

“I shall always be ready to remind you of these things...” (2 Peter 1:12)



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## WESTSIDE CHURCH OF CHRIST

### Where We Meet

1017 S. 2<sup>nd</sup> St. (Old Hwy. 367)  
Cabot, AR 72023

### When We Meet

#### Sunday

Bible Classes – 9:00 am  
Worship – 10:00 am, 5:00 pm

#### Wednesday

Bible Classes – 7:00 pm

### Our Elders

R.D. Hopper  
Norman Kemper

### Our Deacons

Troy Hunter  
Kelly Kendall  
Tony Ramick

### Our Preacher

Alex Hale



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## Don Lemon Or Jesus?

by Alex Hale



CNN host Don Lemon (left) was recently discussing the political controversy surrounding statues of certain historical figures. As his guest and fellow on-air personality Chris Cuomo (right) nodded approvingly, Lemon lamented at what he termed the “deifying” of this nation’s

founders. In the process, he connected the founders to Jesus, saying, “Here is the thing: Jesus Christ – if you believe in, if that’s who you believe in, Jesus Christ – admittedly was not perfect when he was here on this earth. So why are we deifying the founders of this country, many of whom owned slaves?” He went on to say, “They are not perfect. They are not perfect. We have to stop deifying them.” While we might debate the merits of Lemon’s points about statues, and would even agree with him that we should not deify mere men, there is no possible way to lend any credence to his statement about Jesus. *He is dead wrong.*

Perhaps Lemon was confused and had another religious figure in mind. If we take the host’s statement and substitute the name of Jesus for another religious leader, he would be correct.

- “Here is the thing: **Buddha** – if you believe in, if that’s who you believe in, **Buddha** – admittedly was not perfect when he was here on this earth.” Buddha felt that he was merely a seeker after truth.
- “Here is the thing: **Confucius** – if you believe in, if that’s who you believe in, **Confucius** – admittedly was not perfect when he was here on this earth.” Confucius never claimed to be anything but a wise sage and teacher.
- “Here is the thing: **Mohammed** – if you believe in, if that’s who you believe in, **Mohammed** – admittedly was not perfect when he was here on this earth.” Mohammed viewed himself as a prophet. However, the Qur’an expressly refers to both his past and future sins. With each of these men, Lemon’s statement would hold true. However, Jesus claimed Deity.
- He identified Himself as the Son of God (John 3:16-18).
- He said that He and the Father were one (John 10:30; 14:9; 17:11).
- He allowed Himself to be worshipped as God (John 20:28).
- He performed works which only God could do. He was involved in the creation (John 1:3, 10; Col 1:16; Heb 1:2, 10). He is involved in the sustaining of the world (Col 1:17). He will raise the dead and execute judgment (John 5:25-27).

Though Buddha is credited with saying, “No one saves us but ourselves,” a central tenet of Christianity is the atoning death of Jesus. However, if Jesus was not perfect, He could not be our Savior. In that case, His death would have paid for *His* sins rather than ours (2 Cor 5:21). Scripture makes it abundantly clear that Jesus is the perfect sacrifice.

- He “committed no sin, and no deceit was found in His mouth” (1 Pet 2:22).
- He is “holy and blameless, unstained by sin” (Heb 7:26).
- He is called “a lamb without blemish or spot” (1 Pet 1:19).
- He “was tempted in all points as we are, yet without sin” (Heb 4:15).

Don Lemon or Jesus? Sorry, Don. I’m going with Jesus.