Subject: Terrorist plot foiled
Posted by Deej [1] on Thu, 10 Aug 2006 18:19:52 GMT
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We need to know exactly how these plots were foiled. I'm depending on the NY times to save us from the evil bastards that stopped this from happening. I'm sure my rights have been violated somehow.

Sorry..... I couldn't resist. Things were getting so boring with all these relavent audio posts and all.

There goes the neighborhood.....

;o)

Subject: Re: Terrorist plot foiled
Posted by TCB on Thu, 10 Aug 2006 18:29:25 GMT
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Correction, _one_ terrorist plot foiled. I'm sure there are plenty more already well into the R&D phase.

"DJ" <animix_spam-this-ahole_@animas.net> wrote:
>We need to know exactly how these plots were foiled. I'm depending on the
NY
>times to save us from the evil bastards that stopped this from happening.
>I'm sure my rights have been violated somehow.
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>Sorry..... I couldn't resist. Things were getting so boring with all these
>relavent audio posts and all.
>
>There goes the neighborhood.....
>
>;o)
>
>

Subject: Re: Terrorist plot foiled
Posted by Deej [1] on Thu, 10 Aug 2006 18:55:36 GMT
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Well, OK then,.....it was a multiplane plot. Anyway, I'm sure you're right. I'm wondering what day the suicide bombers have decided to show up at the shopping malls.

"TCB" <nobody@ishere.com> wrote in message news:44db7b05$1@linux...
>
> Correction, _one_ terrorist plot foiled. I'm sure there are plenty more
already
> well into the R&D phase.
>
> "DJ" <animix_spam-this-ahole_@animas.net> wrote:
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> >
> >
>

Subject: Re: Terrorist plot foiled
Posted by LaMont on Thu, 10 Aug 2006 19:16:30 GMT
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??? You lost me man.. DJ, just turn off the TV. It sweeps week.. The Isreali/hezbolla war was getting low-ratings. Now, we have to be bored to death with terrorist plots.....Until, the new Fall line up come out at end this month..

I'm not bitting on anymore scare tactics..yep, that's it..Turn off

"DJ" <animix_spam-this-ahole_@animas.net> wrote:
>We need to know exactly how these plots were foiled. I'm depending on the
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>There goes the neighborhood.....
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>;o)

>
>

Subject: Re: Terrorist plot foiled
Posted by Deej [1] on Thu, 10 Aug 2006 19:20:15 GMT
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I can't.....the TV has imbedded itself in my forehead like an ingrown
toenail. I'm doomed.

"LaMont Davis" <jjdpro@ameritech.net> wrote in message
news:44db860e$1@linux...
>
> ??? You lost me man.. DJ, just turn off the TV. It sweeps week.. The
Isreali/hezbolla
> war was getting low-ratings. Now, we have to be bored to death with
terrorist
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>
> "DJ" <animix_spam-this-ahole_@animas.net> wrote:
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> >times to save us from the evil bastards that stopped this from happening.
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> >There goes the neighborhood.....
> >
> >;o)
> >
> >
>

Subject: Re: Terrorist plot foiled
Posted by LaMont on Thu, 10 Aug 2006 19:21:23 GMT
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Lol!!! :)

"DJ" <animix_spam-this-ahole_@animas.net> wrote:
>I can't.....the TV has imbedded itself in my forehead like an ingrown
>toenail. I'm doomed.
>
>
>"LaMont Davis" <jjdpro@ameritech.net> wrote in message
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>>
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>> "DJ" <animix_spam-this-ahole_@animas.net> wrote:
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>> >
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Subject: Re: Terrorist plot foiled
Posted by DC on Thu, 10 Aug 2006 19:26:41 GMT
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This is a multi-part message in MIME format.

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Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

"DJ" <animix_spam-this-ahole_@animas.net> wrote:
>I can't.....the TV has imbedded itself in my forehead like an ingrown
>toenail. I'm doomed.

There's a fix for that...

BALLPEEN! APPLY DIRECTLY TO THE FOREHEAD
BALLPEEN! APPLY DIRECTLY TO THE FOREHEAD
BALLPEEN! APPLY DIRECTLY TO THE FOREHEAD
BALLPEEN! APPLY DIRECTLY TO THE FOREHEAD
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+bPAGbFX3/mzwBmxV9/5s8AZsVff+bPAGbFX/9k=

---=_linux44db8871--

Subject: Re: Terrorist plot foiled
Posted by TCB on Thu, 10 Aug 2006 19:50:43 GMT
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I'd say sooner now, precisely because the kind of thing the UK folks were
doing apparently is getting harder. If you harden one set of targets eventually
theyll switch to softer targets.

"DJ" <animix_spam-this-ahole_@animas.net> wrote:
>Well, OK then,.....it was a multiplane plot. Anyway, I'm sure you're
>right. I'm wondering what day the suicide bombers have decided to show up
at
>the shopping malls.
>
>
>
>"TCB" <nobody@ishere.com> wrote in message news:44db7b05$1@linux...
>>
>> Correction, _one_ terrorist plot foiled. I'm sure there are plenty more
>already
>> well into the R&D phase.
>>
>> "DJ" <animix_spam-this-ahole_@animas.net> wrote:
>> >We need to know exactly how these plots were foiled. I'm depending on
the
>> NY
>> >times to save us from the evil bastards that stopped this from happening.

>> >I'm sure my rights have been violated somehow.
>> >
>> >Sorry..... I couldn't resist. Things were getting so boring with all
>these
>> >relavent audio posts and all.
>> >
>> >There goes the neighborhood.....
>> >
>> >;o)
>> >
>> >
>>
>
>

Subject: Re: Terrorist plot foiled
Posted by Deej [1] on Thu, 10 Aug 2006 20:32:56 GMT
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I haven't heard much from my old cronies, the Democrats. I'm sure that once
a bunch of polls have been done and it's safe to know what to think, Howard
Dean will pop up and say something stupid.

"DC" <dc@spammersinhell.org> wrote in message news:44db8871$1@linux...
>
> "DJ" <animix_spam-this-ahole_@animas.net> wrote:
> >I can't.....the TV has imbedded itself in my forehead like an ingrown
> >toenail. I'm doomed.
>
>
> There's a fix for that...
>
> BALLPEEN! APPLY DIRECTLY TO THE FOREHEAD
> BALLPEEN! APPLY DIRECTLY TO THE FOREHEAD
> BALLPEEN! APPLY DIRECTLY TO THE FOREHEAD
> BALLPEEN! APPLY DIRECTLY TO THE FOREHEAD

Subject: Re: Terrorist plot foiled
Posted by Dubya Mark Wilson on Thu, 10 Aug 2006 20:44:56 GMT
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I think another one of those Jerry Clower styled "hawwwwws" would be
perfect.
DubyaMW

"DJ" <animix_spam-this-ahole_@animas.net> wrote in message
news:44db9814@linux...
>I haven't heard much from my old cronies, the Democrats. I'm sure that once
> a bunch of polls have been done and it's safe to know what to think,
> Howard
> Dean will pop up and say something stupid.

Subject: Re: Terrorist plot foiled
Posted by DC on Thu, 10 Aug 2006 21:07:57 GMT
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Actually, we heard loud and clear from the dems last night when
they kicked out a good man in exchange for a preppy dilettante
who won't dare argue with Dean and the MoveOn/Kos crowd who
have taken over their party.

Here's a good piece, from the left, no less, on what that situation
may add up to.

http://www.slate.com/id/2147395

I am not afraid of a democrat administration "waging peace", I am
very afraid of their foolishness and appeasement backing all of us
in a corner until there is no other option but massive, quite possibly
nuclear, war.

There is no negotiation with these jihadi ghouls. There is only
slavery or victory. I choose victory.

DC

"DJ" <animix_spam-this-ahole_@animas.net> wrote:
>I haven't heard much from my old cronies, the Democrats. I'm sure that once
>a bunch of polls have been done and it's safe to know what to think, Howard
>Dean will pop up and say something stupid.
>
>"DC" <dc@spammersinhell.org> wrote in message news:44db8871$1@linux...
>>
>> "DJ" <animix_spam-this-ahole_@animas.net> wrote:
>> >I can't.....the TV has imbedded itself in my forehead like an ingrown
>> >toenail. I'm doomed.
>>
>>
>> There's a fix for that...

>>
>> BALLPEEN! APPLY DIRECTLY TO THE FOREHEAD
>> BALLPEEN! APPLY DIRECTLY TO THE FOREHEAD
>> BALLPEEN! APPLY DIRECTLY TO THE FOREHEAD
>> BALLPEEN! APPLY DIRECTLY TO THE FOREHEAD
>
>

Subject: Re: Terrorist plot foiled
Posted by Carl Amburn on Thu, 10 Aug 2006 23:26:31 GMT
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That is the most annoying commercial ever..... it actually makes me trigger
paranoid to punch that remote.

-Carl

"DC" <dc@spammersinhell.org> wrote in message news:44db8871$1@linux...
>
> "DJ" <animix_spam-this-ahole_@animas.net> wrote:
> >I can't.....the TV has imbedded itself in my forehead like an ingrown
> >toenail. I'm doomed.
>
>
> There's a fix for that...
>
> BALLPEEN! APPLY DIRECTLY TO THE FOREHEAD
> BALLPEEN! APPLY DIRECTLY TO THE FOREHEAD
> BALLPEEN! APPLY DIRECTLY TO THE FOREHEAD
> BALLPEEN! APPLY DIRECTLY TO THE FOREHEAD

Subject: Re: Terrorist plot foiled
Posted by DC on Thu, 10 Aug 2006 23:27:55 GMT
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yeah, it makes me really remember that product.

Remember to never ever ever buy it...

DC

"Carl Amburn" <carlamburn@hotNOSPAMmail.com> wrote:
>That is the most annoying commercial ever..... it actually makes me trigger

>paranoid to punch that remote.
>
>-Carl
>
>
>"DC" <dc@spammersinhell.org> wrote in message news:44db8871$1@linux...
>>
>> "DJ" <animix_spam-this-ahole_@animas.net> wrote:
>> >I can't.....the TV has imbedded itself in my forehead like an ingrown
>> >toenail. I'm doomed.
>>
>>
>> There's a fix for that...
>>
>> BALLPEEN! APPLY DIRECTLY TO THE FOREHEAD
>> BALLPEEN! APPLY DIRECTLY TO THE FOREHEAD
>> BALLPEEN! APPLY DIRECTLY TO THE FOREHEAD
>> BALLPEEN! APPLY DIRECTLY TO THE FOREHEAD
>
>

Subject: Re: Terrorist plot foiled
Posted by rick on Fri, 11 Aug 2006 09:38:37 GMT
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how the hell did you get an ingrown toenail in your head???
oH....ewww.....okay, i admire your flexibility but the image now in my
head is causing me great discomfort...

On Thu, 10 Aug 2006 13:20:15 -0600, "DJ"
<animix_spam-this-ahole_@animas.net> wrote:

>I can't.....the TV has imbedded itself in my forehead like an ingrown
>toenail. I'm doomed.
>
>
>"LaMont Davis" <jjdpro@ameritech.net> wrote in message
>news:44db860e$1@linux...
>>
>> ??? You lost me man.. DJ, just turn off the TV. It sweeps week.. The
>Isreali/hezbolla
>> war was getting low-ratings. Now, we have to be bored to death with
>terrorist
>> plots.....Until, the new Fall line up come out at end this month..
>>
>> I'm not bitting on anymore scare tactics..yep, that's it..Turn off
>>

>> "DJ" <animix_spam-this-ahole_@animas.net> wrote:
>> >We need to know exactly how these plots were foiled. I'm depending on the
>> NY
>> >times to save us from the evil bastards that stopped this from happening.
>> >I'm sure my rights have been violated somehow.
>> >
>> >Sorry..... I couldn't resist. Things were getting so boring with all
>these
>> >relavent audio posts and all.
>> >
>> >There goes the neighborhood.....
>> >
>> >;o)
>> >
>> >
>>
>

Subject: Re: Terrorist plot foiled
Posted by Sarah on Mon, 14 Aug 2006 05:48:19 GMT
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How these plots were foiled? How these plots were foiled?!? Weren't they foiled because Freedom is on the March in Iraq? Aren't we fighting "them" there, so we don't have to fight "them" here? The British police could never have thwarted this plot if we hadn't invaded Iraq, right? How does this work? Well, y'see, we've proved now that Jesus can kick Mohammed's ass, thereby demoralizing and discouraging all the would be terrorists in the world. Well, except for those ones that just popped up in England, but those are the last ones. Really.

Sarah

"DJ" <animix_spam-this-ahole_@animas.net> wrote in message
news:44db78dd@linux...
> We need to know exactly how these plots were foiled. I'm depending on the
> NY
> times to save us from the evil bastards that stopped this from happening.
> I'm sure my rights have been violated somehow.
>
> Sorry..... I couldn't resist. Things were getting so boring with all these
> relavent audio posts and all.
>
> There goes the neighborhood.....
>
> ;o)

>
>

Subject: Re: Terrorist plot foiled
Posted by Deej [1] on Mon, 14 Aug 2006 05:59:10 GMT
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Well, y'see, we've proved now that Jesus can kick Mohammed's
> ass, thereby demoralizing and discouraging all the would be terrorists in
> the world.

Well, I guess if that's what you believed foiled these attacks then why are
you asking why they were foiled?
I'm not so sure it was Jesus personally, but I guess, if you say so.

"Sarah" <sarahjane@sarahtonin.com> wrote in message news:44e00d42$1@linux...
> How these plots were foiled? How these plots were foiled?!? Weren't they
> foiled because Freedom is on the March in Iraq? Aren't we fighting "them"
> there, so we don't have to fight "them" here? The British police could
> never have thwarted this plot if we hadn't invaded Iraq, right? How does
> this work? Well, y'see, we've proved now that Jesus can kick Mohammed's
> ass, thereby demoralizing and discouraging all the would be terrorists in
> the world. Well, except for those ones that just popped up in England,
but
> those are the last ones. Really.
>
> Sarah
>
>
> "DJ" <animix_spam-this-ahole_@animas.net> wrote in message
> news:44db78dd@linux...
> > We need to know exactly how these plots were foiled. I'm depending on
the
> > NY
> > times to save us from the evil bastards that stopped this from
happening.
> > I'm sure my rights have been violated somehow.
> >
> > Sorry..... I couldn't resist. Things were getting so boring with all
these
> > relavent audio posts and all.
> >
> > There goes the neighborhood.....
> >
> > ;o)
> >
> >

>
>

Subject: Re: Terrorist plot foiled
Posted by Sarah on Mon, 14 Aug 2006 11:11:56 GMT
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I didn't ask why they were foiled, silly. You said, "we need to know exactly how these plots were foiled," so I was just repeating that and offering up an answer that I, of course, do not believe at all. I was merely making fun of those people who apparently do believe these things, and attempting to satirically point out the particular absurdity of the "fighting them there so we don't have to fight them here," justification for Iraq. I don't actually have "my own personal Jesus," but somehow I just don't think he would approve of all the "collateral damage."

Perhaps you knew I was being "tongue in cheek," and you were too and I just missed the subtlety. :)

Shalom,

Sarah J. Burke, RN

"DJ" <animix_spam-this-ahole_@animas.net> wrote in message
news:44e01125$1@linux...
> Well, y'see, we've proved now that Jesus can kick Mohammed's
>> ass, thereby demoralizing and discouraging all the would be terrorists in
>> the world.
>
> Well, I guess if that's what you believed foiled these attacks then why
> are
> you asking why they were foiled?
> I'm not so sure it was Jesus personally, but I guess, if you say so.
>
> "Sarah" <sarahjane@sarahtonin.com> wrote in message
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Subject: Re: Terrorist plot foiled
Posted by dc[3] on Mon, 14 Aug 2006 18:09:01 GMT
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Hi Sarah,

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But there is certainly lots of guilt to go around isn't there?

That's why Christians believe these to be the last days of earth's history. There are no easy answers. Maybe no answers at all, except to hold fast and warn everyone of what is coming.

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And as a Christian I admit to the strong possibility of a time in the
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And then shall the end come.

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Subject: Re: Terrorist plot foiled...Christians has Lost focus
Posted by LaMont on Mon, 14 Aug 2006 18:46:43 GMT
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Subject: Re: Terrorist plot foiled...Christians has Lost focus
Posted by dc[3] on Mon, 14 Aug 2006 20:36:11 GMT
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Good points LaMont.

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Despite all that, you are right. It is likely that we will have to stop supporting any government at some point and concentrate on our mission. Maybe that point has come, but I am not ready to cede the west to the jihadis as long as I believe our governement to be

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Subject: Re: Terrorist plot foiled...Christians has Lost focus
Posted by LaMont on Mon, 14 Aug 2006 21:04:43 GMT
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DC,
You said: "He also never defined loving your enemies as letting them murder your family, nor turning"..

If you truly believe your above statement: Then me as an African American(Who's Great Grandfather was in-slaved) and who's past ancestors were mammed, torturted, beaten, women repeatedly and brutally raped, hung, castrated, lynched, tared & feathered ,whipped, & murdered. According to your set uf biblical rules and interpretation, "African Americans should view all whites(Christians included) as their enemy and never trust them as long as they live.?????????

What kind of life is that for any African American to live, hating Whites.?? Holding on to past generations wrong doings only "kills you" on the inside. Not forgiving, actually does you more harm than the one doing the evil deeds..

Jesus (God) ways are not Man's evil wicked, divisive ways. Jesus say to turn the other cheek, because operating under the "Messianic Law" of Eye for and Eye yield "Nothing" but 10,000 years of silly fighting with no end in sight.

What happens when a man turns the the proverbial cheek?
Is he the weaker one?? Even if the aggressor keeps hitting you, eventually, he starts to understand that he cannot break you down" and thus he starts to honor your calm strength..

Well you say " Our enemies only no one way and that their agression". Well, what has that gotten the USA?? Once we gave into their aggression, we now have "Lowered" our standards" to their level.. Now, who's running who..??

The Late Dr Martin Luther King Jr, used Ghandi's method of change their "Non-Violence" and it was effective. Some in our race (Islam) wanted to use Force, which would've only incited a full-out race war. What good would that have done??What would've been gained if the African American populous would've listened to the Nation of Islam and gone "Guns Blazing"?? We'd still be killing each other. Thanks God cooler heads prevailed..

All in all, God ways are the best way and not Man's way.
LAD..

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Posted by DC on Mon, 14 Aug 2006 21:44:16 GMT
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>included) as their enemy and never trust them as long as they live.?????????

Why would you do that to people who had nothing to do with it?
That would simply make you as evil as the lynch mobs.

