. (Jacob Prasch, [False Prophet Rick Joyner & Todd Bentley's Adulterous Re-Marriage](#), 3/11/2009)

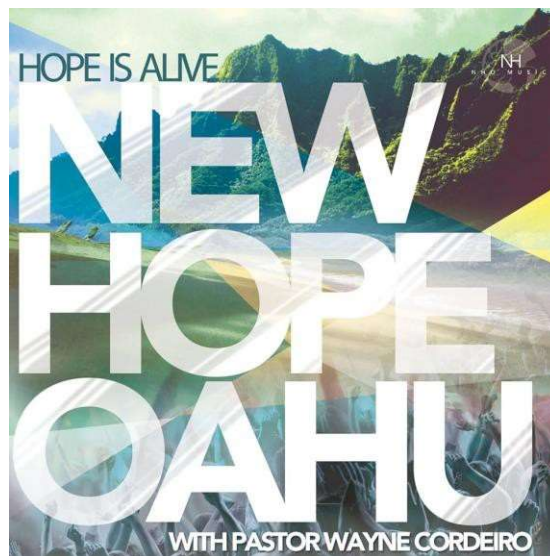
Elevation Church



Here is a video of Furtick claiming he is "Almighty God" (Sandy Simpson, Exposing the "I Am God" Blasphemers, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iSY1UIhMk5I>)

Steven Furtick has been a rising star in Christian circles for some and now he has arrived on TBN, replacing of all people Kenneth Copeland who has been there since their inception. Don't think this will bring any improvement to TBN, it will not. What he brings is a more subtle and acceptable non-biblical teaching to the younger generation. Earning a master's degree from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, which after watching his sermons did not help as this man's understanding of Scripture is shallow. He tends to have a narcissistic view that finds a way into his stories, as applications, as he transfers his own theology to Scripture. Furtick uses a Seeker Driven model, motivational speech, mixing human wisdom and copying word faith philosophy to express his interpretations of the Bible to his audience. Regardless, Furtick is a popular pastor in America. His church comes in third behind Hillsong and Bethel in popularity. The fact that Oprah Winfrey who does not endorse real Christianity approves of Furtick (as she did Joel Osteen) should be a red light to anyone that loves God's Word. Her network named Steven Furtick to their Super Soul 100 Influencers list in the Soul Teachers category in 2016. He joins New Agers like Deepak Chopra, Eckhart Tolle, Tony Robbins, Rob Bell; a host of non believers, not a group one would normally want to be associated with unless they are willing to compromise. Read [Part 1](#) & [Part 2](#).

New Hope Church



Cordeiro brings heretics to Oahu on a regular basis, both to his church and participant speakers in the HIM conference he organizes. He has brought to his church and or HIM false teachers like Tony Campolo, Francis & Lisa Chan, David Yongghi Cho, Richard Foster, Louie Giglio, Bill Hybels, Brennan Manning Fr. James Martin, Sandy Millar, Beth Moore, Robert Schuller, Priscilla Shirer, Ed Silvoso and others (see <https://www.himonline.org/speakers>)

He did an in depth interview with Daniel Kikawa and Leon Siu of Aloha Ke Akua who have been promoting the World Christian Gathering of Indigenous People movement (see <http://www.deceptioninthechurch.com/wcgip.html>) On that video Kikawa stated “...

this Christian concept of god ... is really something that was here (in Hawaii) from the very beginning" (transcript of Connecting Point television interview of Daniel Kikawa by Wayne Cordeiro, July 15, 2005), [Connecting Point Interview](#) (Video)

Quakers/Friends



George Fox, the principal early leader of the Quakers

The Quakers have had false teachings and unbiblical practices since their founding in the 17th century. Quakers are people who belong to the Religious Society of Friends, a historically Protestant Christian set of denominations. Members refer to each other as Friends after John 15:14 in the Bible, and originally, others referred to them as Quakers because the founder of the movement, George Fox, told a judge to "quake before the authority of God". The Friends are generally united by a belief in each human's ability to be guided by the inward light to "make the witness of God" known to everyone. Quakers have traditionally professed a priesthood of all believers inspired by the First Epistle of Peter. They include those with evangelical, holiness, liberal, and traditional Quaker understandings of Christianity, as well as Nontheist Quakers. To differing extents, the Friends avoid creeds and hierarchical structures.[9] In 2017, there were an estimated 377,557 adult Quakers, 9% of them in Africa followed by 22% in North America. (Wikipedia) Some of those false teachings included the belief that everyone has an inward light, Catholic/Eastern mysticism including "centering down" and contemplative prayer, Pentecostal practices including "slain in the spirit", spiritualizing of ordinances like water baptism and the Lord's Supper, and nontheism as a valid belief. In the 1970's some divisions of Friends dropped a lot of the false teachings and became evangelical. However, Richard Foster, at that time an associate pastor of a Friends church in Oregon, began to study George Fox and Catholic mystics, later writing the book "Celebration of Discipline" which later became a textbook for the Emerging Church movement and their "Spiritual Formation" curriculum in 165 Christian colleges. At the time when this book came out many pastors read it and started bringing those ideas into their churches. Dave Hunt wrote in his book "The Seduction of Christianity" warning churches of the New Age influence in Foster's book entering the churches. Many chose not to believe what Hunt predicted but it all came true shortly thereafter. For a time in the 1970's the Northwest Yearly Meeting division of the Friends began to clean up their false teachings, by in large, but by the mid-70's they were already slipping back into New Age ideas. Some of their false teachings include:

1. Rejection of Sacraments: Quakers do not practice baptism or communion (Eucharist) as understood in mainstream Christianity. They believe that these are symbolic acts and that true spiritual experience comes from direct connection with God, not through ritual. This rejection of sacraments has been seen as a departure from biblical teachings by some critics.

2. The "Inner Light": Quakers believe that God's presence and guidance can be found within each individual, a concept known as the "inner light". Some critics argue that this emphasis on the inner light undermines the authority of the Holy Spirit and the role of Jesus Christ in salvation. They suggest that the inner light is a subtle form of self-worship or an inversion of the divine order.

3. Scripture and Revelation: Quakers do not adhere to the doctrine of "sola scriptura" (the Bible as the sole source of religious authority). They believe that while the Bible is important, it needs to be interpreted with the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Some critics view this as a downgrading of scripture and a reliance on subjective interpretation.

4. Non-Violence and Activism: Quakers are known for their strong commitment to peace and non-violence. They have historically been pacifists and have opposed war and violence. While this is a core tenet of Quakerism, some have criticized it as a form of utopianism or a departure from the realities of human conflict.

5. Social and Ethical Views: Quakers have a long history of social activism, particularly in areas like abolitionism and prison reform. Their views on LGBTQ+ issues, while evolving, are generally more accepting than some other Christian denominations. Some critics argue that these stances are influenced by secular values rather than biblical teachings.

6. Other Criticisms: Some critics have accused Quakers of witchcraft or heresy, particularly in the early days of the movement. The lack of formal creeds or doctrines has also been seen as a weakness by those who prefer clear statements of belief. The egalitarian nature of Quaker meetings, where anyone can speak, has been criticized for potentially leading to a lack of structure or discipline. (<https://www.bible.ca/cr-quakers.htm>)