

About Barack Obama Religion and Church

Today's e-mail will attempt to sort out some of the barrage of questions I have received concerning "The church of Christ" and Barack Obama. First this list is not a political list... It is one Christian's attempt to share his views and studies on Christianity in this modern world.

Senator Barack Obama of Illinois. Through this list I attempt to answer the various questions about Christianity either put to me or discovered through study. In the case of Barack Obama I have been appalled by the callous manner in which well intentioned Christians have been forwarding warnings about his being some kind of radical Muslim without checking it out to see if the warnings are true. According to Snopes those are unfounded rumors. Here is a link to Snopes' article... <http://www.snopes.com/politics/obama/muslim.Asp>

However, there is another series of questions which have arisen that I feel compelled to answer. Is Barack Obama a member of the Church of Christ? Absolutely not! He is a member of the United Church of Christ....The United Church of Christ is perhaps one of the most liberal and least moral churches in the country. The only church that I am aware of with fewer ethical standards is the Unitarian church. I wrote an article in July of 2005 back entitled "The United Church of Christ is not the church of Christ!" in response to their choice to ordain homosexual priests.

This is from the website of the church that Obama is a member of:

About Us

We are a congregation which is Unashamedly Black and Unapologetically Christian... Our roots in the Black religious experience and tradition are deep, lasting and permanent. We are an African people, and remain "true to our native land," the mother continent, the cradle of civilization. God has superintended our pilgrimage through the days of slavery, the days of segregation, and the long night of racism. It is God who gives us the strength and courage to continuously address injustice as a people, and as a congregation. We constantly affirm our trust in God through cultural expression of a Black worship service and ministries which address the Black Community.

The Pastor as well as the membership of Trinity United Church of Christ is committed to a 10-point Vision:

1. A congregation committed to ADORATION.
2. A congregation preaching SALVATION.
3. A congregation actively seeking RECONCILIATION.
4. A congregation with a non-negotiable COMMITMENT TO AFRICA.
5. A congregation committed to BIBLICAL EDUCATION.
6. A congregation committed to CULTURAL EDUCATION.

7. A congregation committed to the HISTORICAL EDUCATION OF AFRICAN PEOPLE IN DIASPORA.
8. A congregation committed to LIBERATION.
9. A congregation committed to RESTORATION.
10. A congregation working towards ECONOMIC PARITY.

Now, since Barack wishes to be our president I would recommend that you go to his church's website and see his background beliefs for yourself. This exercise will give you an insight into his mind. Here is the link <http://www.tucc.org/about.htm>

Here is a link to an article in said church's magazine "Trumpet" in which they interview Louis Farrakhan (of Nation of Islam fame). It is a dual issue so you have to scan past the first issue with its table of contents to get to the second issue and its table of contents to find the article. (I know that it's confusing.) They and Obama are not Muslim however; they describe Louis Farrakhan as "The Honorable minister Louis Farrakhan!" Again, go there and read for yourself so you can draw your own conclusions. http://www.trumpetmag.com/pdf/nov_dec_magazines.pdf Personally, Farrakhan and honorable are two words I see as difficult to utter in the same breath. I see him as a minister of radical racism and hatred. Now come back to Obama's religious beliefs and ask yourself what you can expect from him....

The Snopes article already referenced goes to lengths to separate Obama from Islam, but as you can see, embrace on of the more radical Muslims of our time is no problem. While I have been appalled at the misinformation, I have also been highly concerned about the lack of investigation into the true information available. Beneath my signature, I will include the text from the "About us" page of his church....of this so called "Christian" church. They say, "We are a congregation which is Unashamedly Black and Unapologetically Christian... Our roots in the Black religious experience and tradition are deep, lasting and permanent."

I cannot imagine describing our congregation as "unashamedly white" and going on to describe our philosophy of life by saying, "Our roots in the white religious experience run deep. "This is a decidedly racist approach to life. It doesn't belong within the realm of Christianity. For example the Bible teaches, Galatians 3:26-29 "For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free man, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's descendants, heirs according to promise." This makes for a pretty good reality check ...

Look at item 4 above then ask yourself if it is a good idea to elect a man whose religious loyalties are with "A congregation with a non-negotiable COMMITMENT TO AFRICA."

Sometimes an overlap between your politics and your religion is unavoidable isn't it? If Barack's religion doesn't affect his judgment, he is a hypocrite. I know that my religion definitely affects my choices! One discernable example of his religious beliefs predicting his choices would be the fact that he supports the homosexual agenda, and abortion for any reason (among other things.) Another example comes from the bottom of the church's "about us" page there is a video link that explains the "Black value system." Well.... I have been a Christian minister for over 30 years. I have also been an elder in the Lord's church for 12. I have never found a black (or white) value system in the Word of God. I have only found a Christian one. Jesus pointedly crossed both the gender and racial divide early in His ministry (see John 4). The Apostles repeatedly worked to tear it down. Ephesians 2: 15. by abolishing in His flesh the enmity, {which is} the Law of commandments {contained} in ordinances, so that in Himself He might make the two into one new man, {thus} establishing peace.

In fairness, Snopes has a little different slant from their investigation of this material. Here is a link to their article. <http://www.snopes.com/politics/obama/church.asp> . I am including this link even though they drew a little different conclusion so you can weigh your own conclusions as an adult. I have given you direct links to the congregation's website. Read the Snopes article and the congregation's material and judge for yourself. In conclusion . . .

I have given you the links to his church.... Read and discern between truth and error. Above all do not confuse the "church of Christ" with the "United Church of Christ" ... they are different as light vs. darkness. Perhaps a better illustration would be to say they are as different as the Bible is from the way of man....

Isaiah 55:8-9

"For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways," declares the LORD. For {as} the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways And My thoughts than your thoughts.

The United Church of Christ pretty much writes their own rules according to the whim of the moment. Their unity is one based on no real rules... of any kind. That also seems to be the manner of the man....

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