

THIS IS YOUR DAY!
PASTOR BENNY HINN WITH PAT ROBERTSON
TRANSCRIPT

TIYD NARRATOR: THE FOLLOWING IS A SPECIAL REPORT FEATURING A RECENT INTERVIEW AIRED ON *THE 700 CLUB* IN WHICH PAT ROBERTSON AND PASTOR BENNY HINN DISCUSSED SENATOR CHARLES GRASSLEY'S INVESTIGATION INTO THE FINANCIAL AFFAIRS OF SEVERAL PROMINENT MINISTRIES.

ANDREA GARRETT: REPUBLICAN CHARLES GRASSLEY STARTED THE INVESTIGATION. AS RANKING MEMBER OF THE SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE, HE BEGAN THE INQUIRY AFTER HE HEARD NEWS REPORTS AND COMPLAINTS ABOUT AFFLUENT LIFESTYLES AND LAVISH SPENDING WITHIN SOME PROMINENT CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES AND POSSIBLE ABUSE OF THEIR TAX EXEMPT STATUSES. SAID GRASSLEY, "I DON'T WANT TO CONCLUDE THAT THERE'S A PROBLEM, BUT I HAVE AN OBLIGATION TO DONORS AND THE TAXPAYERS TO FIND OUT MORE."

GRASSLEY: THIS IS NOT A CRUSADE AGAINST MINISTRIES, AND IT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH DOCTRINE. IT ONLY HAS TO DO WITH THE ENFORCEMENT OF LAW AND IT'S NO DIFFERENT THAN THE INVESTIGATION THAT I'VE BEEN DOING ON NONPROFITS FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS.

ANDREA GARRETT: BUT GRASSLEY'S CRITICS SAY HE HAD NO AUTHORITY TO LAUNCH SUCH AN INVESTIGATION. THE SIX MINISTRIES IN QUESTION: KENNETH COPELAND, CREFLO DOLLAR, BENNY HINN, EDDIE LONG, JOYCE MEYER, AND RANDY AND PAULA WHITE. DESPITE GRASSLEY'S PROBE, ALL THE MINISTRIES HAVE THE STRONG SUPPORT OF THEIR CONGREGATIONS.

UNIDENTIFIED MAN: EVERY CHURCH, EVERYBODY THAT DOES WELL DOESN'T MEAN THEY'VE DONE WRONG.

ANDREA GARRETT: SO FAR, THE SIX MINISTRIES HAVE TAKEN DIFFERENT APPROACHES TO THE INQUIRY. CREFLO DOLLAR OF WORLD CHANGERS MINISTRIES REFUSED TO RESPOND TO THE INVESTIGATION AND DENIES ANY WRONGDOING.

CREFLO DOLLAR: YOU GIVE YOUR MONEY TO THIS MINISTRY; WE'RE GOING TO TREAT IT RIGHT; WE'RE GOING TO COMPLY WITH THE IRS.

ANDREA GARRETT: KENNETH COPELAND HAS GIVEN PARTIAL ANSWERS TO SEVERAL QUESTIONS BUT NOT TO GRASSLEY'S SATISFACTION. THE COPELANDS SAY THEY HAVE ANSWERED AS MUCH AS THEY CAN WITHOUT COMPROMISING THEIR RIGHTS TO PRIVACY AND CONFIDENTIALITY UNDER THE CONSTITUTION AND IRS CODE. RANDY AND PAULA WHITE SUBMITTED ANSWERS ON CERTAIN MATTERS, YET SENATOR GRASSLEY FEELS THEIR RESPONSES ARE INCOMPLETE. THE SAME IS TRUE FOR EDDIE LONG. JOYCE MEYER HAS BEEN OPEN WITH THE INVESTIGATION. SHE GAVE EXTENSIVE ANSWERS TO ALL QUESTIONS AS DID BENNY HINN. GRASSLEY CONGRATULATED HINN AND MEYER FOR COOPERATING, CALLING THEIR EFFORTS "IN GOOD FAITH" AND SAYING "THEY PROVIDED INFORMATION OVER AND ABOVE WHAT WAS REQUESTED." GRASSLEY ADDED THAT BOTH ORGANIZATIONS HAVE INDICATED THAT THEY ARE INSTITUTING REFORMS WITHOUT WAITING FOR THE COMMITTEE TO COMPLETE ITS REVIEW.

