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Randy White Makes Emotional Return to Pulpit - posted by Monday, on: 2007/8/27 14:19

Randy White Makes Emotional Return To Without Walls Pulpit
By JEFF SCULLIN The Tampa Tribune

Published: Aug 27, 2007

TAMPA - Days after its founders announced they plan to divorce, Without Walls International Church got back to business Sunday.

The 9 a.m. service drew about 1,000 people - a typical crowd for the early service during summer months. After a typically high-energy service, few members wanted to talk about the impending split between Randy and Paula White, though.

One woman who did speak after the service, Katrina Singleton, 35, of Brandon, said the couple's separation might affect the church. Some members tend to follow Randy, while others follow Paula, she said.

"I was really surprised," Singleton said.

After a rare joint appearance Thursday night, when the co-founders delivered the news to a stunned congregation, Randy White returned to the pulpit alone, as expected. White told the Tribune last week that his wife had returned to New York Friday morning, after they made their announcement.

That wasn't unusual. In the past year, as her own ministry has evolved, Paula White's appearances at the North Grady Avenue church have become sporadic.

No mention was made of Thursday's announcement at the 9 a.m. service, where White preached for a few minutes before turning over the pulpit to Ralph Messer, a Messianic rabbi from Denver who teaches about the Hebrew roots of the Christian faith.

Messer preached about the Torah and Jewish entrepreneurship and spoke again at the 11 a.m. service, where he led the congregation in a prayer that ended emotionally for White.

"I declare today that my bishop has entered into a new season, a new season, a new season," Messer intoned, prompting White's followers. "Now, give him glory. Praise God."

As emotions in the sanctuary reached a high point, Messer hugged White, telling him, "I love you. I love you so much." White, a prayer shawl draped over his shoulders, stood clutching a Torah scroll, head bowed, with a pained expression on his face.

Then White made his way to the podium, as his congregation cheered, buried his face in a black cloth and appeared to sob. Shortly after receiving a supportive hug from Messer, White appeared to crumble completely. His shoulders sagged, and he laid his head on his arm at the podium and gave way to even deeper sobbing. Eventually, Messer and a host of black-suited ministers gathered, laid their hands on White and formed a tight prayer circle around him.

On the video monitor behind White, the words "international church" appeared to hover over White's prostrate body, as though he were carrying them on his back.

Intended or not, the symbolism may prove prophetic.

In his interview with the Tribune last week, White said he plans to resume his role as the church's senior pastor and that he has put on hold plans to start another church in Malibu, Calif.

The Whites founded Without Walls in 1991 as the South Tampa Christian Center. Since then, the church has become o

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ne of the nation's biggest and fastest-growing churches, boasting 23,000 members and nearly \$40 million in revenues la st year.

The Whites, who've been married nearly 18 years, said last week that the split is amicable and comes after visits to coun selors over several years.

They blame two lives going in different directions.

Now, they will have to find a way to separate their interests without damaging the church they built.

Those logging on to Without Walls' Web site Sunday to watch services saw no signs of a separation. The site continues to display a picture of the Whites together and to promote Paula White Ministries, which contributes between \$50,000 an d \$80,000 a week to the church, Randy White said last week.

White said his wife would come back as a guest speaker and continue supporting the church for a while.

She will have bases in New York, and San Antonio, Texas, where she has homes, and in California. White said he woul d remain in the couple's Bayshore Boulevard home.

The couple, who are using the same law firm for their divorce, plan to file as soon as they can work out the details of divi ding their assets, Randy White said. That could happen as early as this week, he said.

Re: Randy White Makes Emotional Return to Pulpit, on: 2007/8/27 14:21

Pathetic.

Krispy

Re: - posted by ginnyrose (), on: 2007/8/27 14:37

Krispy wrote:

Quote:
-----Pathetic.

Amen!

And I am sure the devil and his minions are laughing their heads off! The least people would have to do to stop this stupi dity is to quit giving them money, quit buying their books, videos and whatever else they sell!

ginnyrose

Re:, on: 2007/8/27 14:51

Quote:
-----Without Walls International Church got back to business Sunday.

Enough said.. for this reason God shall send them strong delusion.. that they might be damned who loved not the truth.

Re: - posted by IRONMAN (), on: 2007/8/27 15:03

greetings in Jesus' Name by Whose Blood we are Saved.AMEN.

if the devil is laughing, i hope we are not rubbing our hands with glee. if we are may God bring the hammer down and set us straight. if bro Randy is indeed contrite, surely God will honour that and forgive and restore, if he isn't...well you know how that would end.

praying God's Mercy on these our brethren.

Grace and Peace are ours in Jesus.AMEN.

Re:, on: 2007/8/27 16:17

Quote:

-----if bro Randy is indeed contrite, surely God will honour that and forgive and restore

If he repents of being a greedy false teacher also, yes, God will honour it according to His word.

In Christ - Jim

Re:, on: 2007/8/27 16:33

Quote:

-----if bro Randy is indeed contrite, surely God will honour that and forgive and restore

If he is indeed contrite, he will humbly vacate the office of "pastor", and also beg his wife to stay and work out their problems. They claim there has been no adultery, therefore, they can't divorce Biblically without sinning.

There can be no restoration without him showing some humility. Same for her.

Krispy

Re: - posted by FreebyWord, on: 2007/8/27 16:41

Ironman, are men and women who fleece God's flock, preach the word of faith and prosperity, both self-serving doctrines designed to line their own pockets, and serving neither God nor man, brothers in the Lord?

I ask this in response to your post below:

Quote:

-----if the devil is laughing, i hope we are not rubbing our hands with glee. if we are may God bring the hammer down and set us straight
. if bro Randy is indeed contrite, surely God will honour that and forgive and restore, if he isn't...well you know how that would end. praying God's Mercy on these our brethren.

Re: - posted by IRONMAN (), on: 2007/8/27 19:30

Bro KK

Greetings in Jesus' Name by Whose Blood we are Saved.AMEN.

Quote:

-----If he is indeed contrite, he will humbly vacate the office of "pastor", and also beg his wife to stay and work out their problems. They claim there has been no adultery, therefore, they cant divorce Biblically without sinning.

i hope he is and that they can work this out. you know bro, you're right in that there is no grounds for divorce...somehow i hope they can reckon with that and not think it a technicality...

May these our brethren be humble before God that He may lift them up. AMEN.

Grace and Peace are ours in Jesus.AMEN.

Re: - posted by IRONMAN (), on: 2007/8/27 19:38

bro FreebyWord

Greetings in Jesus' Name by Whose Blood we are Saved.AMEN.

Quote:

-----Ironman, are men and women who fleece God's flock, preach the word of faith and prosperity, both self-serving doctrines designed to line their own pockets, and serving neither God nor man, brothers in the Lord?

ah, i am glad you asked that. They certainly profess Jesus as Lord and that isn't possible without Holy Spirit empowering someone to do. Now indeed there has been much straying from the way which has affected many people in various ways, not the least of which is their pocket books. now you may not have yourself fleeced anyone recently or at all but if we may be honest, there is yet some sin in your life being dealt with but you remain our brother. i am in no way condoning their behaviour, but i do reflect on my own life and see where i have brought shame to God in various ways (albeit not in the public eye nor fleecing people) and i see it could have easily been me...or any of us.

i hope that makes sense bro.

Grace and Peace are ours in Jesus.AMEN.

Re: - posted by Warrior4Jah (), on: 2007/8/27 20:07

Are they divorcing and thus breaking the vow they made to God? I hope they will read 1 John.

Quote:

-----They blame two lives going in different directions.
