

**Jimmy Spencer Jr** is a humanitarian & community service entrepreneur. He's the Founder & CEO of Love Without Agenda—a charity building a Glocal (global + local) web platform.

He recently completed his first book *Love Without Agenda: Moving Our Spiritual Goalposts from Heaven & Hell to Wholeness*, and frequents public speaking platforms and media outlets as a passionate voice of hope & common sense.

He's a fan of Cash, Lupe and The Killers. He lives in Chicago where he walks along Lake Michigan to clear his head and maintain his mojo.



#### Article Highlights:

This article released 8 hours after the news of Osama Bin Laden's death and reflects on the US popular reaction to it...especially amongst the religious community.

Published at Red Letter Christianity this article was viewed over 300,000 times in just the first day. The average traffic at Red Letter Christianity is 30,000 views a day. The article was "liked" on Facebook over 7,000 times.

It remains by far, the top read, shared and commented on article at Red Letter Christianity's website.

#### Original Article:

<http://www.redletterchristians.org/>

#### Press Kit:

[www.jimmyspencerjr.com/press-kit](http://www.jimmyspencerjr.com/press-kit)

#### Speaker Invite Form:

[Invite Spencer to speak!](#)

#### Contact Our Staff:

[matt@lovewithoutagenda.com](mailto:matt@lovewithoutagenda.com)

## + WHOSE DEATH DOES GOD CHEER?

Thoughts on our ironic human condition, religion & violence in our world

Jimmy Spencer Jr

I'm not a pacifist—but I do not celebrate the death of another human.

Even Osama bin Laden.

I remember watching the riots and flag burning in parts of the Middle East that took place after the 9/11 events. I remember feeling angry toward those people celebrating the deaths of my countrymen. I remember feeling anger toward the people that perpetrated the attacks on mothers and fathers and working class people across the country. I couldn't help but to think "what is wrong with those people that they really think that God is on their side?" I remember thinking "They actually think that this is how God demonstrates his favor—by killing the people who don't fit into our moral, political or religious agendas

...and here I sit again.

Watching my Facebook Wall  
filling up with American cheers and jeers

"God is on our side!!!"  
"God's justice has been done!"

It made me cry a bit.  
It makes me angry again.

Watching my Facebook friends, pastors and Christians strike their own chorus of revelry and revenge that somehow God's will has been done and He has acted for us. He has delivered justice for us. He has delivered revenge for us. He has delivered our enemies to us because He is good and just—and God is on our side.

Of course, everyone thinks that.

# + WHOSE DEATH DOES GOD CHEER?

*continued*

Humans on all sides of the ocean, and throughout all the centuries love it when we can wield God for our agenda. We find ourselves imitating the Middle East crowds who took to the streets on 9/11 shouting that justice has been done to our enemies. We repeat the mantra of the Crusaders who shouted "God Will's It!" as they charged steeds into blood-soaked battles—so sure of fighting for them.

We also imitate the first century Jews who 2000 years ago swarmed the city gates and shouted "Hoseanna" on this recently passed holiday of Good Friday because they were so overjoyed that Jesus would finally conquer the godless Romans for them—proving that they, were indeed, most favored by God.

We still want Jesus to conquer our Romans for us...  
And Jesus still weeps at our short sightedness.

I wonder if God fights for us now against our enemies? I wonder if God fought for those men who captured those planes and so assuredly carried out the will of God?

Whose bullets carry the blessings of God?  
Whose death does God cheer?

A wise-man once turned the religious world upside down when he said: "love you enemies." Will I be brave enough to follow in His Way?

If this same wise-man actually struggled and broke the cycle of death then God forgive me when I participate in the ancient lineage of the crowds who cheer not for the love of Jesus—but cheer the idea that Jesus fights for my revenge at the great cost of others. God forgive me when I cheer the death my enemies and perpetuate death—the very thing Jesus came to abolish.

God forgive me when I find myself:

Amongst the crowd and at the gates  
Cheering while Jesus weeps.