



## Sharing the Good News!

Penn Northeast Conference of the United Church of Christ

### Waxing Political On the Stump

PNEC Press Release Yesterday Kingdom of God Party candidate Jesus Josephson, a relative unknown on the campaign trail up to this point, fielded questions from reporters about his recent entry into the presidential campaign. A transcript of the interview is as follows:

CNN: "The Obama campaign is circulating rumors that you weren't born in the USA and therefore can't be President. Where are you really from?"

Jesus: "I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will, but the will of him who sent me" (Jn 6.38).

National Review: "We've uncovered evidence suggesting your family belonged to some kind of Middle-Eastern radical group. What, for example, did your mother teach you about politics?"

Jesus: "God has brought down rulers from their thrones, and has exalted those who were humble. He has filled the hungry with good things; and sent away the rich empty-handed" (Lk 1.52f).

ABC: "Sen. McCain says you aren't a serious candidate, but are just a rock star who can make a good speech."

Jesus: "Go and tell that fox, 'Behold, I cast out demons and perform cures today and tomorrow, and the third day I reach my goal'" (Lk 13.32).

FOX: "Hey! You are attacking us, just like all of the other tax and spend liberals! So what do you propose that we do about taxes anyway?"

Jesus: "Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's" (Mk 12.17).

Wall St. Journal: "Who is this Caesar guy? Does he work at the IRS? Don't you believe hard-working Americans have a right to get rich? What do you say to these entrepreneurial engines of our market economy?"

Jesus: "Sell all that you possess, and distribute it to the poor, and you shall have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me" (Lk 18.22).

USA Today: "The Obama/Biden motto is *Change We Can Believe In*. What is yours?"

\* NASB here and elsewhere ... although sometimes altered slightly.

Jesus: "If you abide in My word, then you are truly disciples of Mine; and you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free" (Jn 8.31f).

Huffington Post: "What is truth?"

Jesus: "I am the way, and the truth, and the life" (John 14.6).

CBS: "The Drudge Report is saying that, if elected, you might instead insist on being anointed king. What do you have to say about this?"

Jesus: "My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, then my followers would be fighting for this. But as it is, my kingdom is not of this realm" (Jn 18.36).

MSNBC: "What is this business about you leading a kingdom? Whose kingdom are you talking about, and what is its purpose?"

Jesus: God's kingdom come. God's will be done. On earth as it is in heaven" (Mt 6.10).

Washington Post: "You are even more unintelligible than Deep Throat! Can you show us any proof that such an earthly kingdom exists?"

Jesus: "Go and report what you have seen and heard: the blind receive sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, the poor have the gospel preached to them" (Lk 7.22).

Slate: "Whom are you kidding? So you really think you are a king?"

Jesus: "You say that I am a king. For this I have been born, and for this I have come into the world, to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth hears my voice" (Jn 18.37).

NY Times: "There you go talking about truth again. You talk about it so much, many people wonder if you're trying to hide something. Sir, we want to know: what skeletons are in your closet?"

Jesus: "Because I speak the truth, you do not believe me. Which one of you convicts me of sin? If I speak truth, why do you not believe me? ... If I have spoken wrongly, bear witness of the wrong; but if rightly, why do you strike [out at] me?" (Jn 8.45f; 18.23).

NPR: "Hey, the McCain/Paley *Plain Talk Express* bus has arrived. We're going to leave you now and go talk to them, because they give us much better sound bites. Any final word for the voters?"

Jesus: "For a little while longer the light is among you. Walk while you have the light, that darkness may not overtake you. They who walk in the darkness do not know where they go. While you have the light, believe in the light, in order that you may become sons and daughters of light" (Jn 12.35f).

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