Your reasoning is faulty at any rate. The analogy would only be
true if the question at hand was you handing over your family
to ku kluxers for lynching in the name of forgiveness.

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Do the test if you can, but prepared to be surprised.

DC

Subject: Re: Terrorist plot foiled...Christians has Lost focus
Posted by Deej [1] on Mon, 14 Aug 2006 21:53:18 GMT
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> Oh yeah, Jesus also goes on record to say "Love they Enemies"..I know,
what
> a hard thing to do, but we took an "Oath of Faith " to follow his (Jesus)
> teachings. So, we are not to only pick out his commandments that suits or
> fit us depending on the situation. LAD

Forgiving them (terrorists) I believe is God's function. Our job is to
simply arrange the meeting!
 - Norman Swartzkoph

;o)

"LaMont" <jjdpro@ameritech.net> wrote in message news:44e0c513$1@linux...
>
> As a believeing Christian,
> why should we do "Anything at to save oursleves form the inevitable"??
> If Jesus is soon to return, then why are so worried about the end times??
>
> We are to pray and help those who are not saved, to get saved..
> Jesus goes on record to say that " No one but the Father(God) knows the
end
> of time(earth), to be ready (Spiritualy) when he (Jesus) comes..
> He aslo states, "There will be wars AND Rumors of wars, daughters against
> mothers, sons against fathers, nations against nations..But "FEAR Not"..
>
> It seems that we (Christians) are fearing for the Jesus return instead of
> Celebrating his coming..
> We(Christians) need to read the test again..
>
> Oh yeah, Jesus also goes on record to say "Love they Enemies"..I know,
what
> a hard thing to do, but we took an "Oath of Faith " to follow his (Jesus)
> teachings. So, we are not to only pick out his commandments that suits or
> fit us depending on the situation. LAD
>
>
> "DC" <dc@spammersinhell.com> wrote:
> >
> >Hi Sarah,
> >
> >Well, I suspect there are all sorts of things in our world that Jesus
> >disapproves of, including slavery, female circumciscion,

> >sharia, burqa's, the deliberate targeting of civilians, and
> >Islamofascism in general. (Oh, and not to mention those who don't
> >believe in him, attributing positions to him to make political points)
> >
> >But there is certainly lots of guilt to go around isn't there?
> >
> >That's why Christians believe these to be the last days of earth's
> >history. There are no easy answers. Maybe no answers at all,
> >except to hold fast and warn everyone of what is coming.
> >
> >Please notice though, that we are not "fighting them here", we
> >are, quite successfuly *catching* them here, before any fighting
> >is needed. Weakening the ghouls and head choppers makes us
> >safer, it is clear. Give them ground, and they use the ground for
> >more attacks. Appease them and you get more of the same.
> >This is not disputable.
> >Just take them at their own words. They clearly see your version
> >of "peace" as weakness and an opportunity to kill more of us.
> >
> >Yet, it is really hard to take a purely right wing position, I know. I
> >DO NOT trust our gummint one little bit. Too many soldiers died
> >in Vietnam for no reason to do that. Venal, cowardly, and amoral
> >leaders are responsible for the deaths of too many great young men
> >and women to trust them. (Bill Clinton was no better than
> >Nixon and Johnson BTW, just read "Blackhawk Down") At least
> >W is commited to victory.
> >
> >
> >The only thing even worse than blind patriotism is the insanity being
> >peddled by the left.
> >
> >And as a Christian I admit to the strong possibility of a time in the
> >near future, when there is no difference, morally, between the
> >right and left whatsoever.
> >
> >And then shall the end come.
> >
> >
> >DC
> >
> >
> >
> >
> >"Sarah" <sarahjane@sarahtonin.om> wrote:
> >>I didn't ask why they were foiled, silly. You said, "we need to know
> >>exactly how these plots were foiled," so I was just repeating that and
>
> >>offering up an answer that I, of course, do not believe at all. I was

>
> >>merely making fun of those people who apparently do believe these
things,
> >
> >>and attempting to satirically point out the particular absurdity of the
> >
> >>"fighting them there so we don't have to fight them here," justification
> >for
> >>Iraq. I don't actually have "my own personal Jesus," but somehow I just
> >
> >>don't think he would approve of all the "collateral damage."
> >>
> >>Perhaps you knew I was being "tongue in cheek," and you were too and I
> just
> >
> >>missed the subtlety. :)
> >>
> >>Shalom,
> >>
> >>Sarah J. Burke, RN
> >>
> >>"DJ" <animix_spam-this-ahole_@animas.net> wrote in message
> >>news:44e01125$1@linux...
> >>> Well, y'see, we've proved now that Jesus can kick Mohammed's
> >>>> ass, thereby demoralizing and discouraging all the would be
terrorists
> >in
> >>>> the world.
> >>>
> >>> Well, I guess if that's what you believed foiled these attacks then
why
> >
> >>> are
> >>> you asking why they were foiled?
> >>> I'm not so sure it was Jesus personally, but I guess, if you say so.
> >>>
> >>> "Sarah" <sarahjane@sarahtonin.com> wrote in message
> >>> news:44e00d42$1@linux...
> >>>> How these plots were foiled? How these plots were foiled?!? Weren't
> >
> >>>> they
> >>>> foiled because Freedom is on the March in Iraq? Aren't we fighting
>
> >>>> "them"
> >>>> there, so we don't have to fight "them" here? The British police
could
> >>>> never have thwarted this plot if we hadn't invaded Iraq, right? How
> >does

> >>>> this work? Well, y'see, we've proved now that Jesus can kick
Mohammed's
> >>>> ass, thereby demoralizing and discouraging all the would be
terrorists
> >in
> >>>> the world. Well, except for those ones that just popped up in
England,
> >>> but
> >>>> those are the last ones. Really.
> >>>>
> >>>> Sarah
> >>>>
> >>>>
> >>>> "DJ" <animix_spam-this-ahole_@animas.net> wrote in message
> >>>> news:44db78dd@linux...
> >>>> > We need to know exactly how these plots were foiled. I'm depending
> >on
> >>> the
> >>>> > NY
> >>>> > times to save us from the evil bastards that stopped this from
> >>> happening.
> >>>> > I'm sure my rights have been violated somehow.
> >>>> >
> >>>> > Sorry..... I couldn't resist. Things were getting so boring with
all
> >>> these
> >>>> > relavent audio posts and all.
> >>>> >
> >>>> > There goes the neighborhood.....
> >>>> >
> >>>> > ;o)
> >>>> >
> >>>> >
> >>>>
> >>>>
> >>>
> >>>
> >>
> >>
> >
>

Subject: Re: Terrorist plot foiled...Christians has Lost focus
Posted by LaMont on Mon, 14 Aug 2006 21:55:01 GMT
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I would hope you would rise up and take the lives of any ku kluxers who would

try to do that I would consider that a righteous act, as a Christian. Wouldn't you?

"Vengance is mine sayeth the Lord" ..

So,I go out and kill a few Klux(ers) then what?? Does it bring back my loved one? Violence begats violence. Live bu the sword, you die by the sword.
Do yu really believe anything in the Bible??

"DC" <dc@spammersinchulavista.com> wrote:
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>"Lamont Davis" <jjdpro@ameritech.net> wrote:
>>DC,
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>>If you truly believe your above statement: Then me as an African American(Who's
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>Why would you do that to people who had nothing to do with it?
>That would simply make you as evil as the lynch mobs.
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Posted by LaMont on Mon, 14 Aug 2006 22:06:07 GMT
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"Why would you do that to people who had nothing to do with it?
That would simply make you as evil as the lynch mobs"

My point is and was is: That's the mentality of the Terrorist. They have
dragged us the (USA) down to their Lync-mob level of doing business. Thinking
that by playing by their rules we can win. We cannot. They (middle-easterners)

have been fighting this war for over 10,000 years.
The Lord says: We fight not against flesh & blood, but spritual wickedness
in high places.

As so called Christians, when are we going to start doing our job and start
praying for the coming of our Lord and savior. Why are we so caught up in
events that we are told not to even be worried about. And finally, why do
we continue to place our hopes, trust & faith in Man?? Thinking that Pres
Bush will lead us out of this mess is a definition of insanity, which sadly
many Americans precribe to.
LAD

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Subject: Re: Terrorist plot foiled
Posted by Sarah on Mon, 14 Aug 2006 22:08:32 GMT
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Oh for Christ's sake . . .

1. Anyone has the right, perhaps the responsibility, to point out hypocrisy
in those who claim to be Christians and yet consistently behave in ways that

are clearly against everything that Jesus stood for. And as it happens, I do believe in Jesus as one of the greatest teacher/philosophers of all time, and I feel fairly certain that he would not look favorably on those who select a handful of bible passages to justify greed and violence and call themselves Christians. "I like your Christ. I do not like your Christians. Your Christians are so unlike your Christ." - Gandhi

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4. Anyone who plans the murder of innocent civilians to further their cause deserves the tortures of the damned, and this includes terrorists and heads of state. Evil people are evil people - it's got nothing to do with "right" or "left," as a cursory survey of human history will show. We should fight authoritarianism at either end of the spectrum, and right now it has crept into our own government at the "right" end. It can't happen here? The firmly fixed belief that it can't happen here is exactly what is allowing it to happen here.

5. I don't have a fifth point . . . I just think 5 is a nicer number than 4.

PEACE and LOVE,

Sarah

"DC" <dc@spammersinhell.com> wrote in message news:44e0bc3d$1@linux...
>

> Hi Sarah,
>
> Well, I suspect there are all sorts of things in our world that Jesus
> disapproves of, including slavery, female circumciscion,
> sharia, burqa's, the deliberate targeting of civilians, and
> Islamofascism in general. (Oh, and not to mention those who don't
> believe in him, attributing positions to him to make political points)
>
> But there is certainly lots of guilt to go around isn't there?
>
> That's why Christians believe these to be the last days of earth's
> history. There are no easy answers. Maybe no answers at all,
> except to hold fast and warn everyone of what is coming.
>
> Please notice though, that we are not "fighting them here", we
> are, quite successfuly *catching* them here, before any fighting
> is needed. Weakening the ghouls and head choppers makes us
> safer, it is clear. Give them ground, and they use the ground for
> more attacks. Appease them and you get more of the same.
> This is not disputable.
> Just take them at their own words. They clearly see your version
> of "peace" as weakness and an opportunity to kill more of us.
>
> Yet, it is really hard to take a purely right wing position, I know. I
> DO NOT trust our gummint one little bit. Too many soldiers died
> in Vietnam for no reason to do that. Venal, cowardly, and amoral
> leaders are responsible for the deaths of too many great young men
> and women to trust them. (Bill Clinton was no better than
> Nixon and Johnson BTW, just read "Blackhawk Down") At least
> W is commited to victory.
>
>
> The only thing even worse than blind patriotism is the insanity being
> peddled by the left.
>
> And as a Christian I admit to the strong possibility of a time in the
> near future, when there is no difference, morally, between the
> right and left whatsoever.
>
> And then shall the end come.
>
>
> DC

Subject: Re: Terrorist plot foiled...Christians has Lost focus
Posted by DC on Mon, 14 Aug 2006 22:50:21 GMT

Selective misquoting...

LaMont you can do better than this.

I did NOT say to go kill some kluxers in revenge.

I said it was righteous to stop them from killing you and your family.

Now, if you want to dispute with me, start from what I actually said.

Further, I say Ghandi himself would be sinning by letting someone kill his family. 'course, he did it himself didn't he?

I do believe what I read in the Bible. Including this:

Luke 22-36

He said to them, "But now if you have a purse, take it, and also a bag; and if you don't have a sword, sell your cloak and buy one.

In Romans 13, Paul says:

Do you want to be free from fear of the one in authority? Then do what is right and he will commend you. For he is God's servant to do you good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword for nothing.

You notice the bearing of the sword by government is accepted as a normal practice and not condemned at all?

Romans 12:18 says:

If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.

And I just want to know LaMont, HOW is it possible for us to live in peace with jihadis?

Appeasement?
Self-hatred?
The demise of the state of Israel?
more dead Americans?
The U.N.?

I would love to see a solution here. All you seem to have is
hatred of the west. That's not good enough.

DC

"LaMont" <jjdpro@ameritech.net> wrote:
>
>I would hope you would rise up and take the lives of any ku kluxers who
would
>try to do that I would consider that a righteous act, as a Christian. Wouldn't
>you?

>"Vengance is mine sayeth the Lord" ..

>So,I go out and kill a few Klux(ers) then what?? Does it bring back my loved
>one? Violence begats violence. Live bu the sword, you die by the sword.

>Do yu really believe anything in the Bible??
>
>

Subject: Re: Terrorist plot foiled
Posted by DC on Mon, 14 Aug 2006 23:59:17 GMT
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This is a multi-part message in MIME format.

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"Sarah" <sarahjane@sarahtonin.com> wrote:

>1. Anyone has the right, perhaps the responsibility, to point out hypocrisy

>in those who claim to be Christians and yet consistently behave in ways
that
>are clearly against everything that Jesus stood for.

You are utterly wrong about what Jesus stood for. You quote him
only when it suits you. Expect to be called on it when you do.

>And as it happens, I
>do believe in Jesus as one of the greatest teacher/philosophers of all time,

Which means that you do not believe that what he actually said
about himself,

"Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one
comes to the Father except through me" John 14:6

and

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the
Word was God. He was with God in the beginning.

Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made
that has been made.

He was in the world, and though the world was made through him,
the world did not recognize him.

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. John 1

No, you believe in "jesus", and yes you do have your own personal
version of him, right there on your shelf.

It bears no relationship to Jesus however. In reality Jesus was
either the greatest and most cynical fraud ever perpetrated on
humanity or he was exactly who he said he was.

He most definetely was NOT "another great teacher and
philosopher". Not unless you discard what he actually said.

>and I feel fairly certain that he would not look favorably on those who

>select a handful of bible passages to justify greed and violence and call

>themselves Christians. "I like your Christ. I do not like your Christians.

>Your Christians are so unlike your Christ." - Gandhi

I like Ghandi, (well until he killed his wife) Well, I guess I don't
like Ghandi.

Can Christians be better? Of course! But what is important is, what if Christians are *right*? What if Jesus was who he said he was? Just think! All those imperfect, but saved, Christians, and all those self-righteous, but lost, pacifists! How unjust!!

Unless of course, you actually listen to what Jesus SAID instead of quoting him where it suits you...

>2. Christians have believed these are the last days for the last 2000
>years! In Matthew 24, when Jesus describes the "end times," he was talking

>about his own times. Matthew 24:34 - "Verily I say unto you, This
>generation shall not pass, till all these things be fulfilled." Since then,

>with every major war or natural disaster, there have been those crying
>"repent for the end is near!" on street corners.

There is much debate on Matthew 24. Most Christians believe it applies to both AD 70 (the Roman conquest of Jerusalem) and the last days. The evidence for our own time, being unique and indeed at the end of history, is quite massive in Scripture. I will be happy to discuss it with you privately if you like.

>I don't fear terrorists
>nearly as much as I fear having someone like George Bush start a global

>thermonuclear war out of some brain-damaged belief that Jesus will come
and
>float him to Heaven.

Then you are deluded. Sorry Sarah. Terrorists are much more likely to kill you than is the scenario you described to happen. AND, the most likely scenario for a huge, global nuclear war is with an appeaser in the White House who would have made so many bad decisions that there would be no other options than massive, nuclear war.

>3. What you say is indisputable is in fact easily disputed. The plot
>uncovered and thwarted in England (by the use of standard police work)
>demostrates two things: terrorism is best prevented with good intelligence

>work, and obliterating Iraq (or Iran, or Syria, etc) does nothing to prevent

>such groups from planning their attacks.

This is utterly an assertion on your part since you do not know how
many dead jihadis would have plotted even more attacks given
an appeaser in the White House.

Again, we are not fighting them, we are catching them. You are not
being honest in implying that the war caused these attacks.
You do not believe what the jiahdis themselves say they want to do, and that
makes your position a very dangerous one.

>Every time an innocent Iraqi dies
>in our foolish, ethnocentric quest to "spread democracy" (i.e., make the

>world safe for American business), we risk inspiring angry desperate
>civilians to join the ranks of the terrorists. Put yourself in their
>place - isn't that what Jesus would do?

First your view is based on the mistaken idea that some cultures
are too backward and too stupid to enjoy freedom. This is
embarrassing and likely racist, but since I know you, I suspect it
is merely the unquestioning assumption of cultural relativity.

It's like the old question; What do you do if you see an endangered
animal eating an endangered plant?

What do you do if you see a society doing clitorectomies, or having
rape rooms as a means fo keeping the peace?

Who are you to judge their culture?

Yet we think that people can live a better life than that don't we?

Christians know that there is one culture and it is God's.

No america ain't it.

But we know that some practices are
degenerate, like human sacrifice and the roman gladiators and that
when a society embraces degeneracy, that society is doomed.

So yes, we can say that freedom and democracy is better than
Saddam and his spawn, and despite your socialist hatred of "big
business" we are the good guys in that conflict. If you dispute

that, I challenge you to live under sharia and see if you don't
change you mind.

Matthew 5:44 - "But I say unto you,
>Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate
you,
>and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you."

And our brave soldiers and marines pray daily for even their enemies
that they will have to kill as few as possible and they rejoice mightily
at every one they save.

read this:

http://www.amazon.com/gp/product/0788023454/sr=1-1/qid=11555
98944/ref=sr_1_1/102-7219965-6149719?ie=UTF8&s=books

and this:

http://www.amazon.com/gp/product/0849918235/sr=1-7/qid=11555
98944/ref=sr_1_7/102-7219965-6149719?ie=UTF8&s=books

You owe these brave men and women your very life and certainly
your right to carry on such a discussion.

>4. Anyone who plans the murder of innocent civilians to further their cause

>deserves the tortures of the damned, and this includes terrorists and heads

>of state. Evil people are evil people - it's got nothing to do with "right"

>or "left," as a cursory survey of human history will show. We should fight

>authoritarianism at either end of the spectrum, and right now it has crept

>into our own government at the "right" end. It can't happen here? The

>firmly fixed belief that it can't happen here is exactly what is allowing
it
>to happen here.

I went through the Holocaust museum here in Los Angeles.
Been there? Go sometime. When my group exited the gas
chamber at the end of the tour, our guide, a little old man who

survived the camps asked us to raise our hands if we thought it
it could happen here. Mostof the group of 35 or so raised their
hands. Me and a couple of hard-eyed young men kept our hands
down, and the old man asked us why.

I answered with:

"Because I will take up a rifle and kill anyone who tries to do such
a thing, and I will lay down my life to prevent it here."

(I could see the other guys shaking their heads in agreement)

You know what the old guy said??

