



Is Ronnie Floyd Trying to Unite the SBC with Mike Bickle’s IHOP?

Posted on November 18, 2015 by Jeff Maples

As recently posted, Southern Baptist president, Ronnie Floyd, [will be speaking at an IHOP](#) event in Kansas City in December 2015. While some of you may be picking your jaw up off the floor, or shaking your heads in disbelief, I stated that I simply wasn’t all that surprised about the partnership. After all, the blooming Arminian, Ronnie Floyd, shares much in common both theologically, and eschatologically with Bickle and IHOP.

Ronnie Floyd’s 2015 Southern Baptist Convention was themed “The Great Awakening,” which carries with it the connotations of his [prophecy of revival](#). In his manifesto, he exhorts Southern Baptists to “Humbly Come Together Before God in Clear Agreement, Visible Union,

and in Extraordinary Prayer for the Next Great Awakening and for the World to Be Reached for Christ.” As [I’ve reported before](#), Ronnie Floyd already has very close ties with a “revival” ministry known as Life Action Ministries. At one point, Life Action [urges leaders and pastors of all denominations](#) to coalesce around Floyd’s edict.

Ronnie Floyd’s “plea” to Christians is as follows:

There is no great movement of God that has ever occurred that does not begin with the extraordinary prayer of God’s people. The time is now for us to come together before God in clear agreement, visible union, and in extraordinary prayer for the next Great Awakening and for the world to be reached for Christ.

For the sake of our nation and the spiritually lost around the world, it is time to humble ourselves before God. For this, I plead with all Southern Baptist pastors, missionaries, laypersons, denominational leaders, churches, denominational entities, conventions, colleges and universities; from student to adult, regardless of age, vocation, or status.

As we come to God in humility and repentance, entering into this special season of extraordinary prayer, we plead with God for spiritual revival personally, revival in the church, and the next Great Awakening in the United States.

...

I am pleading with each of you to join in this spiritual movement to pray for the next Great Awakening so the Great Commission will escalate to its rightful priority and accelerate to its completion in our generation.

So it’s clear his purpose is to cross denominational lines and unite with other professing Christians at all costs. But just how far across those lines does he intend to take the Southern Baptist Convention?

Apparently all the way to IHOP.

A “revivalist” by the [name of Malachi O’Brien](#), who pastors Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church, also has close ties to Life Action Ministries, [regularly speaks positively](#) of IHOP. Malachi O’Brien was [chosen by](#)

[Ronnie Floyd](#) to lead the 2015 Southern Baptist Committee on Committees for 2015 in the state of Missouri.

So what does IHOP have in common with Ronnie Floyd? Or a better question, what does Ronnie Floyd have in common with IHOP?

Mike Bickle, a former Kansas City pastor, founded the organization after he claimed a man named Augustine approached him, and “prophesied” to his congregation with astonishing accuracy about the state of his church. Bickle later claimed to receive an audible revelation from God that told him “I am inviting you to raise up a work that will touch the ends of the earth. I have invited many people to do this thing and many people have said yes, but very few have done my will.”

In 1990, [Ronnie Floyd preached a sermon titled](#) “When Revival Comes.” In this sermon, he claimed a direct revelation from God, and “prophesied” saying,

I believe God is bringing and will bring our church into a state of spiritual revival. Ninety-five percent of us are afraid to go into it because we do not know what is there or what may happen. God told me this week the following nine characteristics will be experienced by our fellowship. I do not share expositionally today, but practically. I want to encourage you to step on over into revival.

- Outpouring of God’s Spirit on you
- Open confession of sinAn unbelievable transparency of God’s people
- Opinions of man will fade to the awesomeness of God’s Word
- Obsessive desire to pray
- Observe a radical obedience to God
- Overflowing well of praise to the Lord
- Overt Reaction of Satan
- Ordinary people will experience extraordinary events
- Overwhelming response to the Gospel of Jesus.

