

African-American Pastors Meet in L.A. On Moral Values, Future in the GOP

A group of conservative African American ministers held the first of several planned moral values summits in Los Angeles and were urged to join white evangelicals on the front lines of the nation's culture wars – especially in the fight against gay marriage.

One goal of the group, according to the Los Angeles Times, was to “foster a political realignment with the Republican Party that, if successful, would challenge the Democrats’ decades-long lock on the loyalty of black voters.”

If the pastors are successful in mobilizing theirs and other congregations in support of the GOP, the move would allow the party to chew significantly into a major base of support that the Democrats have long held as their exclusive province.

The campaign debuted at the 27,000-member Crenshaw Christian Center, one of the nation's largest churches. Prominent minister Dr. Frederick K. C. Price heads the church. The summit was organized by ministers who backed Bush's reelection last year and now are seeking an expanded role in the Republican Party.

The Los Angeles meeting was co-sponsored by the High Impact Leadership Coalition, led by Bishop Harry R. Jackson Jr., of Hope Christian Church in College Park, Md. High Impact is a grassroots nonprofit organization that seeks to “educate and empower Christian, community and government leaders in urban communities regarding moral values issues from a biblical perspective.” Its mission is to focus national attention on biblical marriage and other local, national and international issues.

The other co-sponsor was the Traditional Values Coalition, which is headed by the Rev. Louis P. Sheldon, a white evangelical Christian with close ties to White House political strategist Karl Rove, Republican National Committee Chairman Ken Mehlman and other senior Bush Administration officials.

Other summits are planned for Miami, New York, Chicago, Atlanta, Houston, and Washington D.C. During the Los Angeles meeting, Bishop Jackson Jr. unveiled his Black Contract With America on Moral Values.

The contract has six major points:

- **Marriage:** Focus on prohibiting same-sex marriage.
- **Wealth creation:** Private Social Security investment accounts and encouraging home ownership.
- **Education:** School vouchers, charter schools and boosting black enrollment in higher education.
- **Prison reform:** Including a “Second Chance Act,” re-entry programs and laws restoring the rights of felons.
- **Africa:** Intervention in Sudan and penalties against corporations that explore for oil in the region.
- **Health Care reform:** Including programs that cover the poor.

One minister who attended the meeting, the Rev. Eugene F. Rivers of Boston, told the Times that the post-election period marked the beginning of a “significant transformation” among African Americans, a clear move toward the Republican Party. Rivers has attended a White House meeting hosted by the Clintons for his work with gangs, but lately he has been embraced by the Bush administration.

At the end of the month, the Heritage Foundation will co-sponsor a gathering of black conservatives in Washington designed to counter dominance of the “America-hating black liberal leadership” and to focus African American voters on moral issues, the Times reported.

The organizer of the Heritage Foundation meeting, the Rev. Jesse Lee Peterson of Los Angeles, said that his session would emphasize the need for black families to reject the notion that racism caused family and economic ills and begin taking personal responsibility. Peterson told the Times he favors the Republican emphasis on traditional marriage, school vouchers and reduced reliance on government. He said he sees a shift in black attitudes.



Kingdom Briefs

Minister Rick Joyner Buys Part of Heritage USA

Author and Morningstar Ministries founder Rick Joyner has purchased 52 acres of property that formerly belonged to Heritage USA, the Christian theme park built by PTL founders Jim and Tammy Bakker. Joyner reportedly bought the property to create a new headquarters for his Charlotte, N.C., church. The park is located in Fort Mill, S.C., and once comprised 2,300 acres. Heritage USA opened in 1978 and by 1986 was one of the nation's top vacation destinations. The Morning Star site will also house a 5,000-seat auditorium and an education center. Joyner is the author of *The Final Quest*, and holds conferences on prophetic ministry. (Source: **Charisma**)

Columbia House, Playboy in Illicit Relationship

Columbia House, the well-known distributor of movie videos, has apparently formed a new subsidiary called Hush, from which it will market pornographic videos. The company reportedly has formed an association with Playboy and other pornographic companies. According to a spokesman for Columbia House, the pornographic videos will not be marketed to current members. (Source: **Traditional Values Coalition website**)

Matt Crouch to Lead New Entertainment Company

Matthew Crouch, son of Trinity Broadcasting Network founders Paul and Jan Crouch, has been named CEO and chairman of the board of CDMI Productions, an independent movie-making enterprise. The company plans to develop, finance, produce and distribute family-based films, television shows, animated features and documentaries. Crouch founded Gener8Xion Entertainment, which produced such films as *The Omega Code*, *Megiddo* and *China Cry*. (Source: **Charisma**)

Nations Plan Global Day of Prayer for May

Prayer leaders from 240 nations are teaming up to lead a Global Day of Prayer on May 15, which is Pentecost Sunday. About 200 million Christians are expected to join in. They are being asked to pray for their churches, cities or regions around the clock from May 6 to 15, leading up to larger prayer gatherings in cities around the world on May 15. The website is

www.globaldayofprayer.com. (Source: **Charisma**)

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New Secretary of Education Spellings Chides PBS for Gay Lifestyle Cartoon

In her first day on the job as the new secretary of education, Margaret Spellings told Public Broadcasting System officials that a cartoon promoting the homosexual lifestyle should not be broadcast on their tax-supported stations because many parents would not want their children exposed to such a lifestyle.

