



**"He that is least (with a John the Baptist ministry)
is greater than he." (Matt. 11:11)**

The Old Ship of Zion

Ministry of Cpt. Gordon Nelson

Water baptism is accepting God's salvation.

"He that believeth and is baptized" (Mk. 16:16)

"Save yourselves" (Acts 2:40)

MESSAGE 12 - 2007

GENTILE CHURCH GOING BLIND, AIDED BY THE IRS!

By Capt. Gordon Nelson

"For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in." (Rom. 11:25)

Gentiles are going blind now by hearkening to the Judas goat of compromise, Billy Graham, a Freemason. As a member of the World Council of Churches, he declared, "The only hope of the church is the Pope of Rome."¹

Do you hear me? Gentiles are the ones going blind now. *"Now if the fall of them (the Jews) be the riches of the world, and the diminishing of them (the Jews) the riches of the Gentiles; HOW MUCH MORE THEIR FULNESS?...For if the casting away of them be the reconciling of the world, what shall the receiving of them be, but life from the dead?" (Rom. 11:12,15)*

Do you want to see the resurrection from the dead? Talk about a healing revival! How about a raising from the dead revival? This will never happen until both Judaism and Christianity recognize that *"For he (Jesus) is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us; having abolished in his flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances; for to make in himself of twain one new man, so making peace; and that he might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby: and came and preached peace to you which were afar off, and to them that were nigh. For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father." (Eph. 2:14-18)*

Every Rabbi, every Reverend, every Bishop, should commit Ephesians 2:14-18 to memory. Actually, this is the "ministry of reconciliation" the Bible is talking about. Our refusal to accept this doctrine of reconciliation is why we go blind. We BOTH lose our way, and we are left to our own devices to find God.

1. The Jew is left to *"the law of commandments contained in ordinances."* (Eph. 2:15)
2. The Gentile by declaring themselves gods, cause men to blaspheme. These are difficult shoes for a mere human to fill; play acting as a god.

¹ "Billy Graham and His Friends," by Cathy Burns

How do you get Christians to get engaged in the real war? Only talk show hosts dare to engage these captains of liberalism (humanism) in true combat via radio. The IRS has the mouths of our pastors sealed! Their fear of being audited by the IRS is greater than their fear of God.

The Bible says, *"If when he (the watchman) seeth the sword come upon the land, he blow the trumpet, and warn the people; then whosoever heareth the sound of the trumpet, and taketh not warning; if the sword come, and take him away, his blood shall be upon his own head..."*

"But if the watchman see the sword come, and blow not the trumpet, and the people be not warned; if the sword come, and take any person from among them, he is taken away in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at the watchman's hand. So thou, O son of man, I have set thee a watchman unto the house of Israel; therefore thou shalt hear the word at my mouth, and warn them from me." (Ezk. 33:3-4, 6-7)

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Ministries concerned over probe of finances

SENATE SCRUTINIZING NON-PROFITS' SPENDING

By Eric Gorski
Associated Press

For some, a Senate committee's investigation into six well-known evangelical ministries is long overdue, a needed check on preachers living lavish lifestyles built with their donors' generosity.

But even among those who welcome the scrutiny, there was concern Wednesday over government intrusion into religion, more red tape in the name of transparency and undue burdens on preachers and churches who play strictly by the rules.

The top Republican on the Senate Finance Committee, Chuck Grassley of Iowa, faxed letters Monday to a half-dozen evangelical megaministries requesting information about compensation, board oversight and perks — from luxury ocean-side homes to flights on private jets to opulent spending on office furniture.

The organizations are not legally required to respond. Some have released statements pledging to cooperate, others have hedged and all have emphasized their commitment to following applicable tax laws.

The IRS requires that pas-

tors' compensation be "reasonable," a figure set by collecting comparable salaries and weighing factors such as church size and a pastor's value to the congregation. IRS rules prevent pastors and other insiders from excessive personal gain through their tax-exempt work.

Marvin Olasky, editor of World, an influential conservative Christian magazine, credited Grassley for ratcheting up the pressure on ministries he believes are far too secretive about how donations are spent.

"These organizations should be pressured to disclose information," Olasky said. "If glasnost worked in the Soviet Union, it can work in relation to these ministries."

Olasky, however, cautioned that "hard cases make bad law." Echoing others, Olasky said governmental action should be a last resort and that the Christian community and media needs to press organizations to be more open.

