

RELIGION WRITER

Rick Pidcock

PROFILE

Rick Pidcock is an author and journalist, and a weekly contributor for **Baptist News Global**. He is the author of ***Weapons of Worship: How the Songs of Evangelicalism Form the Soundtrack of Extremism***, published by **Broadleaf Books** in September 2026. His work has appeared in the **American Academy of Religion**, **BioLogos**, **Patheos**, and **Real Clear Religion**. And his writing has been cited in pieces for the **New York Times**, **The Boston Globe**, **Rolling Stone**, **MS NOW**, **Vanity Fair**, **Salon**, **MS Magazine**, and many others. He also hosts BNG's **Highest Power: Church + State** podcast.

Before turning to journalism, Rick led worship for twenty years. He holds a Master of Arts in Worship from **Northern Seminary** and is an at-home parent to five children. He and his family live in South Carolina.

EXPERIENCE

- 2025 – Pres. Host, “Highest Power: Church + State,” *Baptist News Global*. (150+ episodes)
- 2019 – Pres. Religion Writer, Freelance
- 2021 Clemons Fellow, Baptist News Global

EDUCATION

- 2021 M.A., Worship, Northern Seminary, Lisle, IL
- 2004 B.A., Bible, Bob Jones University, Greenville, SC

AWARDS

- 2021 Academic Achievement Award for highest GPA in the Master of Arts programs, Northern Seminary

BOOKS

Pidcock, Rick. *Weapons of Worship: How the Songs of Evangelicalism Form the Soundtrack of Extremism*, Broadleaf Books, 2026.

ARTICLES

- 2026 Pidcock, Rick. “Reflections on Death of the Pastor’s Wife.” *Baptist News Global*, September 1, 2026.
- 2026 Pidcock, Rick. “Christian Crusaders create chaos in Minneapolis.” *Baptist News Global*, August 24, 2026.

- 2026 Pidcock, Rick. "In Dearborn, the latest evidence of the new Crusades." *Baptist News Global*, August 19, 2026.
- 2026 Pidcock, Rick. "Would Jesus zap children with shock gloves?" *Baptist News Global*, August 16, 2026.
- 2026 Pidcock, Rick. "Worship warfare and cultural genocide." *Substack*, August 14, 2026.
- 2026 Pidcock, Rick. "Sean Feucht thinks Jesus loves his invasion of a Muslim procession." *Baptist News Global*, August 10, 2026.
- 2026 Pidcock, Rick. "Don't be surprised white evangelicals still support Jesse Watters." *Baptist News Global*, August 6, 2026.
- 2026 Pidcock, Rick. "Beware of evangelists on airplanes." *Baptist News Global*, August 4, 2026.
- 2026 Pidcock, Rick. "Worship Impact Assessment." *Substack*, July 29, 2026.
- 2026 Pidcock, Rick. "Complementarians should learn from the moral clarity of Congress." *Baptist News Global*, July 28, 2026.
- 2026 Pidcock, Rick. "Men-only gyms seek to protect Christian men from lust." *Baptist News Global*, July 22, 2026.
- 2026 Pidcock, Rick. "How Christian nationalism shows up in patriotic worship services." *Baptist News Global*, July 7, 2026.
- 2026 Pidcock, Rick. "There is no safe space in John Piper's cruel theology." *Baptist News Global*, June 30, 2026.
- 2026 Pidcock, Rick. "At this VBS, a skit simulates a violent execution." *Baptist News Global*, June 30, 2026.
- 2026 Pidcock, Rick. "What Disclosure Day reveals about evangelicals' fears." *Baptist News Global*, June 25, 2026.
- 2026 Pidcock, Rick. "Understanding Al Mohler's case against women." *Baptist News Global*, June 4, 2026.
- 2026 Pidcock, Rick. "In conversation with Meredith Stone about Mohler's amendment." *Baptist News Global*, May 28, 2026.
- 2026 Pidcock, Rick. "At Rededicate 250, Chris Tomlin emerges as worship warrior." *Baptist News Global*, May 27, 2026.
- 2026 Pidcock, Rick. "Here's what Baptists said at Rededicate 250." *Baptist News Global*, May 20, 2026.
- 2026 Pidcock, Rick. "What I saw and heard in DC this weekend." *Baptist News Global*, May 18, 2026.