PAT ROBERTSON: WELL, IT WAS SORT OF SHOCKING BECAUSE CHUCK GRASSLEY IS NOT CHAIRMAN OF THAT COMMITTEE ANYMORE, AND FOR HIM TO LAUNCH THIS THING TO ME WAS KIND OF OUTRAGEOUS, BUT

NEVERTHELESS, SOME OF THE MINISTRIES HAVE BEEN OVER AND ABOVE WHAT WAS NEEDED, AND ONE OF THEM WAS BENNY HINN WHO HAD ALREADY GONE THROUGH AN IRS TAX AUDIT AND HAD BEEN FOUND ABSOLUTELY CLEAN IN ALL OF HIS FINANCES. AND BENNY'S HERE WITH US. BENNY, HOW DID YOU HANDLE THAT THING?

PASTOR BENNY HINN: WELL YOU KNOW, PAT, FIRST OF ALL, AT FIRST THE ATTORNEYS HAD SUGGESTED THAT WE DO NOT COOPERATE. ONE OF THEM IN FACT SAID TO ME ON THE PHONE, HE SAID, WELL, THIS IS A CONSTITUTIONAL MATTER, AND SUCH THINGS. BUT THEN, I TELL YOU HONESTLY, THE LORD REALLY SPOKE TO ME IN A VERY CLEAR WAY. AND I WAS BEING ADVISED BY SOME VERY SMART LAWYERS ON WHAT I SHOULD DO, BUT WHEN GOD SPOKE TO ME IT SETTLED IT. AND HERE'S WHAT GOD SAID TO ME. HE SAID "COOPERATE," AND HERE IS SOMETHING THAT HE SAID THAT QUITE SHOOK ME: "IF YOU DO NOT, YOU WILL NOT HAVE A MINISTRY IN 12 MONTHS."

PAT ROBERTSON: COME ON; REALLY?

PASTOR BENNY HINN: I'M TELLING YOU, THAT'S WHAT GOD SAID TO ME. NOW I THINK IN MY CASE IT'S DIFFERENT THAN ANYONE ELSE BECAUSE, YOU KNOW, FOR SO LONG I THINK I HAVE BEEN VIEWED BY THE NEWS MEDIA AS THOUGH I'M DOING SOMETHING WRONG. YOU KNOW THEY'VE DONE STORIES ON ME. *DATELINE* HAS DONE STORIES AND OTHERS HAVE DONE STORIES. AND THEY'VE ALWAYS FOCUSED ON MONEY. WHAT IS HE DOING WITH HIS MONEY? I HAVE BEEN ACCUSED OF HAVING A LAVISH LIFESTYLE, YOU KNOW. AND PEOPLE HAVE COME UP WITH ALL KINDS OF THINGS THAT ARE NOT TRUE, PLAINLY UNTRUE. AND SO WHEN THE IRS CAME, THEY SPENT THREE AND A HALF YEARS LOOKING AT EVERYTHING. AND YOU KNOW, LIKE YOU SAID, THERE'S NOTHING THERE...

PAT ROBERTSON: THEY GAVE YOU A CLEAN BILL OF HEALTH, THE IRS BEFORE GRASSLEY STARTED.

PASTOR BENNY HINN: WHAT THEY BASICALLY LOOKED AT WAS OUR CHURCH STATUS.

PAT ROBERTSON: YEAH, BUT THEY ALSO SAID THAT YOU'RE QUALIFIED AS A TAX-EXEMPT ORGANIZATION.