The six ministries in the inquiry share Pentecostal theology, a strong television presence and a "prosperity gospel" message emphasizing material rewards for the faithful. They are:

■ Randy and Paula White of Without Walls International Church and Paula White Ministries of Tampa, Fla.

■ Benny Hinn of World Healing Center Church and Benny Hinn Ministries of Grapevine, Texas;

■ David and Joyce Meyer of Joyce Meyer Ministries of Fenton, Mo.;

■ Kenneth and Gloria Copeland of Kenneth Copeland Ministries of Newark, Texas;

■ Bishop Eddie Long of New Birth Missionary Baptist Church and Bishop Eddie Long Ministries of Lithonia, Ga.;

■ Creflo and Taffi Dollar of World Changers Church International and Creflo Dollar Ministries of College Park, Ga.

In an interview Wednesday, Grassley said his committee has jurisdiction over non-profit organizations and oversight over the IRS. He said it's unclear whether the IRS is doing enough to police Christian non-profit groups or whether existing guidelines go far enough — questions that are part of the inquiry.

"We're going to let these ministries speak for themselves," he said. "Hopefully, it comes back everything's OK, but the allegations we've heard about raise questions."

Are you a watchman on the wall? The people look to the watchmen guarding the city. He can see further than those on the ground, hence before retiring for the night they would yell,

"Watchman, what of the night?" (Isa. 21:11) *"The night cometh, when no man can work."* (Jn. 9:4)

Barry Young, a radio talk show host

The Barry Young show on talk radio devoted half the show berating the televangelists listed in the San Jose Mercury News release. He then compared them all to Leroy Jenkins. According to Barry Young, some woman nearly died after drinking Leroy Jenkins' "holy water" that he sold. Apparently, Leroy has a church in the Phoenix area.

It is getting close to election time and we'll probably see more of this sort of thing. The

TIME 11/26/07 issue on page 51-52 elaborates further. These 6 televangelists trusted the IRS to "stand by us."

evangelical vote is like a sleeping giant in America. All these televangelists listed by Chuck Grassley of Iowa, a Republican on the Senate Finance Committee, were faxed letters asking them to respond voluntarily and talk freely to the Senate Finance Committee concerning their donations. Both Creflo Dollar and Eddie Long are committed to cooperate.

The IRS knows everything about every one of us. As the nation is moving in the direction of a Socialist Dictatorship, this next election is crucial. Strangely, the leakage is never on the left, but always on the right. We never hear about the sins of Hillary.

The only bulwark standing in their path to success is the church. The world fears a Christian voting block against them. We have the power, but Christians don't even understand there is a war. I don't know that this article in the [San Jose Mercury News](#) isn't the tip of the iceberg of what is coming. J.D. Hayworth reports that Arizona is considering minority rights for gays and atheists. Gays seek acceptance by your church, or do they really? They'll file a civil rights lawsuit to close it down.

Minister Calls Senate Probe 'Unjust'

Associated Press – 11/12/07

ATLANTA (AP) — Bishop Eddie Long, one of several ministers targeted by a Senate investigation into possible financial wrongdoing, called the request for records unjust and intrusive.

In a brief address to his congregation at New Birth Missionary Baptist Church in Lithonia during a Sunday service, Long said Sen. Charles Grassley's request for financial information was "an attack on our religious freedom and privacy rights."

It was Long's first comment on the investigation beyond a statement issued last week saying he would cooperate with the request.

Grassley has asked for documents from five other ministries around the country, including the Rev. Creflo Dollar of World Changers Church International in College Park. The other four are: Randy and Paula White of Florida, the Rev. Benny Hinn, and Kenneth and Gloria Copeland of Texas, and David and Joyce Meyer of Missouri.

Grassley, R-Iowa, the top Republican on the Senate Finance Committee, began his investigation after receiving tips about preachers spending lavishly.

Grassley said stories of excessive lifestyles and spending by ministry leaders caused him to wonder whether the tax breaks given to ministries were being abused. He has questioned other charities in previous years, including the Red Cross and the United Way.

Grassley said he is not interested in religion or doctrine, only the tax issues. But Long isn't buying it.

Dollar said he has released his church's finances in response to the Senate investigation. He said his salary comes from personal investments, including businesses and real estate ventures. He said the church did give him a Rolls Royce, which he uses largely for special occasions.

"Tell us...what shall be the sign of thy coming?"