He pointed at us and said:

THAT is the ONLY reason it will not happen here!

Now, you go there, and come out of that place onto Pico blvd., and
go down to Factor's Deli for a bite and tell me about American
authoritarianism. You need to re-join reality.

Worst, once again, someone (iran and their cronies) is trying to wipe
out the Jews. The Jews believe that someone will try to exterminate
them in every generation, and how am I to prove them wrong?
The left in this country has become the mirror image of Tim
McVeigh and socialist/quasi-pacifist europe has once again
revealed its seething anti-semitism. Yes, it can happen here,
but we ain't going to go easy, I can tell you that.

>5. I don't have a fifth point . . . I just think 5 is a nicer number than

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zTzLLC6oS7kA0qtc88wNcROrU9+3WUsemQrhmhdlelAoyJHQ4LFm9yOjoa60
OmJWLV91M1JoVNMxiSIsWaMF4lFNDqMRtHXaDt2noDqMLHIvupMtWU/YaYlP
Jy+mFfwNuZlr9O0fvwkUrexYRZRWyZVzrVj1OK1rl18caUxT9uKD1HGeu7P4
UxMVGVBn8xjtu6itVTk7W5tJ7Cz5ECGOTZvWOMe5QMSKkDrnjtNZIbKwn/Fh
vHuLhLeBd6Rhp4gablABIVdBTFJrCaEKxRC0bMrIooHHpyqMX/Pdid/dq9u9
4CX/AOs9vz8paW9tcy/fO1pAIJB1qKE+BxLAzRlonKM0UiSpkaVWRCVYeYOP
E4+muGY03saFRqFwdpoT0oTT9mP9SgAyAVunyxy16wmmvTCIrazgglmk2Vqz
hURsumFc8ZysIjQBUHHXmdeopDniN34rmmYIKJ/ab8tWnSkGmFt4uK5+Ivcx
H3hxN+tFU6Kxg1JpgMLPujXILxnIUr5fhYReVs+5UgCyBfzHFX2e4CpBeLoa
YtWj4jupoqxi3DcRyDJULRCg9vw0piyTluL7qt7JNxtTdcReqhfbT0Fox5E5
4tlh4XvGSMRosbR8Tfe3tpkVolKfDB2cF3m+RCleJ5D9tUwNvbffBIHp28Vf
bf8A2cWkUnaPdgnji2SO/EXNGjBO1gSNKYUntbuOvSvGyggdKZYXd2l3GSK0
/wDp8mY+zFw0XbnOLE33TZuCG61ywSO3eY8lNqw/bTH/APWeYK09QFu1Ptpi
g7Y5kmuv5dqfuwkF529yNncBt1nPNHsA/mHqAqMf+Dn2D+muBWwnIr1X/hgf
7CatP5f+GDWwmOWtP+GBTjpiBXbQEGv2Yy4+WoPn/hhkaykhUkbpDWn7sf/Z

---=_linux44e10e55--

Subject: Re: Terrorist plot foiled
Posted by Sarah on Tue, 15 Aug 2006 03:51:54 GMT
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Whatever, dude. None of us knows what Jesus said - we only know what some people wrote about him decades after he died, people who had nothing but legend to go on. All we can do is read this stuff and try to piece together for ourselves who or what Jesus was. You can't tell me I'm "utterly wrong about what Jesus stood for" just because what your belief about him differs from mine. I believe he was a man trying to teach us how we should live, you believe he was God. Fine. And I don't quote him when it suits me anymore than you do.

Furthermore, I am not "deluded" simply because I look at the what is happening in the world and come to a different conclusion than you do. Nor is my view "based on the mistaken idea that some cultures are too backward and too stupid to enjoy freedom." I just do not believe that the invasion of Iraq had anything to do with freedom or terrorism. Bin Laden has convinced his followers that the West is engaged in a war on Islam, and he was probably overjoyed when Bush attacked Iraq. What do you think, that there is a limited supply of jihadists? As long as we generate hatred for America, as this war has done, there will be a bottomless pool of potential jihadists. By what acrobatic logic can anyone conclude that what we've done in Iraq has eliminated more terrorists that it has created?

I don't hate "big business," I hate greed. Greed kills. Maybe you should ask yourself who has really profited from our little holy war.

And finally, regarding the idea of authoritarianism creeping into our government, it's great that you will "take up a rifle and kill anyone who tries to do such a thing, and I will lay down my life to prevent it here." The problem is, you won't take up that rifle if you're in denial about the motives of those in power. Not to mention the fact that if you even talked that way against this administration, you might just wind up in Guantanamo as an "enemy combatant."

Yours, in Christ,

Sarah

Subject: Re: Terrorist plot foiled
Posted by DC on Tue, 15 Aug 2006 04:18:13 GMT
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"Sarah" <sarahjane@sarahtonin.com> wrote:
>Whatever, dude. None of us knows what Jesus said - we only know what some

>people wrote about him decades after he died, people who had nothing but

>legend to go on. All we can do is read this stuff and try to piece together

>for ourselves who or what Jesus was. You can't tell me I'm "utterly wrong

>about what Jesus stood for" just because what your belief about him differs

>from mine.

ahhh. ok I get it. You prefer to believe in human-made faiths. This is of course, at root, atheism.

Christians believe that Jesus was who he said he was and the Bible, (not in word, but in thought) is the word of God. Miraculous, supernatural and divine.

That's your choice to believe that, no one can know, but there certainly is reason to believe otherwise.
When you tell me that no one can know who Jesus was you are expressing your own belief, not fact. I can show you otherwise.

>I believe he was a man trying to teach us how we should live,
>you believe he was God. Fine. And I don't quote him when it suits me
>anymore than you do.

I take him for who he said he was, and that points the finger back
at me as often as not. A man? Hardly, although that was certainly
part of it. The other part is the creator of the universe. You quote
him exactly as Michael Moore does. You don't want the real Jesus,
just the flat one-dimensional 'jesus' that you can make a quick and
dirty hammer out of without any real understanding. Then back
on the shelf goes "jesus" until you need him again.

Nice...

>Furthermore, I am not "deluded" simply because I look at the what is
>happening in the world and come to a different conclusion than you do.

No dammit, you are deluded for believing that you are more likely
to be killed by W and a big nuclear war than by terrorists. Coming
to that conclusion is a delusion, and not because it differs from
mine but because the evidence simply is not there for it, while the
evidence for a persistent jihad against westerners, and especially
against "uppity" females like you is voluminous indeed.

You deserve better conclusions. Don't hate Bush so much that
you are lead astray by nonsense. At minimum, admit that you
are in real danger from jihadists. That doesn't mean you have
to take showers with W...

>Nor
>is my view "based on the mistaken idea that some cultures are too backward

>and too stupid to enjoy freedom." I just do not believe that the invasion

>of Iraq had anything to do with freedom or terrorism. Bin Laden has
>convinced his followers that the West is engaged in a war on Islam, and
he
>was probably overjoyed when Bush attacked Iraq. What do you think, that

>there is a limited supply of jihadists? As long as we generate hatred for

>America, as this war has done, there will be a bottomless pool of potential

>jihadists. By what acrobatic logic can anyone conclude that what we've
done
>in Iraq has eliminated more terrorists that it has created?

The belief that war simply creates more terrorists than it eliminates
is simply pacifist twaddle. It was spewed by pacifists to keep us

out of WWII s well, and it was defeatist crap then and it is
defeatist crap now.

Now you're going to tell me that we can have "peace in our time"
because this iranian president is a pretty reasonable fellow...

Right...

Moslems believe that the leader with the true message will be
successful and that a defeated leader is obviously not the right one.

See a possible strategy here?

>I don't hate "big business," I hate greed. Greed kills. Maybe you should

>ask yourself who has really profited from our little holy war.

Besides the Iraqi's who voted in higher percetnages than we have in
a hundred years, despite the terrible danger? Perhaps the US
free from successful attacks for these five years?

If we catch the bastards you say "oh see, we made more of them"
if we don't catch them, you say "oh see W did not make us safer"

There is no solution for you other than pacifist ones. Big problem;
they all fail and have done so time after time.

>And finally, regarding the idea of authoritarianism creeping into our
>government, it's great that you will "take up a rifle and kill anyone who

>tries to do such a thing, and I will lay down my life to prevent it here."

>The problem is, you won't take up that rifle if you're in denial about the

>motives of those in power.

yeah, that's me Mr Denial... Did you ever consider that your
approaches are simply unconvincing?

Sheesh, it's not even that hard to convince me, of all people, to
distrust the gummint. My support for W is a mile wide and an inch
deep. The real problem is that the opposition in morally and
intellectually bankrupt, not that I am in denial. You guys just don't
have any ammo, so I remain unconvinced.

Denial.. boy, that's a good one.

>Not to mention the fact that if you even talked
>that way against this administration, you might just wind up in Guantanamo

>as an "enemy combatant."

There you go... These jihadi head cutters, these scum murderers
are the same as those who would prevent a kristalnacht here in
America! What heroes those braves jihadis' must be!

good grief such is the inverted world of pacifist moral equivalence.

>Yours, in Christ,
>
>Sarah

Careful... He might not be done with you yet... . Using his name
in false sincerity might make such phrases make sense, seem
somehow "right" to you. Who knows where that could lead...

DC

DC

Subject: Re: Terrorist plot foiled...Christians has Lost focus
Posted by LaMont on Tue, 15 Aug 2006 04:47:44 GMT
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DC, how can I miss-quote you by cutting & pasting your own writings?
Your words:Appeasement?
>Self-hatred?
>The demise of the state of Israel?
>more dead Americans?
>The U.N.?

There only solution for all of this (as I believe) is for return of our Lord
& Savior (Jesus Christ). The fact is, we as Americans are scared to death
that this "ride" maybe soon coming to a "screeching" halt.. That's not unusual.
It's human..
But, we as Christians are supposed to be leaders and help prepare the way
of our Lord Jesus return. Not give into the violence, which by the way is
not our fight to fight. It's a Spiritual war bwt God Almighty and satan.
To be honest, we are just pawns is their battle. But, we are joint heirs
with the Victor(God) almighty.

It's really a shame that our Leaders have frighten the good people of this nation under the auspices of following God. These leaders are no more than plain Warmongers who God goes on record as saying he will judge them.

So, they hate the west. Jesus says" They will hated me first" So you being followers, will be hated as well."

DC, do you believe inthe book of Revelations? If so, then you know what's in store. Simply put..There will be some good times ahead, then, not dark times. Then, finally, Glorious times. Amen!
LAD

>I would love to see a solution here. All you seem to have is
>hatred of the west. That's not good enough.
>
>DC
>
>
>
>
>
>"LaMont" <jjdpro@ameritech.net> wrote:
>>
>>I would hope you would rise up and take the lives of any ku kluxers who
>would
>>try to do that I would consider that a righteous act, as a Christian. Wouldn't
>>you?
>
>>"Vengance is mine sayeth the Lord" ..
>
>>So,I go out and kill a few Klux(ers) then what?? Does it bring back my
loved
>>one? Violence begats violence. Live bu the sword, you die by the sword.

Seconf
"DC" <dc@spammersintelaviv.com> wrote:
>
>Selective misquoting...
>
>LaMont you can do better than this.
>
>I did NOT say to go kill some kluxers in revenge.
>
>I said it was righteous to stop them from killing you and your
>family.

>
>Now, if you want to dispute with me, start from what I actually said.
>
>Further, I say Ghandi himself would be sinning by letting someone
>kill his family. 'course, he did it himself didn't he?
>
>
>I do believe what I read in the Bible. Including this:
>
>Luke 22-36
>
>He said to them, "But now if you have a purse, take it, and also a bag;
and
>if you don't have a sword, sell your cloak and buy one.
>
>
>In Romans 13, Paul says:
>
>Do you want to be free from fear of the one in authority? Then do what is
>right and he will commend you. For he is God's servant to do you good. But
>if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword for nothing.
>
>You notice the bearing of the sword by government is accepted as
>a normal practice and not condemned at all?
>
>
>Romans 12:18 says:
>
>If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.
>
>
>And I just want to know LaMont, HOW is it possible for us
>to live in peace with jihadis?
>
>Appeasement?
>Self-hatred?
>The demise of the state of Israel?
>more dead Americans?
>The U.N.?
>
>I would love to see a solution here. All you seem to have is
>hatred of the west. That's not good enough.
>
>DC
>
>
>
>

>
>"LaMont" <jjdpro@ameritech.net> wrote:
>>
>>I would hope you would rise up and take the lives of any ku kluxers who
>would
>>try to do that I would consider that a righteous act, as a Christian. Wouldn't
>>you?
>
>>"Vengance is mine sayeth the Lord" ..
>
>>So,I go out and kill a few Klux(ers) then what?? Does it bring back my
loved
>>one? Violence begats violence. Live bu the sword, you die by the sword.
>
>>Do yu really believe anything in the Bible??
>>
>>

Subject: Re: Terrorist plot foiled
Posted by LaMont on Tue, 15 Aug 2006 05:06:12 GMT
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DC, YOur Words: AND, the
most likely scenario for a huge, global nuclear war is with an
appeaser in the White House who would have made so many bad
decisions that there would be no other options than massive,
nuclear war.

You really believe that President Bush has :
-Protected you (us) from terrorist?
-You believe that we are better of today in the world than before 911?

-You really believe that those who oppose war are Passice and appeaser?

Then you would call Jesus an appeaser. You need to read His sermon on the
mountain": It Goes

Beatitudes
Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

Blessed are the gentle, for they shall inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall
be satisfied.

Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

Blessed are those who have been persecuted for the sake of righteousness,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when people insult you and persecute you, and falsely say
all kinds of evil against you because of Me.

Rejoice and be glad, for your reward in heaven is great; for in the same
way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

It seems that the Bush followers have forgotten Jesus's teaching above.

So, we fight and what, gain a few more years of exsistence. God's WIll, will
be done..Weather we like it or not. The best thing to do, is to line with
God's word and do the best we can.
LAD

"DC" <dc@spammersinhell.org> wrote:
>
>
>
>"Sarah" <sarahjane@sarahtonin.com> wrote:
>
>>1. Anyone has the right, perhaps the responsibility, to point out hypocrisy
>
>>in those who claim to be Christians and yet consistently behave in ways
>that
>>are clearly against everything that Jesus stood for.
>
>
>You are utterly wrong about what Jesus stood for. You quote him
>only when it suits you. Expect to be called on it when you do.
>
>
>>And as it happens, I
>>do believe in Jesus as one of the greatest teacher/philosophers of all
time,
>
>
>Which means that you do not believe that what he actually said
>about himself,
>

>"Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one
>comes to the Father except through me" John 14:6
>
>and
>
>In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the
>Word was God. He was with God in the beginning.
>
>Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made
>that has been made.
>
>He was in the world, and though the world was made through him,
>the world did not recognize him.
>
>The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. John 1
>
>
>No, you believe in "jesus", and yes you do have your own personal
>version of him, right there on your shelf.
>
>It bears no relationship to Jesus however. In reality Jesus was
>either the greatest and most cynical fraud ever perpetrated on
>humanity or he was exactly who he said he was.
>
>He most definetely was NOT "another great teacher and
>philosopher". Not unless you discard what he actually said.
>
>
>>and I feel fairly certain that he would not look favorably on those who
>
>>select a handful of bible passages to justify greed and violence and call
>
>>themselves Christians. "I like your Christ. I do not like your Christians.
>
>>Your Christians are so unlike your Christ." - Gandhi
>
>
>I like Ghandi, (well until he killed his wife) Well, I guess I don't
>like Ghandi.
>
>Can Christians be better? Of course! But what is important is, what
>if Christians are *right*? What if Jesus was who he said he was?
>Just think! All those imperfect, but saved, Christians, and all those
>self-righteous, but lost, pacifists! How unjust!!
>
>Unless of course, you actually listen to what Jesus SAID instead of
>quoting him where it suits you...
>

>
>>2. Christians have believed these are the last days for the last 2000

>>years! In Matthew 24, when Jesus describes the "end times," he was talking
>
>>about his own times. Matthew 24:34 - "Verily I say unto you, This
>>generation shall not pass, till all these things be fulfilled." Since then,
>
>>with every major war or natural disaster, there have been those crying

>>"repent for the end is near!" on street corners.
>
>
>There is much debate on Matthew 24. Most Christians believe it
>applies to both AD 70 (the Roman conquest of Jerusalem) and
>the last days. The evidence for our own time, being unique and
>indeed at the end of history, is quite massive in Scripture. I will be
>happy to discuss it with you privately if you like.
>
>
>>I don't fear terrorists
>>nearly as much as I fear having someone like George Bush start a global
>
>>thermonuclear war out of some brain-damaged belief that Jesus will come
>and
>>float him to Heaven.
>
>
>Then you are deluded. Sorry Sarah. Terrorists are much more likely
>to kill you than is the scenario you described to happen. AND, the
>most likely scenario for a huge, global nuclear war is with an
>appeaser in the White House who would have made so many bad
>decisions that there would be no other options than massive,
>nuclear war.
>
>
>>3. What you say is indisputable is in fact easily disputed. The plot

>>uncovered and thwarted in England (by the use of standard police work)

>>demostrates two things: terrorism is best prevented with good intelligence
>
>>work, and obliterating Iraq (or Iran, or Syria, etc) does nothing to prevent
>
>>such groups from planning their attacks.
>
>
>This is utterly an assertion on your part since you do not know how

>many dead jihadis would have plotted even more attacks given
>an appeaser in the White House.
>
>Again, we are not fighting them, we are catching them. You are not
>being honest in implying that the war caused these attacks.
>You do not believe what the jiahdis themselves say they want to do, and
that
>makes your position a very dangerous one.
>
>
>>Every time an innocent Iraqi dies
>>in our foolish, ethnocentric quest to "spread democracy" (i.e., make the
>
>>world safe for American business), we risk inspiring angry desperate
>>civilians to join the ranks of the terrorists. Put yourself in their
>>place - isn't that what Jesus would do?
>
>
>First your view is based on the mistaken idea that some cultures
>are too backward and too stupid to enjoy freedom. This is
>embarrassing and likely racist, but since I know you, I suspect it
>is merely the unquestioning assumption of cultural relativity.
>
>It's like the old question; What do you do if you see an endangered
>animal eating an endangered plant?
>
>What do you do if you see a society doing clitorectomies, or having
>rape rooms as a means fo keeping the peace?
>
>Who are you to judge their culture?
>
>Yet we think that people can live a better life than that don't we?
>
>Christians know that there is one culture and it is God's.
>
>No america ain't it.
>
>But we know that some practices are
>degenerate, like human sacrifice and the roman gladiators and that
>when a society embraces degeneracy, that society is doomed.
>
>So yes, we can say that freedom and democracy is better than
>Saddam and his spawn, and despite your socialist hatred of "big
>business" we are the good guys in that conflict. If you dispute
>that, I challenge you to live under sharia and see if you don't
>change you mind.
>
>

