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**GOD'S PROFITS**  
**Faith, Fraud, and the Republican Crusade for Values Voters**  
**by Sarah Posner**

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*I tell you the truth, it is hard for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven. Again I tell you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God*  
— **Matthew 9:24, attributed to Jesus of Nazareth**

*Abraham...Moses...David...Solomon...why did God bless these men? Why have so few men found the blessings of God in finance? We need to renew our minds to God's reason for financial blessings. In the book of Deuteronomy, we see the predominant rule to remember in living a prosperous life . . . .*  
*The predominant rule: God gives the power to get wealth. Why? To establish His covenant."*  
— **Kenneth Copeland, Kenneth Copeland Ministries**

In ***God's Profits: Faith, Fraud, and the Republican Crusade for Values Voters*** (PoliPoint Press/ Jan. 29, 2008 / \$19.95 cloth), *American Prospect* journalist Sarah Posner examines the shady financial and political activities of prominent prosperity gospel televangelists who use their reinterpretation of the bible to profit from the hopes and fears of their congregants, thus reaping the means to wield influence within the Republican Party and Bush White House.

The prosperity gospel teaches that financial security is ensured through tithing to one's pastor: sow a seed, prosperity preachers urge, and you will reap a supernatural harvest. Through their huge congregations and globally broadcast television programs, these preachers pressure their congregants to give but the televangelists, not their hard-pressed followers, see the rewards: private jets (Copeland flies in a personal \$20 million Cessna, for example), lavishly appointed mansions, and luxury cars, just for starters.

Even as the movement's most charismatic leaders scam the gullible to fuel corporate enterprises branded as churches, they enjoy access to top Bush Administration officials and Republican Party leaders. With millions of dollars at hand, tens of thousands of congregants who vote, and a pro-capitalist, social-Darwinian theology cloaked in the holy garb of "God's will," they influence elections, judicial nominations, and legislation; promote their pro-war, apocalyptic ideas about the Middle East and its critical role in the "End Time"; and decry anti-poverty and social-welfare programs as "Satanist."

As the 2008 presidential election heats up and leaders in both parties enthusiastically promote their religious bona fides, *God's Profits* goes inside the prosperity gospel movement to show how its leaders have influenced American politics during the current administration, and how they aim to influence the next.

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### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR:**

Sarah Posner is an investigative journalist covering the activities of conservative evangelicals. She has written for *The Nation*, *The American Prospect*, AlterNet, the *Washington Spectator*, and The Gadflyer. She writes TheFundamentaList, which counts down the week's top news about the religious right, for *The American Prospect Online* ([www.prospect.org](http://www.prospect.org)).

### **WHAT THEY'RE SAYING:**

“God’s Profits is a fascinating and important investigation into the sordid nexus between religious zealotry and run-amok capitalism. Sarah Posner has given us a vivid account of a new generation of spiritual hucksters whose venality is nearly matched by their political influence. The story she tells is appalling, but the way she tells it is enormously compelling.”  
***Michelle Goldberg, author of Kingdom Coming: The Rise of Christian Nationalism***

“Sarah Posner has produced the definitive expose of America’s leading “prosperity gospel” preachers. With direct access to the Bush White House and Republican lawmakers, these televangelists have injected their Armageddon-based agenda into U.S. foreign policy. Posner’s book should serve as a stark warning to anyone tempted to dismiss the John Hagees and Rod Parsleys of the world as benign loons.”  
***Max Blumenthal, Nation Institute Writing Fellow***

“Sarah Posner’s reporting on the religious right is dogged, informed, and ceaselessly illuminating. She never condescends to rank-and-file believers; at the same time, she never excuses their leaders’ hypocrisies or fundamental misunderstanding of, and threat to, our constitutional republic.”  
***Michael Tomasky, The Guardian***

“Sarah Posner introduces us to the stars of a new evangelical movement who have declared welfare Satanic, poverty a religious curse, and redistribution of wealth ‘contrary to the word of God.’ God’s Profits serves as an urgent warning about their toxic and corrupting effect on American politics.”  
***Esther Kaplan, author of With God on Their Side: George W. Bush and the Christian Right***

Detailed information about the book is available at [www.GodsProfits.com](http://www.GodsProfits.com)

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