This is a question presented to Jesus concerning "*the end of the world.*" (Matt. 24:3) Remember, the disciples only asked for "*the sign of thy coming.*" Jesus answered, "*Take heed that no man deceive you.*" (Matt. 24:4) Deception by a man is the sign. The man poses as a god by virtue of the government

intrusion into religion. The IRS defines for you what a church is. When you apply for a 501(c)(3) non-profit incorporation, and you're granted your own religious non-profit status, the government declares you are a church. You believe it! In believing your own government's declaration, you become the President, your wife the Vice President, and your son or daughter inherits becoming the Secretary-Treasurer. There are only three legal members to this newly formed church. For compliance to the IRS definition of a church, the pastor is awarded his own kingdom over which he becomes the Supreme Pontiff.

Continuing to answer the disciple's question, Jesus adds, *"For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many."* (Matt. 24:5) By virtue of your own 501(c)(3) incorporation, you are declaring you are the supreme head of your church. Soon you even speak as *"lords over God's heritage."* (2 Pet. 5:3) Once you are a "lord," it is but a small step to declaring you are a god. It is Kenneth Copeland who declared, "All my theology comes from the E.W. Kenyon books." *"And my people love to have it so."* (Jer. 5:31) *"For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened (born again), and ye shall be as gods."* (Gen. 3:5) Eat of the same tree (E.W. Kenyon) and you, too, can be a god.

There are two sins that man should never commit. Why? Because in both the Bible declares, *"And the eyes of them both were opened."* (Gen. 3:7) I did not know whether or not there was a heaven or a hell as a sinner stumbling into a Salvation Army church. But the very moment my "eyes were opened," I knew they both existed.

In a similar way, when Eve ate the forbidden fruit, *"then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods."* Once you declare that you are "as god," your eyes are opened and you are born into a new kingdom of the gods. *"For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ (I am the head of my church); and shall deceive many."* (Matt. 24:5)

The first sin of abomination thou must not commit

Your common sense should tell you no man is worthy to own the church, for it is written, *"Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body."* (Eph. 5:23) In Colossians 2:19, *"And not holding the Head, from which all the body by joints and bands having nourishment ministered, and knit together, increaseth with the increase of God."* This is the reason Jesus sent them out two by two, which became a tradition that Apostle Paul followed to reverence the Head. This is one name of God never uttered among the Pentecostals. *"For thou shalt worship no other god: for the LORD, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God."* (Ex. 34:14)

When Kenneth Copeland stands before you declaring he is a "little god," what must a God, *"whose name is Jealous"* think? Can't you understand now why God said, *"Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them"?* (Acts 13:2) The church of today has choked the Word by their traditions, just as in the days when Jesus walked the shores of Galilee. Nothing has changed. They are still *"teaching for doctrines the commandments of men."* (Matt. 15:9) You just do not allow those

words, "I am a god," to ever come from your lips. *"But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment."* (Matt. 12:36)

The second sin of abomination thou must not commit

"If a man also lie with mankind, as he lieth with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination: they shall surely be put to death; their blood shall be upon them." (Lev. 20:13) Under the law of Moses, Israel put away this sin of homosexuality by death. It is akin to cancer. You must cut it out to preserve the rest of the body. It is like a plague as depicted in Sodom and Gomorrah. God destroyed both cities by "fire and brimstone" to forever speak loud and clear to mankind of God's attitude toward the sin of sodomy..

If Hillary Clinton becomes President, you will see this nation delivered over into the hands of the hard core left, whose most militant members are gay, and the driving force to change our society. Don't blame it on God! You will have elected an alleged lesbian to the highest office in the land. There are no sacred cows in the gay society, only new recruits.

If you read Romans 1:21-32, you'll see that homosexuality is the open door to the "reprobate mind." They set about to re-teach society as though creating a new religion.

Being as how they are not responsible for their lifestyle, they are coming into your churches for acceptance. If you don't allow them to play your piano, serve on your board, these militant gays will start a civil rights lawsuit. The Captain has already warned you. Is a vote for Hillary a vote for the second Eve? She could destroy democracy and become a god, a Socialist Dictator of the USA, while her husband, Bill, reigns as Secretary of the United Nations.

What does society do with IRS-created gods?

A "god" is beyond the law! "If I take this money and throw it in Lake Merritt, it is nobody's business but mine," said C. (for Cash) Thomas Patten. The IRS rewards those who recognize an IRS church by issuing these 501(c)(3) religious non-profit incorporations. Three signatures and you're in business! On December 8, 2007, these six Pentecostal "gods" will meet before a Republican Senator, Charles Grassley of Iowa. Just wait until you hear Bishop Eddie Long tell of the wealth he has gleaned for his church and for himself in Atlanta, Georgia.