PASTOR BENNY HINN: ABSOLUTELY, THAT'S WHAT THEY SAID. CORRECT. BUT THEN WHEN THIS NEW THING BEGAN WITH SENATOR GRASSLEY, THAT STARTED ABOUT, OH, I'D SAY A MONTH AFTER WE WERE DONE WITH THE IRS, AND IT WAS FRIGHTENING, I TELL YOU HONESTLY. BUT WHEN THE LORD SPOKE TO ME, I FELT I NEEDED TO LAY MY MINISTRY ON THE ALTAR AND SAY, "LORD, THIS IS YOUR WORK." YOU KNOW. MAYBE THIS IS THE WAY YOU'LL SHOW THE WORLD THAT ALL THEY THOUGHT ISN'T REALLY THERE. AND SO THAT'S WHAT HAS HAPPENED. WE HAVE ANSWERED EVERY QUESTION. IN FACT I THINK BEYOND. WE HAVE SUPPLIED THEM WITH OVER FIVE THOUSAND PAGES OF ANSWERS. AND YOU KNOW IT'S NOT OVER YET. BUT I REALLY FELT IT WAS REALLY GOD IN MY CASE.

PAT ROBERTSON: THAT'S AMAZING. BUT WHEN IT WAS FINISHED HE CONGRATULATED YOU AND SAID YOU HAD GONE OVER AND ABOVE WHAT YOU WERE SUPPOSED TO DO AND EVERYTHING WAS FINE. IT WAS EXCELLENT.

PASTOR BENNY HINN: AND NOW WE'RE LOOKING AT THE FUTURE, WHAT REFORMS WE'LL PUT IN PLACE AND ALL OF THAT, AND I THINK IT IS IMPORTANT TO US AS A MINISTRY.

PAT ROBERTSON: ALL THOSE THINGS CAN BE SALUTATORY, BUT I MEAN IT'S JUST, IT'S A TERRIBLE DISTRACTION. BUT YOU KNOW, LEAVING ASIDE ALL THIS MONEY AND STUFF, YOU HAVE MINISTERED, WHAT, TO A BILLION PEOPLE?

PASTOR BENNY HINN: OH MY LORD, I DON'T KNOW HOW MANY, PAT. IT'S BEEN, ONE YEAR ALONE 20 MILLION, WAS I THINK 2006 WHEN I WENT TO BANGALORE. WE HAD 7 MILLION IN JUST ONE CRUSADE IN THREE DAYS. AND THEN I'VE NOT COUNTED HOW MANY PEOPLE IN THE LAST 34 YEARS. BUT I WILL TELL YOU HONESTLY, YOU KNOW, A MINISTRY LIKE OURS, LIKE FOR EXAMPLE, IN 2005 OR 2006 I FLEW 734 HOURS IN THAT ONE YEAR ALONE. SADLY PEOPLE MISUNDERSTAND, WELL WHY DOES HE HAVE A PLANE? WELL IT'S BECAUSE I FLY A LOT.

PAT ROBERTSON: WELL YOU CAN'T DO THAT COMMERCIAL; YOU CAN'T POSSIBLY.

PASTOR BENNY HINN: NO, THERE'S NO WAY I CAN. PLUS I THINK PHYSICALLY I WOULD JUST WEAR OUT. AND THERE ARE MANY TIMES WHEN THINGS HAPPEN THAT HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH CRUSADES. SOMEONE WILL CALL ME, SOME LEADER. EXAMPLE, A FEW DAYS AGO I WAS FLYING BACK FROM SOUTH AFRICA. THE PRESIDENT'S WIFE OF GABON WHO IS IN RABAT MOROCCO BEING TREATED FOR SOME SICKNESS CALLED AND SAID, "COULD YOU COME ON YOUR WAY BACK AND PRAY FOR ME?" WELL OF COURSE. THESE THINGS HAPPEN ALL THE TIME. YOU'RE FLYING SOMEWHERE AND SOMEBODY KNOWS YOU'RE GOING SOMEWHERE. THERE WOULD BE NO WAY I COULD DO ALL THESE THINGS IF I WAS FLYING COMMERCIAL. AND THEN YOU KNOW THEY FOCUSED ON OUR FAMILY. I MEAN THE NEWS MEDIA IS ALWAYS WONDERING, WHAT IS HE GETTING OUT OF IT? WHAT'S HIS FAMILY GETTING OUT OF IT? AND I'LL TELL YOU HONESTLY. YOU KNOW THERE'S BEEN SOME CASUALTIES