- 2026 Pidcock, Rick. "Is pluralism possible under an evangelical Christian God?" *Baptist News Global*, May 15, 2026.
- 2026 Pidcock, Rick. "End-tiems prophets say we're about to find out aliens are demons." *Baptist News Global*, May 8, 2026.
- 2026 Pidcock, Rick. "Newsboys lawsuit exposes underlying finances of CCM business." *Baptist News Global*, May 5, 2026.
- 2026 Pidcock, Rick. "How bad theology has set us up for sexualized AI deepfakes." *Baptist News Global*, May 1, 2026.
- 2026 Pidcock, Rick. "When it comes to religion, question everything." *Baptist News Global*, April 24, 2026.
- 2026 Pidcock, Rick. "Why was the AI image of Trump as Jesus the last straw?" *Baptist News Global*, April 15, 2026.
- 2026 Pidcock, Rick. "The GOP has a transgender fixation, and Democrats aren't helping." *Baptist News Global*, April 10, 2026.
- 2026 Pidcock, Rick. "What happens when fools are elevated into highest power?" *Baptist News Global*, April 1, 2026.
- 2026 Pidcock, Rick. "Sometimes reading the bible isn't as wholesome as it sounds." *Baptist News Global*, March 26, 2026.
- 2026 Pidcock, Rick. "One thing complementarian ministries share with Epstein Files." *Baptist News Global*, March 20, 2026.
- 2026 Pidcock, Rick. "Why are evangelicals freaking out over James Talarico?" *Baptist News Global*, March 12, 2026.
- 2026 Pidcock, Rick. "SBC influencer William Wolfe wants an America of white people." *Baptist News Global*, March 10, 2026.
- 2026 Pidcock, Rick. "Are US military commanders really talking about Armageddon?" *Baptist News Global*, March 6, 2026.
- 2026 Pidcock, Rick. "Cover Reveal for 'Weapons of Worship: How the Songs of Evangelicalism Form the Soundtrack of Extremism.'" *Substack*, March 4, 2026.
- 2026 Pidcock, Rick. "And lead us into laughter ...'" *Baptist News Global*, February 26, 2026.
- 2026 Pidcock, Rick. "Forget empathy, the new war is on lament." *Baptist News Global*, February 18, 2026.
- 2026 Pidcock, Rick. "Kid Rock and evangelicals' obsession with celebrity." *Baptist News Global*, February 12, 2026.