I've already experienced a preview of coming attractions by my five-year sojourn following Dr. Bebe H. Patten of Oakland, Calif. The conclusion I came to was, "If the preacher owns the church, get out! Stay out of the church because it is merely a whirlpool revolving about one person who has become 'as god' to you." You reduce yourself to being a drone in a beehive. A drone's sole purpose for living is to please the Queen Bee. *"While they promise them liberty, they themselves are the servants of corruption: for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought in bondage."* (2 Pet. 2:19)

At this Senate hearing on December 8, 2007, you Christians might witness and see “*of whom a man is overcome.*” Do you really believe that church is a one-man show? We so-called Protestants have surrendered our “protest” and have returned to mother Rome. (Rev. 17:5)

So many hold the title of Bishop in today’s marketplace of churches. By the very title, he is telling you, “I own my own diocese.” Pentecostalism has no qualms with Romanism. Every one of these six Bishops appearing before Senator Charles Grassley own their own diocese. They are answerable to no man on earth, except the IRS. An Archbishop is answerable to the Pope, while Kenneth Copeland is answerable to no man.

This hearing before the Senate comes to these preachers with as much surprise as the recent indictment of Barry Bonds for perjury. I was called upon by God to stop the Kingfish, as Carl Thomas Patten loved to be called. I was on an assignment from God. If I hadn’t of been sent by God, I’d never have survived to tell the story. When a dog bites you the first time, it is the dog’s fault, but if you allow the same dog to bite you again, it is your fault!

Oral Roberts president asks for second chance

Founder’s son fights misspending claims

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TULSA, OKLA. • The embattled president of Oral Roberts University asked for a second chance during an emergency meeting with the same faculty members who only days earlier gave him a vote of no confidence.



Richard Roberts

Richard Roberts told professors Wednesday that if he stepped down now, the public would think he was admitting

to wrongdoing, said Donald Vance, a professor of biblical languages and literature, who attended the meeting.

Roberts, son of school founder and televangelist Oral Roberts, has been on temporary leave from the evangelical university, fighting accusations that he misspent university funds to bankroll a lavish lifestyle. He became the school’s president in 1993.

Oral Roberts, who recently returned from semiretirement in California to the 5,700-student school he founded, called Wednesday’s meeting.

The faculty plan to distribute the nonbinding “no confidence” resolution to the school’s Board of Regents.

Is TBN a house of cards?

TBN is a house of cards because it is built on man: Paul, Jan and Matt. Charles Grassley (R) of Iowa will be pulling upon some of the cards at its very base. TBN is a type of Nimrod’s tower of Babel. “*And they said, Go to, let us build us a city and a tower, whose top may reach unto heaven; and let us make us a name (for ourselves).*” (Gen. 11:4) I’ve often wondered when Oral Roberts was building Oral Roberts University if he was copying Nimrod’s “*a city and a tower.*” Do you remember his medical center called The City of Faith? What a strange name for a hospital, unless you’re following the pattern as portrayed in the Bible. Not only did Nimrod build a city, but “*a tower, whose top may reach unto heaven.*” It was in Oral’s own

prayer tower that he held himself hostage until the ransom money was raised to free him.

By the way, by a unanimous vote, Richard Roberts, Oral’s son, was fired as President of ORU by the Board of Regents. Richard’s response was, “If I step down, I’ll be admitting guilt.” Gods are never guilty. They speak to mountains, “Be thou removed!”

Oral Roberts returns from semi-retirement

It is a very difficult lifestyle to play the part of a god. We are called upon to enter into rest. It is a choice we make, just like choosing the gay lifestyle. You choose to be a god, and the IRS is only too

glad to reward you for your government-controlled choice.

The government gives nothing away freely. The cost for their reward is your sealed mouth on politics. Can you imagine John the Baptist asking King Herod for a 501(c)(3) non-profit religious incorporation?

Papa Roberts called a meeting of the Board of Regents of ORU to give his son a second chance. So far, Richard hasn't admitted guilt on the first chance. If he is granted a second chance, will this keep Charles Grassley (R), Iowa, from inviting Richard Roberts to a hearing before the Senate Finance Committee? Martin Luther would not believe the church of today.

