

# Morning Rundown: Why Every Christian Should Pray for Strong Discernment

Here's a quick rundown of the top stories on :

## **Why Every Christian Should Pray for Strong Discernment**

The recent scandal involving Mike Bickle and the International House of Prayer in Kansas City has triggered serious soul-searching—and the reaction is understandable. People feel angry, betrayed and bewildered. They trusted leaders who seemed incredibly spiritual, but those leaders violated that trust.

I've watched this happen more times than I can count. When I was editor of Charisma, I covered scandals involving televangelists Jim Bakker and Jimmy Swaggart; Atlanta bishop Earl Paulk; Power Team leader John Jacobs; author Larry Lea; prophet Bob Jones; prosperity preacher Robert Tilton; and pastors including Clarence McClendon, Eddie Long, Zachery Tims, Carl Lentz, Carlton Pearson and many others.

It was disappointing to watch all this failure—because every one of these people seemed to have fruitful ministries in the beginning. But as they became more successful, and the crowds grew, something went horribly wrong. Success often exposes fatal flaws.

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## **Should Christians Be Cremated?**

In a recent episode of THE BEAT by Allen Parr, the rising trend of cremation over traditional burial among Americans was examined, sparking a biblical exploration of whether

Christians should consider this option when faced with end-of-life decisions.

### **Cremation on the Rise: A Changing Landscape**

Parr, host of THE BEAT, reported on the shifting cultural landscape of burial practices, stating, "For the first time in history, a majority of Americans are choosing cremation over traditional burial at the time of death." He went on to cite experts predicting that this trend is likely to continue, with up to 70% of people favoring cremation within the next decade.

With recent reports of inflation going up in the month of February and cost of living straining the wallets of many Americans, a more cost-effective financial option for those who have died is in the back of many people's mind these days.

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### **Is 'Once Saved Always Saved' True?**

It's one of the most debated questions by Christians in our day and age: is the concept of 'once saved always saved' true?

In a recent podcast of "Conversations with John and Lisa Bevere," the couple discussed how Christians can navigate the Scriptures to look at this topic which has the utmost consequences for our eternal salvation.

To put things in perspective, John Bevere took things from a different angle. Instead of wondering whether or not someone can lose their salvation, the real concern should be whether or not that person was saved at all. It's important to understand that some will run away from God, and from that group, some may return again.

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