

OpEd: Charisma Meets the Digital Age

✘ When I felt led to start a small church magazine, I barely knew what God had in store. That magazine released 36 years ago today, so I thought it was appropriate to reflect on what's happened, and more importantly what is on the verge of happening as we move boldly into the digital world.

Many of you know *Charisma* started at a megachurch in central Florida. I was working full time as a newspaper reporter then. My, how the media world has changed! The staff found this in the archives: a black-and-white photo of me holding a copy of *The Rock*, a youth newspaper that I published before *Charisma*. They had me hold an iPad to show the contrast. Back then I could have never imagined today's iPad! Yet I dreamed that maybe somehow we'd reach a million people. Do you know how many trees you'd have to cut down to print that many magazines?

Morris Cerullo Celebrates

60th Wedding Anniversary

- ✘ Dr. Morris and Theresa Cerullo are celebrating their 60th wedding anniversary today.

Since his call to the ministry at the age of 15, God has used Cerullo to reach multitudes of people around the world in over half a century of ministry. He was raised in a Jewish Orthodox Orphanage until the age of 14 when he gave his life to Christ.

Pastor Calls US to National Repentance

- ✘ With Gov. Rick Perry's controversial prayer event just a week away, Pastor

Steven Andrew is joining a growing crowd of voices calling on Christians in the United States to repent for the sins of the nation. The founder of USA Christian Ministries wants to see God's healing come to our land according to 2 Chronicles 7:14.

"God has an answer for the crisis the USA is facing. He asks us to turn

from our wicked ways as a nation and by doing so He will heal our land—He will fix the economy and give us strong families," says

Steven. "God loves us."

Judge Allows Federal Funding of Embryonic Stem Cell Research




President Obama signing executive order

A federal judge's Wednesday ruling allows the federal government to continue funding embryonic stem cell research.

As U.S. District Judge Royce Lamberth sees it, his hands are tied by an appellate court decision that reversed his August 2010 order to stop funding based on a federal law prohibiting the practice.

"While it may be true that by following the Court of Appeals' conclusion as to the ambiguity of 'research,' this Court has become a grudging partner in a bout of 'linguistic jujitsu,' ... such is life for an antepenultimate court," Lamberth wrote in his ruling. "Therefore the D.C. Circuit's conclusion that the term 'research' in the Dickey-Wicker Amendment is ambiguous binds this Court."

Daystar Broadcasts 'Celebration' Live from Israel

 Long-time supporters of Israel, Daystar founders Marcus and Joni Lamb are broadcasting *Celebration*, a television broadcast that features moving testimonies, top best-selling

and new Christian authors, and leaders in faith and business, live from Israel.

“This is historic, so as Jesus told His disciples, ‘Watch and pray!,’”

Lamb says. “The Lord has really blessed us for Daystar to own this building and for it to have new HD equipment.”

The Lambs are producing the popular broadcast from Daystar’s Jerusalem Studio on Mt. Zion. The show airs at 11 a.m. CT. The broadcast will be replayed at 8 p.m. and midnight.

Athiests Attack World Trade Center Memorial Cross

✘ The World Trade Center Memorial seems like a logical place to erect a symbol of Christianity. But an atheist group is challenging the cross at this historic location.

American Athiests wants to tear down the World Trade Center cross at the 9/11 Memorial and Museum in New York City and has filed a lawsuit, *American Atheists v. Port Authority of New York and New Jersey*, in New York state court Monday. But Christian legal experts say the attempt is completely out of step with the Constitution.

“One atheist group’s agenda shouldn’t diminish the sacrifice made by the heroes of 9/11,” says ADF Senior Counsel Byron Babione. “A cross like this one simply does not amount to a government establishment of religion under either the U.S. Constitution or the New York Constitution.

Sex Trafficking Addressed in Porn Harms Campaign

☒ Now in its third week, Morality in Media's month-long "Be Aware: PORN HARMS" National Awareness Campaign is focusing on the links between pornography and sex trafficking.

"Pornography is not only used to train those being trafficked, but it also breaks down the conscience of its viewer," says Patrick Trueman, president of Morality in Media. "Men are encouraged to act on what they see, and often times those actions are taken out on victims of trafficking."

Dawn Hawkins, Morality in Media's executive director and director of the Be Aware: PORN HARMS campaign, says this week's events will shock viewers who think sex trafficking only takes place in foreign countries.

Ten Commandments Display Battles Still Brewing

☒ Displays of the Ten Commandments continue to offend secular humanists. But Christian legal groups [continue to defend the right to allow them](#) in the public square.

The Liberty Council on Tuesday filed a Notice of Appeal on behalf of Dixie County, Fla., at the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals to defend the county's Open Forum policy. The policy

allows private displays of law and history, including the Ten Commandments.

Liberty Counsel represents Dixie County in a federal lawsuit the ACLU filed in 2007 after the county permitted a local resident to erect a Ten Commandments monument outside the county courthouse, where other private displays are also allowed.

ACLJ Continues Battle Against ObamaCare

✘ As presidential hopefuls continue declaring their intentions to battle President Obama in 2012, the American Center for Law and Justice is still battling one of Obama's initiatives in court.

The ACLJ on Monday urged a federal appeals court to reinstate its lawsuit challenging the constitutionality of ObamaCare, explaining that its position is both "grounded in the Constitution" and Supreme Court precedent.

In a [reply brief](#) filed with the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, the ACLJ contends the arguments put forth by the Department of Justice "lack support in the text, history or related Supreme Court jurisprudence of the Commerce or Necessary and Proper Clauses" of the U.S. Constitution.

Suit Filed to Overturn NY Gay Marriage Law



AP Images/Celina Fang

The battle over gay marriage in New York isn't quite over yet. That's because Liberty Counsel has discovered what it calls "flagrant violations" of the New York state constitutional and legal procedures in connection with the bill's passage.

Armed with proof of these violations—which include alleged strong-arm tactics—Liberty Counsel filed a law suit in the New York Supreme Court for declaratory and injunctive relief against the same-sex marriage law Gov. Cuomo signed on June 24.

"New York law requires that the government be open and transparent to keep political officials responsible. When government operates in secret and freezes out the very people it is supposed to represent, the entire system fails," says Mathew Staver, founder and chairman of Liberty Counsel and dean of Liberty University School of Law. "The back-room tactics were rampant in the passages of this law. The law should be set aside and the process should begin again to allow the people a voice in the process."