

If Jesus Were Running for President, Would He Win?

By Allen Webster

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

Religion/Public Prayer

Surprisingly, Jesus was no big fan of public prayer, at least not as practiced by the Pharisees (Matthew 6:5–6). Jesus prayed publicly on occasion (John 11:41–42; 17:1–26), but He might not be religious enough for some who profess to follow Him today. Possibly He would call some the same names—hypocrites, fools, blind—that He did their counterparts in the first century (Matthew 23). It is ironic that the holy Son of God was crucified primarily because He was not “holy” enough for religious leaders in His day (Matthew 9:10–11; 11:19).

Freedom of Religion/Freedom of Speech

“Be ye therefore merciful, as your Father also is merciful. Judge not, and ye shall not be judged: condemn not, and ye shall not be condemned: forgive, and ye shall be forgiven” (Luke 6:36–37). “Judge not according to the appearance but judge righteous judgment” (John 7:24).

In our media-driven, hypersensitive, hide-behind-your-keyboard-and-fire-away culture, the great American virtues of Freedom of Speech and Freedom of Religion are pushed to a back burner. The trait of tolerance is championed—so long as one holds to the party line. If a person dares to exercise his freedom of speech in taking a view differing from the mainstream—especially if it originates in the Bible—then tolerating him no longer seems a virtue. Jesus might say, “Judge not, that ye be not judged” (Matthew 7:1). “Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil” (Isaiah 5:20).

Women

Jesus never married. Thus, He had no wife or mother-in-law. Jesus never fathered children, so He had no daughters or granddaughters. He never had a romantic relationship, so no girlfriends. He had a mother and sisters. He had female friends and followers. Even with this limited personal experience, Jesus knew the fairer sex (John 2:25). Women were never objects to Jesus. They were not property. They were not tools to be used or slaves to be exploited. More than any other individual in history, Jesus raised the status of women.

- ✠ He complimented women: “O woman, great is your faith” (Matthew 15:28).
- ✠ He helped women: “Woman, you are loosed from your infirmity” (Luke 13:12).
- ✠ He comforted women: “Woman, why do you weep?” (John 20:15).

Prayers and Concerns

- ◆ Tiffany Pleasant had her first chemo treatment last Thursday. She will have a treatment every two weeks.
- ◆ Louise Hambelton Patterson will have a double mastectomy Tuesday at Baxter.
- ◆ Remember those with health issues—Dorlene Butler, Ruth Strain, Norma Jones, Steve Siebels, Aleta Collins, Bob Robbins.
- ◆ All those battling cancer—Tiffany Pleasant, 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.

**BORN AGAIN
IS NOT A
RELIGION;
IT IS A LIFE
CHANGED
BY GOD.**

JESUS ANSWERED
AND SAID TO HIM,
“MOST ASSUREDLY, I
SAY TO YOU, UNLESS
ONE IS BORN AGAIN,
HE CANNOT SEE THE
KINGDOM OF GOD.”
– JOHN 3:3



- ✠ He defended women: “Why do you trouble the woman?” (Matthew 26:10,13).
- ✠ He elevated women: “Neither male nor female: for you are all one” (Galatians 3:28).

Jesus certainly got the women’s vote in His day. His most ardent followers were women—they were last at the cross, first at the tomb (Matthew 27:55; 28:5). They liked Him; trusted Him; respected Him; followed Him; cared for Him (Matthew 26:7; 27:61; Mark 15:40–41; Luke 8:3; 11:27; 23:27; Acts 1:14; 5:14). *(continued next week)*

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		

Vicki will be serving taco soup and dessert for Wednesday night pre-Thanksgiving fellowship supper.

If you were unable to attend the Thanksgiving service Wednesday, you may give your donation to the Ministerial Alliance to Melinda. The funds are used for benevolence in Ozark County.

Date	Event	Details
Sunday Dec. 15 after church	Wreath Making \$10 See Bethany Snider	Bring ribbon and ornaments to decorate.
Wednesday night December 18	Christmas Play	Come watch the children—cookies and hot chocolate after the play.

December Worship Assignments			
<u>Welcome & Shepherd's Prayer</u>		<u>Communion & Closing Prayer</u>	
Today	Mark Lane		Titus Smith
1	David Stevens		Halbert Smith
8	Don Luna		R. J. Moyers
15	John Abraham		Larry Butler
22	Mark Lane		Dana Crisp
29	David Stevens		Dylan Abraham
<p>Song Leader: John Abraham; Titus Smith Greeters: Dana & Marsha Crisp; Mark & Nichole Lane</p>			

The Family News

November 24, 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 Teaches Nicodemus**

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

#458, *Redeemed*

#129, *Amazing Grace*

How Deep the Father's Love; Communion Service

#619, *A New Creature*

Sermon and Invitation

#429, *Oh, to Be Like Thee*

#474, *Thank You, Lord*; 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		Deacons	
Mark Lane	417-679-4835	Larry Butler	817-504-1604
Don Luna	417-712-1945	Dana Crisp	417-331-5090
David Stevens	417-679-4700	James Langston	870-315-4355
John Abraham	870-421-5632	Preacher	
		Halbert Smith	417-257-3880