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- 2026 Pidcock, Rick. "Alex Pretti's murder lays bare the lie of patriarchy." *Baptist News Global*, February 1, 2026.
- 2026 Pidcock, Rick. "The Theobros are getting the war they want in Minnesota." *Baptist News Global*, January 24, 2026.
- 2026 Pidcock, Rick. "Let's talk about how Cities Church treats women." *Baptist News Global*, January 21, 2026.
- 2026 Pidcock, Rick. "Calvinist pastor prays for God to smite the people of Minneapolis." *Baptist News Global*, January 13, 2026.
- 2026 Pidcock, Rick. "There's a reason more women seek help from therapists than pastors." *Baptist News Global*, January 9, 2026.
- 2026 Pidcock, Rick. "Minneapolis clergy rally for justice after ICE shooting." *Baptist News Global*, January 8, 2026.
- 2026 Pidcock, Rick. "Of course, evangelicals are complaining about Stranger Things." *Baptist News Global*, January 5, 2026.
- 2025 Pidcock, Rick. "2025 was about choosing brands over neighbors." *Substack*, December 31, 2025.
- 2025 Pidcock, Rick. "When what's 'good for Christianity' isn't good for your neighbor." *Baptist News Global*, December 30, 2025.
- 2025 Pidcock, Rick. "'When the wicked are in power ...'" *Baptist News Global*, December 23, 2025.
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- 2025 Pidcock, Rick. "Do you hear what I hear?" *Baptist News Global*, November 25, 2025.
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- 2025 Pidcock, Rick. "All are welcome—except those we don't like." *Baptist News Global*, November 12, 2025.
- 2025 Pidcock, Rick. "Sex, porn, bikinis, health care, hunger, and Great Gatsby depravity." *Baptist News Global*, November 7, 2025.
- 2025 Pidcock, Rick. "Women are the problem, Carlson and Fuentes declare." *Baptist News Global*, October 30, 2025.
- 2025 Pidcock, Rick. "Yes, I'm in favor of white evangelicals being honest." *Baptist News Global*, October 24, 2025.
- 2025 Pidcock, Rick. "Now Christian nationalists claim we're having a revival." *Baptist News Global*, October 16, 2025.
- 2025 Pidcock, Rick. "Dear white evangelicals, I was wrong." *Baptist News Global*, October 8, 2025.
- 2025 Pidcock, Rick. "What is 'the church' and what is 'Communion'?" *Baptist News Global*, October 6, 2025.
- 2025 Pidcock, Rick. "White evangelical worship helps the poison of power go down." *Baptist News Global*, September 24, 2025.
- 2025 Pidcock, Rick. "'This is not an idol. This is a sculpture.'" *Baptist News Global*, September 19, 2025.
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- 2025 Pidcock, Rick. "When Romans 1 is your answer to every challenge." *Baptist News Global*, May 7, 2025.
- 2025 Pidcock, Rick. "So Paula White's a complementarian? Really?" *Baptist News Global*, April 29, 2025.
- 2025 Pidcock, Rick. "Trump, Harvard and Bob Jones University." *Baptist News Global*, April 21, 2025.
- 2025 Pidcock, Rick. "Here's what we've been talking about on 'Highest Power.'" *Baptist News Global*, April 1, 2025.
- 2025 Pidcock, Rick. "That time I got an angry call from the subject of an article about anger and abuse." *Baptist News Global*, March 23, 2025.
- 2025 Pidcock, Rick. "Allegations against Tim Whitaker show how hierarchy transfers." *Baptist News Global*, March 19, 2025.
- 2025 Pidcock, Rick. "Why we can't convince some Christians to love their neighbor." *Baptist News Global*, March 14, 2025.

- 2025 Pidcock, Rick. "Our debate ultimately is about the dignity and humanity of women." *Baptist News Global*, March 5, 2025.
- 2025 Pidcock, Rick. "Are we a democracy or a republic? Why words matter." *Baptist News Global*, February 27, 2025.
- 2025 Pidcock, Rick. "Feeling overwhelmed? Think local, Tyler advises." *Baptist News Global*, February 18, 2025.
- 2025 Pidcock, Rick. "When a church's sexual abuse is so pernicious the church should close." *Baptist News Global*, February 11, 2025.
- 2025 Pidcock, Rick. "Why Trump seeks to create a government of one person." *Baptist News Global*, February 7, 2025.
- 2025 Pidcock, Rick. "White evangelical men weaponize the gospel against women because they don't respect women." *Baptist News Global*, January 27, 2025.
- 2025 Pidcock, Rick. "When worship becomes an act of cruelty." *Baptist News Global*, January 22, 2025.
- 2025 Pidcock, Rick. "Zuckerberg's and Rogan's masculinity sounds like evangelical complementarians." *Baptist News Global*, January 16, 2025.
- 2025 Pidcock, Rick. "How I learned to stop obsessing over lust and you can too." *Baptist News Global*, January 9, 2025.
- 2024 Pidcock, Rick. "When flat earth's and creationists find common ground." *Baptist News Global*, December 29, 2024.
- 2024 Pidcock, Rick. "Remember that time the pastor reenacted a scene from Die Hard?" *Baptist News Global*, December 17, 2024.
- 2024 Pidcock, Rick. "Notre Dame event models the hospitality needed for national healing." *Baptist News Global*, December 11, 2024.
- 2024 Pidcock, Rick. "Unsurprisingly, The Gospel Coalition loathes the Wicked movie." *Baptist News Global*, December 5, 2024.
- 2024 Pidcock, Rick. "Hegseth's nomination fits the TheoBro pattern creating abuse culture." *Baptist News Global*, November 26, 2024.
- 2024 Pidcock, Rick. "Dispirited Christians must prepare to stand in the gap, historians urge." *Baptist News Global*, November 20, 2024.
- 2024 Pidcock, Rick. "Here's the toxic racism and misogyny you let loose with a vote for Trump." *Baptist News Global*, November 11, 2024.
- 2024 Pidcock, Rick. "The mysteries of the Latino vote for Trump." *Baptist News Global*, November 7, 2024.