So as you can see, Floyd’s obsession with prophesying a charismatic revival spans multiple decades, and is eerily similar to the Mike Bickle’s claimed prophecy. Further, IHOP’s [website states](#) that it “was founded

by Mike Bickle and twenty full-time “[intercessory missionaries](#),” who cried out to God in prayer with worship for thirteen hours each day.” Today, IHOP’s “intercessory missionaries” are required to commit themselves to at least 50 hours a week of intercessory prayer, including at least 4 hours a day, 6 days a week in the intercessory prayer room. ([Source](#))

Similarly, Floyd is exhorting Southern Baptists to a nearly identical mission. [Floyd says](#),

The church must rise up in extraordinary prayer and urgent action. We must take desperate steps forward spiritually during these desperate times in which we live. With urgency in this hour, knowing the Lord could return at anytime, it is incumbent on us to rise up together now as His Church. Therefore, I am pleading with our Southern Baptist Family to come together in clear agreement, visible union, and extraordinary prayer for the next Great Awakening and for the world to be reached for Christ.

...

Surely we can embrace with clear agreement that spiritual revival personally, spiritual revival in the church, and spiritual awakening in the nation are all needed so we can accelerate our pace in reaching the world for Christ. Certainly we can deny ourselves, defer our own preferences, and visibly unite in extraordinary prayer...

Further, he asks Southern Baptist pastors to:

Challenge your church to pause at either sunset on Saturday evening or sunrise on Sunday morning, to pray for three minutes for the anointing of God to come on their pastor as he preaches God’s Word and the anointing of God’s power to come upon the worship services of their church. Prayerfully, these 180 seconds of focused prayer will soon begin a true 180-degree change in our churches.

With the similar focus on compulsory prayer with mystical undertones, it’s no wonder Floyd and Bickle are so attractive to each other. They practically claim the same, unbiblical theology. Further, both [Bickle](#) and [Floyd](#) teach the same unbiblical concept of first fruits (storehouse) tithing, misapplying [Malachi 3:10](#) to back up their claims. The desperate dependence on and call for money by both Floyd, and Bickle, seems to

be the driving force behind their ministries. (See [here](#), [here](#), [here](#), [here](#), [here](#), [here](#), [here](#), [here](#)) The Bible says that the love of money is the root of all evil ([1 Tim 6:10](#)). But this love of money, and call to embrace a mystical, charismatic, entertaining form of “worship” in the church to bring about a supposed and similar prophecy of revival between these two men seems to be the common ground between them. Since Floyd’s prophecy has taken precedence over expository preaching and proclamation of the Word of God, similar to IHOP, and with Floyd’s betrayal of the church by partnering with them at their event, one can only ascertain that Floyd genuinely believes in the mission of IHOP, and intends to unite the Southern Baptist Convention with them.

SBC Prez, Ronnie Floyd, Joining With IHOP Cult To Promote Charismania

In [The Pen](#) by Jeff, November 17, 2015

Arguably one of the most spiritually dangerous cults in the world today, IHOP (International House of Prayer), headed by the New Apostolic Reformation’s [false prophet, Mike Bickle](#), is hosting its annual Onething Conference December 28-31.

IHOP, known for it’s youth-targeted, stage-managed productions of audio-visual, hyper-sensual emotional stimuli that simulates a spiritual revival, will be [hosting a series of questionable speakers](#) and worship leaders, at best, as well as outright false teachers. Among these speakers are Mike Bickle himself, Francis Chan (again), and Daniel Kolenda, who apparently, get this, raises people from the dead. According to the event’s website, Kolenda is

a modern missionary evangelist who has led more than 10 million people to Christ... He is a gifted preacher whose ministry is marked by incredible miracles—healing the blind,

the lame, the deaf, the leper, and even raising the dead—and powerful evangelism, but most importantly, a passion to see the gospel preached to the poor

Now we all know Francis Chan fell off the wagon years ago and [has been endorsing](#) Mick Bickle’s garbage for quite some time. But there’s one speaker at this year’s event that might surprise you—Southern Baptist President, Ronnie Floyd.

