

Prophet of Purpose

✖ By Jeffrey L. Sheler | Doubleday | hardcover | 320 pages | \$

Rick Warren is one of the best-known figures in the modern church. He is the author of the hugely successful book *The Purpose-Driven Life*, but perhaps is better known on the world stage as one of two pastors selected to pray at President Obama's inauguration in January.

But as journalist Jeffery L. Sheler reveals in his new book, *Prophet of Purpose: The Life of Rick Warren*, Warren traveled a long road to reach the edge of influence.

Sheler gives us Warren's back story by tracking the path Warren took, including his influences in life as well as his trials and temptations.

Sheler naturally details Warren's most well-known effort—his undertaking in the 1980s to build “a church for people who hate church” that resulted in his 22,000-member Saddleback Church in California. But he also covers lesser-known aspects about Warren—notably, his spiritual coming of age during the 1960s and his participation in the Southern Baptist Convention in the 1970s.

Sheler's biography, though unofficial, offers an inside look for anyone who wants to know more about the man *Time* magazine dubbed “America's pastor.”

[Click here to purchase this book.](#)