

Todd White Makes Dramatic Shift in Preaching, Moves Away From Prosperity Gospel

Todd White's faith has changed quite radically in just a matter of months.

In May, the Christian evangelist was speaking out against a documentary series that condemned the prosperity gospel and his preaching of it. At the time, he rebuked the show, *American Gospel: Christ Alone*, as "demonically inspired." And he was quick to reject the suggestion he was "a heretic."

But just a few months later, White—a protege of fellow preacher Benny Hinn, who last year walked back some of his own teachings—seems to have had a radical change of heart, a shift he said is the result of conviction.

"I am not perfect, but I am strongly convicted," White said Sunday. "I feel like I just met Jesus again! There's just this rekindled thing inside of me. This has been the hardest season of my life. I'm like, 'Lord, what are you doing?' He said, 'I'm pruning every branch that you have.' I'm like, 'It's not OK. It hurts.' And He said, 'If you were dead, it wouldn't hurt.'"

At another point early on in his sermon, White talked about evangelism and how people come to accept Christ.

"When you come into the gospel because you came in for a better life," he explained, "you've come in for the wrong gospel. When you come to Jesus because He's gonna give you this and He's gonna give you that, you really didn't surrender. See, what you're saying is, 'I've come to get this.' What you've done is a taste test to see if it's true. It's the same thing as getting a buzz: 'Well, I'll try this

Jesus thing. Maybe there's a buzz in it.' That's not Jesus."

He went on to preach, "Your goal as a Christian is to be conformed to His image, is to be transformed into His image, into His likeness, and to actually walk like Christ walked. Jesus didn't despise sinners, but He hated sin, and He addressed it all the time."

White told the congregation he has been spending time recently poring over the words of New Zealand-born minister Ray Comfort and 19th-century theologian Charles Spurgeon.

Read the rest of this story from our content partners at Faithwire. {eoa}

Christian Psychologist: The No. 1 Way Satan Works to Destroy Our Nation, World

Most of us would agree that 2020 has been a year of challenge for families. Studies show that stress is up and Bible reading is down.

Psychologist and author Dr. Magdalena Battles believes there's a spiritual factor in play as well. "I strongly believe that Satan is attacking families," she tells host Marti Pieper on this episode of the *Family Matters* series on *Charisma News*. "What better way to destroy a nation and to destroy the world

than to start by attacking families? Families are what God created us for. ... He did that because He wanted to see relationships in action," she says.

Battles, whose new book is *6 Hidden Behaviors That Destroy Families* (Whitaker House) says, "In Matthew 22, the two greatest commands are first, love Him, first and foremost. And then second, to love others as you love yourself. And the people that you put in your life ... are your family members."

Battles adds, "The destruction of the family is the way that Satan destroys us as individuals, and it destroys nations. And restoration in our lives happens when we look back to God, look at His solutions. And then we begin working on it ourselves. We partner with God to work on these family issues ourselves." She cautions people not to think, "I don't know how I'm going to fix my family members," saying bluntly, "You can't. We can be an example of how to do things. And that's probably the best way ... if we don't tell our family members, 'You need to do this, you need to do that.' That usually doesn't go so well.

"What always works best is being the person who takes action and is the agent of change within the family," Battles says. "None of us is a perfect human being, but we can do better, and we can try harder. And trying harder means just applying God's Word. ... We need to dive into His Word and use His solutions to have family relationships and have restoration."

To hear more of Dr. Magdalena Battles' biblical, practical wisdom on helping your family survive the pandemic and beyond, [click here](#) to listen to the entire podcast. {eoa}

'He Loved Christ, Preached Christ, Trusted Christ': Texas Pastor Tragically Killed While Helping Motorists on Highway

Family, friends and the Christian community are mourning the loss of a Texas pastor and father to four children who was killed Saturday night in a traffic accident.

While driving down U.S. Highway 75 in Sherman, Texas, John Powell pulled over to assist individuals who had been involved in a crash, *KXII News* reports.

The 38-year-old pastor was struck by a passing semitruck and died at the scene of the accident.

Powell was regarded as a true servant of God who tragically lost his life while helping others. He was a church planter and pastor of Emmanuel Baptist Church in New Caney, Texas.