>Matthew 5:44 - "But I say unto you,
>>Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate
>you,
>>and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you."
>
>
>And our brave soldiers and marines pray daily for even their enemies
>that they will have to kill as few as possible and they rejoice mightily
>at every one they save.
>
>read this:
>
> http://www.amazon.com/gp/product/0788023454/sr=1-1/qid=11555
98944/ref=sr_1_1/102-7219965-6149719?ie=UTF8&s=books
>
>and this:
>
> http://www.amazon.com/gp/product/0849918235/sr=1-7/qid=11555
98944/ref=sr_1_7/102-7219965-6149719?ie=UTF8&s=books
>
>
>You owe these brave men and women your very life and certainly
>your right to carry on such a discussion.
>
>
>>4. Anyone who plans the murder of innocent civilians to further their
cause
>
>>deserves the tortures of the damned, and this includes terrorists and heads
>
>>of state. Evil people are evil people - it's got nothing to do with "right"
>
>>or "left," as a cursory survey of human history will show. We should fight
>
>>authoritarianism at either end of the spectrum, and right now it has crept
>
>>into our own government at the "right" end. It can't happen here? The
>
>>firmly fixed belief that it can't happen here is exactly what is allowing
>it
>>to happen here.
>
>I went through the Holocaust museum here in Los Angeles.
>Been there? Go sometime. When my group exited the gas
>chamber at the end of the tour, our guide, a little old man who
>survived the camps asked us to raise our hands if we thought it
>it could happen here. Mostof the group of 35 or so raised their
>hands. Me and a couple of hard-eyed young men kept our hands

>down, and the old man asked us why.
>
>I answered with:
>
>"Because I will take up a rifle and kill anyone who tries to do such
>a thing, and I will lay down my life to prevent it here."
>
>(I could see the other guys shaking their heads in agreement)
>
>You know what the old guy said??
>
>He pointed at us and said:
>
>THAT is the ONLY reason it will not happen here!
>
>Now, you go there, and come out of that place onto Pico blvd., and
>go down to Factor's Deli for a bite and tell me about American
>authoritarianism. You need to re-join reality.
>
>Worst, once again, someone (iran and their cronies) is trying to wipe
>out the Jews. The Jews believe that someone will try to exterminate
>them in every generation, and how am I to prove them wrong?
>The left in this country has become the mirror image of Tim
>McVeigh and socialist/quasi-pacifist europe has once again
>revealed its seething anti-semitism. Yes, it can happen here,
>but we ain't going to go easy, I can tell you that.
>
>
>>5. I don't have a fifth point . . . I just think 5 is a nicer number than
>
>
>I saw the figure 5 in gold...

Subject: Re: Terrorist plot foiled...Christians has Lost focus
Posted by LaMont on Tue, 15 Aug 2006 05:12:20 GMT
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Oh Boy..

"DJ" <animix_spam-this-ahole_@animas.net> wrote:
>> Oh yeah, Jesus also goes on record to say "Love they Enemies"..I know,
>what
>> a hard thing to do, but we took an "Oath of Faith " to follow his (Jesus)
>> teachings. So, we are not to only pick out his commandments that suits
or
>> fit us depending on the situation. LAD
>

>
>Forgiving them (terrorists) I believe is God's function. Our job is to
>simply arrange the meeting!
> - Norman Swartzkoph
>
>;o)
>
>
>
>"LaMont" <jjdpro@ameritech.net> wrote in message news:44e0c513$1@linux...
>>
>> As a believeing Christian,
>> why should we do "Anything at to save oursleves form the inevitable"??
>> If Jesus is soon to return, then why are so worried about the end times??
>>
>> We are to pray and help those who are not saved, to get saved..
>> Jesus goes on record to say that " No one but the Father(God) knows the
>end
>> of time(earth), to be ready (Spiritualy) when he (Jesus) comes..
>> He aslo states, "There will be wars AND Rumors of wars, daughters against
>> mothers, sons against fathers, nations against nations..But "FEAR Not"..
>>
>> It seems that we (Christians) are fearing for the Jesus return instead
of
>> Celebrating his coming..
>> We(Christians) need to read the test again..
>>
>> Oh yeah, Jesus also goes on record to say "Love they Enemies"..I know,
>what
>> a hard thing to do, but we took an "Oath of Faith " to follow his (Jesus)
>> teachings. So, we are not to only pick out his commandments that suits
or
>> fit us depending on the situation. LAD
>>
>>
>> "DC" <dc@spammersinhell.com> wrote:
>> >
>> >Hi Sarah,
>> >
>> >Well, I suspect there are all sorts of things in our world that Jesus
>> >disapproves of, including slavery, female circumciscion,
>> >sharia, burqa's, the deliberate targeting of civilians, and
>> >Islamofascism in general. (Oh, and not to mention those who don't
>> >believe in him, attributing positions to him to make political points)
>> >
>> >But there is certainly lots of guilt to go around isn't there?
>> >
>> >That's why Christians believe these to be the last days of earth's

>> >history. There are no easy answers. Maybe no answers at all,
>> >except to hold fast and warn everyone of what is coming.
>> >
>> >Please notice though, that we are not "fighting them here", we
>> >are, quite successfuly *catching* them here, before any fighting
>> >is needed. Weakening the ghouls and head choppers makes us
>> >safer, it is clear. Give them ground, and they use the ground for
>> >more attacks. Appease them and you get more of the same.
>> >This is not disputable.
>> >Just take them at their own words. They clearly see your version
>> >of "peace" as weakness and an opportunity to kill more of us.
>> >
>> >Yet, it is really hard to take a purely right wing position, I know.
 I
>> >DO NOT trust our gummint one little bit. Too many soldiers died
>> >in Vietnam for no reason to do that. Venal, cowardly, and amoral
>> >leaders are responsible for the deaths of too many great young men
>> >and women to trust them. (Bill Clinton was no better than
>> >Nixon and Johnson BTW, just read "Blackhawk Down") At least
>> >W is commited to victory.
>> >
>> >
>> >The only thing even worse than blind patriotism is the insanity being
>> >peddled by the left.
>> >
>> >And as a Christian I admit to the strong possibility of a time in the
>> >near future, when there is no difference, morally, between the
>> >right and left whatsoever.
>> >
>> >And then shall the end come.
>> >
>> >
>> >DC
>> >
>> >
>> >
>> >
>> >"Sarah" <sarahjane@sarahtonin.om> wrote:
>> >>I didn't ask why they were foiled, silly. You said, "we need to know
>> >>exactly how these plots were foiled," so I was just repeating that and
>>
>> >>offering up an answer that I, of course, do not believe at all. I was
>>
>> >>merely making fun of those people who apparently do believe these
>things,
>> >
>> >>and attempting to satirically point out the particular absurdity of
 the

>> >
>> >>"fighting them there so we don't have to fight them here," justification
>> >for
>> >>Iraq. I don't actually have "my own personal Jesus," but somehow I
just
>> >
>> >>don't think he would approve of all the "collateral damage."
>> >>
>> >>Perhaps you knew I was being "tongue in cheek," and you were too and
I
>> just
>> >
>> >>missed the subtlety. :)
>> >>
>> >>Shalom,
>> >>
>> >>Sarah J. Burke, RN
>> >>
>> >>"DJ" <animix_spam-this-ahole_@animas.net> wrote in message
>> >>news:44e01125$1@linux...
>> >>> Well, y'see, we've proved now that Jesus can kick Mohammed's
>> >>>> ass, thereby demoralizing and discouraging all the would be
>terrorists
>> >in
>> >>>> the world.
>> >>>
>> >>> Well, I guess if that's what you believed foiled these attacks then
>why
>> >
>> >>> are
>> >>> you asking why they were foiled?
>> >>> I'm not so sure it was Jesus personally, but I guess, if you say so.
>> >>>
>> >>> "Sarah" <sarahjane@sarahtonin.com> wrote in message
>> >>> news:44e00d42$1@linux...
>> >>>> How these plots were foiled? How these plots were foiled?!? Weren't
>> >
>> >>>> they
>> >>>> foiled because Freedom is on the March in Iraq? Aren't we fighting
>>
>> >>>> "them"
>> >>>> there, so we don't have to fight "them" here? The British police
>could
>> >>>> never have thwarted this plot if we hadn't invaded Iraq, right?
How
>> >does
>> >>>> this work? Well, y'see, we've proved now that Jesus can kick
>Mohammed's

>> >>>> ass, thereby demoralizing and discouraging all the would be
>terrorists
>> >in
>> >>>> the world. Well, except for those ones that just popped up in
>England,
>> >>> but
>> >>>> those are the last ones. Really.
>> >>>>
>> >>>> Sarah
>> >>>>
>> >>>>
>> >>>> "DJ" <animix_spam-this-ahole_@animas.net> wrote in message
>> >>>> news:44db78dd@linux...
>> >>>> > We need to know exactly how these plots were foiled. I'm depending
>> >on
>> >>> the
>> >>>> > NY
>> >>>> > times to save us from the evil bastards that stopped this from
>> >>> happening.
>> >>>> > I'm sure my rights have been violated somehow.
>> >>>> >
>> >>>> > Sorry..... I couldn't resist. Things were getting so boring with
>all
>> >>> these
>> >>>> > relavent audio posts and all.
>> >>>> >
>> >>>> > There goes the neighborhood.....
>> >>>> >
>> >>>> > ;o)
>> >>>> >
>> >>>> >
>> >>>>
>> >>>>
>> >>>
>> >>>
>> >>
>> >>
>> >
>>
>
>

Subject: Re: Terrorist plot foiled
Posted by Dedric Terry on Tue, 15 Aug 2006 06:04:09 GMT
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Sarah,

I have no intention of expanding the debate of this thread, but I felt I should at least voice my opinion of one aspect of your last post.

I respectfully request that you not publicly insult those of us who actually do believe in Christ. The tone and approach of your post led me to believe your intent with this signature and quoting of scripture was one of sarcasm and vehemence. If you don't believe, please respect those that do and don't use His name as the basis for sarcasm, or quote Bible verses to support what appears to me to be an argument of throwing stones at Christianity. If you truly believe in peace and mutual respect, I am sure you will understand my request.

If you do believe Christ, be careful about what you say, and keep reading. The truth is in there, but it doesn't come from selectively lifting verses to build an argument born of frustration. Believe me when I say that I have weighed my words carefully in this post for the very same reason.

Whether we agree with each others' positions or not, in part this debate may just be evidence that the terrorists are in effect winning (at least their motivator is winning). Why wage jihad on Americans by blowing up buildings if you can get the people to turn on their own neighbors? This is a bigger war than just a handful of terrorists - it is a war for the hearts and souls of every human being. Even though that may sound trite or melodramatic to some, it is true, and at the very core of the Christian faith. Deception is the greatest weapon being wielded - and I'm not talking about governments or big business - the lies and deceit there, whether real or suspected, pale in comparison.

Rome fell from within, and so may the US - the foundation is already crumbling. There is always hope, but it doesn't come from hatred - for or from anyone, regardless of what we view as injustice or intolerance.

Dedric

On 8/14/06 9:51 PM, in article 44e14375$1@linux, "Sarah" <sarahjane@sarahtonin.com> wrote:

>
> Yours, in Christ,
>
> Sarah
>
>

Subject: Re: Terrorist plot foiled

Posted by dc[3] on Tue, 15 Aug 2006 07:01:03 GMT
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"LaMont" <jjdpro@ameritech.net> wrote:

>DC, YOur Words: AND, the
>most likely scenario for a huge, global nuclear war is with an
>appeaser in the White House who would have made so many bad
>decisions that there would be no other options than massive,
>nuclear war.
>
>You really believe that President Bush has :
>-Protected you (us) from terrorist?

Yes. It is clear that keeping them on the run keeps us safer.

>-You believe that we are better of today in the world than before 911?

No, we are better off since 911, which would not have
happened if clinton had taken this all more seriously.

>-You really believe that those who oppose war are Passice and appeaser?

No, some are and some aren't. There lots of Stalinists and Kim
Jong groupies in the mix as well.

>Then you would call Jesus an appeaser.

Jesus was never in the White House. Hs disciples tried and he would
have none of it.

When a mob tried to kill him before it was his time, he simply walked
through them like they weren't there. Pretty good aikido huh?

Jesus was not in politics.

>You need to read His sermon on the
>mountain": It Goes
>
>Beatitudes
>Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

And you think that the poor in spirit should apply to entire
countries?

>Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

Should we mourn because we let the jihadi kill our families?

>Blessed are the gentle, for they shall inherit the earth.

It doesn't say this. It says "meek" and they are not the same.
See below..

>Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

Righteousness indeed. Righteousness is what we needed when we stood in the pretend gas chambers of the Holocaust museum.
Only 3 of us in that crowd had any of it.

>Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

http://gallery.michaelyon-online.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&cPath=1&products_id=14

>Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

Does this look pure to you?

http://www.thereligionofpeace.com/index.html#Attacks

>Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

Blessed indeed:
http://www.americanhandgunner.com/GunCrank2.html

>Blessed are those who have been persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Oh yes they will

http://www.christianpersecution.info/

>Blessed are you when people insult you and persecute you, and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of Me.

http://www.zombietime.com/walk_for_life/

>Rejoice and be glad, for your reward in heaven is great; for in the same
way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

You. like many others mistakenly think that the Beatitudes are
prescriptions for behavior. They are not. As theolgian and
philosopher Dallas Willard states in "The Divine Conspiracy", the
beatitudes are not instructing us to be meek, poor in spirit and
weep a lot. They are intended to give hope and faith to those
who ARE mistreated, who do weep and who are fearful. They are
promised the Kingdom, in spite of these things happening to them,
not because of them. Read that book, please. It's amazingly
good.

>It seems that the Bush followers have forgotten Jesus's teaching above.

Or not...

>So, we fight and what, gain a few more years of exsistence. God's WIll,
will
>be done..Weather we like it or not. The best thing to do, is to line with
>God's word and do the best we can.

agreed. Let us reason together to understand it and not fight with
each other. The day will come when we will have done all we can
and it is time to accept our fate. We need to recognize that
day when it appears. Until then, I will stand for freedom and
democracy.

DC

Subject: Re: Terrorist plot foiled...Christians has Lost focus
Posted by dc[3] on Tue, 15 Aug 2006 07:14:51 GMT
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"LaMOnt" <jjdpro@ameritech.net> wrote:
>
>DC, how can I miss-quote you by cutting & pasting your own writings?

You misquoted me when you said:

>So,I go out and kill a few Klux(ers) then what?? Does it bring back my loved
>one? Violence begats violence. Live bu the sword, you die by the sword.

I never said to go out and kill anyone. That is revenge and I do not
believe in revenge. I said it is righteous to stand up and defend your
life and family should the lynch mob come for you. Those poor
black americans lynched, castrated, and dragged behind cars
needed guns, not pity.

http://www.blackmanwithagun.com

>The fact is, we as Americans are scared to death
>that this "ride" maybe soon coming to a "screeching" halt.. That's not unusual.
>It's human..

Every country, us and Israel included, has the right to self-defense.

Now, if you do not see Iraq as self defense, fine, you have a lot
of company, but please give the other side some credit for good
motives as well.

>But, we as Christians are supposed to be leaders and help prepare the way
>of our Lord Jesus return. Not give into the violence, which by the way is
>not our fight to fight. It's a Spiritual war bwt God Almighty and satan.
>To be honest, we are just pawns is their battle. But, we are joint heirs
>with the Victor(God) almighty.
>
>It's really a shame that our Leaders have frighten the good people of this
>nation under the auspices of following God. These leaders are no more than
>plain Warmongers who God goes on record as saying he will judge them.

There is plenty to be frightened of in this world without ascribing
any manipulation to the gummint.

The spiritual war is real, and I think it is coming. It is likely to be
someone promising to lead us out of the morass of war and killing.

He will talk about peace a lot and be very kind. Many will follow...

>DC, do you believe inthe book of Revelations? If so, then you know what's
>in store. Simply put..There will be some good times ahead, then, not dark
>times. Then, finally, Glorious times. Amen!

Revelation is not clear to me, at least not in the particulars. The big arc of history and who wins is clear, but those who try to find predictions for next week in Revelation are going to be disappointed.

Since no two denominations agree on Revelation, I think it is a safe position to wait and see.

I will cease my support of the war on terror when I am convinced our governement is evil. I am not convinced yet, but I do not trust those in power.

take care

DC

Subject: Re: Terrorist plot foiled
Posted by Jamie K on Tue, 15 Aug 2006 07:47:34 GMT
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You're a thoughtful person, Dedric. Consider that nobody speaks for all Christians. No one could, since Christians are splintered and divided into multiple sects and sub-sects that disagree passionately about fundamental doctrine. LaMont and DC are only one example.

Here in these United States of America, LaMont and DC are free to speak their minds even on religious and political topics.

And so is Sarah. She is free to study any religious or non-religious text and draw conclusions about it. She is completely entitled to her opinion about any topic, including the topic of Jesus Christ's teachings on interpersonal relationships. She can express her opinions in ways that she thinks are most communicative.

Clearly there are differences of opinions. Like it or not, in a free country differences of opinion are allowed. Otherwise we'd have one true church and membership would be compulsory. Many of our ancestors fled such situations and it would be a waste of a good revolution to reinstate that here.

I could say that some people who claim they believe in Jesus Christ or Islam act like they believe in Ghengas Khan. I could say that if those people want to relive the crusades in 2006, that's pretty silly and maybe they should find something more constructive to do. I could say that people with their heads firmly planted in the middle ages are letting themselves be manipulated by such things as financial goals of extractive industries and territorial goals of nationalistic groups, odd

bedfellows at best.

In this great country of ours we are allowed to think for ourselves. We are allowed to be wrong along the way in so doing, which is amply demonstrated by a percentage of the posts that float by here and elsewhere.

But it is our responsibility to contribute to the debate, listen, learn and grow. If my beliefs are challenged in the course of that debate, I need to step back and see the wider picture. I can defend my perspective or be swayed by reasonable arguments. An open mind is a useful starting place (not a feeble mind, mind you).

This is not a theocracy where a priesthood of ANY religion can hide behind blasphemy laws and self-righteous certitude. This is a collection of free citizens participating in their own governance.

IMO we do NOT need to relive the crusades in 2006. Hopefully we've learned a few things since 1095. We DO need to continually craft effective policy in changing circumstances, in order to live together constructively with others on our planet.

