

# Is Donald Trump a Christian?

## Mark Driscoll Weighs In

In a recently posted video, Pastor Mark Driscoll addresses a question on the minds of many Christians: [Is Donald Trump truly a Christian?](#)

Driscoll shares his thoughts on Trump's faith, offering insights from his recent experience at the National Faith Advisory Board event. In the video, Driscoll also encourages Christians to prioritize policy over personality in the upcoming election, emphasizing the importance of aligning voting decisions with biblical values.

"It was largely pastors and ministry leaders," Driscoll says, recounting a schedule filled with "a lot of worship and a lot of prayer" at the event. He and his wife, Grace, believe it may have been "the last pastor's Faith event before the election." According to Driscoll, the timing adds weight to the day, as many leaders anticipate the upcoming election and discuss issues they see as vital to their communities.

**[Breaking News. Spirit-Filled Stories. Subscribe to Charisma on YouTube now!](#)**

Driscoll also describes meeting former President Donald Trump, who, despite constant attacks [from the mainstream media](#), appears "really relaxed" and "joyful." Trump engages the crowd with unscripted remarks, which Driscoll says reveals a personable side. "He was just talking to us freely," Driscoll recalls, noting how Trump's humor and energy struck a chord with the gathered audience. "He was sharp and likable," Driscoll adds, surprised by the warmth Trump displayed.

**[Get your FREE CHARISMA NEWSLETTERS today! Stay up-to-date with current issues, Holy Spirit news, Christian teachings,](#)**

## [Charisma videos & more!](#)

In Trump's address to attendees, he touches on several issues important to many conservative Christians, such as support for Israel, religious freedom and abortion. Driscoll says Trump's experiences, including two assassination attempts, have made him more conscious of faith and God's role in his life. "He doesn't use the evangelical language, but there's a God-consciousness in his mind," Driscoll explains, referencing Trump's belief that "there is a God who is over our affairs."

Driscoll goes on to emphasize the importance of policy over personality in voting. "Policy is primary," he says, encouraging pastors to guide their congregations in understanding a biblical worldview. Driscoll sees these policies as having a direct impact on people's lives, explaining, "If you care about people, you need to vote for policies because people live under the policies."

[Join Charisma Magazine Online to follow everything the Holy Spirit is doing around the world!](#)

*James Lasher is staff writer for Charisma Media.*

---

## **God and the World Series: MLB Players Promote Faith on Baseball's Biggest Stage**

As the World Series battles on, faith and baseball intersect in a grand slam moment for players and fans alike. This year's matchup between the Los Angeles Dodgers and the New York Yankees isn't just a contest between two powerhouse teams—[it's](#)

[a showcase of faith](#), with star players stepping up to the plate to share what their beliefs mean to them, both on and off the field.

CBN Sports reporter Will Dawson captures this spirit firsthand, sitting down with players who are unashamed to reveal how their faith keeps them grounded amid the intensity of the season. "Baseball and sports in general is a brotherhood," Dawson notes. "But there's a different battle—a spiritual battle—and it's not just your teammates in this; it's your brothers in Christ."

Dodgers' first baseman Freddie Freeman is one of the many players unafraid to reveal how his faith sustains him. Freeman recently faced a crisis when his three-year-old son was diagnosed with Guillain-Barré syndrome, a serious autoimmune disorder. Reflecting on the ordeal, Freeman says he "leaned on [his faith] a lot." His family, grounded in faith, became his support system, and he drew strength from his team chaplain, Brandon Cash. "Having a great network of people to keep us strong, keep the faith ... it's been really good," Freeman says.

**[Breaking News. Spirit-Filled Stories. Subscribe to Charisma on YouTube now!](#)**

Yankees captain Aaron Judge, towering at 6-foot-7, stands out not only for his athletic prowess but for his humility and dedication to his faith. Adopted at a young age, Judge often reflects on the biblical imagery of adoption, saying it helps him understand the depth of God's love.

["His love is incredible,"](#) Judge shares. "If you would have told me back when I was five years old that I'd be in a World Series with the Yankees, I never would have believed you. Just having [God's] blessings, keeping the faith through good times and bad times, knowing He's always with me, has definitely helped me get to this position."

When players like Judge take a swing for the fences with their

faith, their words reach beyond the ballpark. As Dawson notes, a superstar speaking out about God's love commands attention, "When he says something about God's love and Jesus Christ, they all listen," Dawson says. "It's going out all over the world."

