

From: LetisT@aol.com
Subject: Purpose Driven Non-Sense--a few comments worth pondering...
To: undisclosed-recipients::



Friends,

Any Christian "movement" from here on out will have one purpose and one purpose only: to tame, socialize, or incarcerate, any Christian who holds to the substance of Reformation Theology. In the end, a renewed Rome, with a new Pope, over a new Europe, will be the beneficiary.

What follows is a brief, but to the point assessment of the Purpose Driven World, in reply to someone else who at the moment see no problems with Mr. Warren's 21st century Christianity; to which I offered the following reply. I would be happy to hear from any of you on this point:

I have sat through many hours of Rick Warren and do not recognise these issues.

Perhaps you should spend a little time learning a bit about the profile of this fellow. He was something of a colossal loser with a Church of 125 members. He was by his own confession a depressive. He decided he wanted to be a winner instead of a loser, and so in a Mephistopheles manner, he suddenly became successful--the way all mega-churches become successful--by appealing to the American middle class angst with the suave of affirmation. He has taken Wayne Dyer's pop-psychology/New Age Hippie cosmology (see Dyer's book and VERY popular PBS video/DVD TV series: **Power of Intention: Learning to Co-Create Your World Your Way**), given it a dumbed-down, Evangelical spin, and like Dyer (an academic drop-out from the field of Philosophy), he has become a very successful--and I suspect--a very wealthy man.

He has gutted the Christian faith of all its content, thus maximizing his capacity to appeal to ALL religious backgrounds, as well as to the "unchurched" who possess sizable incomes, but sadly, with no place to direct it. He has learned what has driven the corporate world in the United States for years: make people feel good, and they will keep coming back for strokes (i.e., your product). The entire project is superbly endemic to American middle-class religious folk who want religion to make them feel good about themselves, without traditional religious trappings. It is nothing more, nor anything less, than American corporate-world, motivational seminar religion. It is the perfect formula for success, which is what rather pathetic Mr. Warren was after all along.

Look--no pastor wants to be a loser--hence, this Warren success stuff is going to appeal to a certain kind of pastor. Those with their nose in Scripture, Church history, and theology will see this for what it is. The other kind of pastor--and you KNOW who you are--will be on board in a heart beat.

Always keep in mind that the early believers gave their lives for religious language--homouosios, rather than homoiousios. Of the same essence versus "like" the same essence (Christ being one with the Father as God). ANYONE who wants to gut the Christian faith of Her vocabulary for the sake of Church growth, is not a shepherd but a cheap hireling...

There you are, my good friends, again, my unvarnished, unsugar-coated telling of the truth, a rarer and rarer phenomenon in the world today, but most particularly on the world wide web... 😊

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