But really, this should come as no surprise. Being that the [theme](#) of this year’s Onething event is “Until the Fame of Jesus Fills the Earth,” (whatever that means) they seem to have the same goal in mind as Ronnie Floyd. Onething’s website presents their mission as,

We invite you to join 20,000 young adults in Kansas City this December to encounter Jesus through extended times of worship, teaching of the Word, and ministry in the power of the Spirit. Our primary aim is to encounter Jesus, so that we might go forth to do His works and change the world, until the fame of Jesus fills the earth.

Ronnie Floyd’s theme for the Southern Baptist Convention, titled The Great Awakening, [carried the call to](#) “prayer, fasting, revival, spiritual awakening, evangelism, church planting, and the call to complete the Great Commission.” So, while the wording may be slightly different, the basic idea is the same. Their goal is to push an experiential form of evangelism through a charismatic production of pseudo-gospel and spiritual manifestations that are centered around their own hopes and purpose of revival, rather than an obedience to the Word of God.

And Floyd is willing to partner with this dangerous cult to make it happen.

To top it off, the worship music at the event will be led by Roman Catholic, Matt Maher, [who recently played on stage with Pope Francis](#) at the Catholic World Meeting of Families in Philadelphia. Does Ronnie Floyd not know who these people are? Does he not know that fellowship with darkness is forbidden in Scripture?

Do not be unequally yoked with unbelievers. For what partnership has righteousness with lawlessness? Or what fellowship has light with darkness? – [2 Corinthians 6:14](#)

Does it make sense that the president of the Southern Baptist Convention, instead of exposing this cult for what it is ([Ephesians 5:11](#)) he's taking part in it?

Is it Ronnie Floyd's sound theology, biblical preaching and uncompromising stand for truth that the NAR and IHOP are seeking from Floyd at this event? Doubtful. More likely it's his notoriety, fortune, and charisma, and his ability to draw a crowd and please the world that makes him so attractive.

I really can't say that much of anything surprises me in the Southern Baptist Convention anymore. On the one hand, we have many theologically conservative pastors who preach the Word of God with conviction regularly. But within the leadership of the SBC, all discernment has been lost. We have seminary leaders [promoting atheist groups](#), Russell Moore at the ERLC [regularly partnering with Roman Catholics](#), and Lifeway [peddling all sorts of heresy](#) for cash. The convention has lost its convictions and is no longer rooted in sound doctrine. It's merely a money making machine for its leadership, a pyramid scheme if you will, that once you've made it to the top, you're in.

When are Southern Baptists going to wake up and take out the trash?

[Contributed by Jeff Maples]



SBC Prez at IHOP – My First Impressions

In [The Pen](#) by JD Hall, December 28, 2015

Dressed like Marty McFly, I couldn't help but wonder if he drove up to Kansas City in a DeLorean. But there he is. I'm blogging this in real time. Ronnie Floyd is looking 80s stylish, and even with his fluffy preacher-esque haircut, will not be called Ronnie Armani this night. No, he's dressed to fit in at the Kansas City charismatic cult known as IHOP.

A few things stand out to me immediately, and I trust Jeff Maples or one of the other fellas will write a [more substantive post](#).

1. Ronnie is repeatedly using the word "fellowship" to refer to both his church and IHOP. He is, it seems, expressly and noticeably avoiding the word "church" throughout this message. I assume that's because it ought to be obvious that IHOP does not not qualify as a church. It's sad

he diminishes Cross Church as a “fellowship,” effectively lumping it in with the monstrosity in Kansas City.

2. Ronnie began by saying that his presence at IHOP was not an endorsement of “everything they believe.” Apparently, someone informed Armani that some folks were upset. But after saying his presence wasn’t an endorsement, he then spent five or ten minutes talking about all they had in common (mere Christianity style) and commending them. He then said that God brought them there and they weren’t there on accident. I haven’t spent time contemplating a broad-brush word of knowledge that God brought people to a cult to hear Ronnie Floyd, but off the top of my head it doesn’t sound quite right.