[Get your FREE CHARISMA NEWSLETTERS today! Stay up-to-date with current issues, Holy Spirit news, Christian teachings, Charisma videos & more!](#)

For believers on both rosters, this World Series offers more than a shot at the Commissioner's Trophy; it's a field of opportunity to spread the message of Christ. When people with great influence and a substantial platform share their faith publicly, millions witness their testimony and the goodness of God. Whether it's sharing a Bible verse during a post-game interview or giving glory to God at the end of the season, these players wield the power of influence—a power that extends far beyond any game-winning home run.

[Join Charisma Magazine Online to follow everything the Holy Spirit is doing around the world!](#)

*James Lasher is staff writer for Charisma Media.*

---

## **Vlad Savchuk: How God Works for Good Through Life's Highs and Lows**

At the V1 Church Breakers Conference, Pastor Vlad Savchuk of HungryGen Ministries shared a powerful message on navigating life's seasons, both good and bad, drawing a parallel to the

story of Joseph in the Bible. Savchuk encouraged attendees to embrace each phase, whether filled with hardship or blessing, as part of God's bigger plan.

[Breaking News. Spirit-Filled Stories.](#) *Subscribe to Charisma on YouTube now!*

## Joseph's Seasons

- **The coat of many colors:** According to Savchuk, this is the season when God places a call on your life, and you receive this calling as a promise from the Lord. "If you track his story carefully, you will see that the first season started when his father gave him a coat of many colors," Savchuk says. "In fact, it was such a good season that he started to dream that one day his brothers will bow to him. He started to dream that one day he impact the world."
- **Prisoner garments:** This is a more difficult and "hellish" season, where Potiphar's wife stole the clothing from Joseph and lied about what happened between the two. This saw Joseph imprisoned in horrific conditions. "This hard season landed Joseph into a hellish season," Savchuk explains. "And this was a season where the Scripture says he wore prisoners garments...some of you are in the season where somebody changed your clothing, where somebody ripped a garment off of you, lied about you, fired you, divorced you, broke up with you, and your life went from great to hellish, and men were responsible, and they were ripping garments off of your life. But there is a God in heaven who is watching over His Word and the promise He gave you."
- **Pharaoh's garments:** Joseph would not be removed from these garments for the remainder of his life because after the hardship and the season of breaking in prison,

he was ready to assume the role God had for him in life. "God will introduce His process where He's going to develop me, where He's going to break me, where He's gonna to crush me, where He's gonna purify me, where He's going to expose the ugliness in my own heart," Savchuk reveals. "...Things in themselves don't have to be good for God to put them together for your good."

**[Get your FREE CHARISMA NEWSLETTERS today! Stay up-to-date with current issues, Holy Spirit news, Christian teachings, Charisma videos & more!](#)**

The story of Joseph teaches us that even in the most challenging seasons, God is working to shape our hearts and align them with His purpose. Joseph endured betrayal, imprisonment and rejection from those closest to him, yet each hardship was part of God's refining process, drawing Joseph's heart closer to Him. Likewise, we can look at our own lives and see that God is using the difficult relationships and painful circumstances not to harm us, but to cultivate a heart consecrated to Him.

In these seasons, God is not absent but is carefully molding us, just as He did with Joseph, to prepare us for His greater plans. Through these trials, God reminds us that His purpose prevails, transforming what was meant for harm into blessings that align our lives with His perfect will.

**[Join Charisma Magazine Online to follow everything the Holy Spirit is doing around the world!](#)**

**James Lasher is staff writer for Charisma Media.**

---

# Former Occultists Expose the Dark Truth About Halloween

In separate interviews with Charisma Media, former witch turned [deliverance minister Jenny Weaver](#) and [former Satanist John Ramirez](#), who is now an evangelist for Christ, share their powerful testimonies of transformation and deliverance.

“As a young girl, I got into some really deep dark things,” Weaver recounts, explaining how an abusive family life led her to seek acceptance in all the wrong places. “The spirit of rejection gripped my life... I began to cut myself, wanting to kill myself, doing a lot of self-mutilation.”

Weaver describes how her search for belonging led her to witchcraft after watching “The Craft,” a film about witches. “I thought, ‘I want to do that,’ and I did. I began to dive into Wicca and witchcraft.” Her journey takes a dark turn as she becomes immersed in spells and rituals, thinking they would grant her power. “We wanted spirits to come into us... we didn’t think it was possession; we thought it was power,” she recalls.

