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Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2009 10:36 AM
Subject: Obama: Not The Messiah, Not The Anti-Christ

to all our worried, unthinking, politically screwed up neo-con friends....

- [Obama: Not The Messiah, Not The Anti-Christ](#)

Guest post by [Clayton King](#)

Though I am fascinated with politics, for the most part I stay out of that world both in my writing and my preaching. So what would motivate me to break protocol and speak about the political world all of a sudden? Truth be told, it is not politics I intend to comment on. It is the church, or should I say, Christians.

If you do not identify with the person I am describing right now, then take no offense at my words. This all started the day after the election in November. I was at Starbucks for coffee on my way to preach at Anderson University when a young man in the coffee shop, whom I had never met, looked me dead in the eye with no warning and said, "Well, I guess this is it. Jesus is coming back now that Obama is president." Intrigued by his evident intelligence, I said, "I am pretty sure Jesus was coming back before Obama was elected." His retort was, "Well now He is coming back alot quicker!!!" According to this theology, the President has more authority than God since he, the President, gets to tell God when the End of Days will occur.



A few hours later, I bumped into a student at the University I was about to preach at. She informed me, and I quote, "Now that Obama has been elected, it is all downhill from here. The government will begin to force abortions, we are going to lose our religious freedoms, and since he is a Muslim he will turn our country away from Jesus. But at least the Lord is coming back soon!"

I couldn't resist, so I asked, "Wow! Those are some pretty specific predictions. Where did you come up with all of that?"

"It says it all in the Bible, spelled out loud and clear in Revelation." Ahh yes, the 19 year old Bible scholar had just played the Revelation card. But she was in luck, because it just so happened that I had a Bible right there with me. So I grabbed it and handed it her. I was surprised at her response. She asked, "What is that?" I responded, "Well, it is a Bible, of course, and I would love to read the verses in Revelation you were talking about. Can you show them to me?"

I made a note to remember exactly what she said next. "Oh, I can't find them right off the top of my head. I would have to go back to my dorm and get my Bible, and then I would need to call my pastor and my youth pastor and get them to show me where all the verses are, but I have heard them preach on it before, and I promise you, Obama is the anti-christ! If you could have just heard my pastor, you would believe me! He made Revelation come alive and it made so much sense when he preached it! We better all move to Canada."

I tell this story to illustrate how Christians, often times, tend to process information. In a nutshell, we sometimes don't. We just repeat and regurgitate what we have heard others say. And no matter if they are right or wrong, all that usually matters is that they say it with passion and conviction. The one who talks the loudest, and the longest, gets the audience in their back pocket.

Did you get the same emails I got before the election? I am not so much defending the President as I am making a point about the spiritual discernment and maturity of Christians, the ones who will forward

another forward without ever checking to see if the information is correct. My inbox is filled with silly stupidity about the end of the world on election day while the world that needs the gospel is further convinced that we Christians are even less respectable than they thought. The worst thing about this sort of shallow, lazy thinking, is that we make the gospel un-attractive when Paul clearly tells Titus we should do all we can to make the gospel attractive, appealing, and considerable to the world outside the church.

So for everyone who said he was the Messiah, sorry! That job is already filled. And for everyone who thinks he is the anti-christ, I say to you, please...think before you speak. Think before you blog. And think before you forward things that you have not researched or checked up on. We end up losing our testimony when we can't back up what we say, and we end up hurting the testimony of the gospel. Our hope is not in a man, but the Messiah. The real One. The One who can do more than try to fix an economy and save jobs. I am talking about the One who came back to life from the grave. I am banking on Him to bail us all out.