

Church Funds Theft: Pastor's Wife Charged with Stealing \$400k+

Time and again, America is witnessing people put in positions of trust and authority in the Christian church succumb to the temptations of the flesh and dishonor the name of Jesus.

Recently, the wife of a Southern Baptist pastor, Shelley Strickland, was charged with, and confessed to, stealing some \$404,000 while working as the financial secretary of the First Baptist Church of War Shoals in South Carolina.

As reported by The Roys Report, "Strickland worked as the financial secretary at First Baptist from 2017-2024." Her husband pastors First Damascus Baptist Church in nearby Bradley, South Carolina.

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Police report that Strickland's husband, Pastor Mark Strickland, is not implicated at the moment as there is no evidence to connect him with the crimes committed by his wife.

There is now an in-depth investigation into Strickland's actions, as she worked as the financial secretary for other local churches, and more charges are expected, to go along with the "breach of trust over \$10,000," charge, which could see her sentenced to up to 10 years in prison, according to police.

Often, when Strickland would pay for personal expenses, she would reimburse herself from church funds using a money transfer app. It is also reported that she sent money via these "cash apps" to her husband and children, potentially

implicating them in her crime spree as investigations continue.

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Ware Shoals Police Chief Bryan Louis told The Roys Report "that Strickland is cooperating with police and has been released from custody on \$10,000 bond."

There is a treasure trove of biblical verses which speak against such actions, especially for one who actively works in a church (yet their principles apply to us all), but one particular verse, Proverbs 16:8, sticks out:

*Better is a little with righteousness
than great revenues with injustice.*

Proverbs 16:8

Strickland is going to learn the hard way that a life of obedience to the Word of God is far greater than one lived through dishonest gain. But her actions shine the light on the corruption that has seeped into the American church and must be rooted out and the church restored through repentance and humility before the Lord.

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James Lasher is staff writer for Charisma Media.

Temple Mount Echoes with Silver Trumpets After 2,000 Years

In a recent interview with Charisma Media, author and researcher L.A. Marzulli delved into a range of topics that blur the lines between history, spirituality and the paranormal. Known for his investigations into the Nephilim, Marzulli discussed the mysterious artifacts, ancient legends and the spiritual warfare that he believes still shapes the world we live in today.

One of the intriguing points Marzulli raised was the connection between Mormon beliefs and the Nephilim. He referenced the Mormon narrative of Nephi, who, according to the Book of Mormon, traveled from the Middle East to the Americas. Marzulli suggested that the Nephilim might have also found their way to the Americas, intertwining their history with that of early settlers. "The Nephites are Nephilim," Marzulli asserted. "They did come over, so that's partially true."

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Marzulli also spoke about the discovery of artifacts that could point to the existence of the Nephilim in North America, claiming that these findings are often suppressed. He recounted an incident in Salt Lake City, where he was allegedly shown the sarcophagi of the Nephilim by a high-ranking member of the Mormon Church. "When we got there, we were being watched," Marzulli said, describing how they were met by a church official who took them to a high-rise building overlooking the city. According to Marzulli, these encounters are not isolated. "We've heard that over and over and over

again from the 19th century and the 20th century. Did they get them all? No, we didn't get them all."



Order L.A. Marzulli's new book "Rungs of Disclosure" on !

Marzulli then explored the idea of a Nephilim diaspora, where these tribes fled from Joshua's conquest of Canaan and dispersed across the Mediterranean. He cited historical records, including the writings of Procopius, a Roman historian, who mentioned a stone marker in North Africa bearing the inscription, "We are they who fled from the face of Joshua the robber, the son of Nun." Marzulli argued that this was evidence of the Nephilim escaping to regions such as Malta, Sardinia, and even into France.

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The conversation then took a darker turn as Marzulli discussed hybrid entities, which he believes are the result of fallen angels mating with human women (Gen 6). These beings, according to Marzulli, are "soulless" and have appeared increasingly in modern times. "We know that in the 90s, people started seeing hybrid entities," he said. "They look more alien than they did human." He described them as "sickly looking, with stringy hair and big black eyes."