OVER THIS WITH MY FAMILY BECAUSE MY FAMILY WAS TARGETED. YOU KNOW, THEY WANTED TO LOOK AT EVERYTHING TO DO WITH WHAT BENEFITS ARE MY CHILDREN GETTING? IN FACT, I HAVE NO FAMILY ON MY BOARD. GOODNESS GRACIOUS, IT'S BEEN YEARS. I HAD MY BROTHER ONCE, AND THEN WE CHANGED THAT. THIS WAS WAY, WAY, MANY YEARS AGO. BUT I'VE HAD NO FAMILY ON THE BOARD FOR MANY YEARS. I HAVE WONDERFUL MEN, FOUR ACTUALLY WITH ME, WONDERFUL PEOPLE WHO ARE MOSTLY IN THE MINISTRY OR BUSINESS PEOPLE. I AM NOT EVEN ON MY INTERNATIONAL BOARDS; I DON'T EVEN SIT ON THOSE BOARDS MYSELF. MY U.K. BOARD, I'M NOT ON THAT; CANADIAN BOARD, I'M NOT ON THAT. THE BOARD IN INDIA... CAUSE WE HAVE MINISTRIES ALL THROUGHOUT THE WORLD, I AM NOT ON ONE INTERNATIONAL BOARD, NOT EVEN AUSTRALIA. THE ONLY BOARD I'M ON IS IN THE U.S. AND THESE WONDERFUL PEOPLE THAT I HAVE MAKE WONDERFUL DECISIONS. AND I'LL TELL YOU HONESTLY, THE LORD REALLY HAS GIVEN ME SOME INCREDIBLE PEOPLE LIKE DON PRICE, LIKE MICHAEL CLARKE WHO WORKED WITH LARGE MINISTRIES IN THE PAST. WELL EXPERIENCED PEOPLE THAT HAVE BEEN THE ONES WHO HAVE DEALT WITH THE IRS AND THE SENATOR AND HIS STAFF. YOU KNOW, I JUST WANT TO PREACH. I SAID, "HEY LISTEN, GUYS, GOD DID NOT CALL ME TO HANDLE THIS," I SAID. "YOU GO DO WHATEVER YOU HAVE TO DO TO BE UP FRONT." I SAID, "THE BIBLE SAYS WE ARE TO BE CLEAN IN THE SIGHT OF MEN, NOT JUST GOD." I SAID; "GIVE THEM EVERYTHING THEY'RE ASKING FOR." AND HONESTLY, IT WAS A TOUGH DECISION FOR THEM TOO, BECAUSE THEY HAD LOOKED AT WHAT THE LAWYERS HAD BEEN SAYING. BUT HERE'S WHAT I SAID TO THEM, I SAID, "LISTEN," I SAID, "WE ARE AN OPEN BOOK," I SAID, "THERE'S NOTHING TO HIDE." I SAID, "WE'VE JUST BEEN LOOKED AT BY THE IRS. SO YOU TELL THOSE LAWYERS GOD SPOKE." AND THAT WAS IT. BUT I'LL TELL YOU HONESTLY, PAT, I THINK ALL THAT'S HAPPENED HAS HAPPENED FOR THE FUTURE. YOU KNOW, *60 MINUTES* IS GOING TO DO A STORY NOW, A VERY BIG STORY FROM WHAT I

