

Is the Pope Waging Spiritual Warfare Against Donald Trump?

The recent appointment of Cardinal Robert McElroy as the archbishop of Washington, D.C., raises significant concerns about a potential agenda being pushed by the Vatican in America.

Pope Francis' decision to elevate one of his most progressive allies to this influential position has drawn criticism from those who see the move as part of a broader spiritual battle—not only against biblical truth but also against former President Donald Trump and his second term.

McElroy, who previously served as the bishop of San Diego, has been an outspoken critic of Trump's policies, particularly on immigration and the border wall. In a 2017 speech, McElroy called on fellow faith leaders to become "disruptors," stating, "We must disrupt those who would seek to send troops into our streets to deport the undocumented, to rip mothers and fathers from their families. We must disrupt those who portray refugees as enemies rather than our brothers and sisters in terrible need." His rhetoric framed Trump's policies as antithetical to the teachings of Christ, but many Christians see his stance as overly political and lacking in biblical grounding.

Breaking News. Spirit-Filled Stories. Subscribe to Charisma on YouTube now!

A Progressive Ally in a Key Position

McElroy's elevation to cardinal in 2022 and now to Washington, D.C., clearly shows Pope Francis' commitment to reshaping the Catholic Church's leadership in America. Known for his pro-LGBTQ stance, McElroy has openly supported greater inclusion for LGBTQ individuals within the church, a position that many

conservative Catholics rightfully point out is a departure from biblical teachings.

These positions align closely with Pope Francis' own progressive agenda, which has often clashed with more traditional interpretations of Scripture. Meanwhile, the Pope has taken steps to remove conservative voices within the church, such as Bishop Joseph Strickland, who was known for his outspoken opposition to the Pope's pro-LGBTQ policies and his defense of traditional Catholic values. Strickland's removal, juxtaposed with McElroy's promotion, highlights a troubling pattern: a Vatican increasingly hostile to Scripture and more aligned with society's views.

A Questionable Legacy

McElroy's record also includes troubling allegations of mishandling abuse cases within his diocese. Critics argue that his history makes him an odd choice to lead one of the most visible and politically significant archdioceses in the United States. The Archdiocese of Washington has faced its own scandals, including decades of abuse by clergy and a reckoning with transparency. For McElroy to take the helm in such a sensitive position—while carrying unresolved questions about his past leadership—raises eyebrows among both faithful Catholics and outside observers.

A Broader Agenda?

This appointment cannot be viewed in isolation. It comes at a time when the Vatican appears to be aligning itself against not just Trump as an individual but the broader anti-woke agenda he champions. Trump's presidency was marked by policies that many Christians viewed as biblically grounded—from defending the unborn to supporting religious freedom and appointing judges who upheld traditional values. For many, these actions are seen as evidence of God's hand in Trump's leadership.

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

By contrast, the Vatican under Pope Francis has embraced radically progressive politics, often at the expense of clear biblical teaching. From prioritizing climate change to emphasizing social justice over doctrinal truth, the Vatican's shift has alienated many conservative Christians. The appointment of McElroy is a direct challenge to the agenda many Americans voted for and believe is God-ordained.

For Christians, the question is not merely political but deeply spiritual. Is this appointment part of a larger battle against biblical truth and the values that underpin a God-honoring society? By elevating leaders who prioritize progressive ideologies over Scripture, the Vatican makes itself vulnerable to the lies and deception of Satan and his demonic forces.

As believers, it is vital for us to pray for discernment and boldness in these challenging times. While Pope Francis and Cardinal McElroy pursue their own "modern" vision for the church, Christians must remain steadfast in defending the truth of God's Word.

Join Charisma Magazine Online to follow everything the Holy Spirit is doing around the world!

James Lasher is staff writer for Charisma Media.