A spokesman for PBS said that the government-funded network had agreed not to air the cartoon called *Postcards From Buster*. One episode of the cartoon shows the title character, an animated bunny, on a trip to Vermont, a state that recognizes homosexual civil unions, and includes two lesbian couples.



Spellings told PBS that the department's seal and any statement linking the department to the show must be removed and that PBS must notify its member stations of the nature of the show, according to a report from the American Family Association.

PBS, unlike other non-commercial stations, receives hundreds of millions of tax dollars. Other non-commercial stations depend on their listeners for financial support. PBS's viewing audience is basically affluent and well educated, but gives only a small amount to support PBS.

Secretary Spellings has been ridiculed in the media and bombarded with criticism because of her stand. The Human Rights Campaign, the nation's largest homosexual activist organization, blasted her for criticizing the episode, said AFA.

"The secretary's first act in office denies children an education about the diversity of American families," said HRC's Winnie Stachelberg. "Teaching children about respect for differences promotes tolerance of their fellow human beings."

Church to Celebrate Ten Years of Summits for the World's Missionaries

Los Angeles' Crenshaw Christian Center will celebrate ten years of holding conference for missions on March 1 through 4. During the conferences, called Global Summits, those serving on the foreign missions fields share their experiences and testimonies, and challenge others to support the work of spreading the Gospel abroad.

The theme for this year's summit is "The Legacy of Missions – Equipping the Next Generation."

In addition to the summit itself, the church is hosting several pre-summit events, the first of which is the Youth and Young Adult Missions Rally on Friday, February 25, at 7:30 p.m., with guest speaker Pastor Terry Millender of Washington D.C. On Saturday, February 26, there will be workshops from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., led by young adults who are eager to take their generation for world evangelism. Dr. Patricia Bailey will be the 4 p.m. evening speaker.

On Sunday, February 27, Mom Eleanor Workman of the Christian Haitian Outreach, one of the pioneer African Americans in missions, will be the guest speaker at Crenshaw Christian Center's Sunday worship service at 10:30 a.m. in the world-famous FaithDome. The final pre-conference event is the International Missions Banquet, which will be held Monday at 6 p.m. at the L.A. Airport Hilton. The banquet provides an opportunity to meet the missionaries, fellowship, enjoy international cuisine, and celebrate the church's mission victories.

The actual summit kicks off on Tuesday, March 1, at 7:30 p.m. Speakers Terry Mize, Pastor Millender, Mom Workman, and Dr. Bailey will preside, attempting to equip the next generation for global missions. Each morning, beginning Wednesday, March 2, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., missionaries serving Brazil, Ghana, the United Kingdom, Iran, and a special speaker representing the next generation, will conduct workshops. [Click here](#) for more information.

Kingdom Briefs

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Rolling Stone Will Run Zondervan Bible Ad

Rolling Stone, the famous rock magazine, has relented and now will run a Zondervan advertisement for its Today's New International Version (TNIV) of the Bible. Zondervan is a well-known publisher of Bibles and other Christian reading matter. Previously, the magazine had turned down the ad, citing an unwritten policy against ads with religious messages. Media critics condemned the magazine, which for years published classified ads for the United Life Church's mail-order ordination. (Source: **Bible Network News**)

MTV Accused of Programming Sleaze for Teens

An advocacy group that focuses on media decency issues accused MTV of programming "incessant sleaze." MTV viewers, many of whom are teenagers, are exposed to far higher levels of sex, violence and other inappropriate behaviors than what is found during the final prime-time hour of broadcast television, said a report by the Parents Television Council. After the Janet Jackson debacle during the 2004 Super Bowl halftime show, which MTV produced, the council's researchers began watching the channel's spring break coverage and logged instances of sexual content, violence, and drug and alcohol use. (Source: **Los Angeles Times**)

Did Government Agents Support Gay Event?

The Department of Justice has reportedly declined to investigate whether homosexual Justice Department agents had some involvement in a gay event in Philadelphia where five Christian protesters were arrested. The five Christians, members of Repent America, are facing up to 47 years in prison and \$90,000 in fines for preaching the Gospel outside the event on a public sidewalk. It is believed that the agents met with the Philadelphia police several times and advised them as to how to arrest the protesters.

