



Thanksgiving

BY: Chris Harper

When Jesus asks Peter, *"who do you say I am,"* Jesus is asking one of the most important questions in all of scripture. It would behoove us all, this Thanksgiving weekend, to ask ourselves the same question and give thanks to the one true

electric cars are satanic and the name on His person that no one can read actually reads "Merica."

Of course on the other side, He is against Wall Street and Walmart, and He is for

"This Christ is not a reflection of the current mood or the projection of our own desires. He is our Lord and God."

Christ.

For some, this may be a disconcerting question. Jesus is by far the most known figure in the world, which on its surface may appear advantageous, but in the light, it can be very dangerous. Because of Jesus' wide popularity, He has widely been misconstrued. Many people have their own ideas about who Jesus is but don't know the true Jesus.

For some, Jesus is West Wing Jesus. Depending on your side of the aisle He is against tax increases and activists judges, and He is for family values and owning firearms. This 2nd amendment Jesus believes

reducing our carbon footprint and spending other people's money. He smites the "free-hand" of the market and secretly wishes Russia had won... plus He has had healthcare since birth...

For some, He is therapist Jesus. This Jesus helps us cope with life's problems, heals our past, tells us how valuable we are and encourages us not to be so hard on ourselves; He really does want the best you now. He wants us to hit our full potential, reach for the stars and buy a boat. This Jesus would prefer we move the Sabbath to Friday, after all, "every day should be Friday."

Upcoming events

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Tuesday, 11/25

MS Basketball vs. OLPH, 5 p.m.
(C, B and A)

Wednesday, 11/26

Schools Out

Thursday, 11/27

Thanksgiving

Saturday, 11/29

B JV/V Basketball @ Scottsburg,
6 p.m.

Tuesday, 12/2

MS B Basketball vs. SC, 6 p.m.
MS G Basketball vs. SC, 6 p.m.

Of course, there is Starbucks Jesus. He drinks fair trade coffee, loves spiritual conversations, drives a hybrid and goes to film festivals. He is very open-minded, and He loves everyone, all the time, no matter what...except for people who are not as open-minded as He is.

Everyone's favorite is Touchdown Jesus. This Jesus helps athletes run faster and jump higher than non-Christians and He also determines the outcomes of Super Bowls. His favorite verse is Philippians 4:13, and pay no attention to the fact that His Apostle, Paul, wrote that while suffering in prison, which is almost the same as a multi-million dollar adolescent struggling through a post-season defeat...

There's Martyr Jesus. He was a good man who died a cruel death so we can feel sorry for him. He is meek and mild, with high cheek bones, flowing hair, and walks around barefoot, wearing a sash... He looks German.

My favorite is Hippie Jesus. He teaches everyone to give peace a chance, encourages us to imagine a world without religion, and helps us remember that in the end, "Love Wins." He claims to hate religion, churches, pastors, priests and

doctrine and He wants us to find the God within.

There's Platitute Jesus who is good for Christmas specials, greeting cards and bad sermons; He inspires people to believe in themselves and lifts us up so we can walk on mountains.

There's Boyfriend Jesus who wraps His arms around us as we sing about his intoxicating love in our secret place. He has eyes like Bieber and a voice like John Mayer. His "one direction" is you and you alone, He died for you and wants to live in your heart.

And then there's Jesus Christ, the Son of the living God. Not just another prophet. Not just another Rabbi. Not just another wonder-worker. He was the one they had been waiting for: the Son of David and Abraham's chosen seed...the one to deliver us from captivity, the goal of the Mosaic law, Yahweh in the flesh, the one to establish God's reign and rule, the one to heal the sick, give sight to the blind, freedom to the prisoners and proclaim good news to the poor, the lamb of God come to take away the sins of the world.

This Jesus was the Creator come to earth and the beginning of a new creation. He embodied the covenant, fulfilled the commandments and reversed the curse.

This Jesus is the Christ that God spoke of to the serpent, the Christ prefigured to Noah in the flood, the Christ promised to Abraham, the Christ prophesied through Balaam before the Moabites, the Christ guaranteed to Moses before he died, the Christ promised to David when he was king, the Christ revealed to Isaiah as a suffering servant, the Christ predicted through the prophets and prepared for through John the Baptist.

This Christ is not a reflection of the current mood or the projection of our own desires. He is our Lord and God.

He is the Father's Son, Savior of the world and substitute for our sins...

He is more loving, more holy and more wonderfully terrifying than we ever thought possible.

This is the Jesus we must think about... this is the Jesus we give thanks to on a day reserved for thanks.

Be well,

C. Harper, AD

(Adapted from The Gospel Coalition 11/20/2014)