HEAR, IN OCTOBER ABOUT THIS. AND YOU KNOW, THEY'RE GOING TO HAVE TO REPEAT THE FACTS. SO FOR ME THAT'S WONDERFUL. AND FOR JOYCE MEYER. BUT ALSO IN THE FUTURE I THINK THERE'LL BE OTHER THINGS THAT MAY COME, WHO KNOWS, THAT COULD ARISE AGAINST PREACHERS, MINISTERS. BUT I WOULD REALLY SAY THIS TO ALL PASTORS WHO ARE WATCHING ME. I THINK IT'S REALLY TIME WE BE VERY, VERY TRANSPARENT. YOU KNOW, I MEAN HONESTLY, I THINK THE WAY WE ARE LOOKED UPON, SADLY, WE ARE GUILTY, NOBODY SAYS "YOU'RE INNOCENT" ANYMORE. WE HAVE TO PROVE OUR INNOCENCE. AND THE NEWS MEDIA IS NEVER GOING TO LET US ALONE. THEY'RE GOING TO CONTINUE TO DO STORIES ALL THE TIME.

PAT ROBERTSON: WELL THEY'RE GETTING... YOU KNOW, THERE'S ONLY SO MANY BASEBALL PLAYERS THAT ARE GOING TO GET PAID \$250,000,000 FOR PLAYING BASEBALL, AND SO MANY FOOTBALL PLAYERS THAT GET SEVENTY OR EIGHTY MILLION BEFORE... WHATEVER MODEST SALARY SOME MINISTRY GETS PALES IN SIGNIFICANCE. AND SO THEIR STORIES DON'T EXACTLY HOLD WATER.

PASTOR BENNY HINN: YOU KNOW, FINALLY WHAT WE HAD TO DO, PAT, AND THIS HAPPENED MANY YEARS AGO, IN FACT, WAY BEFORE THIS BEGAN. WE HIRED A COMPANY, A COMPENSATION EXPERT COMPANY THAT REALLY LOOKS AT COMPENSATIONS OF EXECUTIVES. AND THEY DID A STUDY ON MINE. IT TOOK THEM TWO YEARS AND CAME BACK WITH "REASONABLE." AND THAT'S REALLY WHAT HELPED ME. AND THEY CONTINUALLY LOOK AT MY COMPENSATION STILL TODAY. BUT HONESTLY, I REALLY FEEL THE LORD IS GOING TO USE THIS FOR HIS GLORY.

PAT ROBERTSON: I MEAN, THIS IS A DISTRACTION BECAUSE... YOU HAVE MORE IMPORTANT THINGS TO DO.

PASTOR BENNY HINN: I HAVE LOTS TO DO FOR THE LORD, AND THESE DISTRACTIONS HAVE NOT BEEN EASY, BUT I JUST FEEL MAYBE GOD WILL NOW USE IT AND TURN IT AROUND FOR HIS GLORY.

PAT ROBERTSON: WELL WELCOME TO THE CLUB, OLD BUDDY. A FEW YEARS AGO WE HAD... THEY GROUND ON US FOR TWELVE YEARS, NOT ONE YEAR, NOT TWO YEARS, TWELVE. COUNT THEM, TWELVE YEARS. COST EIGHT MILLION DOLLARS IN LEGAL FEES. THAT WAS A FEW YEARS AGO.

PASTOR BENNY HINN: THAT'S REALLY THE PART THAT BOTHERS ME, IS THE FACT THAT WE HAVE TO PAY LAWYERS TO DEFEND US.

PAT ROBERTSON: BUT WHEN IT WAS ALL FINISHED, YOU KNOW, OKAY, KEEP GOING, EVERYTHING'S COOL, AND... YOU KNOW, I DON'T TAKE A SALARY; I GET NO SALARY FROM THIS ORGANIZATION...

PASTOR BENNY HINN: I HOPE THE DAY WILL COME I WILL HAVE TO... THEN I CAN DO THE SAME, PAT, BELIEVE ME.

PAT ROBERTSON: I SAID, WELL WHAT DO YOU DO? WELL I MAKE MONEY AT A STOCK MARKET, AND I LIVE OFF THAT.