- 2024 Pidcock, Rick. "When 'thy kingdom come' is a threat more than a blessing." *Baptist News Global*, November 4, 2024.
- 2024 Pidcock, Rick. "Of worship warfare, theocracy and a weekend with Sean Feucht." *Baptist News Global*, October 30, 2024.
- 2024 Pidcock, Rick. "Why inerrancy is a threat to democracy." *Baptist News Global*, October 21, 2024.
- 2024 Pidcock, Rick. "A tale of two rallies on the same day in North Carolina." *Baptist News Global*, October 16, 2024.
- 2024 Pidcock, Rick. "Now they're going after Bluey for being woke." *Baptist News Global*, October 8, 2024.
- 2024 Pidcock, Rick. "Looking for God in the midst of the storm." *Baptist News Global*, October 4, 2024.
- 2024 Pidcock, Rick. "For Our Daughters tells the stories of clergy sexual abuse survivors in their own words." *Baptist News Global*, September 26, 2024.
- 2024 Pidcock, Rick. "Steve Lawson preached fire and brimstone except for himself." *Baptist News Global*, September 23, 2024.
- 2024 Pidcock, Rick. "10 examples of conservative evangelicals turning truth into dangerous lies." *Baptist News Global*, September 18, 2024.
- 2024 Pidcock, Rick. "JD Vance and Al Mohler use fuzzy math to sound an alarm on falling birth rates." *Baptist News Global*, September 10, 2024.
- 2024 Pidcock, Rick. "Of gay penguins, the Grand Canyon, the Ark and the Scopes trial." *Baptist News Global*, September 5, 2024.
- 2024 Pidcock, Rick. "Deconstructing God as king." *Baptist News Global*, August 30, 2024.
- 2024 Pidcock, Rick. "White Calvinist theology has gone to hell." *Baptist News Global*, August 23, 2024.
- 2024 Pidcock, Rick. "Southern Baptist megachurch pastor returns to misogyny as a text." *Baptist News Global*, August 18, 2024.
- 2024 Pidcock, Rick. "Christian Extremists Who Believe the 2020 Election Was Stolen May Be Counting Your Votes This November." *Baptist News Global*, August 16, 2024.
- 2024 Pidcock, Rick. "Who are the billionaires and celebrity pastors supporting Megan Basham?" *Baptist News Global*, August 15, 2024.
- 2024 Pidcock, Rick. "How concerned should we be about conspiracy theorists counting our votes?" *Baptist News Global*, August 11, 2024.

