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Rick Warren - the Champion of Reunion with Rome

By Rev Ivan Foster

Good friends in Australia sent me a link to a video ([watch it here](#)) featuring Rick Warren pleading the cause of cooperation and unity with Popery.

As I watched the video I was carried back to the earlier days of Ecumenism when people like the late Dr Michael Ramsey, the Archbishop of Canterbury from 1961 until 1974, was one of the chief apostles of Unity with Rome. Rick Warren fills the shoes of Ramsey very well indeed. Indeed, this so-called "Evangelical Pastor" "out-Ramseys" Ramsey when it comes to promoting the cause of Rome.



Rick Warren, senior pastor of Saddleback Church, an 'evangelical' megachurch in Lake Forest, California.

He takes upon himself the task of defending Rome's doctrines of Mariolatry and explaining away the differences that the Reformers highlighted and declared to be marks of a system of Antichrist.

The video, put out by the "Catholic News Service", not surprisingly, has the Saddleback Church minister attempting to explain away Rome's idolatrous system. He is clearly seen telling Protestants that they have it all wrong and then going on to claim that Rome and Protestantism hold the same views on the Trinity, the Bible, Salvation through the Lord Jesus Christ and he even defends and seeks to justify the use of prayers to the Virgin Mary and the saints!

The road downward

Nothing demonstrates how far the apostasy of these latter days has penetrated and corrupted the ranks of those who claim to be evangelicals like this video.

It must be stated that Protestants do not hold the same view of the Trinity as does the Roman Catholic 'Church'.

Westminster Confession of Faith

In the Westminster Confession of Faith it is stated regarding the Trinity: "In the unity of the Godhead there be three persons, of one substance, power, and eternity; God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost. The Father is of none, neither begotten, nor proceeding: the Son is eternally begotten of the Father: the Holy Ghost eternally proceeding from the Father and the Son." (Chapter 2, Paragraph 3.)

That is not what Rome believes!

In fact, Rome believes in a Quartette not a Trinity, despite Mr Warren's deceitful defence of Rome's mariolatry. Listen to what Rome herself says on what she believes concerning the Virgin Mary.

Mary is a co-mediator

Bible believers profess that Jesus is our mediator with God, but Roman Catholics have claimed that Mary also is our mediator. They refer to her as a "co-mediator." One of Rome's Catechisms teaches:

"In a wholly singular way she cooperated by her obedience, faith, hope, and burning charity in the Saviour's work of restoring supernatural life to souls. For this reason she is a mother to us in the order of grace."

Rome believes that being taken up to heaven Mary did not lay aside this saving office but by her manifold



The Burning Bush - Online article archive

intercession continues to bring us the gifts of eternal salvation. Therefore the Blessed Virgin is invoked in the Church under the titles of Advocate, Helper, Benefactress, and Mediatrix.

The Roman Catholic Church teaches that Mary is our "Mediatix" because she makes "manifold intercession" to bring about for us "the gifts of eternal salvation." (Pope Paul VI, *Lumen gentium*, November 21, 1964)

Pope Leo XIII said:

"With equal truth may it be also affirmed that, by the will of God, Mary is the intermediary through whom is distributed unto us this immense treasure of mercies gathered by God, for mercy and truth were created by Jesus Christ. Thus as no man goeth to the Father but by the Son, so no man goeth to Christ but by His Mother. (Pope Leo XIII, *Octobri Mense Encyclical of Pope Leo XIII, On the Rosary*, September 22, 1891.)

Clear

Could anything be clearer than this: "Thus as no man goeth to the Father but by the Son, so no man goeth to Christ but by His Mother"? This is an abominable and fatal doctrine in direct contradiction to the Word of God.

"Thus saith the lord": "For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus," 1 Timothy 2:5.

