

Liberty Commentary September 15, 2008

There has been the usual charge and counter charge from each political campaign and we wind our way to the November elections. As usual, the campaign is much more about image and marketing rather than about fact and reality, irrespective of which political party one is affiliated with.

One very interesting claim that was made recently in the political campaign was the claim that Jesus was a “community organizer”. Is this true? Was Jesus really a community organizer or was He the Savior of the world? Jesus tells us in John chapter 10 that, “I am come that they might have life and that they might have it more abundantly”. There is no indication that Jesus came to organize anything but rather to bring spiritual life. In fact, he was hated by his own people. For three years his own countrymen tried to kill him until they were finally successful in convincing the Roman government that he was trying to subvert the government, which was punishable by death.

Jesus was not a community organizer at all; He was the Son of God. In fact, He was God. His heavenly name was the “Word”. His earthly name given by His parents was Jesus. In John Chapter one the Bible tells us that “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were created by him; and without him was not anything made that was made”.

Jesus was the instigator of creation and spoke the worlds into existence. Jesus was involved in the creation of the plants, trees, fish and His prize creation: People! Jesus when he was 12 years old told his parents, “I must be about my Fathers business”. Again, no mention of seeking a political solution to the problems of the world but seeking a spiritual solution and that was to be

accomplished by fulfilling what God had sent Him to do-die for the sins of the world.

God the Son temporarily set aside His glory and fellowship with God the Father and God the Spirit to come to this hostile world to take on a human body of flesh and bone. Jesus was physically born of human flesh, the very human flesh that He had created. When Mary kissed her baby she was kissing the very face of God that had created her. When Jesus became old enough to walk, He walked upon the very earth that He had created. As Jesus grew into manhood he was tempted like we are yet he was without sin because he had no sin nature-He was God.

The fact is, Jesus is not a uniter He is a divider. Jesus' claim that He was equal with God in nature, power and authority divided families, friends, religious leaders, and eventually the Roman Empire. This divisiveness led to His followers being excommunicated from the synagogues, which represented their entire social structure. It is believed that all twelve disciples were martyred for their faith in Jesus Christ. Jesus experienced beatings, scourging and threats. His own creations spat upon Him, attempted to stone Him, slapped Him and eventually crucified Him. Jesus permitted His creation to place a crown of thorns upon his head, to lead him down the very soil that He had created to be placed upon the very wood He had created and allow the very spikes that He had created to be thrust through His wrists and feet. After six excruciating hours on the cross Jesus completed what He had come to do when He said, "It is finished".

It is finished! This carries tremendous theological implications. What is finished? His physical suffering was finished. The last Old Testament lamb was sacrificed. There will never again be a need for a lamb to be sacrificed. Jesus paid the sin debt once and for all as the Lamb of God, "it is finished". Jesus made propitiation for the sins of the world. Jesus the Lamb of God satisfied the righteous

demands of a Holy God and now our relationship can be restored. The Old Testament dispensation is finished. It is no longer the Old Testament and the law. It is the New Testament and grace. “For by grace are ye saved through faith and that not of yourselves: it is a gift of God” Ephesians 2:8. Then the greatest of all is that the plan of salvation was complete. “It is finished”.

Jesus did not come to organize public protests or voter registration drives. He did not come to fight for social justice. He did not even come to fight for change. In fact, when Jesus had His day in the court of Pilate He does not even defend Himself but tells Pilate, “My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight”.

Jesus came to advocate on our behalf before God, not to advocate on our behalf before the government to change its social policy’s or work toward a political solution. Jesus came to die for the sins of the world so that we could be rescued out of the slave market of sin and have everlasting life through a personal relationship with the creator of the world.

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