- 2024 Pidcock, Rick. "Offense taken: Parsing the uproar over the Olympics opening ceremony." *Baptist News Global*, July 18, 2024.
- 2024 Pidcock, Rick. "What JD Vance and Harrison Butker have in common." *Baptist News Global*, July 22, 2024.
- 2024 Pidcock, Rick. "Must our quests for liberty be mutually exclusive?" *Baptist News Global*, July 16, 2024.
- 2024 Pidcock, Rick. "Don't blame 'the media' for reporting your own violent language." *Baptist News Global*, July 14, 2024.
- 2024 Pidcock, Rick. "Matt Chandler's father confessed to sexually abusing a child then years later was given free reign of a church property." *Baptist News Global*, July 11, 2024.
- 2024 Pidcock, Rick. "Conservative evangelicals claim they are being persecuted by not being allowed to persecute LGBTQ foster kids." *Baptist News Global*, July 2, 2024.
- 2024 Pidcock, Rick. "When being a pastor is 'the most important calling,' family values take a back seat." *Baptist News Global*, June 27, 2024.
- 2024 Pidcock, Rick. "What's happening to megachurch pastors in Dallas?" *Baptist News Global*, June 25, 2024.
- 2024 Pidcock, Rick. "Watching SBC men posture for position is exhausting." *Baptist News Global*, June 10, 2024.
- 2024 Pidcock, Rick. "Rosaria Butterfield is not a model for becoming un-gay." *Baptist News Global*, June 4, 2024.
- 2024 Pidcock, Rick. "The Harrison Butker story is so much weirder than you know." *Baptist News Global*, May 24, 2024.
- 2024 Pidcock, Rick. "A controversial horror film embodies the real-life horrors of church abuse." *Baptist News Global*, May 22, 2024.
- 2024 Pidcock, Rick. "Butker's commencement speech echoes MacArthur and other male supremacists." *Baptist News Global*, May 15, 2024.
- 2024 Pidcock, Rick. "A pastor's wife's questionable suicide sparks suspicion and highlights the fruit of abusive theologies." *Baptist News Global*, May 12, 2024.
- 2024 Pidcock, Rick. "Before evangelical males went after Taylor Swift, they hated on Amy Grant." *Baptist News Global*, May 3, 2024.
- 2024 Pidcock, Rick. "What can we learn from children about being liberated from Kendomland?" *Baptist News Global*, April 30, 2024.

- 2024 Pidcock, Rick. "Amid concerns about video game-inspired violence, a 'Christian' game slays ungodly enemies." *Baptist News Global*, April 26, 2024.
- 2024 Pidcock, Rick. "What happened when Mark Driscoll and Josh Howerton showed up at the Stronger Men's Conference this weekend." *Baptist News Global*, April 15, 2024.
- 2024 Pidcock, Rick. "Here's how toxic male supremacy keeps on infecting the church, even in a supposed 'apology.'" *Baptist News Global*, April 10, 2024.
- 2024 Pidcock, Rick. "Even in March Madness, the playing field remains uneven for women." *Baptist News Global*, April 4, 2024.
- 2024 Pidcock, Rick. "Pastor's wedding night advice to women opens a conversation on harmful evangelical teaching on sex." *Baptist News Global*, March 29, 2024.
- 2024 Pidcock, Rick. "Can't a solar eclipse just be a solar eclipse?" *Baptist News Global*, March 27, 2024.
- 2024 Pidcock, Rick. "How evangelical and Mormon deconstruction is playing out on TikTok and YouTube." *Baptist News Global*, March 20, 2024.
- 2024 Pidcock, Rick. "No, the U.S. Constitution is not based on the book of Deuteronomy." *Baptist News Global*, March 11, 2024.
- 2024 Pidcock, Rick. "If you want to post the Ten Commandments in schools, you ought to learn more about them." *Baptist News Global*, March 6, 2024.
- 2024 Pidcock, Rick. "Conservatives' agenda for America is starting to read like Bob Jones University student handbook." *Baptist News Global*, February 29, 2024.
- 2024 Pidcock, Rick. "On sitting in the shade of another's tree." *Baptist News Global*, February 23, 2024.
- 2024 Pidcock, Rick. "Of Elisabeth Elliot, Beth Allison Barr, Kristin Du Mez and Karen Swallow Prior and who gets a seat at the table." *Baptist News Global*, February 16, 2024.
- 2024 Pidcock, Rick. "When it comes to child care costs, Dave Ramsey is the one who's 'dumber than crap.'" *Baptist News Global*, February 9, 2024.
- 2024 Pidcock, Rick. "Who is Alistair Begg, and why are American fundamentalists so upset with him?" *Baptist News Global*, February 1, 2024.
- 2024 Pidcock, Rick. "Why are conservatives so afraid of Taylor Swift?" *Baptist News Global*, January 31, 2024.
- 2024 Pidcock, Rick. "What grief, denial and fear have to do with the evangelical fascination with Trump." *Baptist News Global*, January 26, 2024.