**[Breaking News. Spirit-Filled Stories. Subscribe to Charisma on YouTube now!](#)**

After years of addiction, homelessness and torment, Weaver experiences a divine rescue. “God literally delivered me in a moment,” she says, emphasizing the stark contrast between her past and her faith-filled present.

Today, Weaver warns parents about the dangers of spiritual compromise and why her family [has nothing to do with Halloween.](#)

“Halloween is steeped in demonic rituals,” she warns. “People

think it's innocent, but the origins are rooted in the worship of the dead and spirits. We can't compromise by changing it into a Christian holiday."

Weaver explains that the costumes and traditions are linked to ancient beliefs that invite evil spirits into the world. "My job is to train my children to know we don't serve the devil one day and God the next," she states firmly. "We have to have those hard conversations with our kids to educate them about the reality of spiritual warfare. As parents, we must protect our families by closing those doors and refusing to engage in practices that open them."

For Ramirez, life in the darkness of Satanism was all he knew for years, and his powerful testimony of freedom from the devil's grasp [equips fellow believers with knowledge](#) about the demonic holiday.



[Order John Ramirez's "Exposing the Devil's Playbook" on Amazon.com!](#)

"I tell you, it boggles my mind how you can have a one-night

stand with the devil and then say you love Jesus,” he shares. Ramirez recounts his own harrowing experiences, including a “demonic wedding” on Halloween, complete with animal sacrifices and rituals led by witches and warlocks. “The founder of the Church of Satan once thanked Christian parents for allowing their children to celebrate the devil,” he states, highlighting the spiritual gravity of this holiday.

Ramirez insists that dressing children in costumes and attending church on Halloween only masks the underlying issues. “You’re still celebrating a demonic holiday,” he warns. “The devil lives in your church that day. Why would you celebrate something that opens doors to darkness?” He emphasizes that this seemingly innocent practice can have dire spiritual consequences, as children who are exposed to such celebrations may later struggle with addiction and rebellion.

**[Get your FREE CHARISMA NEWSLETTERS today! Stay up-to-date with current issues, Holy Spirit news, Christian teachings, Charisma videos & more!](#)**

Drawing from his 25 years of experience serving the devil, Ramirez declares passionately, “You are giving your children over to the enemy.” He challenges parents to consider the implications of their actions, explaining that even a single compromise can lead to devastating spiritual repercussions. “Celebrate the harvest by bringing souls into the kingdom,” he urges, advocating for a shift in focus away from Halloween.

Both Jenny Weaver and John Ramirez found deliverance in Jesus Christ, transforming their lives from darkness to light. Their testimonies serve as powerful reminders of the spiritual dangers associated with celebrations like Halloween, which can open doors to demonic influence. As believers, it is crucial to heed their warnings, aligning with Scripture in Ephesians 5:11, which states, “And do not have fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness; instead, expose them.” By choosing to avoid wickedness and engage in the light of

Christ, Christians can protect themselves and their families from spiritual harm.

[Join Charisma Magazine Online to follow everything the Holy Spirit is doing around the world!](#)

*James Lasher is staff writer for Charisma Media.*

---

# The Transformative Power of the Bible on Mental Health

Dr. George Barna, in a recent interview with CBN's Billy Hallowell, sheds light on the correlation between mental health challenges and an individual's worldview. Barna's latest research from the American Worldview Inventory 2024 shows that a biblical worldview may offer [relief to those struggling with mental health issues](#) like anxiety, depression and fear.

"Our best estimates show that about one out of every four adults has a diagnosable mental illness," Barna says. He points out that younger generations are grappling with mental health challenges at a higher rate, with 56% of Gen Z experiencing symptoms like anxiety and depression. In stark contrast, only 14% of Baby Boomers face similar issues, a generation with a significantly higher rate of biblical worldview adherence. According to Barna, this is no mere coincidence.

**[Breaking News. Spirit-Filled Stories. Subscribe to Charisma on YouTube now!](#)**

“People with a biblical worldview are less likely to do things like wind up in prison, to have some kind of addiction ... to say that they’re feeling fulfilled with their life,” he explains. This connection shows that adopting faith-based values offers a broader sense of purpose, grounding people in challenging times.