Such policies should not be built on Hatfield/McCoy recursivity. Nor should they be built on establishing totalitarian government here or elsewhere.

The Christianity I grew up with says that God is love. I respect that.

Cheers,
-Jamie
http://www.JamieKrutz.com

Dedric Terry wrote:
> Sarah,
>
> I have no intention of expanding the debate of this thread, but I felt I
> should at least voice my opinion of one aspect of your last post.
>
> I respectfully request that you not publicly insult those of us who actually
> do believe in Christ. The tone and approach of your post led me to believe
> your intent with this signature and quoting of scripture was one of sarcasm
> and vehemence. If you don't believe, please respect those that do and don't
> use His name as the basis for sarcasm, or quote Bible verses to support what
> appears to me to be an argument of throwing stones at Christianity. If you
> truly believe in peace and mutual respect, I am sure you will understand my
> request.
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> If you do believe Christ, be careful about what you say, and keep reading.
> The truth is in there, but it doesn't come from selectively lifting verses
> to build an argument born of frustration. Believe me when I say that I have
> weighed my words carefully in this post for the very same reason.
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> Whether we agree with each others' positions or not, in part this debate may
> just be evidence that the terrorists are in effect winning (at least their
> motivator is winning). Why wage jihad on Americans by blowing up buildings
> if you can get the people to turn on their own neighbors? This is a bigger
> war than just a handful of terrorists - it is a war for the hearts and souls
> of every human being. Even though that may sound trite or melodramatic to
> some, it is true, and at the very core of the Christian faith. Deception is
> the greatest weapon being wielded - and I'm not talking about governments or
> big business - the lies and deceit there, whether real or suspected, pale in
> comparison.
>
> Rome fell from within, and so may the US - the foundation is already
> crumbling. There is always hope, but it doesn't come from hatred - for or
> from anyone, regardless of what we view as injustice or intolerance.
>
> Dedric
>
> On 8/14/06 9:51 PM, in article 44e14375$1@linux, "Sarah"
> <sarahjane@sarahtonin.com> wrote:
>
>> Yours, in Christ,
>>
>> Sarah
>>
>>
>

Subject: Re: Terrorist plot foiled
Posted by Sarah on Tue, 15 Aug 2006 08:03:23 GMT
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If you think I'm an atheist, we are clearly not communicating, and I don't
think the problem is entirely at my end.

I'm not really a pacifist either, and in fact I think comparing this
misguided blunder in Iraq to WWII is an insult to every soldier who fought
to stop Hitler. Trust me, I will shoot a bad guy, and I may even be tempted
to start with his kneecaps.

I'm also not a cultural relativist, but since it seems important for you to
put me in a category, I'll make it easy and just tell you that I'm basically
a utilitarian. More accurately, I'm what I would call a "golden-rule-ist,"

which I guess would be like a utilitarian but with more concern for individual rights.

I'm also not a "leftist," I just look that way because the center has been dragged so friggin' far to the right. Nixon would be a leftist by today's standard.

We all have a right to our beliefs, but what we believe effects what we perceive, and I feel like your strong beliefs are warping my communication into things I didn't even say. (e.g. "There you go... These jihadi head cutters, these scum murderers
are the same as those who would prevent a kristalnacht here in America! What heroes those braves jihadis' must be! good grief such is the inverted world of pacifist moral equivalence.")

Believing is not knowing, and it's impossible to debate someone who seems to equate the two.

I give up.

Sarah

PS: Sorry about the "yours in Christ" thing. That was snotty and sarcastic and I regret doing it.

Subject: Re: Terrorist plot foiled
Posted by Sarah on Tue, 15 Aug 2006 08:25:48 GMT
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Dedric,

You're very right, and I apologize. I am certainly a Christian philosophically, but it's true that I was being sarcastic with my sign off, and that was disrespectful. As far as quoting Jesus, however, I do that because I believe he was trying to teach us how to live in peace, and to me that is more important right now than beliefs about the afterlife.

I would not throw stones at Christianity, but I will always throw stones at hypocrisy and fanaticism, and I see a lot of those nowadays.

Peace,

Sarah

"Dedric Terry" <dterry@keyofd.net> wrote in message
news:C106BFF9.2683%dterry@keyofd.net...

> Sarah,
>
> I have no intention of expanding the debate of this thread, but I felt I
> should at least voice my opinion of one aspect of your last post.
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> comparison.
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> Rome fell from within, and so may the US - the foundation is already
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>
> Dedric
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>
>>
>> Yours, in Christ,
>>
>> Sarah
>>
>>
>

Subject: Re: Terrorist plot foiled
Posted by rick on Tue, 15 Aug 2006 11:27:47 GMT
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i wonder at what point god said to nobody in particular..."really, i
thought they were ready for me...all i said was do unto others as..."

On Tue, 15 Aug 2006 01:25:48 -0700, "Sarah" <sarahjane@sarahtonin.com>
wrote:

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>
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>Sarah
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>>>
>>>
>>
>

Subject: Re: Terrorist plot foiled...Christians has Lost focus
Posted by LaMont on Tue, 15 Aug 2006 13:04:12 GMT
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Man, what are you saying:
"I will cease my support of the war on terror when I am convinced our governement
is evil. I am not convinced yet, but I do not trust >those in power."

What kind of doubled speak is this?? Remember: A doubled minded Man is "Unstable"
in all His ways".

You Wrote: Now, if you do not see Iraq as self defense, fine, you have a
lot of company, but please give the other side some credit for good motives
as well.

You are right, I don't Iraq as self defense. We were supposed to be getting
Osama Bin Laden..???Remember. Now look at the mess we're in in Iraq. You
President, has taken this country down a very dark path in-which the majority
of his own political party does not subscibe to. With a 33-34 percent job
approval rating and his neo conservative views(Under the auspicies of Christianity)
what's to "grow" the American Empire to a region that will die before it
let's any other country set up shop.

All in all, it's in God's hands. God chooses players in the big Chess match
btw He and satan. Which means he can use some pawns like a Bush Cheney, Rice
& Rumsfeld,Libby and other neo-cons for his bidding.
One thing is for sure, God's Will; will be done.On Earth as it is in Heaven.
And his Will isthat he set out to make Earth man's dwelling place and this
time it will be King Jesus who will preside and rule forever.

"DC" <dc@spammersinhell.com> wrote:
>

>"LaMOnt" <jjdpro@ameritech.net> wrote:
>>
>>DC, how can I miss-quote you by cutting & pasting your own writings?
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>You misquoted me when you said:
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>
>
>>DC, do you believe inthe book of Revelations? If so, then you know what's
>>in store. Simply put..There will be some good times ahead, then, not dark
>>times. Then, finally, Glorious times. Amen!
>
>
>Revelation is not clear to me, at least not in the particulars. The
>big arc of history and who wins is clear, but those who try to find
>predictions for next week in Revelation are going to be
>disappointed.
>
>Since no two denominations agree on Revelation, I think it is a safe
>position to wait and see.
>
>I will cease my support of the war on terror when I am convinced our
>governement is evil. I am not convinced yet, but I do not trust
>those in power.
>
>take care
>
>DC
>

Subject: Re: Terrorist plot foiled
Posted by DC on Tue, 15 Aug 2006 13:08:14 GMT
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"Sarah" <sarahjane@sarahtonin.com> wrote:
>If you think I'm an atheist, we are clearly not communicating, and I don't

>think the problem is entirely at my end.

I don't think you are an atheist, I didn't even say that.

What I know is that without the vertical dimension, without
Jesus' divinity, nothing he said including and especially the parts
about peace and forgiveness, mean anything, and may be discarded
at will as they have meaning (or don't) to you personally.
This places the person at the center of faith, not God, and has no
foundation. You remember the story about the wise man building
his house upon the rock? It's like that.

I never thought you were an atheist.

>I'm not really a pacifist either, and in fact I think comparing this

>misguided blunder in Iraq to WWII is an insult to every soldier who fought

>to stop Hitler. Trust me, I will shoot a bad guy, and I may even be tempted

>to start with his kneecaps.

And I believe you. I also do not object to your opposition to the
war. I do object to your characterizing the president as a greater
threat than islamic terrorism. Whether or not you are one, you use
pacifist reasoning. Sometimes, as you indicate above, the way
to peace involves unfortunate, but necessary, violence.

>I'm also not a cultural relativist, but since it seems important for you
to
>put me in a category, I'll make it easy and just tell you that I'm basically

>a utilitarian. More accurately, I'm what I would call a "golden-rule-ist,"

>which I guess would be like a utilitarian but with more concern for
>individual rights.

Then give the Iraqi's who want freedom at least the same respect
we give each other.

>I'm also not a "leftist," I just look that way because the center has been

>dragged so friggin' far to the right. Nixon would be a leftist by today's

>standard.

Nah, I was there. This is an overstatement. You are left on some
issues, as am I. No shame there.

>We all have a right to our beliefs, but what we believe effects what we

>perceive, and I feel like your strong beliefs are warping my communication

>into things I didn't even say. (e.g. "There you go... These jihadi head

>cutters, these scum murderers
>are the same as those who would prevent a kristalnacht here in America!
What
>heroes those braves jihadis' must be! good grief such is the inverted world

>of pacifist moral equivalence.")

But you warned me that if I stood up to prevent another kristalnacht
I might end up in Guantanamo!

You said that! Where did I misunderstand you?

>Believing is not knowing, and it's impossible to debate someone who seems
to
>equate the two.

Knowing is what we both claim. I claim to know the risen savior,
you claim him to be un-knowable, except as another "great
teacher". There is no difference between us in that regard.

I hope this is more clear, because I like you a lot. If I did not, I
would not say these things. I think there is a day of judgement
coming, and I *must* warn others of it. This is my duty and I
cannot be silent. When you quote Jesus to bash Christians, I must
speak up. I am not against you, just some of these ideas.

best,

DC

>PS: Sorry about the "yours in Christ" thing. That was snotty and sarcastic

>and I regret doing it.

Didn't bother me. No worries. I wish you would say it more often.

Subject: Re: Terrorist plot foiled
Posted by Nil on Tue, 15 Aug 2006 13:21:08 GMT
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Two problems wherein a faith (any faith) based on peace & love
conflict with reality:

1.) You can't just "live & let live" when there are people out
there who are not of that mind, whether it's a Hitler or a
Ghengis Khan, or Bin Laden & his ilk.

2.) All religions are man-made, anyway - I must confess that at
this point I don't know who God is or what he's all about, or
sometimes even if he even exists, but if he's been around for
more millennia than we can even comprehend, don't you think
that since all we have are snippets of what amounts to a couple-

thousand-year long game of "telephone" that there's a better
chance than not that we (or "they", depending on who's faith
& scripture you're referring to) have all gotten it wrong
somehow, somewhere along the line?

Lots of peple throughout history have given us good guidelines
to live by... if everyone would just use common sense, that
alone tells you that the harmonious aspects of the teachings of
Jesus, Mohammed, Bhudda, Ghandi - to name a few - are certainly
better & more productive than fighting & killing... especially
in the name of one god or another. Nonetheless, unless everyone
on the planet ascribes to this, there's always going to be
someone that wants to kill you or otherwise do you harm because
their wants & needs conflict with yours. This is the reality.

So do we turn the other cheek as a nation - in other words,
follow a certain religious philosophy - when we as a nation
are supposed to have a separation of church & state? No,
because that goes against the very reason people band together,
from the very first tribes to today's systems of government.
It's at the core of our beings... people didn't first band
together becasue it's easier to have an agrarian society when
there's more people working the fields, they banded together to
protect themselves from the danger of hunting wild beasts
alone, and then as an offshoot, from the threat of other bands
trying to prevent you from hunting those same beasts because
THEY wanted to do so & bring back the food for THEIR tribe.
So, this is in our nature, and one could make the argument that
because God created us this way - with a strong survival
instinct - that it's actually his will for us to fight & kill
each other. Are we supposed to have evolved from this state by
now? Who's to say - after all, Christians don't believe in
evolution, and the bible says that God is "unchanging", so
maybe our nature isn't supposed to change either if we're made
in his image & likeness, right? See what I'm saying about
religions & things being "lost in translation" everything I
just said goes against the grain of good common sense,
doesn't it?

Just food for thought.

Neil

rick <parnell68@hotmail.com> wrote:
>i wonder at what point god said to nobody in particular..."really, i

>thought they were ready for me...all i said was do unto others as..."
>
>
>
>On Tue, 15 Aug 2006 01:25:48 -0700, "Sarah" <sarahjane@sarahtonin.com>
>wrote:
>
>>Dedric,
>>
>> You're very right, and I apologize. I am certainly a Christian
>>philosophically, but it's true that I was being sarcastic with my sign
off,
>>and that was disrespectful. As far as quoting Jesus, however, I do that

>>because I believe he was trying to teach us how to live in peace, and to
me
>>that is more important right now than beliefs about the afterlife.
>>
>> I would not throw stones at Christianity, but I will always throw stones

>>at hypocrisy and fanaticism, and I see a lot of those nowadays.
>>
>>Peace,
>>
>>Sarah
>>
>>
>>"Dedric Terry" <dterry@keyofd.net> wrote in message
>>news:C106BFF9.2683%dterry@keyofd.net...
>>> Sarah,
>>>
>>> I have no intention of expanding the debate of this thread, but I felt
I
>>> should at least voice my opinion of one aspect of your last post.
>>>
>>> I respectfully request that you not publicly insult those of us who
>>> actually
>>> do believe in Christ. The tone and approach of your post led me to
>>> believe
>>> your intent with this signature and quoting of scripture was one of
>>> sarcasm
>>> and vehemence. If you don't believe, please respect those that do and

>>> don't
>>> use His name as the basis for sarcasm, or quote Bible verses to support

>>> what
>>> appears to me to be an argument of throwing stones at Christianity.

If
>>> you
>>> truly believe in peace and mutual respect, I am sure you will understand

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>>> request.
>>>
>>> If you do believe Christ, be careful about what you say, and keep reading.
>>> The truth is in there, but it doesn't come from selectively lifting verses
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>>> weighed my words carefully in this post for the very same reason.
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>>> Whether we agree with each others' positions or not, in part this debate

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>>> just be evidence that the terrorists are in effect winning (at least
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>>> motivator is winning). Why wage jihad on Americans by blowing up
>>> buildings
>>> if you can get the people to turn on their own neighbors? This is a

>>> bigger
>>> war than just a handful of terrorists - it is a war for the hearts and

>>> souls
>>> of every human being. Even though that may sound trite or melodramatic
to
>>> some, it is true, and at the very core of the Christian faith. Deception

>>> is
>>> the greatest weapon being wielded - and I'm not talking about governments

>>> or
>>> big business - the lies and deceit there, whether real or suspected,
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>>> in
>>> comparison.
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>>> Rome fell from within, and so may the US - the foundation is already
>>> crumbling. There is always hope, but it doesn't come from hatred - for
or
>>> from anyone, regardless of what we view as injustice or intolerance.
>>>
>>> Dedric
>>>
>>> On 8/14/06 9:51 PM, in article 44e14375$1@linux, "Sarah"

>>> <sarahjane@sarahtonin.com> wrote:
>>>
>>>>
>>>> Yours, in Christ,
>>>>
>>>> Sarah
>>>>
>>>>
>>>
>>
>

Subject: Re: Terrorist plot foiled...Christians has Lost focus
Posted by DC on Tue, 15 Aug 2006 13:31:26 GMT
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"LaMont" <jjdpro@ameritech.net> wrote:
>
>Man, what are you saying:
>"I will cease my support of the war on terror when I am convinced our governement
>is evil. I am not convinced yet, but I do not trust >those in power."

One should never trust the gummint. It's basic americanism and
goes all the way back. They have to prove themselves at every
point and on every issue.

>You Wrote: Now, if you do not see Iraq as self defense, fine, you have a
>lot of company, but please give the other side some credit for good motives
>as well.

>You are right, I don't Iraq as self defense. We were supposed to be getting
>Osama Bin Laden..???Remember.

No, we were supposed to be making ourselves safer, we've done
pretty well at that. We'll get ole ODB, errr OBL, don't worry.

>Now look at the mess we're in in Iraq. You
>President, has taken this country down a very dark path in-which the majority
>of his own political party does not subscibe to. With a 33-34 percent job
>approval rating and his neo conservative views

That's one view. If we elect an appeaser and get 10 attacks the
first year, he'll look pretty good huh?

DC

Subject: Re: Terrorist plot foiled
Posted by DC on Tue, 15 Aug 2006 13:38:17 GMT
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"Neil" <IUOIU@OIU.com> wrote:

>So, this is in our nature, and one could make the argument that
>because God created us this way - with a strong survival
>instinct - that it's actually his will for us to fight & kill
>each other.

Christians believe that all this happened because of the fall of our great parents and the entry of evil into God's world, not because God intended us to fight. Also, it is reasonable to believe that a God who could create a universe could also keep the important parts of his message comprehensible. After all, he sent his Son. That certainly shows motive...

best,

DC

Subject: Re: Terrorist plot foiled
Posted by Dedric Terry on Tue, 15 Aug 2006 16:08:52 GMT
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Thanks Sarah. I don't have a problem at all with quoting scripture - you are right in your intent - it was only the tone that sent a mixed message, but no need to dwell on that.

You are exactly right, Jesus' message is one of peace, and putting faith above our own desires and head-logic. I actually think everyone in this thread has good points - you, DC, Neil, Lamont, Jamie, etc. When we mix the concept of war with the faith, there are no easy answers. I don't like war. I don't like terrorism. I don't like injustice of any kind. But I know that Jesus teachings require a consistency of faith and trusting in Him even when we would rather pick up a hockey stick and smack someone on the head with it (Osama bin Laden, Kim Jung Il (sp?), Exxon, that last client... ;-).

Sidebar here...

As has been pointed out, what really makes the war vs. peace situation hard is when we are dealing with people (terrorists) that have no concept of respect for others, the value of life, much less tolerance, diplomacy, or understanding. The only peaceful resolution for a terrorist is the death of his enemy. What then is peace for the terrorist's "enemy"?...

If any of you have seen the movie "The End of The Spear", or are familiar with story of Jim Elliot, you've seen and example of what faith really should be. As a missionary to Ecuador, Jim Elliot and his companions were killed when trying to reach out to the Huaorani (or Auca) Indians - he left behind a wife and son. His wife and others went back years later and eventually reached this once violent tribe - many became Christians, and a decendant (grandson of one of the original Auca's responsible for Elliot's death I believe) was on tour with Christian artist Steven Curtis Chapman a few years ago relating the story of the incredible positive change in his tribe due to the unyielding love of the Elliots and others, even in the face of death. (I didn't get to see the concert, but heard it was an amazing experience - far more than just the music). Jim Elliot gave his life without ever seeing the fruit of his labor as have many others, but it ended up changing more lives than just those of the Auca Indians.