3. Ronnie rails on his vision for a third Great Awakening and spiritual revival. Ronnie repeatedly mentions “repentance” as being a part of that spiritual process. At no point did Ronnie encourage people to repent of false teaching, false doctrine, abject heresy, charismatic chicanery, or counterfeit manifestations of the Holy Spirit. In a place that exists to blaspheme the Holy Spirit, Ronnie is expecting the Holy Spirit to cause a revival. It’s surreal to watch.

4. Ronnie says he’s not there as president of the SBC, but as the pastor of his “fellowship.” The IHOP website and all promotional material recognizes Ronnie as the president of the SBC and he speaks repeatedly about being president of the SBC. That’s how he was introduced when coming on stage, for crying out loud. Then there’s that inconvenient reality that *everywhere* Ronnie goes he goes as the president of the SBC...because he’s the president of the SBC.

5. As Ronnie says, “I say this in closing,” he has said nothing of substance. And I mean *nothing*. We need to pray (crowd applauds). We need to get serious with God (crowd applauds). We need to give all of ourselves to God (crowd applauds). One wonders how or with what God will cause Ronnie’s third Great Awakening. There was nothing over which a single person could be offended. For that matter, there was nothing over which a single person could be convicted. The Gospel was not shared. I’m left with a few impressions, (1) Ronnie really wants a revival (2) Ronnie really wants a revival and (3) Ronnie really wants a revival. This is a group of people that meets for 24/7 zombie-inducing

lobotomy music. If Ronnie was under the impression these folks already knew the Gospel or Law, he would be mistaken.

6. As the message raps up, it's very clear that the IHOP audience is even more affirmed in attending the cult than when they got there. Ronnie has done nothing to bring them a light of discerning truth, and done everything to convince them that IHOP is exactly where they should be.

7. Ronnie says God brought him to IHOP. I want to vomit. I mean, *of course* God brought Ronnie to IHOP. Mike Bickle *is* God, right? I jest, I jest (unless you're from IHOP, at which I'm kind of serious). Every time Ronnie has an idea, it was God who gave it to him – especially if it's criticized. If he's criticized, you can bet God really, *really* told Ronnie to do it. Don't challenge God, you haters.

8. In finishing up with his signature move – the Floydian Dip, as we call it – in united prayer with the (no doubt, tongue-speaking) crowd at IHOP, we see that Floyd's tolerance for unity in spite of false teaching is of epic, epic proportions. If capitulating ecumenism was what bedtime stories were written about, this man would be a legend heralded in fairy tales. They would write folk songs about it.

9. Mike Bickle thanks Floyd for “speaking the words of the Lord tonight.” Given that Floyd didn't really exposit any Scripture, I can only surmise that he's referring to direct revelation. Seriously, I don't know to what else he could be referring.

If you don't know what the problem is with IHOP, well...*Google*.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "JD Hall" with a long horizontal line extending from the end of the name.

[Contributed by JD Hall]

SBC Prez Prophecies “Great Awakening” and “Culture-Conquering” at IHOP

In [The Pen](#) by Jeff December 29, 2015

As we've [reported on numerous times](#), Southern Baptist President, Ronnie Floyd, spoke at the IHOPKC [Onething Conference](#) on Dec 28th, against the better judgement of the majority of Southern Baptists. Floyd, who was introduced by IHOP founder Mike Bickle, as "the President of America's largest denomination," in his opening statement said,

I'm not here tonight to highlight our theological differences, but to bend my knee, next to yours, and to ask God to have mercy on America. I also know that my being here is not an endorsement of your theology or your endorsement of my orthodoxy, I did not get asked to this gathering tonight because the leaders agree with all of my theological convictions. In fact, if we're totally honest with one another we know that thousands of us who are filling this convention center and thousands more who are streaming live around the world, we're not in total agreement about a lot of the secondary matters of life, ministry, and even the bible. Yet my being here is a clear indication that these are times when people must come together and pray.