Marzulli ended on a note of spiritual caution and encouragement, urging listeners to rely on their faith in Jesus Christ to combat these dark forces. "When the Lord shows up, when He dispatches angels, when the Holy Spirit decides to do something, look out—darkness flees," he said. "We don't need to fear these things because we have the Holy Spirit living in us."

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Spirit is doing around the world!

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7 Warning Signs of the ‘Woke Mind Virus’

“We want to let you know that after much prayer and consideration, we have decided not to hold Gateway Conference in 2024. Our congregation and staff are in the midst of navigating Robert Morris’ resignation and the emotions surrounding it. We are deeply sorry for the pain this situation caused the survivor, other survivors of abuse, and the Church at large.

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“As we seek to navigate this season in a healthy way and in a manner that promotes healing for everyone affected, we believe it best to not hold Gateway Conference this year. We are sincerely sorry for any inconvenience or disappointment this causes. For those who have already registered, we will be issuing full refunds on the tickets.



Order Joakim Lundqvist new book “Shine Your Light” on !

“We are overwhelmed by the love and support we’ve received from many of you for our congregation, volunteers, and staff who serve this church. Thank you for your partnership and support through this season, and thank you for your love and prayers.”

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With Gateway Church still reeling from the ordeal, interim teaching pastor Max Lucado has stepped in to help guide and right the ship of the Dallas-area congregation and bring about healing and restoration to the community.

“My desire is simply this – love God’s hurting people. I see this as an opportunity to do just that,” Lucado previously stated.

Pastor Joakim Lundqvist has also temporarily joined with Gateway to help in a pastoral role for those still on staff at the megachurch while also occasionally giving sermons.

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Do Christians Have a Duty to Oppose Corrupt Leaders?

“Are we in the end times? Are we at the point where as good Christians we have to oppose authority, or do we focus on loving our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and submitting to authority?”

This was a question posed by comedian and podcaster Russell Brand, who recently made the leap to accept Jesus as his personal Lord and Savior, and has been searching for knowledge and understanding ever since.

Of course the first verses that usually come to mind are Paul's writings in the book of Romans which say that all authority is derived from God, and that Christians are to submit to authority, just as Jesus submitted to the Father's will and sacrificed His own life for that of humanity.

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But what are Christians to do when corrupt rulers go against the teachings of God?

Brand read from Revelation 13, detailing the two beasts and those who would in turn worship the beast and eventually receive his mark. The Bible details that "All who dwell on the earth will worship him, all whose names have not been written in the Book of Life of the Lamb who was slain from the foundation of the world," (Rev. 13:9), yet those whose names are in the Book of Life shall not receive the Mark and worship this satanic beast.

"We've got a job to do, haven't we?" asked Brand. "[It] sounds to me that political power is highly corruptible and that our duty is to recognize that the Lamb was slain for our salvation and redemption.

"I find it difficult to chart my way through that, but it aligns more easily with my pre-conditioned attitude to authority which is one of cynicism and doubt.

"But I wonder, as Christians, is it our role to be radical and rebellious when rebelliousness is so often chief among our sins," Brand continued.

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To keep searching for answers to life's greatest questions

shows that Brand is continuing his journey of deepening his relationship with Jesus Christ, and the Bible tells us that he is not the first to wonder about this philosophical predicament either.

In Acts chapter 5, the disciples encountered the exact situation where the ways of man, and religiousness, contradicted the ways of God, and Peter and the apostles answered the Sanhedrin plainly in verse 5:

“We must obey God rather than men.”

There is much more that can be unpacked on this topic but the message is clear, when the ways of man go against the ways, design and righteousness of God, it is imperative for us to obey our Creator above all else.

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Are UFOs Part of a Rapture Deception Plan?