So where do we draw the line between defending ourselves and being willing to just accept the loss of life, even our own, in order to send a message of love rather than one of defiance? Or is there even a line at all? Maybe that's the part we have such a hard time with. It is easy to establish the boundaries we are comfortable with (aka "relativism"), but that usually entails putting God in a box with personally or socially acceptable wrapping paper - either with us, or without us inside - to avoid dealing with the less appealing parts of ourselves.

For a nation, there is no easy answer since not everyone believes the same way, so at best a country is a compromise until it deteriorates into some form of chaos and then reaches another compromise as a "solution". That's really why we have war (the fall of man being the root cause, as DC pointed out). There is no politically correct balance to be maintained in perpetuity - that is a myth. The only constant is God and His word. Without constants, there is nothing but a continual cycle of chaos and compromise.

Regards,
Dedric

On 8/15/06 2:25 AM, in article 44e183aa@linux, "Sarah" <sarahjane@sarahtonin.com> wrote:

> Dedric,
>
> You're very right, and I apologize. I am certainly a Christian

> philosophically, but it's true that I was being sarcastic with my sign off,
> and that was disrespectful. As far as quoting Jesus, however, I do that
> because I believe he was trying to teach us how to live in peace, and to me
> that is more important right now than beliefs about the afterlife.
>
> I would not throw stones at Christianity, but I will always throw stones
> at hypocrisy and fanaticism, and I see a lot of those nowadays.
>
> Peace,
>
> Sarah
>
>
> "Dedric Terry" <dterry@keyofd.net> wrote in message
> news:C106BFF9.2683%dterry@keyofd.net...
>> Sarah,
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>> I have no intention of expanding the debate of this thread, but I felt I
>> should at least voice my opinion of one aspect of your last post.
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>> I respectfully request that you not publicly insult those of us who
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>> do believe in Christ. The tone and approach of your post led me to
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>> your intent with this signature and quoting of scripture was one of
>> sarcasm
>> and vehemence. If you don't believe, please respect those that do and
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>> truly believe in peace and mutual respect, I am sure you will understand
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>> request.
>>
>> If you do believe Christ, be careful about what you say, and keep reading.
>> The truth is in there, but it doesn't come from selectively lifting verses
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>> weighed my words carefully in this post for the very same reason.
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>> Whether we agree with each others' positions or not, in part this debate
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>> just be evidence that the terrorists are in effect winning (at least their
>> motivator is winning). Why wage jihad on Americans by blowing up
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>> if you can get the people to turn on their own neighbors? This is a

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>> war than just a handful of terrorists - it is a war for the hearts and
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>> of every human being. Even though that may sound trite or melodramatic to
>> some, it is true, and at the very core of the Christian faith. Deception
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>> or
>> big business - the lies and deceit there, whether real or suspected, pale
>> in
>> comparison.
>>
>> Rome fell from within, and so may the US - the foundation is already
>> crumbling. There is always hope, but it doesn't come from hatred - for or
>> from anyone, regardless of what we view as injustice or intolerance.
>>
>> Dedric
>>
>> On 8/14/06 9:51 PM, in article 44e14375$1@linux, "Sarah"
>> <sarahjane@sarahtonin.com> wrote:
>>
>>>
>>> Yours, in Christ,
>>>
>>> Sarah
>>>
>>>
>>
>
>

Subject: Re: Terrorist plot foiled...Christians has Lost focus
Posted by Deej [1] on Tue, 15 Aug 2006 16:17:14 GMT
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Yeah.....I know.....sorry.....couldn't resist

"LaMont" <jjdpro@ameritech.net> wrote in message news:44e157b4$1@linux...
>
> Oh Boy..
>
> "DJ" <animix_spam-this-ahole_@animas.net> wrote:
> >> Oh yeah, Jesus also goes on record to say "Love they Enemies"..I know,
> >what
> >> a hard thing to do, but we took an "Oath of Faith " to follow his
(Jesus)

> >> teachings. So, we are not to only pick out his commandments that suits
> or
> >> fit us depending on the situation. LAD
> >
> >
> >Forgiving them (terrorists) I believe is God's function. Our job is to
> >simply arrange the meeting!
> > - Norman Swartzkoph
> >
> >;o)
> >
> >
> >
> >"LaMont" <jjdpro@ameritech.net> wrote in message news:44e0c513$1@linux...
> >>
> >> As a believeing Christian,
> >> why should we do "Anything at to save oursleves form the inevitable"??
> >> If Jesus is soon to return, then why are so worried about the end
times??
> >>
> >> We are to pray and help those who are not saved, to get saved..
> >> Jesus goes on record to say that " No one but the Father(God) knows the
> >end
> >> of time(earth), to be ready (Spiritualy) when he (Jesus) comes..
> >> He aslo states, "There will be wars AND Rumors of wars, daughters
against
> >> mothers, sons against fathers, nations against nations..But "FEAR
Not"..
> >>
> >> It seems that we (Christians) are fearing for the Jesus return instead
> of
> >> Celebrating his coming..
> >> We(Christians) need to read the test again..
> >>
> >> Oh yeah, Jesus also goes on record to say "Love they Enemies"..I know,
> >what
> >> a hard thing to do, but we took an "Oath of Faith " to follow his
(Jesus)
> >> teachings. So, we are not to only pick out his commandments that suits
> or
> >> fit us depending on the situation. LAD
> >>
> >>
> >> "DC" <dc@spammersinhell.com> wrote:
> >> >
> >> >Hi Sarah,
> >> >
> >> >Well, I suspect there are all sorts of things in our world that Jesus

> >> >disapproves of, including slavery, female circumciscion,
> >> >sharia, burqa's, the deliberate targeting of civilians, and
> >> >Islamofascism in general. (Oh, and not to mention those who don't
> >> >believe in him, attributing positions to him to make political points)
> >> >
> >> >But there is certainly lots of guilt to go around isn't there?
> >> >
> >> >That's why Christians believe these to be the last days of earth's
> >> >history. There are no easy answers. Maybe no answers at all,
> >> >except to hold fast and warn everyone of what is coming.
> >> >
> >> >Please notice though, that we are not "fighting them here", we
> >> >are, quite successfuly *catching* them here, before any fighting
> >> >is needed. Weakening the ghouls and head choppers makes us
> >> >safer, it is clear. Give them ground, and they use the ground for
> >> >more attacks. Appease them and you get more of the same.
> >> >This is not disputable.
> >> >Just take them at their own words. They clearly see your version
> >> >of "peace" as weakness and an opportunity to kill more of us.
> >> >
> >> >Yet, it is really hard to take a purely right wing position, I know.
> I
> >> >DO NOT trust our gummint one little bit. Too many soldiers died
> >> >in Vietnam for no reason to do that. Venal, cowardly, and amoral
> >> >leaders are responsible for the deaths of too many great young men
> >> >and women to trust them. (Bill Clinton was no better than
> >> >Nixon and Johnson BTW, just read "Blackhawk Down") At least
> >> >W is commited to victory.
> >> >
> >> >
> >> >The only thing even worse than blind patriotism is the insanity being
> >> >peddled by the left.
> >> >
> >> >And as a Christian I admit to the strong possibility of a time in the
> >> >near future, when there is no difference, morally, between the
> >> >right and left whatsoever.
> >> >
> >> >And then shall the end come.
> >> >
> >> >
> >> >DC
> >> >
> >> >
> >> >
> >> >
> >> >"Sarah" <sarahjane@sarahtonin.om> wrote:
> >> >>I didn't ask why they were foiled, silly. You said, "we need to know
> >> >>exactly how these plots were foiled," so I was just repeating that

and
> >>
> >> >>offering up an answer that I, of course, do not believe at all. I
was
> >>
> >> >>merely making fun of those people who apparently do believe these
> >things,
> >> >
> >> >>and attempting to satirically point out the particular absurdity of
> the
> >> >
> >> >>"fighting them there so we don't have to fight them here,"
justification
> >> >for
> >> >>Iraq. I don't actually have "my own personal Jesus," but somehow I
> just
> >> >
> >> >>don't think he would approve of all the "collateral damage."
> >> >>
> >> >>Perhaps you knew I was being "tongue in cheek," and you were too and
> I
> >> just
> >> >
> >> >>missed the subtlety. :)
> >> >>
> >> >>Shalom,
> >> >>
> >> >>Sarah J. Burke, RN
> >> >>
> >> >>"DJ" <animix_spam-this-ahole_@animas.net> wrote in message
> >> >>news:44e01125$1@linux...
> >> >>> Well, y'see, we've proved now that Jesus can kick Mohammed's
> >> >>>> ass, thereby demoralizing and discouraging all the would be
> >terrorists
> >> >in
> >> >>>> the world.
> >> >>>
> >> >>> Well, I guess if that's what you believed foiled these attacks then
> >why
> >> >
> >> >>> are
> >> >>> you asking why they were foiled?
> >> >>> I'm not so sure it was Jesus personally, but I guess, if you say
so.
> >> >>>
> >> >>> "Sarah" <sarahjane@sarahtonin.com> wrote in message
> >> >>> news:44e00d42$1@linux...
> >> >>>> How these plots were foiled? How these plots were foiled?!?

Weren't
> >> >
> >> >>>> they
> >> >>>> foiled because Freedom is on the March in Iraq? Aren't we
fighting
> >>
> >> >>>> "them"
> >> >>>> there, so we don't have to fight "them" here? The British police
> >could
> >> >>>> never have thwarted this plot if we hadn't invaded Iraq, right?
> How
> >> >does
> >> >>>> this work? Well, y'see, we've proved now that Jesus can kick
> >Mohammed's
> >> >>>> ass, thereby demoralizing and discouraging all the would be
> >terrorists
> >> >in
> >> >>>> the world. Well, except for those ones that just popped up in
> >England,
> >> >>> but
> >> >>>> those are the last ones. Really.
> >> >>>>
> >> >>>> Sarah
> >> >>>>
> >> >>>>
> >> >>>> "DJ" <animix_spam-this-ahole_@animas.net> wrote in message
> >> >>>> news:44db78dd@linux...
> >> >>>> > We need to know exactly how these plots were foiled. I'm
depending
> >> >on
> >> >>> the
> >> >>>> > NY
> >> >>>> > times to save us from the evil bastards that stopped this from
> >> >>> happening.
> >> >>>> > I'm sure my rights have been violated somehow.
> >> >>>> >
> >> >>>> > Sorry..... I couldn't resist. Things were getting so boring with
> >all
> >> >>> these
> >> >>>> > relavent audio posts and all.
> >> >>>> >
> >> >>>> > There goes the neighborhood.....
> >> >>>> >
> >> >>>> > ;o)
> >> >>>> >
> >> >>>> >
> >> >>>>
> >> >>>>

> >> >>>
> >> >>>
> >> >>
> >> >>
> >> >
> >>
> >
> >
>

Subject: Re: Terrorist plot foiled
Posted by Deej [1] on Tue, 15 Aug 2006 16:26:40 GMT
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.....hey.....this was interpreted by men, right? Maybe the dude was
having a little fun and what god really said was "do unto others *before*?

I mean.....that god guy is a riot, don't you think? The burning bush and
all? We've got gas seeps from the coal seams around here and on any given
day somewhere in these parts, there is likely to be a burning bush (most
likely sagebrush or a juniper). The other day some dude was sitting on the
crapper smoking a cigarette and dropped the butt (pun intended) in the
thundermug. Thre was natural gas in the groundwater and the cigarette
ignited the gas, providing him a spiritual experience.

When god is made in man's image, all sorts of cool stuff can happen.

;o)

"rick" <parnell68@hotmail.com> wrote in message
news:2ob3e29pl390s0a5jahu40c25lamovs3fj@4ax.com...
> i wonder at what point god said to nobody in particular..."really, i
> thought they were ready for me...all i said was do unto others as..."
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> >
> >Peace,
> >
> >Sarah
> >
> >
> >"Dedric Terry" <dterry@keyofd.net> wrote in message
> >news:C106BFF9.2683%dterry@keyofd.net...
> >> Sarah,
> >>
> >> I have no intention of expanding the debate of this thread, but I felt
I
> >> should at least voice my opinion of one aspect of your last post.
> >>
> >> I respectfully request that you not publicly insult those of us who
> >> actually
> >> do believe in Christ. The tone and approach of your post led me to
> >> believe
> >> your intent with this signature and quoting of scripture was one of
> >> sarcasm
> >> and vehemence. If you don't believe, please respect those that do and
> >> don't
> >> use His name as the basis for sarcasm, or quote Bible verses to support
> >> what
> >> appears to me to be an argument of throwing stones at Christianity. If
> >> you
> >> truly believe in peace and mutual respect, I am sure you will
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> >> my
> >> request.
> >>
> >> If you do believe Christ, be careful about what you say, and keep
reading.
> >> The truth is in there, but it doesn't come from selectively lifting
verses
> >> to build an argument born of frustration. Believe me when I say that I
> >> have
> >> weighed my words carefully in this post for the very same reason.
> >>
> >> Whether we agree with each others' positions or not, in part this

debate
> >> may
> >> just be evidence that the terrorists are in effect winning (at least
their
> >> motivator is winning). Why wage jihad on Americans by blowing up
> >> buildings
> >> if you can get the people to turn on their own neighbors? This is a
> >> bigger
> >> war than just a handful of terrorists - it is a war for the hearts and
> >> souls
> >> of every human being. Even though that may sound trite or melodramatic
to
> >> some, it is true, and at the very core of the Christian faith.
Deception
> >> is
> >> the greatest weapon being wielded - and I'm not talking about
governments
> >> or
> >> big business - the lies and deceit there, whether real or suspected,
pale
> >> in
> >> comparison.
> >>
> >> Rome fell from within, and so may the US - the foundation is already
> >> crumbling. There is always hope, but it doesn't come from hatred - for
or
> >> from anyone, regardless of what we view as injustice or intolerance.
> >>
> >> Dedric
> >>
> >> On 8/14/06 9:51 PM, in article 44e14375$1@linux, "Sarah"
> >> <sarahjane@sarahtonin.com> wrote:
> >>
> >>>
> >>> Yours, in Christ,
> >>>
> >>> Sarah
> >>>
> >>>
> >>
> >
>

Subject: Re: Terrorist plot foiled...Christians has Lost focus
Posted by LaMont on Tue, 15 Aug 2006 16:57:47 GMT
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What This "gummint" ???

"DC" <dc@spammersincongress.com> wrote:
>
>"LaMont" <jjdpro@ameritech.net> wrote:
>>
>>Man, what are you saying:
>>"I will cease my support of the war on terror when I am convinced our governement
>>is evil. I am not convinced yet, but I do not trust >those in power."
>
>One should never trust the gummint. It's basic americanism and
>goes all the way back. They have to prove themselves at every
>point and on every issue.
>
>
>
>>You Wrote: Now, if you do not see Iraq as self defense, fine, you have
a
>>lot of company, but please give the other side some credit for good motives
>>as well.
>
>>You are right, I don't Iraq as self defense. We were supposed to be getting
>>Osama Bin Laden..???Remember.
>
>No, we were supposed to be making ourselves safer, we've done
>pretty well at that. We'll get ole ODB, errr OBL, don't worry.
>
>
>>Now look at the mess we're in in Iraq. You
>>President, has taken this country down a very dark path in-which the majority
>>of his own political party does not subscibe to. With a 33-34 percent
job
>>approval rating and his neo conservative views
>
>
>That's one view. If we elect an appeaser and get 10 attacks the
>first year, he'll look pretty good huh?
>
>
>DC
>
>

Subject: Re: Terrorist plot foiled
Posted by LaMont on Tue, 15 Aug 2006 17:09:09 GMT
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"So where do we draw the line between defending ourselves and being willing
to just accept the loss of life, even our own, in order to send a message
of love rather than one of defiance"
Amen Brother.. Amen.

That's my point:As Christians to my eyes, there is very little in the "laying
down" ones life (without violence) in order send a message of Jesus...Than
give in to satans tacticts of hate. This is not God's way.. There must be
those who are Willing and Willfully to lay down his or her life(s) like Jesusdid
for all of us. That's the example. Yes, it's hard and difficult to concieve,
But, he (Jesus) showed us the way..
LAD

Dedric Terry <dterry@keyofd.net> wrote:
>Thanks Sarah. I don't have a problem at all with quoting scripture - you
>are right in your intent - it was only the tone that sent a mixed message,
>but no need to dwell on that.
>
>You are exactly right, Jesus' message is one of peace, and putting faith
>above our own desires and head-logic. I actually think everyone in this
>thread has good points - you, DC, Neil, Lamont, Jamie, etc. When we mix
the
>concept of war with the faith, there are no easy answers. I don't like
war.
>I don't like terrorism. I don't like injustice of any kind. But I know
>that Jesus teachings require a consistency of faith and trusting in Him
even
>when we would rather pick up a hockey stick and smack someone on the head
>with it (Osama bin Laden, Kim Jung Il (sp?), Exxon, that last client...
;-).
>
>Sidebar here...
>
>As has been pointed out, what really makes the war vs. peace situation hard
>is when we are dealing with people (terrorists) that have no concept of
>respect for others, the value of life, much less tolerance, diplomacy, or
>understanding. The only peaceful resolution for a terrorist is the death
of
>his enemy. What then is peace for the terrorist's "enemy"?...
>
>If any of you have seen the movie "The End of The Spear", or are familiar
>with story of Jim Elliot, you've seen and example of what faith really
>should be. As a missionary to Ecuador, Jim Elliot and his companions were
>killed when trying to reach out to the Huaorani (or Auca) Indians - he left
>behind a wife and son. His wife and others went back years later and
>eventually reached this once violent tribe - many became Christians, and
a
>decendant (grandson of one of the original Auca's responsible for Elliot's

>death I believe) was on tour with Christian artist Steven Curtis Chapman
a
>few years ago relating the story of the incredible positive change in his
>tribe due to the unyielding love of the Elliots and others, even in the
face
>of death. (I didn't get to see the concert, but heard it was an amazing
>experience - far more than just the music). Jim Elliot gave his life
>without ever seeing the fruit of his labor as have many others, but it ended
>up changing more lives than just those of the Auca Indians.
>
>So where do we draw the line between defending ourselves and being willing
>to just accept the loss of life, even our own, in order to send a message
of
>love rather than one of defiance? Or is there even a line at all? Maybe
>that's the part we have such a hard time with. It is easy to establish
the
>boundaries we are comfortable with (aka "relativism"), but that usually
>entails putting God in a box with personally or socially acceptable wrapping
>paper - either with us, or without us inside - to avoid dealing with the
>less appealing parts of ourselves.
>
>For a nation, there is no easy answer since not everyone believes the same
>way, so at best a country is a compromise until it deteriorates into some
>form of chaos and then reaches another compromise as a "solution". That's
>really why we have war (the fall of man being the root cause, as DC pointed
>out). There is no politically correct balance to be maintained in
>perpetuity - that is a myth. The only constant is God and His word.
>Without constants, there is nothing but a continual cycle of chaos and
>compromise.
>
>Regards,
>Dedric
>
>On 8/15/06 2:25 AM, in article 44e183aa@linux, "Sarah"
><sarahjane@sarahtonin.com> wrote:
>
>> Dedric,
>>
>>   You're very right, and I apologize. I am certainly a Christian
>> philosophically, but it's true that I was being sarcastic with my sign
off,
>> and that was disrespectful. As far as quoting Jesus, however, I do that
>> because I believe he was trying to teach us how to live in peace, and
to me
>> that is more important right now than beliefs about the afterlife.
>>
>>   I would not throw stones at Christianity, but I will always throw stones
>> at hypocrisy and fanaticism, and I see a lot of those nowadays.