For many facing mental health battles, he believes the answer to their problems isn’t always medication. “What may be happening is that it’s not a chemical imbalance or physical issue ... it may be their belief structure, their worldview,” he says, highlighting the importance of spiritual health in conjunction with mental health.



**[Order Kenza Haddock’s “The Three Enemies of Your Mental Health” on Amazon.com!](#)**

Barna notes that people of faith often find comfort through shared community and purpose in life, which can reduce feelings of despair. While he acknowledges that medicinal treatment is necessary for some, he emphasizes that “worldview isn’t just about believing things that make a pastor happy. Worldview actually has a dramatic effect on all aspects of your life.” A biblical worldview, he argues, could be a protective factor against certain mental health issues.

King David’s writings in the Psalms offer a powerful example for Christians today on [navigating times of mental and emotional distress](#). Throughout the Psalms, David openly voices his struggles with feelings of despair, anxiety and fear, giving readers an honest look into his inner turmoil. In Psalm 13:1, he cries, “How long, O Lord? Will You forget me forever?” revealing the depth of his personal hurt.

**[Get your FREE CHARISMA NEWSLETTERS today! Stay up-to-date with current issues, Holy Spirit news, Christian teachings, Charisma videos & more!](#)**

Yet, David models a way forward by consistently turning to God as his source of comfort and strength. His words in Psalm 23:4, “Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for You are with me,” reflect his unwavering trust in God’s presence and protection, even in the darkest times. David’s faith reminds us that in moments of mental anguish, we can find hope and peace by reaching out to God, relying on His promises to provide strength and comfort.

In these times of growing darkness, the Bible provides us with comfort and reassurance, encouraging everyone who reads it that they can find peace in God. Psalm 29:11 states, “The Lord will give strength to His people; the Lord will bless His people with peace.” For those struggling, Barna’s research reveals that turning toward a relationship with God will provide solace and a renewed sense of hope in our sin-cursed world.

[\*Join Charisma Magazine Online to follow everything the Holy Spirit is doing around the world!\*](#)

*James Lasher is staff writer for Charisma Media.*

---

## **Is Dr. Lester Sumrall’s 40-Year-Old Prophecy Now a Reality?**

In a recent episode of “The John Bevere Podcast,” Darren Whitehead, founder and pastor of Church of the City, and [author, speaker and minister John Bevere](#) reflect on a striking prophecy delivered by the late Dr. Lester Sumrall over 40

years ago. Bevere emphasizes the profound implications of this word, which he believes is now coming to fruition in the digital age.

Whitehead opens the discussion by acknowledging the overwhelming influence of smartphones on contemporary life. "I've got to believe there has never been a more powerful piece of technology that is conforming people to the pattern of this world than these smartphones," he states. He highlights how this digital distraction hampers one's ability to hear God's voice. "It is very difficult to hear the voice of God when every discretionary quiet moment in your life is filled with doom scrolling," he adds, describing the pervasive "visual clutter" that smartphones create.

**[Breaking News. Spirit-Filled Stories. Subscribe to Charisma on YouTube now!](#)**

Recalling a pivotal moment from 1984, Bevere describes a breakfast meeting with Dr. Sumrall, a renowned figure in ministry. "He said, 'God has shown me things that are going to happen in the future,'" Bevere recounts. Sumrall prophesied that people would one day carry a box in their hands that would control their lives. "We thought, 'Oh, bless his heart, he's off his rocker,'" Bevere admits, reflecting on their initial skepticism.

However, as he discusses the present-day ramifications of this prophecy, [Bevere highlights alarming statistics](#) about smartphone usage. He cites research revealing that over 50% of Americans grapple with anxiety, a condition he attributes largely to smartphone dependency. "Ninety-two percent of Americans have a smartphone ... what is that doing to people?" Whitehead asks. He stresses that excessive screen time—averaging between five to seven hours daily—alters social intelligence and fosters unhealthy comparisons.

**[Get your FREE CHARISMA NEWSLETTERS today! Stay up-to-date with](#)**

[current issues, Holy Spirit news, Christian teachings, Charisma videos & more!](#)

“Romans 12 talks about ... ‘Do not conform to the pattern of this world,’” Whitehead says. “I’ve got to believe there has never been a more powerful piece of technology that is conforming people to the to the pattern of this world than these smartphones.”