- 2024 Pidcock, Rick. "As MAGA pastors gain influence, let's talk about peace instead of power." *Baptist News Global*, January 19, 2024.
- 2024 Pidcock, Rick. "Will Christian Trump supporters exchange their humanity for ignorance or for violent delights?" *Baptist News Global*, January 10, 2024.
- 2024 Pidcock, Rick. "What is IHOPKC? Who is Mike Bickle? And what do I need to know?" *Baptist News Global*, January 2, 2024.
- 2023 Pidcock, Rick. "Pope Francis vs. John Piper: Two views of 'masculinizing' the church." *Baptist News Global*, December 27, 2023.
- 2023 Pidcock, Rick. "In dialogue with Doug Wilson and the 'pop Calvinists,' at least Wilson is consistent." *Baptist News Global*, December 14, 2023.
- 2023 Pidcock, Rick. "How you connect apocalypse to Advent affects how you interact with the news." *Baptist News Global*, December 8, 2023.
- 2023 Pidcock, Rick. "The horror of *Let Us Prey* may not be as far from home as you think." *Baptist News Global*, November 30, 2023.
- 2023 Pidcock, Rick. "If Good News Clubs get access to public schools, so does After School Satan Club." *Baptist News Global*, November 21, 2023.
- 2023 Pidcock, Rick. "Is it weird that Mike Johnson's underage son is his porn accountability partner?" *Baptist News Global*, November 13, 2023.
- 2023 Pidcock, Rick. "Association of Certified Biblical Counselors needs to look deeper than Bill Shannon to understand what ails them." *Baptist News Global*, November, 7, 2023.
- 2023 Pidcock, Rick. "You don't have to demonize us just because we've left the faith as you believe it." *Baptist News Global*, November 1, 2023.
- 2023 Pidcock, Rick. "Retributive theology opened the door to growth of the prosperity gospel today." *Baptist News Global*, October 26, 2023.
- 2023 Pidcock, Rick. "The moment we allow our hearts to go numb to the deaths of any children is the moment we shut down our humanity." *Baptist News Global*, October 17, 2023.
- 2023 Pidcock, Rick. "Here are some ways to listen to Palestinian Christians." *Baptist News Global*, October 10, 2023.
- 2023 Pidcock, Rick. "It's Al Mohler vs. Andy Stanley, part two, with Christianity Today joining the fray." *Baptist News Global*, October 5, 2023.
- 2023 Pidcock, Rick. "Religion's Power: What Makes It Work" review. *American Academy of Religion*, September 28, 2023.

- 2023 Pidcock, Rick. "What does Shannon Harris think now?" *Baptist News Global*, September 21, 2023.
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- 2023 Pidcock, Rick. "Must we change our language to reach climate change deniers?" *Baptist News Global*, September 19, 2023.
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- 2023 Pidcock, Rick. "Why I reference evangelical women I disagree with in my writing." *Self-published*, September 1, 2023.
- 2023 Pidcock, Rick. "The Director: A Tale of Biblical Manhood and Womanhood." *Self-published*, August 30, 2023.
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- 2023 Pidcock, Rick. "Yes, Tim Scott is a Black man, but he's still promoting Christian nationalism." *Baptist News Global*, May 25, 2023.
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