As I [reported before](#), the IHOP gathering is a mish-mash of different professing Christian groups, from charismatics to Catholics. It should go without saying to any Southern Baptist that Roman Catholicism is not a true expression of Christianity, and for that matter, neither are the blasphemous false manifestations of the Holy Spirit that are put on by charismatic cults like IHOP. [Galatians 1:8](#) says,

But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to the one we preached to you, let him be accursed.

Yet, to our Southern Baptist president, these are secondary issues—not to get in the way of our prayer for revival in America, and the "Third Great Awakening." In fact, he even goes as far as to say that he believes "the greatest hope for America is what I'm going to talk about tonight."

Apparently, it's good enough for Floyd to drop all of these theological differences so long as they profess Jesus Christ is the only way to God. Most cults would make this proclamation. But in his exhortation to stand on the Bible as the sole and final authority over all matters, and Jesus Christ as the only way to God, he seems to be missing one important detail, the very people he is speaking to twists the Scriptures to suit their theology, and have crafted their own Jesus with their hands.

Yet, this is who Floyd is admonishing Southern Baptists to unite with in prayer. The Bible says that God does not hear their prayers,

For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and his ears are open to their prayer. But the face of the Lord is against those who do evil. – [1 Peter 3:12](#)

God is not going to listen to the prayers of those who blaspheme his Spirit, reject his son, and work evil in his sight. Floyd spends his entire sermon talking about the Gospel, and how the Gospel will restore America, and how extraordinary prayer will spark the next great awakening, yet he never gave any indication whatsoever of what the Gospel is. While he did spend quite a bit of time talking about the depraved moral state of America as a nation, he never preached the law, and the brokenness of mankind, and our need for a savior. And he never mentioned Christ's finished work in his life, death, burial and resurrection which saves those who repent and believe. If you attended that conference, you got the affirmation from Floyd that what IHOP does and promotes is perfectly fine, and there is no need to repent of your sins, lest we all bow together in unified prayer for the national salvation of America.

God is not going to restore America through a false gospel, or a false Jesus. The Scriptures strongly admonish believers to stay away from cults like IHOP. [Ephesians 5:11](#) says,

Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them,

and [2 Corinthians 6:14](#) says,

Do not be unequally yoked with unbelievers. For what partnership has righteousness with lawlessness? Or what fellowship has light with darkness?

Yet Ronnie Floyd is directly contradicting God's word by partnering with them.

Following a trance-like performance by "worship-leader," Misty Edwards, Floyd rails on about the moral decline of the nation, the

redefinition of marriage, racism, mass murders, abortion, etc., drawing repeated applause from an emotionally high crowd. In a speech that sounds more like Christine Caine's social justice agenda than a Bible preacher, he pleads with the crowd to acknowledge the grave sins of the world.

It's hard to even keep up with all of the crises abound in the world today. And then when you look back at the church, the family of God, the body of Christ, many of us are lukewarm in our faith. We're distracted by the things of the world. Many of our **fellowships** are divided. But the great news that I'm seeing more than I've seen ever in my lifetime, desperation is on the rise among the people of God. And when we get desperate enough, and we want God enough, we're right where God wants us in life. And that's why tonight I believe that now is the time for the next great spiritual awakening in America.

Floyd, who repeatedly refers to churches as "fellowships," preaches to this crowd of people as though they are believers. He prophesies that now is the time for the next "great awakening," yet, he's [been prophesying this since 1990](#), and it hasn't come to pass. (Does this make him a false prophet?)

He then preaches from a passage in [Joel 2](#), a passage that is often used by the New Apostolic Reformation and promoters of the Joel's Army heresy to make his case for conquering the land and restoring America. Joel's Army (Dominion) theology teaches that Christians are to [conquer seven cultural mountains](#), business, government, media, arts and entertainment, education, the family and religion. [According to this heresy](#), it is not until the church conquers these 7 mountains that Christ will return. It is these 7 mountains that are of primary matters, according to dominionists, like IHOP and Ronnie Floyd.