>>
>> Peace,
>>
>> Sarah
>>
>>
>> "Dedric Terry" <dterry@keyofd.net> wrote in message
>> news:C106BFF9.2683%dterry@keyofd.net...
>>> Sarah,
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>>> use His name as the basis for sarcasm, or quote Bible verses to support
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>>> If you do believe Christ, be careful about what you say, and keep reading.
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>>> weighed my words carefully in this post for the very same reason.
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>>> Whether we agree with each others' positions or not, in part this debate
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>>> just be evidence that the terrorists are in effect winning (at least
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>>> buildings
>>> if you can get the people to turn on their own neighbors? This is a
>>> bigger
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>>> of every human being. Even though that may sound trite or melodramatic
to
>>> some, it is true, and at the very core of the Christian faith. Deception
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>>> the greatest weapon being wielded - and I'm not talking about governments
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>>> big business - the lies and deceit there, whether real or suspected,
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>>> in
>>> comparison.
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>>> Rome fell from within, and so may the US - the foundation is already
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>>> Dedric
>>>
>>> On 8/14/06 9:51 PM, in article 44e14375$1@linux, "Sarah"
>>> <sarahjane@sarahtonin.com> wrote:
>>>
>>>>
>>>> Yours, in Christ,
>>>>
>>>> Sarah
>>>>
>>>>
>>>
>>
>>
>

Subject: Re: Terrorist plot foiled
Posted by rick on Tue, 15 Aug 2006 18:04:57 GMT
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i'd say he's/she/s probably laughing his/hers ass of at our collective
righteous follies but i'm not sure he/she has one.

On Tue, 15 Aug 2006 10:26:40 -0600, "DJ"
<animix_spam-this-ahole_@animas.net> wrote:

>.....hey.....this was interpreted by men, right? Maybe the dude was
>having a little fun and what god really said was "do unto others *before*?
>
>I mean.....that god guy is a riot, don't you think? The burning bush and
>all? We've got gas seeps from the coal seams around here and on any given

>day somewhere in these parts, there is likely to be a burning bush (most
>likely sagebrush or a juniper). The other day some dude was sitting on the
>crapper smoking a cigarette and dropped the butt (pun intended) in the
>thundermug. Thre was natural gas in the groundwater and the cigarette
>ignited the gas, providing him a spiritual experience.
>
>When god is made in man's image, all sorts of cool stuff can happen.
>
>;o)
>
>
>
>
>"rick" <parnell68@hotmail.com> wrote in message
>news:2ob3e29pl390s0a5jahu40c25lamovs3fj@4ax.com...
>> i wonder at what point god said to nobody in particular..."really, i
>> thought they were ready for me...all i said was do unto others as..."
>>
>>
>>
>> On Tue, 15 Aug 2006 01:25:48 -0700, "Sarah" <sarahjane@sarahtonin.com>
>> wrote:
>>
>> >Dedric,
>> >
>> > You're very right, and I apologize. I am certainly a Christian
>> >philosophically, but it's true that I was being sarcastic with my sign
>off,
>> >and that was disrespectful. As far as quoting Jesus, however, I do that
>> >because I believe he was trying to teach us how to live in peace, and to
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>> >that is more important right now than beliefs about the afterlife.
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>> > I would not throw stones at Christianity, but I will always throw
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>> >Sarah
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>> >
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>> >> or
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>> >> crumbling. There is always hope, but it doesn't come from hatred - for
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>> >> Dedric
>> >>
>> >> On 8/14/06 9:51 PM, in article 44e14375$1@linux, "Sarah"
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>> >>> Yours, in Christ,
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>> >>> Sarah
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>> >>>
>> >>
>> >
>>
>

Subject: Re: Terrorist plot foiled...Christians has Lost focus
Posted by dc[3] on Tue, 15 Aug 2006 18:19:49 GMT
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"LaMont" <jjdpro@ameritech.net> wrote:
>
>What This "gummint" ???

I borrowed that term from the libertarians. It is slang for government.

DC

Subject: Re: Terrorist plot foiled
Posted by Sarah on Tue, 15 Aug 2006 19:07:53 GMT
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The problem with blind faith is that one risks being blinded by faith.
(Speaking from personal experience).

Perhaps the only thing "God" ever said to us was "Survive!" and then left it
up to us to figure out that cooperation works better than competition. The

"Golden Rule" is not simply a nice idea, it's a very practical and effective way to live peacefully with our fellow humans. And in my interpretation, this also means that if someone steals, rapes, or kills, they are essentially saying, "it's OK if you rob, rape, or kill me," hence, the usefulness of prisons and gas chambers.

As far as speculating on the afterlife, I just don't care. I'm fine with the mystery, in fact, I like a good mystery. Sure, it can be fun to say "what if this . . . " or "what if that . . . " but let's be honest here -- none of us will know until the time comes, and maybe not even then. And I'm sorry, but "because the bible tells me so" doesn't work for me. It's just stuff that was written by the brighter members of some fairly backward human societies thousands of years ago who may or may not have been inspired by a supreme being. Most likely they were inspired by a strong desire to keep order in their societies, which is admirable.

Meanwhile, back to the original topic: picture 100,000 dead Iraqis (conservative estimate). Picture them all together in a pile. What do you think . . . would it fill a football stadium, like a big bowl of brown rice? I don't know, but now tell me how many of those were terrorists? 100? 500? 1000? It doesn't matter does it? Not to those who were innocent and their families.

Now picture 2500 dead American soldiers and the 62,000 wounded or maimed. If we were lied into this "war" based on hidden agendas, I can think of some heads of state whose heads should roll. They probably won't, but it's a nice thought. Picture Bush, Cheney, and Rumsfeld in orange jumpsuits and chains . . . ni-i-i-i-i-ice. I feel better.

Sarah

Subject: Re: Terrorist plot foiled
Posted by gene Lennon[3] on Tue, 15 Aug 2006 19:43:46 GMT
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"Sarah" <sarahjane@sarahtonin.com> wrote:
Picture Bush, Cheney, and Rumsfeld in orange jumpsuits and
>chains . . . ni-i-i-i-i-ice. I feel better.
>
>Sarah
>

Not very likely since the Bush administration has drafted amendments to the War Crimes Act that would retroactively protect policymakers from possible criminal charges for authorizing humiliating and degrading treatment of detainees or worse.

The White House, without elaboration, said in a statement that the bill "will apply to any conduct by any U.S. personnel, whether committed before or after the law is enacted."

See:
http://www.latimes.com/news/printedition/asection/la-na-warc
rimes10aug10,1,4466016.story?coll=la-news-a_section

Subject: Re: Terrorist plot foiled
Posted by Sarah on Tue, 15 Aug 2006 19:57:59 GMT
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Hey, a girl can dream, can't she?

S

"gene Lennon" <glennon@NOSP.com> wrote in message news:44e223f2$1@linux...
>
> "Sarah" <sarahjane@sarahtonin.com> wrote:
> Picture Bush, Cheney, and Rumsfeld in orange jumpsuits and
>>chains . . . ni-i-i-i-i-ice. I feel better.
>>
>>Sarah
>>
>
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> after
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>
>
> See:
> http://www.latimes.com/news/printedition/asection/la-na-warc
rimes10aug10,1,4466016.story?coll=la-news-a_section
>

Subject: Re: Terrorist plot foiled...Christians has Lost focus
Posted by TCB on Tue, 15 Aug 2006 20:54:25 GMT
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Just a quick note here. Your beliefs about what _I consider_ an historically circumscribed, morally questionable iron age Levantine sky god are your business--unless and until they interfere with the life, liberty, and pursuit of happiness Jefferson so eloquently promised me. However, the only thing that is 'surgical' about a 'strike' is that it might keep more of the attackers' soldiers from having surgery. Unless the attacker has a) perfect intelligence, b) perfectly accurate weapons, and c) the target isn't around anyone else, there is no such thing as a 'surgical strike.' So, if the target agrees to be in a field at a particular time and the weapons of the attacker always work, we can strike him 'surgically.'

Instead air power (nobody every talks about attacks by infantry or artilery being 'surgical') always involves 'collateral damage' which is a highly dubious way to say 'dead civilians.' The ratio of civilian to Hezbollah dead is somewhere between 2.5:1 or 7:1 depending on whose stats you believe, which I would call far from surgical except in the sense it kept the pilots out of surgery.

All of which might be perfectly valid military strategy, I'm not arguing that, I'm only saying that as long as we lie to ourselves about what's going on, we'll never figure how to do it better.

TCB

"DC" <dc@spammersinchulavista.com> wrote:
>
>"Lamont Davis" <jjdpro@ameritech.net> wrote:
>>DC,
>>You said: "He also never defined loving your enemies as letting them murder
>>your family, nor turning"..
>
>
>>If you truly believe your above statement: Then me as an African American(Who's
>>Great Grandfather was in-slaved) and who's past ancestors were mammed,
torturted,
>>beaten, women repeatedly and brutally raped, hung, castrated, lynched,
tared
>>& feathered ,whipped, & murdered. According to your set uf biblical rules
>>and interpretation, "African Americans should view all whites(Christians
>>included) as their enemy and never trust them as long as they live.?????????
>
>
>Why would you do that to people who had nothing to do with it?
>That would simply make you as evil as the lynch mobs.
>

>Your reasoning is faulty at any rate. The analogy would only be
>true if the question at hand was you handing over your family
>to ku kluxers for lynching in the name of forgiveness.
>
>I would hope you would rise up and take
>the lives of any ku kluxers who would try to do that. I would
>consider that a righteous act, as a Christian. Wouldn't you?
>
>
>>What kind of life is that for any African American to live, hating Whites.??
>>Holding on to past generations wrong doings only "kills you" on the inside.
>>Not forgiving, actually does you more harm than the one doing the evil
deeds..
>
>Bingo. Listen, I was really angry after the latest bunch of jihadis
>were caught trying to blow up airplanes, and I read Dr. Yeagley's
>web site.
>
>http://www.badeagle.com/
>
>He is convinced that it is time to deport muslims.. I thought about
>that, and sure enough, when I picked my kid up from karate that
>night there was a new student there, with his family, all muslim.
>
>Nice people.
>
>Coincidence? nah. I don't usually go in to pick her up. It was clear
>to me that Jesus would not deport muslims. (I told Yeagley about
>this too)
>
>Hating muslims is simply evil. I will not do it. I don't even need to
>forgive those nice folks at karate since they were not responsible.
>
>Forgive the jihadi's? What would be the point? Forgiveness must
>be redemptive. Turning the other cheek can be VERY redemptive,
>but handing over the other daughter to a rapist is a sin, since it
>results in nothing but evil for everyone involved.
>
>
>
>>Jesus (God) ways are not Man's evil wicked, divisive ways. Jesus say to
>turn
>>the other cheek, because operating under the "Messianic Law" of Eye for
>and
>>Eye yield "Nothing" but 10,000 years of silly fighting with no end in sight.
>>
>>What happens when a man turns the the proverbial cheek?
>>Is he the weaker one?? Even if the aggressor keeps hitting you, eventually,

>>he starts to understand that he cannot break you down" and thus he starts
>>to honor your calm strength..
>
>
>Doesn't work with bombs. There is no redemption and no softening
>of hearts.
>
>Do you think your application of Jesus' advice was meant for Hitler?
>Would it have worked?
>Why do you think it will work with Hezbollah?
>
>Who is redeemed when all the good people are dead?
>
>
>
>>Well you say " Our enemies only no one way and that their agression". Well,
>>what has that gotten the USA?? Once we gave into their aggression, we now
>>have "Lowered" our standards" to their level.. Now, who's running who..??
>
>It has gotten us relative peace since 911. What would
>appeasement of evil have gotten us?
>
>We have NOT lowered our standard to their level. We put those
>who target civlians on trial, they put them up as martyrs. Israel
>pays, every day, with their blood for their desire to not kill
>innocents. The jihadis put the rockets in the middle of
>neighborhoods so that innocents may be killed and paraded for
>cameras.
>
>Israel loses the best and bravest conducting surgical strikes to
>protect the innocent when they could have simply leveled the
>whole neighborhood and lost none of their own.
>
>If you think the west is no different than the jihadis, you are simply
>not morally serious.
>
>
>>The Late Dr Martin Luther King Jr, used Ghandi's method of change their
>"Non-Violence"
>>and it was effective.
>
>And you know what? It would work like magic if the jihadi's would
>use it. Want their own country? Great. Sit down, go on hunger
>strike, march! Nah, they won't because they desire one thing and
>one thing only; the destruction of Israel and the death of the Jews.
>
>Take them at their words. Believe them.
>

>BTW, Ghandi's method has limits and in his own case became
>nothing but self righteousness to the point he ended up killing
>his wife because he would not allow an injection of antibiotics.
>
>He called the injection "violence" and would not permit it, so she
>died of an easily-treatable infection.
>
>Think Jesus approved?
>
>
>>Some in our race (Islam) wanted to use Force, which
>>would've only incited a full-out race war. What good would that have done??What
>>would've been gained if the African American populous would've listened
>to
>>the Nation of Islam and gone "Guns Blazing"?? We'd still be killing each
>>other. Thanks God cooler heads prevailed..
>
>
>Wouldn't have happened. The Nation of Islam would have been
>annihilated and many innocents would have suffered, most of them
>black. The remaining black americans (the vast majority) would
>have been operating some of the weapons cutting down the Nation
>of Islam. We would have gone on as a country, just like we did after
>the SLA. Sorry, but that's reality.
>
>There is no equivilence between national defense, carried out to the
>best of our ability, and the potential actions of the Nation of Islam.
>
>
>>All in all, God ways are the best way and not Man's way.
>>LAD..
>
>You are right, and what scares the crap out of me is the idea of
>being led into war by a corrupt leader and having those deaths on
>my head. I hope I can see the point at which we can no longer
>support the govt. but I do not think we have reached it yet.
>
>
>Hey, BTW. I am African as well. Got my results from the
>National Geographic Genographic test.
>
>https://www3.nationalgeographic.com/genographic/
>
>I thought we were Italian on my Dad's side, but it turns out that
>Dad's family started in Somalia and Ethopia. We are most highly
>reresented in the current population of North Africans and there
>are Jews, Greeks, Italians, and Spaniards in their too, but it is an African
>family line.

>
>Do the test if you can, but prepared to be surprised.
>
>DC

Subject: Re: Terrorist plot foiled
Posted by DC on Tue, 15 Aug 2006 21:19:02 GMT
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"Sarah" <sarahjane@sarahtonin.com> wrote:
>The problem with blind faith is that one risks being blinded by faith.
>(Speaking from personal experience).

Faith in God is not blind. What is blind is the choice to call God unknowable. That is a choice to remain blind, and its source is solely and admittedly, human. Your assumption is that all views are human at the source.

I disagree emphatically.

Everything prodeeds from one's assumptions. Even considering that the creator cared enough to send his son to die for us, changes the whole world. Scary huh?

>Perhaps the only thing "God" ever said to us was "Survive!" and then left it
>up to us to figure out that cooperation works better than competition.

If God is in quotes for you, then why would "god's" opinion matter? Well it doesn't of course. Survive, don't survive, bake cookies, bake Jews, who is to say no? Why should anyone care if they do? All is permitted.

This is not God's plan for us.

>The
>"Golden Rule" is not simply a nice idea, it's a very practical and effective

>way to live peacefully with our fellow humans.

And the greedy dirtbag says "the one with the gold makes the rules".

And you disapprove. With only "god" (otherwise known as Sarah's

opinion) to rebut him, why should he care?

>As far as speculating on the afterlife, I just don't care. I'm fine with

>the mystery, in fact, I like a good mystery. Sure, it can be fun to say

>"what if this . . . " or "what if that . . . " but let's be honest here
--
>none of us will know until the time comes, and maybe not even then. And
I'm
>sorry, but "because the bible tells me so" doesn't work for me. It's just

>stuff that was written by the brighter members of some fairly backward human

>societies thousands of years ago who may or may not have been inspired by
a
>supreme being.

And you cannot see that this is merely your view, not fact.
It is an assertion that there are no miracles, that God does not
care if we have a we to know Him or not, that things proceeded in
the past as they do today, and Jesus' death and resurrection are
human myths created, as all "god talk" is, by humans to comfort
themselves...

You may not be an atheist, but you accept *all* of their basic
assumptions about existence.

>Meanwhile, back to the original topic: picture 100,000 dead Iraqis
>(conservative estimate). Picture them all together in a pile. What do
you
>think . . . would it fill a football stadium, like a big bowl of brown rice?

>I don't know, but now tell me how many of those were terrorists? 100?
500?
>1000? It doesn't matter does it? Not to those who were innocent and their

>families.
>
>Now picture 2500 dead American soldiers and the 62,000 wounded or maimed.

>If we were lied into this "war" based on hidden agendas, I can think of
some
>heads of state whose heads should roll. They probably won't, but it's a

>nice thought. Picture Bush, Cheney, and Rumsfeld in orange jumpsuits and

>chains . . . ni-i-i-i-i-ice. I feel better.
>
>Sarah

And it is this view that conerns me that we, as a people, are no longer able to protect freedom. There were innocents killed in all wars. This is no different. Would you broadcast from Dresden or Nagasaki calling for the jailing of Truman? By your rules, you would have to.

We now have a whole generation of people who cannot bring themselves to do what they must to protect our way of life.
Given that we face the most evil and implacable enemy in many years, I am not sure that we will retain the freedom that those WWII vets you admire so much, fought and died for.