"Thus saith the LORD of hosts, Hearken not unto the words of the prophets that prophesy unto you: they make you vain: they speak a vision of their own heart, and not out of the mouth of the LORD." (Jer. 23:16) They steal your seed that you are to plant in the earth. A famine broke out in Ethiopia because the Communists came and stole their seed. *"While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest...shall not cease."* (Gen. 8:22) God is a God of the harvest, but you must have the faith to believe this and plant your seed in the earth. These ministries steal your seed so you have nothing to plant in the earth. *"They make you vain."* (Jer. 23:16) You have no seed to plant.

"Giuliani will appoint conservative judges," says Pat



Unless the judges are changed, all else is futile!

last election. What were the Protestants doing? They were at home watching TBN on worldwide television waiting to be raptured. "We're out of here! Why bother to vote?" With the illegal immigrants coming from Mexico, our Protestant heritage is being flushed down the toilet.

Mike Huckabee has suddenly risen in the polls!

Pat Robertson's endorsement of Giuliani is the trigger that suddenly woke up the church. Pat may believe Giuliani, but Pat doesn't speak for me. We'd rather trust a Christian. Pray that this fire continues to glow in the hearts of believers to believe God for a man having the fear of God.

"The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge." (Prov. 1:7)

Seven of the nine justices now sitting on the Supreme Court are Roman Catholics. A handful of Catholics in Ohio saved us from John Kerry in the

Giuliani, a Catholic, will appoint another Roman Catholic to the Supreme Court! Billy Graham once said, "The only hope of the church is the Pope of Rome!" At least the Pope understands that the enemy is humanism, a synonym for liberalism. Under the canopy of liberalism, every goal of communism is achieved.

Evangelical pragmatism

When the founder of the Christian Coalition, who blames national disasters on abortion, gives his support to a thrice-married, pro-abortion, pro-gay-rights Catholic, does religion really matter anymore?

Pat Robertson's endorsement Wednesday of Rudy Giuliani for president just shifted "strange bed-fellows" into "the weird turn pro" category. Robertson, who famously blamed Hurricane Katrina on our wanton ways — and urged the assassination of Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez — announced his vote of confidence, saying that Giuliani has "proven time and

Kathleen Parker

Washington Post Writers Group



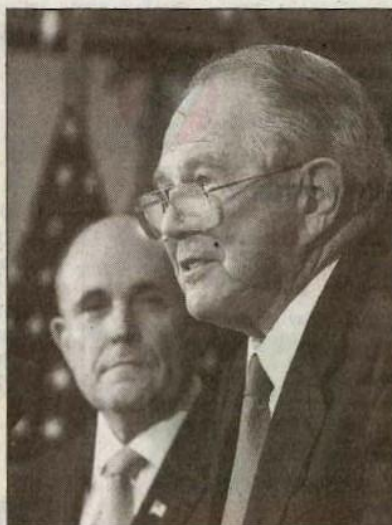
time again that he is a social conservative."

Except that Giuliani hasn't and isn't, but that's OK because what Giuliani has proved time and again is that he was mayor of New York City on 9/11. And, as Robertson also said, Giuliani can be relied upon to defend the country against "the blood lust of Islamic terrorists."

Robertson's endorsement must have been a sticky moment for Giuliani, who couldn't rightly say, "No thanks," even if he might not relish being captured in the same frame with a man whose fellow evangelicals consider him only intermittently sane.

Politicians can move quickly when they're about to be caught by the camera lens standing next to a fellow known for saying such things as liberal judges are a greater danger to America "than a few bearded terrorists who fly into buildings."

Then again, Robertson still holds



KEVIN WOLF/ASSOCIATED PRESS

The endorsement from Pat Robertson (right) must have been a sticky moment for Rudy Giuliani, who couldn't rightly say, "No thanks."

sway with a daily average audience of almost 900,000 with his Christian Broadcasting Network's *The 700 Club*. And Giuliani shares Robertson's concern about liberal judges, if not his sense that they're more dangerous than terrorists.

Even conservative judges and Giuliani's tough posture against terrorism fail to tell what many believe is really behind Robertson's anointing of the most liberal Republican candidate for president. The real issue isn't fetuses or embryos or same-sex unions or bearded bad guys. It's the Clintons.

When it comes to that ol' time religion, nothing quite sparks the evangelical spirit like the thought of Hillary and Bill back in the White House and all the attendant imagery forever tattooed on buttoned-up brains.