One of Rome's leading "Saints", Alphonsus Liguori wrote:

"On this account it was," says St. Bernard, "that the Eternal Father, wishing to show all the mercy possible, besides giving us Jesus Christ, our principal advocate with Him, was pleased also to give us Mary, as our advocate with Jesus Christ. There is no doubt," the saint adds, "that Jesus Christ is the only mediator of justice between men and God; that, by virtue of His own merits and promises, He will and can obtain us pardon and the divine favours; but because men acknowledge and fear the divine Majesty, which is in Him as God, for this reason it was necessary to assign us another advocate, to whom we might have recourse with less fear and more confidence, and this advocate is Mary, than whom we cannot find one more powerful with His Divine Majesty, or one more merciful towards ourselves." Liguori continues, "Christ is a faithful and powerful Mediator between God and men, but in Him men fear the majesty of God. A mediator, then, was needed with the mediator Himself; nor could a more fitting one be found than Mary." (Alphonsus Liguori, *The Immaculate Heart of Mary is the Refuge of Sinners*, pp. 195-196)

Despite the chicanery and the playing with words whereby Rome, as is her disposition, affirms something in one line and appears to deny it in another line, Rome does teach that Mary is a Co-Redemprix!

Christ: harsh and mean

According to Rome, "Jesus is our mediator to God, but because Jesus is harsh and mean, we get to Jesus by way of the mediator known as Mary. Said another way, Jesus is our mediator to God, but Mary is our mediator to Jesus."

This evil doctrine Rick Warren would have us believe is acceptable and biblical!

The old 39 Articles of Religion of the Church of England have it right.

"The Romish Doctrine concerning Purgatory, Pardons, Worshipping, and Adoration, as well of Images as of Reliques, and also invocation of Saints, is a fond thing vainly invented, and grounded upon no warranty of Scripture, but rather repugnant to the Word of God." (Article 22.)

Outlandish

Warren makes the outlandish statement that "if you love Jesus we're on the same team." I find it utterly



The Burning Bush - Online article archive

amazing that a man who has such a following in the evangelical Protestant community can be so utterly shallow and theologically brainless! Does he really believe that a mere profession of "loving Jesus" makes you a Christian? If that were so, why did the Saviour indicate that such a profession may be made and not be genuine but it had to be supported by the one evidence that He requires. Please consider these verses:

"If ye love me, keep my commandments," John 14:15,

"He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him," John 14:21,

"Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him," John 14:23,

"Jesus said unto them, If God were your Father, ye would love me: for I proceeded forth and came from God; neither came I of myself, but he sent me," John 8:42,

"If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love," John 15:10,

"Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you," John 15:14.

"And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments. He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in him," 1 John 2:3-5.

Devils going to heaven

Were we to follow the simplistic logic of Rick Warren then we would consider the devils to be, in fact, true believers destined, not for the Lake of Fire, but they will "inherit the kingdom prepared for . . . from the foundation of the world," Matthew 25:34.

Why do I say this? Consider what James says of the devils. "Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble," James 2:19, 20. How many today profess to love Christ, to believe in God but there is a total lack of "trembling" before Him! The word "tremble" means to "be struck with extreme fear." The Romanist is noted for his taking of the name of the Lord in vain. Here in Ireland, as I suspect in all countries dominated by the plague of Popery, you cannot walk the streets without hearing the name of Christ blasphemed by young and old. Where is there a trembling in fear before the God of Heaven Who is the "silent Listener to every conversation?"

In truth, despite declaring a love for God to the satisfying of Rick Warren, that they are true believers, the Roman Catholic, along with all too many so-called evangelicals, have less fear of God or faith in Him than do the devils!

A mere profession of love or faith without works is no valid basis for an assurance of being a true Christian with a home in heaven.

What a wicked delusion Rick Warren propagates by making such an assertion!

Apostasy enthroned

Is not the apostasy enthroned within "Evangelicalism" when one such as Rick Warren so openly becomes an advocate of reconciliation and reunion with Romanism?

It is a demonstration of just how small the remnant of true believers is world-wide when such a spokesman of "Fundamentalism" can so blatantly embrace and endorse Rome and yet remain one of the 'hierarchy' of evangelicals in the eyes of many.



The Burning Bush - Online article archive

Waken up!!

It is time for the true people of God to waken up and recognise the true state of "Christendom!" If we are to be faithful to Christ as the darkness deepens then we must count the cost and "go forth therefore unto him without the camp, bearing his reproach," Hebrews 13:13.

The Saviour said in Luke 18:8 "When the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?"

What faith he finds will not be in the "Mega-Churches" of this age but rather in "little flocks" to whom "it is your Father's good pleasure to give . . . the kingdom," Luke 12:32.

The "days of Noah" are drawing on (Luke 17:26) and this must be recognised and appropriate action taken by God's true flock.

Dear Christian, please seriously consider these things.

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