

If Jesus Were Running for President, Would He Win?

By **Allen Webster**

Would one be elected today who held the beliefs Jesus held?

Poverty/Welfare

Jesus often spoke out for human rights on behalf of oppressed people. Yet He was balanced, speaking both of a society's responsibility to help others and an individual's responsibility to help himself. Under normal circumstances, each is to bear his "own burden" (make his own living) (Gal. 6:5); under emergency or extreme circumstances, others (society, Christians) are to bear "one another's burdens" (Gal. 6:2).

Jesus was pro-charity. He pointed to the needs of the marginalized. He demonstrated (Matt. 10:9–10; John 13:29) and taught love for neighbors (Matt. 22:39), even those we do not personally know (Luke 10:33–37). "When you make a feast, call the poor, the maimed, the lame, the blind: and you shall be blessed; for they cannot recompense you" (Luke 14:13–14). Christians are to work to have something to give to those in need (Eph. 4:28). Under the gospel, rich people are to "be rich in good works, ready to distribute" (1 Tim. 6:17–19).

Jesus was pro-work. "If any provide not for his own, and especially for those of his own house, he has denied the faith" (1 Tim. 5:8). "If any would not work, neither should he eat" (2 Thess. 3:10).

Political Correctness/Rights

Jesus did not try to please anyone but His Father (John 8:29). The record of His life shows that He neither tried to stir up nor avoid trouble. On one hand, He did not strive, lift up His voice in the streets, break "a bruised reed," or quench a "smoking flax" (Matt. 12:20; cf. Isaiah 42:1–4). He sometimes moved to another city when controversy was inevitable (Luke 4:28–31).

On the other hand, Jesus never adjusted His message to please people. To Him the right path was the unpopular one: "Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leads to destruction, and many there be which go in there" (Matt. 7:13). Do not "follow a multitude to do evil" (Ex. 23:2).

Jesus' motto was, "Love your neighbor as yourself" (Matt. 22:39). He taught to turn the cheek (Matt. 5:39), give the cloak (5:40), walk another mile (5:41). Isn't this better than "every man for himself, demand your rights, agitate, intimidate, and regulate"? Healthy societies focus on responsibilities more than rights.

(continued next week)

Prayers and Concerns

- ♦ Bill Cockrum pulled ligaments in his side last Saturday. He was trimming tree limbs when he fell against a log. He has been in a lot of pain when his back spasms.
- ♦ Sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Irene Corp who died Wednesday. Her service was yesterday. She was 98. She had been living with her daughter Cecelia before going to the nursing home.
- ♦ Sympathy also goes to the family and friends of Betty Lute. She is the mother of Theresa Strong and grandmother of April Lynne. Her service was Wednesday.
- ♦ Tiffany Pleasant has been diagnosed with Hodgkin's lymphoma. She is having tests to determine the best treatment.
- ♦ Remember those with health issues—Dorlene Butler, Ruth Strain, Norma Jones, Steve Siebels, Aleta Collins, Bob Robbins.
- ♦ All those battling cancer—Amy Myers, Don Luna, Harold Reynolds, Jim Kirkland, Donna Shipley, Elaine Hunter (Larry's sister), Dawn (Chris Lemburg's sister), Lionel Daugherty, Jana Crisp, Richard Blackburn, Nikki Smith, Marian Luna, Jenny James, Bill McFarland, Debbie Eslinger.
- ♦ Those in GHCC: Bonnie Ebrite, Delphia Holmes. Bonnie Luna at Ava. Clifford Lansdown at Hiram Shaddox; Jack Moyers, Cyprus Spring. Wilbern Uchtman, Brook Haven in West Plains.

Truly, truly, I say
to you, unless
one is born of
water and the
Spirit, he cannot
enter the
kingdom of God.

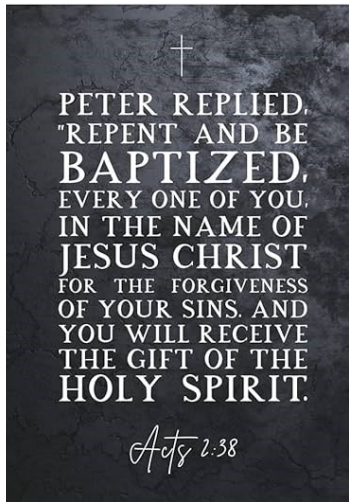
John
3:5

Then I remembered what
the Lord had said: 'John
baptized with water, but
you will be baptized with
the Holy Spirit.

Acts 11:16

Birthdays		Anniversaries	
11-5	Bill Cockrum	11-4	Jim and Debra Lane
11-7	Wanda Beard	11-16	Tinker and Karen Langston
11-8	Ashley Hossman	11-30	Harold and Mary Ann Reynolds
11-13	Kay Young	Birthdays	
11-15	Kelly Lemberg	11-24	Lincoln Gosdin (3)
11-21	Merle Scott	11-25	Henry Flaughner
11-22	Larry Butler		

Date	Event	Details
Wed. Nov. 20, 6 p.m. No supper or classes here.	Community Thanks-giving Service with food after.	Halbert speaking at Lilly Ridge Service. Bring food to share.
Wed. Dec. 18	Christmas Play	More info coming



After the election is over, we can still guarantee these results:

- ✝ God will still be on his throne.
- ✝ Jesus will still be King of kings and Lord of lords.
- ✝ The Bible will still have all the answers to every problem.
- ✝ The tomb will still be empty.
- ✝ Prayer will still work.
- ✝ The cross, not the government, will still be our salvation.
- ✝ God will still be with us always—He will never leave us or forsake us.

November Worship Assignments

Welcome & Shepherd's Prayer

11-17 John Abraham
11-24 Mark Lane

Communion & Closing Prayer

D. E. Pleasant
Titus Smith

Song Leader: John Abraham
Greeters: Dana & Marsha Crisp

The Family News

November 17, 2024

Gainesville Church of Christ

PO Box 7, 23550 US Hwy. 160, Gainesville, MO 65655
www.gainesvillechurchofchrist.org

A Place to Call Home

We welcome you and are so glad you could worship with us today.

Schedule of Services

Sunday

9:30 a.m. Bible Classes for All Ages
10:30 a.m. Worship Service: ***Jesus Baptizes with the Holy Spirit***

Wednesday

6 p.m. Fellowship Supper
7 p.m. Bible Classes for All Ages Downstairs

Sunday Worship Outline

Welcome and Shepherd's Prayer
Kids Singing up Front
#71, *As the Deer*
#483, *Is It for Me?*
#387, *Tell Me the Story of Jesus*; Communion Service
#429, *Oh, to Be Like Thee*
Sermon and Invitation
Fill Me with your Spirit, Lord
#73273, *Take Time to Be Holy*; Closing Prayer
Offering baskets are located at the back.

We are a community of redeemed sinners who are following Jesus Christ, proclaiming the gospel of grace, loving our Lord and one another.

Elders

Mark Lane 417-679-4835
Don Luna 417-712-1945
David Stevens 417-679-4700
John Abraham 870-421-5632

Deacons

Larry Butler 817-504-1604
Dana Crisp 417-331-5090
James Langston 870-315-4355

Preacher

Halbert Smith 417-257-3880