

## Read With Discernment

Sir Francis Bacon's essay, "Of Studies," was written in 1597 and is as meaningful today as it was over four hundred years ago. Among his wise observations are these: "Some books are to be tasted, others to be swallowed, and some few to be chewed and digested; that is, some books are to be read only in parts; others to be read, but not curiously; and some few are to be read wholly, and with diligence and attention." Rick Warren's book, *The Purpose Driven Church*, cannot easily be classified in Bacon's schema. There is much in Rick Warren's book that has considerable merit. But because of his denominational bias and because he seems to have more interest in building a big church rather than in building a biblical church, one must read his book with great discernment.

(Winford Claiborne, Book Review: The Purpose Driven Church, *The Spiritual Sword*, Volume 32, October 2000, No. 1, Memphis, Tennessee, 13)