Together, they urge us as Christians to reflect on our relationship with technology and the need to reclaim our time with God and our joy. Dr. Sumrall’s prophecy echoes in their discussion, issuing a powerful warning about the unseen forces at play in a digitally driven world.

[Join Charisma Magazine Online to follow everything the Holy Spirit is doing around the world!](#)

*James Lasher is staff writer for Charisma Media.*

---

## **Mike Signorelli: Finding Faith in Times of Pressure**

At the Breakers Conference held at Now Arena in Chicago, Illinois, Pastor Mike Signorelli delivers a powerful message about faith, resilience and the divine purpose that underpins the struggles of believers. He emphasizes the importance of understanding one’s spiritual journey, particularly in times of adversity.

“Welcome to the birthing room,” he begins, encouraging attendees to embrace the pressure that comes with their spiritual journeys. He acknowledges the journey can be

difficult, but within those hardships God has a purpose for every one of us. "It's not about the algorithm," he says. "It's about the anointing." He stresses that true success and favor come from [a relationship with God](#) rather than worldly metrics.

**[Breaking News. Spirit-Filled Stories. Subscribe to Charisma on YouTube now!](#)**

Signorelli shares his personal story of overcoming extreme poverty, recounting his childhood struggles. "Somebody has to say, 'I'm sick and tired of being sick and tired,'" he says. His journey from hardship to ministry leadership exemplifies his belief that change is possible when one is willing to embrace God's calling. "You can't cheat your way through this. You gotta go through," he emphasizes, urging the audience to remain steadfast in their faith, even when times get tough.

Signorelli then passionately opens up about his belief in the faithfulness of God by recounting a personal story that began with a simple stove. "The Lord told me this morning, 'Michael, when you walk into the stadium today, you need to know that it all started with the stove,'" Signorelli says. He explains that, 25 years ago, when his family was struggling in poverty, a pastor delivered a donated stove to their home, sparking a journey that would transform their lives. "I took your poverty and I used it to deliver a stove," God reminded him, connecting that moment to his presence on the conference stage.

Reflecting on the parallels between his journey and God's promise to Abraham, Signorelli adds, "When God gave the promise to Abraham, it was 25 years until he had his son, and 25 years from the story of the stove, I stand on this stage today." His story is a testament to the perfection of God's timing, and His promises are always fulfilled, even if they take years to come to fruition.

[Get your FREE CHARISMA NEWSLETTERS today! Stay up-to-date with current issues, Holy Spirit news, Christian teachings, Charisma videos & more!](#)

As the conference unfolds, Signorelli implores fellow believers to seize the moment and deepen their [relationship with God](#). “Sometimes you’ve got to get in the [birthing] room so something can be released to you,” he says, reminding everyone of the power and presence of God even in our darkest moments.

This powerful testimony and call for a renewed faith in the Lord leaves us with a call to action: Dig deeper into your relationship with God. Push through and endure the difficult times. As it says in James 4:8, “Draw near to God, and He will draw near to you.” This is a reminder that faith is an active journey, one Christians must embark on to pursue a closer connection with Jesus Christ.

[Join Charisma Magazine Online to follow everything the Holy Spirit is doing around the world!](#)

*James Lasher is staff writer for Charisma Media.*

---

## **How Deliverance from an Evil Spirit Shaped Tony Merkel’s Mission**

Tony Merkel, host of the “Confessionals” podcast, opened up in an exclusive interview with Charisma Media about a powerful experience in his life that prepared him for the supernatural topics he explores today.

Before starting his podcast, Merkel went through [an intense spiritual battle](#) and ultimately needed deliverance from a demonic spirit. “I didn’t totally have an understanding as to the depths of the spiritual realm,” he reflects, adding that his journey into podcasting has taught him how “real and involved” the spiritual realm is in everyday life.

In 2014, Merkel says, he rededicated his life to God in a powerful moment of transformation. He recalls it as a “miraculous day” where the Holy Spirit touched him, radically changing him “instantaneously.” This change was noticed by everyone around him, he says, and Merkel remembers that from then on, he became deeply connected with his faith, constantly praying, listening to sermons and building connections in his community.