Depending on one's view, Robertson is either unprincipled or brave. In fact, he has taken a courageous step

by creating a crack in the conservative religious firmament. This at a time when religious conservatives have been threatening to stay home from the polls — or support a third-party candidate — rather than compromise principle.

Meeting in Salt Lake City recently, evangelical leaders discussed the third-party alternative.

Michael Cromartie, director of the Evangelicals in Civic Life program at the Ethics and Public Policy Center, suggests that Robertson's endorsement shows a growing pragmatic streak among religious conservatives. Many have learned, Cromartie says, that "politics is the art of making choices between relative goods and lesser evils."

Some evangelicals insist they won't vote for Giuliani.

Richard Land, president of the Southern Baptist Convention's Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission, has said that evangelicals may support Mitt Romney despite theological differences. Cromartie agrees, but again, Hillary matters most.

"They just don't want her," he says about evangelicals.

So in 2008, if terror trumps bioethics, and Hillary puts terror in evangelical hearts, what does religious conviction mean? Is religion primarily a matter of virtue — or of pragmatism?

Next November will tell. In the meantime, a glance at two recent surveys by the Pew Research Center provides a hint: Both parties' front-runners, Clinton and Giuliani, also lead among a broad spectrum of religious groups.

For now, it would appear that pragmatism is virtue, and religion on the right means beating Hillary.

Reach the writer at kparker@kparker.com.

Pope Benedict XVI, the German Rottweiler, is coming to the USA to fight secular humanism. If Hillary wins, the humanists will destroy every vintage of God in our nation. It is the nature of the beast. The Pope is coming to America to save you.

Pope to make visit to U.S. for the first time in 2008

By Rachel Zoll
ASSOCIATED PRESS

BALTIMORE — Pope Benedict XVI will travel to the United States for the first time as pontiff next year to meet with President Bush, address the United Nations and visit Ground Zero, a Vatican official told American bishops Monday.

The pope also will celebrate Mass at the new Nationals Park stadium and Yankee Stadium during the April 15-20 visit to Washington and New York, according to Archbishop Pietro Sambi, Vatican ambassador to the United States.

The announcement comes as the 67 million-member American church is grappling with a priest shortage and an often alienated flock, and is still recovering from the clergy sex-abuse crisis.

American dioceses have paid more than \$2 billion in settlements with victims since 1950.

"It's a shot in the arm for the U.S. Catholic Church which is enduring one of the most pro-

tracted crises in its history," said Scott Appleby, a University of Notre Dame historian who specializes in religion. He said the Catholic community in the United States "badly needs a renewed sense of its own vitality and its historic legacy in the country."

Benedict has dedicated his pontificate to fighting secularism and strengthening Catholic faith, and his visit reflects those priorities.

Benedict will convene separate national meetings with Roman Catholic priests, Catholic university presidents and diocesan religious educators, and leaders of other religious groups.

Traditional American Catholics have long complained that Catholic universities have lost their religious identity.

The Archdiocese of Boston, where the abuse crisis erupted in 2002, and bishops from around the country had invited Benedict to visit.

But Bishop William Skylstad, head of the bishops' conference, said the Vatican limited the visit to two cities to

"conserve (Benedict's) energy."

The visit coincides with the third anniversary of Benedict's election to succeed Pope John Paul II on April 19, 2005.

John Paul's five visits to the United States during his pontificate were major events. When he arrived at New York's Madison Square Garden in 1979, a school band welcomed him with the theme from *Rocky*. The late pontiff's charisma and personal warmth attracted tens of thousands of people to his appearances and buoyed the American church.

Benedict, a theologian, spent more than two decades as the Vatican's chief orthodox watchdog before becoming pope, earning a reputation, considered unfair by his supporters, as a dour enforcer of Catholic teaching.

"I don't think he is going to make the sort of impact John Paul did. Benedict can't do it and doesn't want to do it," said James Hitchcock, a Catholic historian from St. Louis University. "I think it's a very different kind of appeal."

The Pope is coming to fight in preparation for the November 2008 election. What are you going to do? Fly away? "I'm out of here, and leaving this old world to the devil," is the attitude. Can't you see how backslidden you really are? I had a black minister call me screaming how racism is alive and well. What is alive my dear brother is secular humanism. Humanists are at war with God and Christians! If you dare name the name of Jesus, secularism is out to destroy you. It is not because of the color of your skin, but your belief in Almighty God. *"And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake: but he that endureth to the end shall be saved."* (Matt. 10:22)