

The Grumpy Disciple Blog #28

WHAT'S A JESUS?

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What's a what? Who's a what? Jesus Christ, that's the what! *The Jesus Christ*. Y'know, the favorite name used as a cussing expression. He's some dead guy who lived a long time ago. I've heard him on the lips of so many common, everyday people you'd think he must have a fan club or something. From what I know, that guy's name is number one on the cosmic language see-saw. Why!?! Millions of people angrily spit out his name, while millions of others voice his name in songs expressing heartfelt praise.

How America got to love this Jew's name as the appropriate expression when life screws them...*I don't know*. Bang your thumb with a hammer? Jesus Christ! (Or should that be JESUS CHRIST!) The game not on? JESUS CHRIST! Get cut-off in traffic? JESUS...well, you know the rest.

Some creative cussers, swearers, cursers and lovers of profanity of bygone days discovered that the ever-popular Israelite needed a middle initial. "H" was the obvious choice for, for, well...for good reasons I'm sure. But, no cusser, can with certitude put money on the true middle name. I'm not sure if it's Jesus Harry Christ, Jesus Henry Christ or Jesus Horace Christ? No one knows!

What is certain is that many a self-respecting, efficient swearer will be putting up Christmas lights on their house, and or, tree in December. While engaged in these activities the "name" will most likely be used at moments of aggravation. By the way, the use of the "name" is spread out evenly in all 50 states - yes, even in Utah. Youngsters learn the proper usage do to the role modeling of those older and apparently wiser and perhaps at such times, more colorful. Every generation produces a new crop of those who love to hate with the name of an ancient Jew on their lips.

The usage Jesus Christ is as paradoxical as the slang word for sexual intercourse which functions as the cruelest cuss phrase. The act of sex is generally accepted as a desirable and pleasurable event. How the "F" word gained in popularity, as the hate-filled finality of pained emotions is beyond me. Sure, I could Google it, but I didn't.

In general, the use of cuss words substitutes a better, thought out vocabulary which harnesses reason-infused communication. Yes, of course, occasionally cussing sums up a variety of thoughts, feelings and emotions in one grand strand of simple to understand words. The power of a single cuss word, placed at just the right time, in just the right way is truly amazing, a real attention getter.

Hell? I'm not going there. Manure? I'm going to step around that one too - whether generic, bull, chicken, or other types of manure substances—all are included. Rear-ends, human bottoms or things done to, or wished upon said anatomy? I'm keeping my eyes away from that area of interest. Male sex organs and you-know-what. Hands off! Woman's anatomy? Take a guess.

What if all slangy cuss words and expressions vanished from the American vocabulary what would happen? Two things I think. First, more people talking; slowing down, sincerely discussing their varying sides and the reasons causing disturbances. Second, people would shoot each other a lot faster and in an alarming rate.

So, dear readers, during this Jesus H. Christ Season, may all your profanity fall out of your heart unspoken. May we teach our tongues to explain without giving pain. May the inflatable, wobbly Santa Claus and the spotlighted, plastic baby Jew with an inner glow, somehow meet amicably on the front yard. There perhaps, they can grin over a cup of hot apple cider and share camaraderie over the commercialized and homespun distortion of their true identities.

What if Santa Claus, in his traditional joviality, swapped roles and indefinitely allowed himself to be the popular swear person of choice? To me, it makes just as much sense - SANTA CLAUS!!! *Give the Jew a break.*