**[Breaking News. Spirit-Filled Stories. Subscribe to Charisma on YouTube now!](#)**

One such connection was with a man he met during his delivery job, whom he describes as a lost soul who seemed unfamiliar with God. “He doesn’t even know what God is or who Jesus is,” Merkel says, recounting how the man [unexpectedly opened up](#) about his struggles. When he asked the man about his future, the response he received was chilling: “I don’t know. I’m probably going to kill myself.” Merkel instinctively responded, “Man, you don’t want to do that. God’s got plans for your life.” This comment, Merkel says, stirred something in the man, leading to a deeper curiosity about faith.

The two arranged to meet at the man’s home to discuss faith further. But before Merkel visited, he felt forewarned by the Holy Spirit, telling him that he would face “very dark spiritual warfare.” Arriving at the man’s house, Merkel’s instincts were immediately heightened. The house was dark, and strange décor lined the walls. “It was completely black ... and there were pictures of pinup girls almost as wallpaper,” he recalls. Guided by the Holy Spirit’s directions, Merkel chose

a specific chair, feeling that God was directing him away from sitting near a particular door.

Over the next three hours, Merkel spoke with the man about hobbies and life before turning to the topic of faith. When he invited the man to accept Christ, the man became visibly uncomfortable, almost agitated. But Merkel persisted, and the man finally agreed, praying to accept Christ. However, his reaction was unlike anything Merkel had seen before. "He starts shaking his hands real violently," Merkel says, describing how the man claimed to feel energy rushing through his body. Following this, the man tightly embraced Merkel, exhaling deeply in a way Merkel found unnerving.

[\*\*Get your FREE CHARISMA NEWSLETTERS today! Stay up-to-date with current issues, Holy Spirit news, Christian teachings, Charisma videos & more!\*\*](#)

Merkel's own battle with a dark presence began [shortly after that intense encounter](#). Despite his dedication to faith, he found himself weighed down by a lingering, oppressive feeling that seemed to follow him. "It was something I couldn't shake," he says, describing how he felt spiritually and mentally exhausted. Merkel eventually sought help from his church, recognizing that he needed deliverance from a force beyond his control. "I realized it was spiritual warfare in a way I hadn't understood before," he says. Seeking the support of his church community, he received prayer from elders who guided him through deliverance, ultimately finding relief from the oppressive spirit.

Reflecting on his journey, Merkel emphasizes that his deliverance was both liberating and transformative. The experience deepened his faith and gave him a powerful sense of purpose. "God allowed me to go through that darkness so that I would know just how real spiritual battles are," he says. Merkel says this deliverance set a foundation for his work, giving him firsthand knowledge of the spiritual conflicts he

would later discuss with guests on his show.

“It’s why I do what I do,” he explains, affirming that his podcast aims to shed light on spiritual realities, including the importance of deliverance and protection through Christ. As Ephesians 6:12 reminds us, “For our fight is not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world.”

Merkel’s story highlights the Bible’s teachings on spiritual warfare. Scripture emphasizes that evil can only be conquered by God’s power, not human strength. In the words of Matthew 12:28, “But if I cast out demons by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God has come upon you.” Merkel’s journey is a reminder that God’s presence is a source of protection and deliverance amid unseen spiritual battles.

[Join Charisma Magazine Online to follow everything the Holy Spirit is doing around the world!](#)

*James Lasher is staff writer for Charisma Media.*

---

## **Ex-Church Secretary Facing 280 Years in Prison**

A former church secretary in Louisa, Virginia, may spend the rest of her life in prison after being convicted of [embezzling hundreds of thousands of dollars](#) from her longtime place of worship. Brenda W. Ragland, 64, who has been a member and employee of the unnamed church for over 20 years, was found guilty on Monday of 14 counts of embezzlement. Each count carries a potential maximum sentence of 20 years, adding up to a possible 280 years behind bars.

The church discovered Ragland's alleged misconduct when attempting to donate funds to support another local congregation's building project earlier this year. Unable to locate Ragland to retrieve a necessary bank letter, church officials reached out to their financial institution directly. To their shock, they learned their account lacked the funds needed for the donation.

**[Breaking News. Spirit-Filled Stories. Subscribe to Charisma on YouTube now!](#)**

"It is a sad day for the church," said Louisa Commonwealth's Attorney Rusty McGuire, emphasizing the trust the church had placed in Ragland. "They put their faith in Mrs. Ragland to manage the church resources, and she violated that faith by turning church resources into her personal piggy bank."