Floyd stated that theological differences were secondary matters, and this is exactly why he can partner with apostates like IHOP, and can endorse Roman Catholic mystics like Roma Downey and Mark Burnett, because these kinds of people seem to be family-friendly and culturally conservative. The fact that they are lost, dead in their sin, and on their way to Hell is of secondary matters to Floyd, so long as he can partner with them to conquer the culture for Christ. No, as he said, he believes

the greatest hope for America isn't Jesus Christ, and his work on the cross, it's "what he talked about tonight." It's his Dominion theology, his cultural mandates, and his prophecy of "next great awakening" that moves him and gives him hope.

Lord help us all.

[Contributed by Jeff Maples]

On False Teachers: Why We Insist on One Degree of Separation

In [The Pen](#) by JD Hall January 4, 2016

What did they say when you warned them about the Kansas City Prophets and the New Apostolic Reformation and all the wicked things that happen there? What did they say when you told them about the death of [Bethany Deaton](#) and cover-up by IHOP and allegations of cult-like mind control? What did they say when you brought all those facts to them?

They said it couldn't be that bad. Ronnie Floyd was speaking there. They weren't going to turn around. If it was good enough for the SBC president to speak, it was good enough for them.

I took a frantic phone call from a woman and SBC church member in north Missouri, whose pastor was taking a number of men to the conference last weekend. She had emailed her "leadership team," deacons, and the pastor. She brought them facts. She sent them links to IHOP's theology. She sent them articles about the problems. She did everything but throw her aging body in front of them on their way out of the driveway. But they went and exposed themselves to what can only be characterized as demonic worship with scandalous speakers and even a track for Catholic worshippers. The event was the spiritual equivalent of a 70's key party – promiscuous, open to anything, and no discernible standards for who you dance with.

Southern Baptists considered Ronnie Floyd's presence an endorsement: Ronnie Floyd, you see, can start out saying that his

speaking at IHOP isn't an endorsement of their theology (which he did). But it doesn't matter, because in reality, Southern Baptist pastors and laypeople wound up at IHOP and took part in the sins of Nadab and Abihu because Ronnie Floyd was there.

Roman Catholics considered Ronnie Floyd's presence an endorsement: [Jeff has written about that here](#) and I don't want to steal his thunder, but the "charismatic catholics" present at IHOP were encouraged at the "[unity across denominational lines](#)" and were encouraged by Floyd's affirming presence.

Charismatics considered Ronnie Floyd's presence an endorsement: When Floyd said, "We're we're not in total agreement about life, ministry or the Bible. ... Yet my being here is a clear indication that people must come together and pray," (1) Understatement much? That you're not in "total agreement" is something you say to the other Southern Baptist church across the street...not the pseudo-christian cults and (2) you pray with *Christians*. With the Roman Catholics and [Oneness Pentecostals](#) present in this spiritual key party, it's presumptive to assume we're praying to the same deity.

But Floyd is not the only one.

John Piper just spoke at Giglio's [Passion Conference](#)...again. He's speaking with Word-of-Faith impastor, charismatic prophetess and Hillsong gal, [Christine Caine](#). He's also speaking with a few other odious characters, like with Judah Smith at Passion #2 later this month, but let's just keep it simple and focus on the charismatic lady pastor from the overtly-wicked church. That should suffice for this current exercise.

JD Greear and Matt Chandler are speaking with [Hillsong's](#) Brian Houston at the upcoming [Exponential Conference](#). Others, like Circle-Maker Mark Batterson will be there as well. Ed Stetzer will be there too, but [he just spoke with radical Islamic clerics](#) on how they can best reach evangelicals, so that's nothing new. And really, it's nothing new that Greear and Chandler would speak with nefarious characters. They've done that a lot.

And on and on it goes. Reformed leaders, as you've seen in the above list of names (Floyd excluded), are not immune from toxic associations.

Granted, it seems that toxic associations in Reformed circles are typically limited to charismatic Calvinists who seem to suffer from repeated discernment issues caused by their continuationism, but it's still troubling.