On the Trail of Good News

Hey, we're sniffing around for news and other uplifting information that might appeal to our national audience. If you know of a unique Christian business, ministry or personality, or of something happening on the news front, give us a heads-up. You might want to send a clipping from your local newspaper or invite us to track down a story from the details you provide. Remember, all our stories are Christ-based and nationally oriented, though they may cut across entertainment, business, lifestyle, political or other lines. E-mail us at newsletter@tkog.biz or mail us your clippings at The Kingdom of God, P.O. Box 1147, Claremont, CA 91711.



Allah or Jesus: A Clear Choice for Mankind

By Rick Mathes

[The following article has floated around the Internet for several months. We at TKOG.biz could not verify its validity, but we use it only because it points up a great difference between the two faiths. – The Editors]

Last month I attended my annual training session required for maintaining my state prison security clearance. During the training session there was a presentation by three speakers representing the Roman Catholic, Protestant and Muslim faiths. Each explained their belief systems.

I was particularly interested in what the Islamic Imam had to say. The Imam gave a great presentation of the basics of Islam, complete with a video. After the presentations, time was provided for questions and answers.

When it was my turn, I directed my question to the Imam and asked: "Please, correct me if I'm wrong, but I understand that most Imams and clerics of Islam have declared a jihad [holy war] against the infidels of the world. And, that by killing an infidel, which is a command to all Muslims, they are assured of a place in heaven. If that's the case, can you give me the definition of an infidel?"

There was no disagreement with my statements and, without hesitation, he replied, "Non-believers!"

I responded, "So, let me make sure I have this straight. All followers of Allah have been commanded to kill everyone who is not of their faith so they can go to heaven. Is that correct?"

The expression on his face changed from one of authority and command to that of a little boy who had just gotten caught with his hand in the cookie jar. He sheepishly replied, "Yes."

I then stated, "Well, sir, I have a real problem trying to imagine Pope John Paul commanding all Catholics to kill those of your faith, or Dr. Stanley ordering Protestants to do the same in order to go to heaven!"

The Imam was speechless.

I continued, "I also have problem with being your friend when you and your brother clerics are telling your followers to kill me. Let me ask you a question. Would you rather have your Allah who tells you to kill me in order to go to heaven or my Jesus who tells me to love you because I am going to heaven and He wants you to be with me?"

You could have heard a pin drop as the Imam hung his head in shame. Needless to say, the organizers and/or promoters of the diversification seminar were not happy with my way of dealing with the Imam and exposing the truth about the Muslim belief.



From Iran With Love

By Reza Safa

So many wonderful salvations are taking place every day in Iran. I prayed with a ten-year-old boy who was born paralyzed in both legs, which were twisted and deformed. His mom called me and pleaded with me to pray for him. Then I talked with the boy, who spoke in a broken voice, yet with so much faith.

He said that he had seen our program and had prayed to Jesus for healing and Jesus had not answered him. I assured him that if he confessed Jesus as Lord and asked again He would hear him. He prayed the prayer of salvation and then I asked him to lay his hands on his legs. I prayed and asked him to stand up on his legs. His father lifted him up and I heard him say in a crackling voice that the boy was standing on his feet.

"Do you feel any difference?" I asked the boy. He said he did not feel any difference. I told him to walk. He took a few steps with the help of his father and began saying, "My legs are straighter." Then he started to cry and I heard his mom and another child crying in the background. He kept saying, "My legs are getting straighter..." His dad took the phone and was very overwhelmed by this process of God's power surging through his boy's body. "What do we need to do?" he asked very humbly.

Continue thanking Jesus and giving Him the glory, I told him. Miracles are unknown to Muslims. When they see God's power, they become so humble and fearful. To God be all the glory.

A woman by the name of Masomeh called and said she had been through four divorces and had just lost her brother to suicide. She and her husband had been drug addicts for seven years. After she saw our program and accepted Jesus as her Lord and Savior, she immediately stopped her addiction to opium. Still, she said that she was fighting depression because of the death of her brother. I told her that she needed to forgive everyone, including her brother's wife, whom she blamed for his death.

She wept as she confessed her sins before the Lord on the phone. I told her that she needed to kick her husband out if he insisted on using drugs. She told me that she had already done that. "Now pray for his deliverance," I told her. "God wants to restore you and your marriage." As I was praying for her it was as though God was enveloping this woman with His power.

Friends, we have so many testimonies every week such as I just shared with you. God's salvation is so awesome in Iran right now. Please help us to increase our broadcasts to a daily program. We need \$4,000 more a month to finance a daily one-half hour program. Right now we are broadcasting three times a week. Iran is more than ready for the Gospel. Millions are waiting to respond to the call of salvation once they hear the Gospel. Help us to reap a glorious harvest in this ancient land.

Reza Safa is an Iranian-born American who is taking the Gospel to his homeland through his Nejat (Salvation) Project, a historic outreach to win souls in the Muslim world. He is also founder and president of The Harvesters World Outreach in Tulsa, Oklahoma. He can be reached through his website addresses at www.njeattv.org and www.rezasafa.com. Mr. Safa has continually warned Americans of the attempt by some to infuse our public schools with Islamic propaganda.

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