Investigators later found that Ragland had diverted [more than \\$670,000 in church funds](#) over the years, including tithes meant for the church, which she funneled into her personal bank account via Cash App. Authorities suspect the total amount may be even higher, as they were only able to review seven years of bank records.

**[Get your FREE CHARISMA NEWSLETTERS today! Stay up-to-date with current issues, Holy Spirit news, Christian teachings, Charisma videos & more!](#)**

Senior Assistant Commonwealth Attorney Megan Riordan, who worked with McGuire on the case, expressed hope for the church's recovery, noting the impact of Ragland's betrayal. "Ragland wreaked financial havoc on the church that she was supposed to be helping," Riordan said. She also thanked the Louisa County Sheriff's Office for its "thorough investigation."

Ragland's sentencing is scheduled for Jan. 27, 2025.

This case serves as a stark reminder that God is purifying His

church, exposing wrongdoing within its ranks to strengthen the body of Christ. Scripture tells us this in 1 Peter 4:17: "For the time has come for judgment to begin at the house of God; and if it begins first with us, what shall the end be for those who do not obey the gospel of God?"

[\*\*Join Charisma Magazine Online to follow everything the Holy Spirit is doing around the world!\*\*](#)

*James Lasher is staff writer for Charisma Media.*

---

## **Essential Preparations Ahead of the Red Heifer Ceremony**

A full-dress reenactment of the ancient water libation ceremony has taken place in Jerusalem, drawing attention from religious observers and prophecy watchers alike.

The event, held during the Sukkot festival, mirrors the actual ritual that was performed in the temple, with Kohanim (priests) and Levites leading the ceremony dressed in traditional vestments. Starting at the Dung Gate in the Old City, participants proceeded to the historic Shiloach Spring, with joyful music and prayers echoing through the streets.

**[Breaking News. Spirit-Filled Stories.](#) *Subscribe to Charisma on YouTube now!***

[The Temple Institute](#) assisted in the event, creating a special gold-plated silver vessel to carry water from the spring. The group is dedicated to preparing for the third temple, a topic of deep significance in both the Jewish and Christian faiths. For Christians, the construction of a third temple plays a

critical role in end-times prophecy. According to many interpretations, the rebuilding of the temple is connected to the final events before the return of Jesus Christ. As referenced in Daniel 9:27, the prophecy of the Antichrist standing in the temple signals the beginning of the Great Tribulation, a time of great suffering that precedes Christ's Second Coming.

The Pool of Siloam, where the reenactment took place, has deep biblical roots, tied to the rituals of purification in the temple era. The pool, fed by the Gihon Spring, was a key site where pilgrims cleansed themselves before entering the temple to offer sacrifices. Its reemergence in discussions about the third temple fuels anticipation among those who see these developments as prophetic markers.

Events like the water libation reenactment and the highly anticipated red heifer ceremony are flashing indicators of the approaching end times. According to biblical prophecy, [the red heifer](#), which is necessary for the purification rituals of any future temple, plays a crucial role in preparing for the third temple. Numbers 19 also outlines the significance of the red heifer's ashes in ceremonial purification. Many Christians and Jews believe the preparations for these ceremonies as fulfilling prophetic milestones that signal the nearing return of the Messiah. As these events unfold, they align with Scriptures pointing to the rebuilding of the temple and the acceleration of end-time events described in Daniel and Revelation.

**[Get your FREE CHARISMA NEWSLETTERS today! Stay up-to-date with current issues, Holy Spirit news, Christian teachings, Charisma videos & more!](#)**

The Bible, particularly in the book of Revelation, speaks of end-time events that will unfold [around the temple](#). In Revelation 11:1-2, the apostle John describes the measuring of the temple, a moment that is tied to God's plan for the end

times. While these events are significant, Jesus emphasizes the need for vigilance, stating in Matthew 24:42, "Watch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord will come."

The Parable of the 10 Virgins in Matthew 25:1-13 also serves as a powerful reminder that we as Christians must be prepared for Jesus' return at any time. Like the wise virgins who kept their lamps ready, believers are called to live in a state of spiritual preparedness. Regardless of when these prophetic events occur, we are to obey the words of Jesus: "Therefore you also must be ready, for in an hour when you least expect, the Son of Man is coming" (Matt. 24:44).

[\*\*Join Charisma Magazine Online to follow everything the Holy Spirit is doing around the world!\*\*](#)

**James Lasher** *is staff writer for Charisma Media.*