

Franklin Graham slams Christianity Today for invoking father's name in call for Trump's removal

The son of the late pastor Billy Graham said his father would have been “disappointed” by Christianity Today’s editorial calling for the removal of President Trump, which was widely celebrated by the left and crashed its website.

Evangelist Franklin Graham told Fox News his father “dissociated himself from the magazine years ago” and was “disappointed” himself by the “moral high ground” they’ve tried to take but don’t have for invoking his father’s name to get rid of Trump.

PRO-TRUMP EVANGELICAL LEADERS CONDEMN DEMOCRATS’ IMPEACHMENT VOTE AS ‘UTTERLY PARTISAN’

“My father knew Donald Trump, believed in Donald Trump, and in this last election, he voted for Donald Trump,” the president of the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association and Samaritan’s Purse added. “And if he were here today, I’m sure he would tell you that himself.”



CHRISTIANITY  TODAY

Christianity Today called for President Trump's removal Thursday. (AP Photo/Manuel Balce Ceneta)

Graham responded in a lengthy Facebook post late Thursday to the editorial titled "Trump Should Be Removed From Office," just a day after the House of Representatives passed two articles of impeachment against him.

FRANKLIN GRAHAM TALKS KANYE'S CHURCH SERVICE WITH JOEL OSTEEN, OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

"Christianity Today released an editorial stating that President Trump should be removed from office, and they invoked my father's name (I suppose to try to bring legitimacy to their statements), so I feel it is important for me to respond," Graham wrote. "Yes, my father Billy Graham founded Christianity Today; but no, he would not agree with their opinion piece. In fact, he would be very disappointed."

Franklin Graham
on Thursday

My Response to Christianity Today:

Christianity Today released an editorial stating that President Trump should be removed from office—and they invoked my father's name (I suppose to try to bring legitimacy to their statements), so I feel it is important for me to respond.

Yes, my father Billy Graham founded Christianity Today; but no, he would not agree with their opinion piece. In fact, he would be very disappointed. I have not previously shared who my father voted for in the past election, but because of this article, I feel it is necessary to share it now. My father knew Donald Trump, he believed in Donald Trump, and he voted for Donald Trump. He believed that Donald J. Trump was the man for this hour in history for our nation.

For Christianity Today to side with the Democrat Party in a totally partisan attack on the President of the United States is unfathomable. Christianity Today failed to acknowledge that not one single Republican voted with the Democrats to impeach the President. I know a number of Republicans in Congress, and many of them are strong Christians. If the President were guilty of what the Democrats claimed, these Republicans would have joined with the Democrats to impeach him. But the Democrats were not even unanimous—two voted against impeachment and one voted present. This impeachment was politically motivated, 100% partisan. Why would Christianity Today choose to take the side of the Democrat left whose only goal is to discredit and smear the name of a sitting president? They want readers to believe the Democrat leadership rather than believe the President of the United States.

Look at all the President has accomplished in a very short time. The economy of our nation is the strongest it has been in 50 years, ISIS & the caliphate have been defeated, and the President has renegotiated trade deals to benefit all Americans. The list of accomplishments is long, but for me as a Christian, the fact that he is the most pro-life president in modern history is extremely important—and Christianity Today wants us to ignore that, to say it doesn't count? The President has been a staunch defender of religious freedom at home and around the world—and Christianity Today wants us to ignore that? Also, the President has appointed conservative judges in record number—and Christianity today wants us to ignore that? Christianity Today feels he should be removed from office because of false accusations that the President emphatically denies.

Christianity Today said it's time to call a spade a spade. The spade is this—Christianity Today has been used by the left for their political agenda. It's obvious that Christianity Today has moved to the left and is representing the elitist liberal wing of evangelicalism.

Is President Trump guilty of sin? Of course, he is, as were all past presidents and

as each one of us are, including myself. Therefore, let's pray for the President as he continues to lead the affairs of our nation.

The pro-Trump evangelical revealed his father not only supported the president but also cast his last vote for him — a fact he has repeatedly declined to confirm before his post. Billy Graham, who died in 2018 at the age of 99, served as a spiritual adviser to decades of presidents from Harry S. Truman to Barack Obama.

BRET BAIER: PELOSI MAY REALIZE IMPEACHMENT POLITICS HAVE 'TURNED AROUND' IN KEY STATES

President Trump responded to the editorial Friday morning, tweeting the “far-left magazine ... knows nothing about reading a perfect transcript of a routine phone call and would rather have a Radical Left nonbeliever, who wants to take your religion and your guns, than Donald Trump as your President.”



Donald J. Trump@realDonaldTrump

A far left magazine, or very “progressive,” as some would call it, which has been doing poorly and hasn’t been involved with the Billy Graham family for many years, Christianity Today, knows nothing about reading a perfect transcript of a routine phone call and would rather.....



Donald J. Trump@realDonaldTrump

....have a Radical Left nonbeliever, who wants to take your religion & your guns, than Donald Trump as your President. No President has done more for the Evangelical community, and it’s not even close. You’ll not get anything from those Dems on stage. I won’t be reading ET again!

“No President has done more for the Evangelical community, and it’s not even close. You’ll not get anything from those Dems on stage. I won’t be reading ET again!” the president added.

Galli responded to Trump’s tweet on CNN saying he disagrees with the president “on about seven or eight different levels,” calling the magazine

“centrist,” and revealing that he is stepping down as editor-in-chief soon. He said fellow Christians need to speak out about “manifestly immoral” matters and said CT is not read by “far-right evangelicals.”

“Christianity Today, when the opportunity presented itself to speak the truth clearly and charitably, we did it,” Galli said. “We didn’t shirk our duty and we did what we were called to do.” In his post, Graham points to Trump’s many accomplishments that evangelicals have celebrated from pro-life policies to championing religious freedom at home and abroad. “Christianity Today wants us to ignore that?”

“For Christianity Today to side with the Democrat Party in a totally partisan attack on the President of the United States is unfathomable,” Graham added, referencing Mark Galli, the editor-in-chief of Christianity Today, for failing to recognize that not a single Republican voted for impeachment.

In the editorial, Galli called Trump’s July 25 phone call to the Ukrainian president “profoundly immoral” and he labeled the case against the president “unambiguous.”



President Donald Trump and first lady Melania Trump stand with Franklin Graham during a ceremony as the late evangelist Billy Graham lies in repose at the U.S. Capitol, on February 28, 2018 in Washington, DC. (Photo by Shawn Thew-Pool/Getty Images)

Graham said the magazine, which rebukes evangelicals who back Trump and warned that their support “will crash down on the reputation of evangelical religion and on the world’s understanding of the gospel,” is being used by the “left for their political agenda.”

“It’s obvious that Christianity Today has moved to the left and is representing the elitist liberal wing of evangelicalism,” Graham concludes. “Is President Trump guilty of sin? Of course he is, as were all past presidents and as each one of us are, including myself. Therefore, let’s pray for the President as he continues to lead the affairs of our nation.

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Jenna Ellis, a senior legal adviser for the Trump 2020 campaign, slammed the magazine in an op-ed for the Washington Examiner as being run by “pious ‘Never Trumpers’ who feel morally justified...in a self-serving desire to be proven right...”

Jerry Falwell, Jr., president of Liberty University, called the editorial “CT unmasked” on Twitter: “Less than 20 percent of evangelicals supported Hillary Clinton in 2016 but now @CTmagazine has removed any doubt that they are part of the same 17 percent or so of liberal evangelicals who have preached social gospel for decades.”

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