PASTOR BENNY HINN: BUT CAN I JUST SAY ONE MORE THING? SENATOR GRASSLEY AND HIS PEOPLE HAVE BEEN NOTHING BUT KIND, THEY REALLY HAVE. THEY'RE VERY WONDERFUL PEOPLE TO WORK WITH, AND I'M THANKFUL. AND I WANT TO SAY THAT PUBLICLY. AND AGAIN, I REALLY WOULD ADVISE PREACHERS TO JUST BE UP FRONT AND BE CLEAN, BE TRANSPARENT. THERE'S NOTHING TO HIDE; IT'S FOR GOD'S GLORY ANYWAY.

PAT ROBERTSON: WELL, YOU'VE DONE A GREAT JOB, AND I KNOW THAT WAS AN ORDEAL. BUT OUT OF THE ORDEAL YOU'VE COME THROUGH BETTER THAN EVER. SO I'M HAPPY FOR YOU. NOW LET'S TALK ABOUT SOMETHING MORE IMPORTANT. YOU'RE READY?

PASTOR BENNY HINN: YES SIR, I'M READY.

PAT ROBERTSON: TELL ABOUT WHAT GOD'S DOING OVER IN ASIA?

PASTOR BENNY HINN: I AM ON MY WAY TO TAIWAN THE NEXT FEW DAYS. THE STADIUM IS ALREADY PACKED, 28,000 SEATS. AND PAT, ONE OF THE THINGS I'M REALLY PRAYING FOR NOW IS CHINA. YOU'VE BEEN TO CHINA OF COURSE. IN FACT, I'M SUPPOSED TO GO IN AUGUST, BUT THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT HAS ASKED THAT I WAIT 'TIL NOVEMBER, BECAUSE THEY FELT THAT MY VISIT WAS TOO IMPORTANT TO HAPPEN AT THE SAME TIME AS THE OLYMPICS. AND IT REALLY IS GRACIOUS OF THEM. BUT REALLY DO PRAY THAT THE LORD WILL GIVE ME FAVOR, CAUSE MY DESIRE IS TO SEE THAT I CAN GO AND MINISTER IN CHINA FREELY. I MET WITH THE HEAD OF RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS YEARS AGO, AND I SAID, "LOOK," I SAID, "WOULD YOU ALLOW ME TO COME MINISTER?" "OH," HE SAYS, "THERE'S NO PROBLEM, YOU CAN COME PREACH IN OUR CHURCHES." I SAID, "YEAH BUT I CANNOT GO TO EVERY CHURCH." I SAID, "WOULD YOU BRING THEM TOGETHER?" HE SAID, "NO, THEY WOULDN'T ALLOW IT." BUT HE DID LIKE MY IDEA OF HOMECOMING. I SAID, "WE'LL JUST BRING THEM TOGETHER, IT'S LIKE A HOMECOMING." HE SAID, "WHAT?" I SAID "HOMECOMING, HOMECOMING." SO HE LIKED THAT PART.

PAT ROBERTSON: WELL, BENNY, I APPRECIATE YOU, AND MAY THE LORD BLESS YOU. AND YOU'VE COME THROUGH TRIALS AND GIVE YOU SAFETY AND CONTINUE TO USE YOU. I APPRECIATE YOU, MY DEAR

BROTHER. GOD BLESS YOU. BENNY HINN, MAN OF GOD THAT THE LORD IS USING ALL AROUND THE WORLD. WE'LL BE BACK WITH MORE OF THE 700 CLUB RIGHT AFTER THIS.

TIYD NARRATOR: THE PRECEDING HAS BEEN A SPECIAL REPORT FEATURING A RECENT INTERVIEW AIRED ON THE 700 CLUB. TO REVIEW A TRANSCRIPT OF THE INTERVIEW OR TO WATCH IT AGAIN IN ITS ENTIRETY, PLEASE VISIT THE MINISTRY WEBSITE AT WWW.BENNYHINN.ORG. ALSO BE LOOKING FOR PASTOR BENNY'S LETTER ABOUT THE GRASSLEY INVESTIGATION WHICH WILL BE COMING IN THE MAIL THIS WEEK.