Tributes to the beloved pastor, who was known for his kindness were shared on social media.

Dr. Russell Moore from the Southern Baptist Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission wrote on Twitter that he was saddened by the loss of this great Christian leader.

"I am shocked and shaken and grieving this morning, beyond what I can say," Moore wrote. "My former student John Powell was killed last night, hit by an eighteen-wheeler while helping stranded motorists off of a highway."

Grieved and heartbroken beyond words. Please pray.

– Russell Moore (@drmoore) July 19, 2020

To read the rest of this story, visit our content partners at CBN News. {eoa}

The One Key Question God Asked This Pastor, Parenting Expert

We might expect the author of a book and newly released companion study guide titled *Parenting First Aid* (New Growth Press) to be an expert, and that he is. Marty Machowski is the father of six, grandfather of two, author, family pastor and publishing leader who has helped thousands of families through the years. But there was a day, he says, when he needed parenting first aid himself.

Machowski tells host Marti Pieper on this episode of the *Family Matters* series on the *Charisma News* podcast that “We started with twins, a boy and a girl. And our girl, Emma, was what you might call the picture of perfect Christian young lady. She knew the Lord at a young age. She was very compliant. and she wanted to follow the rules.

“And our son was the opposite,” Machowski says. “He didn’t

want to be constrained by rules. He wasn't interested in doing things that we said [just] because we said them. He said to me one day, 'Dad, look. I'm not one of the kind of guys who can just learn from a lesson and do it that way. I can't learn from other people's mistakes; I have to make them myself.'"

And he did, Machowski says. In the middle of the night, he and his wife "got the proverbial call from the police station: 'Can you come pick up your son?'" They discovered their teenage son had been sneaking out at night to drink beer with other church kids at a local park.

Machowski says he asked God what to do, and the Lord said, "I don't want you parenting standing up. I want you parenting kneeling down."

"You see, I had a vision [that] I'm going to be the pastor who does it all," Machowski says. "I'm going to do devotions with my kids. I'm going to take them to church. I'm going to watch and be a good gatekeeper over their media intake. I'm going to steward friendships. I'm going to do it all to help show people how this can be done well."

"And God said, 'You know all those things you've got? They're all really good. But guess what?'" God asked. The Lord told him that not one of those things started with J and spelled "Jesus."

"'You're doing this in your own strength, and you're going to take the glory for yourself,'" Machowski says God told him.

"And just like He did with Israel, He just removed his hand and said, 'All right, you want to do it on your own, by your own means, go ahead,'" Machowski says. "'And then I'm going to come back up on the back side, and I'm going to lift you up when you fall in, and I'm going to do a work in your family.'"

"And what we realized was, when the psalm says, 'Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain,' you

say, 'OK; who's building the house: me or God? And the answer is yes. We're doing it together,'" Machowski says.

To hear more of Machowski's wisdom for parents including his top tips for parenting during the pandemic, [click here](#) to listen to the entire podcast. {eoa}

'The Church Has Left the Building': Wave of Revival Hits Southern California, Shows No Sign of Stopping

A wave is hitting Huntington Beach, California, and exploding across the sand. Except in this case, the water comes from an eternal source, and the driving force is Holy Spirit power.

The longtime prayers of God's people are being answered even now as Saturate OC (Saturate Orange County, California) plans and conducts weekly revival services, spurred on by a prophetic word. Saturate OC co-founder Jessi Green who, with her husband, Parker, moved to the area from New York City in expectation of a move of God, says on the ministry's website that God spoke clearly:

"There's a 50,000-person harvest in Huntington Beach during Summer 2020. Pray for workers."

A Facebook post repeats the vision: "My husband Parker and I moved across the country from New York to California and gave up everything we had because of a profound vision God had

shown us. We came to California on a vacation and as we prayed we saw a picture of thousands of people being baptized along Huntington Beach Pier; the harvest was so massive, people were quickly turning around to baptize the person behind them. There was a ripple effect to this move of God. I believe that there is a massive harvest for THE CHURCH in Orange County to participate in and we need to prepare the nets of discipleship," Jessi says.