Why are polemicists and discernment-minded Christians upset that evangelical leaders like Floyd, Piper, Greear, Chandler, Stetzer, and Francis Chan (who frequents the IHOP circuit) et al speak with those who really no reasonable or serious-minded Christian would consider sound? Why is speaking with women preachers, charismatic prophets and faith-healers, people teaching positive confession and Word-Faith theology or other serious issues a problem?

And the answer is *Bible*.

[14] Do not be unequally yoked with unbelievers. For what partnership has righteousness with lawlessness? Or what fellowship has light with darkness? [15] What accord has Christ with Belial?(1) Or what portion does a believer share with an unbeliever? [16] What agreement has the temple of God with idols? (2 Corinthians 6)

This passage from Paul isn't about marriage. It's about religious enterprise. What business doth John Piper have with Christine Caine? Or what fellowship doth Ronnie Floyd have with Mike Bickel? What accord hath Matt Chandler with Brian Houston? What portion doth the SBC share with IHOP? What agreement doth Greear have with Circle-Making Mark Batterson?

God does not need the devil's pulpit, friends.

All of these men speaking at all of these events do not constitute a Whitefield-type attitude toward speaking in enemy territory. Whitefield said, "*If the Pope himself would lend me his pulpit, I would gladly preach the righteousness of Christ therein.*" It is safe to say that if Whitefield had the Pope's pulpit, he would have only preached there once. As Justin Peters says, he would preach on TBN if they asked him, but he wouldn't be invited a second time. Matt Chandler, to his credit, once gave [a passive-aggressive backhand to Steven Furtick](#) at his Code Orange revival, but too many times he's spoken *with* and *for* such spiritual charlatans with no such subtle rebuke. And lacking a rebuke, a

preacher's presence makes for an assumed endorsement. No, these appearances by all of the above men (and many more) at such conferences are not done to confront the wolves, but done to run with their pack.

The fact is, the Bible forbids such partnership – and a speaking contract is certainly a partnership – between Christians and the types of people we saw John Piper and Ronnie Floyd speak with last week. Some call that “guilt by association.” And to that, I say, is as *sure* as hell is *real*. Yes, it *is* guilt by association, because the Bible forbids association with such darkness.

Where does it stop, the fanboys ask. So so-and-so knows so-and-so who spoke with so-and-so and now they're *bad* all in a sudden? Nope. We're asking for *one* degree of separation, not two or three or four. It's sinful for Ronnie Floyd to speak at IHOP. It's not sinful for someone to speak with Ronnie Floyd. It's sinful for Francis Chan to speak at IHOP. It's not sinful to speak with Francis Chan. It's sinful to speak with a woman who shouldn't be preaching, who is compiled with problems of charismania, prophetic status, Word-Faith theology and from Hillsong. It's not sinful to speak with John Piper. We are, Biblically, to separate from the evil person or false teacher.

Don't get me wrong. I would not endorse Piper, Chan, Chandler, Floyd, Greear or others on the grounds that they lack discernment and if slightly off track today, may be very off track tomorrow. With their charismatic windows left wide open, who knows what pied Piper might sneak into their heart or mind and lead them astray? I wouldn't want to turn on a young Christian to their works, without knowing where they may be led in years to come after the leaven they associate with has leavened them. However, it's not as though these men are *bad*, but that they cannot be fully trusted or endorsed. Not speaking with them, however, would be *two* degrees of separation and probably overdone.

Is one degree really too much? Like, is that terribly legalistic? Pharasaical? Fundamentalist? Do we all feel totally oppressed now, like some over-reaching nanny is pooping on our party? I would ask, “Are your heretic conferences *really* that important? Like, you can't get along without them? John Piper is so important to the success of *Passion* and Ronnie Floyd is so important to the success of IHOP's *One Thing* that it's

worth risking leading [little ones](#) astray? Is it worth the risk of earning a millstone?

J J Hall

[Contributed by JD Hall]