And finally, notice please, not one word of condemnation for the ghouls and head choppers. Those who would use baby bottles for binary explosives and die, with their infant in their arms, to kill some of us. Not one word. This is why you simply are not convincing me here. It is selective pacifism, pointed only at Israel and the west and there is no righteousness in it.

DC

Subject: Re: Terrorist plot foiled...Christians has Lost focus
Posted by DC on Tue, 15 Aug 2006 21:40:53 GMT
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"TCB" <nobody@ishere.com> wrote:

However, the only thing that is 'surgical'
>about a 'strike' is that it might keep more of the attackers' soldiers from
>having surgery. Unless the attacker has a) perfect intelligence, b) perfectly
>accurate weapons, and c) the target isn't around anyone else, there is no
>such thing as a 'surgical strike.' So, if the target agrees to be in a field
>at a particular time and the weapons of the attacker always work, we can
>strike him 'surgically.'

Well you missed the point. I tried to find the reference but could not. What happened was that a group of hezbollahs was firing rockets out of a neighborhood in Tyre. Israel knew where they were, and instead of leveling the area, which would have cost

no Israeli lives, they sent in some of their best special forces guys
and took out the hezbollahs, but recieved 2 casualties in the
process.

The point was that Israel takes casualties to prevent the loss of
innocent life when they sould have blown the whole area off the
map, while the hezbollas and Hamas and the rest of the wretched
Islamofascists do all they can to take innocent life.

Why does this not provoke more outrage?

>Instead air power (nobody every talks about attacks by infantry or artilery
>being 'surgical')

Well, I did. It was a ground attack by Israeli SF troops.

>The ratio of civilian to Hezbollah dead is somewhere
>between 2.5:1 or 7:1 depending on whose stats you believe, which I would
>call far from surgical except in the sense it kept the pilots out of surgery.

And the ratio would be even higher if the ghouls could make it so.

Surely you know that they place their rockets and other munitions,
not to mention themselves, in with the general populace? That this
is done to produce the maximum number of collateral deaths
precisely to show the gullible and win the war of public opinion?

The ghouls are responsible for those dead bodies, not Israel.

>All of which might be perfectly valid military strategy, I'm not arguing
>that, I'm only saying that as long as we lie to ourselves about what's going
>on, we'll never figure how to do it better.

Absolutely.

DC

Subject: Re: Terrorist plot foiled...Christians has Lost focus
Posted by LaMont on Tue, 15 Aug 2006 21:47:39 GMT
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Ohh. I See ..:)
"DC" <dc@spammersinhell.com> wrote:

>
>"LaMont" <jjdpro@ameritech.net> wrote:
>>
>>What This "gummint" ???
>
>I borrowed that term from the libertarians. It is slang for government.
>
>DC
>

Subject: So why do they want to kill us?
Posted by Deej [1] on Wed, 16 Aug 2006 15:41:12 GMT
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http://www.fff.org/comment/ed1001h.asp

Your thoughts on this article? Are the assumptions made valid?

If not, why?

Are the options suggested as solutions good ones?

If not, why?

I have my own thoughts on this (of course) that I don't have time to post right now, but I thought this article was pretty succinct, though by virtue of it's being succinct, perhaps oversimplified.

One thing that is ignored is the ideological aspect as is ascribed to Islamic fundamentalism regarding the *Caliphate* mentality.

I was watching the evil Fox news last night and saw and interview with Alexander Haig wherein he stated that though the ideological religious fanaticism was certainly real, our administration had been doing a bit of that as well. I thought this was an *astute* observation personally.

Anyway.....FWIW.....I'd be interested in the opinions offered here.

Subject: Re: So why do they want to kill us?
Posted by LaMont on Wed, 16 Aug 2006 16:22:40 GMT
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Good Post DJ.. I guess Al Haige is out of step with the far-right side of the Republican party. They will now proceed to demonize him to no end.

LAD

"DJ" <animix_spam-this-ahole_@animas.net> wrote:
>http://www.fff.org/comment/ed1001h.asp
>
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>

Subject: Re: So why do they want to kill us?
Posted by Jamie K on Wed, 16 Aug 2006 17:00:02 GMT
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In any conflict it is wise to consider the true interests of every side
in order to have any hope of resolution.

For Bin Laden, Saudi Arabia is bound to be key. He's from there. From
our perspective, 9/11 was an attack by Saudi Arabians on the USA.

The Iraq embargo is moot. But our involvement in Iraq has gotten much
greater since those days.

Deej, you may scoff, but I think it's fairly obvious we're in the region
because of the resources there. Official rationalizations aside, current
strategy seems to be to surround oil fields with US and British forces.
Saudi, Kuwait, Afghanistan, Iraq...Iran is on the radar.

Privatizing foreign aid is an interesting idea but it seems impractical. On one hand it might lessen foreign lobbying and meddling with our government. OTOH, it makes government less relevant and removes an important element of foreign policy in favor of a more chaotic approach. Granted that such chaos might make better choices at times. Private sources already send money all over the world for various reasons, is there any prohibition on that now?

Dropping support for Israel would be a bad move on many levels. However, coming up with a consistent rational policy toward peace in the region would be beneficial, with an attempt at understanding and working toward the compatible interests of all parties. Our involvement on that level seems to wax and wane.

Aggressive religious fanaticism is a recipe for disaster anywhere on the globe. Aggressive expansionist nationalism also falls into that category. Both exist in the region. Framing the situation in "crusade" language, as Bush once did, supports Haig's point.

Cheers,
-Jamie
http://www.JamieKrutz.com

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> If not, why?
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>

Subject: Re: So why do they want to kill us?
Posted by TCB on Wed, 16 Aug 2006 18:16:52 GMT
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Well, Deej, you're asking an almost impossibly broad question. To discuss the narrow question of 'why do they want to kill us' I would suggest both books by Michael Scheuer, the former head of the 'bin Laden' desk at the CIA. His first book was 'Through Our Enimies' Eyes' which was a post 9/11 attempt to answer this question quite explicity, but from the perspective of the muslim world. The second books is called 'Imperial Hubris' and is much more about the folly of remaking Afghanistan and Iraq into Swiss canton style democracies. It cost him his job, and now he writes and does the lecture circuit.

However, it's hard to read those books without asking if maybe we've been hornswoggled by our own government as to what our military and secret services are up to. Are we really a benevolent force in the world? If we are, are there reasons we would not be perceived that way? Might some of those who 'hate us' have taken our measure accurately and found us wanting? For a sobering, though slanted, run down of that, William Blum's 'Killing Hope' is superb for content, almost unreadablef or style. And it's depressing. And most of it is true, though you can argue that some degree of it is/was justified.

If that isn't enough reading, I would suggest Chalmers Johnson's 'The Sorrows of Empire' which is about the archepligo of military bases and installations around the world that serve so well to piss off a lot of the locals. In some ways it's the most shocking of all, and also superbly written by a veteran academic.

The problem with reading all of these books is that, with the exception of Blum who has a clear axe to grind, they are sobering, conservative accounts of a world almost totally unlike the one we see on network news and CNN every night. As one who loves US history perhaps a little too much, it took me 10+ years of really going through this kind of stuff to arrive at my current proudly isolationist (we call patriotic, or paleo-conservative) view of the world and the US. FWIW, it's tough going, and learning about what the US has done from Iran to Greece to El Salvador to Iraq will not often make you terribly proud. Despite that I still came out a genuine patriot, in my opinion much more of a patriot than most of the flag wavers and bible thumpers who now soil the word itself.

TCB

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>
>

Subject: Re: Oh gawd . .
Posted by DC on Wed, 16 Aug 2006 18:57:33 GMT
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Sarah,

Let's just agree to disagree. I'll be happy to discuss this further
privately if you like.

best,

DC

"Sarah" <sarahjane@sarahtonin.com> wrote:
>(heavy sigh) I'm not sure why I'm continuing with this . . . I learned

>years ago you can't argue with a religious person. Yet I feel compelled
to
>make my views clear to you, since you are pretty much consistently wrong

in
>your assumptions about what I'm saying. I think you're still trying to
view
>me as a "type" rather than just as that unique thing I like to call "me."
>
>First of all, the term "blind faith" is pretty much redundant. Faith is

>essentially, by definition, blind. Faith is "belief that does not rest
on
>logical proof or material evidence." You can have your own definition if

>you need to, but that's from the dictionary, and makes sense to me. If
you
>have proof or evidence, it's not longer a belief, is it? I believe in
>gravity, even though I can't explain it to you. It's obviously,
>demonstrably, and universally agreeably real.
>
>Second, I am not saying God is unknowable . . . I'm saying I personally
do
>not know who or what created this universe or when or why, and I see no

>evidence that anyone else does either, in spite of their fervent claims.
 I
>do believe in a higher power which is very exhilarating to feel truly
>connected to, but the attempts of religion in general to describe this
>"supreme being" anthropomorphically just strike me as very superficial and

>frankly, kind of childish. I put "God" in quotes because I think it's silly

>to try and turn this awesome everpresent life force into a "guy in the sky."

>I do not "blind" myself with this point of view. Quite the opposite, my

>mind is wide open to spiritual experience, not limited to ancient dogma
that
>I have no reason to believe.
>
>Which leads me to the real point I was hoping to make in fewer words: I

>have been arguing these ideas with believers since I was 17 (LONG time ago),

>and in all that time not ONE of them has given me a REASON to believe that

>the bible is anything more than legend, parable, mythology, and a smattering

>of history. I should believe it's the word of God why? Because it claims

>to be? Those are the claims of Roman bishops and other ancient human beings

>whose motives and honesty I know nothing about. And if the bible is the

>word of God, I'm not impressed. I expect better from a supreme being.
>
>Like the dozens before you, you tell me repeatedly what you believe in a
way
>that suggests no opposing belief can possibly be true. I know WHAT you

>believe, I've heard it a thousand times over the last 30-some years. What
I
>don't know is WHY you believe it. Because it gives you hope? Because you

>were desperate for answers and a bible was handy? Because your parents

>believed it? Because you dropped acid and saw Jesus? Because you happened

>to be born here rather than India or Iran? And if you had been born in

>India or Iran, would you be just as fervently Hindu or Muslim?
>
>Nor has anyone ever been able to explain the logic in a supposedly
>omnipotent being sending his son to die for our sins. How does this make

>any sense? Isn't it more likely that Jesus simply became enough of a threat

>to the Romans and the Jewish heirarchy that they decided to kill him?
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>You speak a lot about assumptions. OK, here's one you seem to share with

>other believers that drives me nuts: without God there is no right or
>wrong. This is such nonsense. One does not need to believe in God, Heaven,

>or Hell to know the difference between right and wrong and to behave
>accordingly. "A man's ethical behavior should be based effectually on

>sympathy, education, and social ties and needs; no religious basis is
>necessary. Man would indeed be in a poor way if he had to be restrained
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>fear of punishment and hope of reward after death." - Albert Einstein
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>And finally, I didn't mention "ghouls and head choppers" because the evil
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>"ghouls and head choppers" is not in dispute. I'm concerned about what
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>been done and is being done in my name as an American, because I believe

>that to also be evil and I'm just a little more than worried about the

>potential consequences of this.
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>But I have to be honest . . . I feel like I just wasted another hour that
I
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>the more you challenge fixed beliefs, the harder the believer clings to

>them. You are of course free to believe what you want, but again, beliefs

>are by definition unproven, and therefore someone else's beliefs are not

>wrong simply because they contradict yours.
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>OK, I mean it this time . . . I give up.
>
>Sarah
>
>
>"DC" <dc@spammersinmaui.com> wrote in message news:44e23a46$1@linux...
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>>
>> DC
>>
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Posted by Sarah on Wed, 16 Aug 2006 19:00:26 GMT
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> DC
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Subject: Re: Oh gawd . .
Posted by rick on Wed, 16 Aug 2006 20:04:30 GMT
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sarah

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On Wed, 16 Aug 2006 12:00:26 -0700, "Sarah" <sarahjane@sarahtonin.com>
wrote:

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Subject: Re: Oh gawd . .
Posted by TCB on Wed, 16 Aug 2006 20:17:12 GMT

I'd be interested to hear the nine candidates you would propose ahead of it.

TCB

rick <parnell68@hotmail.com> wrote:
>sarah
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>everyone wants to be the holder of "the truth" and feel compelled to
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Subject: Re: Oh gawd . .
Posted by Sarah on Wed, 16 Aug 2006 20:52:19 GMT
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I would go so far as to say that religious fervor has been and continues to
be one of the leading causes of suffering and death in all of human history.

Unfortunately, I think our "War On Terror" is more of a religious crusade
than is openly admitted.

There was a time in human history when religion ruled the Western world.
It's called "The Dark Ages."

Sarah

"rick" <parnell68@hotmail.com> wrote in message
news:c9u6e2dqskmvij58nuv4tmj0gs1omuf518@4ax.com...
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Subject: Re: So why do they want to kill us?
Posted by steve the artguy on Wed, 16 Aug 2006 22:28:03 GMT
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"DJ" <animix_spam-this-ahole_@animas.net> wrote:
>http://www.fff.org/comment/ed1001h.asp
>

Hi, DJ!

>Your thoughts on this article? Are the assumptions made valid?

pretty much

>
>If not, why?
>
>Are the options suggested as solutions good ones?

prety much, but a lot has happened since that was written

let me direct you to a little email from muckraker Palast which tells it
better than I could.

second post from the top

http://sizzlingizzards.blogspot.com/

-steve

Subject: Re: Oh gawd . .
Posted by Jamie K on Wed, 16 Aug 2006 23:51:37 GMT
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One of the biggest challenges we face is how to have constructive dialog
between people who operate from very different assumptions about the
nature of reality.

Great post, Sarah.

Cheers,
-Jamie
http://www.JamieKrutz.com

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> "DC" <dc@spammersinmaui.com> wrote in message news:44e23a46$1@linux...
>> "Sarah" <sarahjane@sarahtonin.com> wrote:
>>> The problem with blind faith is that one risks being blinded by faith.
>>> (Speaking from personal experience).
>> Faith in God is not blind. What is blind is the choice to call God
>> unknowable. That is a choice to remain blind, and its source is
>> solely and admittedly, human. Your assumption is that all views are
>> human at the source.
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>> Everything prodeeds from one's assumptions. Even considering
>> that the creator cared enough to send his son to die for us,
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>>> sorry, but "because the bible tells me so" doesn't work for me. It's just
>>> stuff that was written by the brighter members of some fairly backward
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>>> societies thousands of years ago who may or may not have been inspired by
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>> ghouls and head choppers. Those who would use baby bottles
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>> DC
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>>
>>
>
>

Subject: Re: Oh gawd . .
Posted by Deej [1] on Thu, 17 Aug 2006 01:34:41 GMT
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Ya know.....as much as you and I seem to disagree at times, it's truly
amazing how similarly we view things.

Regards,

Deej

"Sarah" <sarahjane@sarahtonin.com> wrote in message news:44e369e2@linux...
> (heavy sigh) I'm not sure why I'm continuing with this . . . I learned
> years ago you can't argue with a religious person. Yet I feel compelled
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> Second, I am not saying God is unknowable . . . I'm saying I personally do
> not know who or what created this universe or when or why, and I see no
> evidence that anyone else does either, in spite of their fervent claims.
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> do believe in a higher power which is very exhilarating to feel truly
> connected to, but the attempts of religion in general to describe this
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> believe, I've heard it a thousand times over the last 30-some years. What
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> were desperate for answers and a bible was handy? Because your parents
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Subject: Re: Oh gawd . .
Posted by macle on Thu, 17 Aug 2006 01:53:44 GMT
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Oh my gawd, lucifer!
either way, it's so absurd,
look around it's
such a blur you see!!

Why is live and let live so hard? I dunno. Seems so easy.

I've taken to burying my head in the sand. Ignorance is bliss
sort of nearly almost. It'll all work out in the end (except
for those of us burning in hell for eternity...OUCH!)

Sarah, I listened to the clips on your site...very very
nice Paris sound. Thumbs up!

Peace brothers and sisters!!

"Sarah" <sarahjane@sarahtonin.com> wrote:
>(heavy sigh) I'm not sure why I'm continuing with this . . . I learned

>years ago you can't argue with a religious person. Yet I feel compelled
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Subject: Re: Oh gawd . .
Posted by Deej [1] on Thu, 17 Aug 2006 03:27:39 GMT
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> between people who operate from very different assumptions about the
> nature of reality.

I think reality is pretty cut and dried and is evidenced by the nightly news
bloodletting. I think the differences are defined in terms of who is
justified in killing whom and for what reason. Thing is, I think I'd rather
be dead than be forced to be a mulsim.....and I know my wife would rather
die.....and she's mean enough to take quite a few with her.

"Jamie K" <Meta@Dimensional.com> wrote in message news:44e3ae02@linux...
>
> One of the biggest challenges we face is how to have constructive dialog
> between people who operate from very different assumptions about the
> nature of reality.
>
> Great post, Sarah.
>
> Cheers,
> -Jamie
> http://www.JamieKrutz.com
>
>
> Sarah wrote:
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> >>> (Speaking from personal experience).
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Subject: Re: Oh gawd . .
Posted by Jamie K on Thu, 17 Aug 2006 04:34:49 GMT
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Reality is measurable. The nature of reality is often debated. The challenge is to accept and respect each other while still allowing for disagreement.

Can't let the other go without comment: The bloodletting on the nightly news is just a drop in the bucket, we don't see most of it.

Were the Muslims in Saddam's Iraq just about to march over to Durango to convert your wife? Maybe with all of those WMD the inspectors concluded weren't there? Wouldn't work anyway, she'd sic your big dogs on 'em!

What about the Muslims already in Durango, what are you gonna do about them?

Maybe the problem isn't Muslims. Maybe the problem is that people with little opportunity turn to fanatics for help and hope, and are used and manipulated in the process.

I don't know why we turn to fanatics here. Fear?

Muslims, the new, improved "commies." They're in your closet. They're after your wife. Vote for me and I'll $$olve the problem!

Cheers,
-Jamie
http://www.JamieKrutz.com

DJ wrote:
>> between people who operate from very different assumptions about the
>> nature of reality.
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> I think reality is pretty cut and dried and is evidenced by the nightly news
> bloodletting. I think the differences are defined in terms of who is
> justified in killing whom and for what reason. Thing is, I think I'd rather
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>> Sarah wrote:
>>> (heavy sigh) I'm not sure why I'm continuing with this . . . I learned
>>> years ago you can't argue with a religious person. Yet I feel compelled
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>>> essentially, by definition, blind. Faith is "belief that does not rest
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>>> you need to, but that's from the dictionary, and makes sense to me. If
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>>> Second, I am not saying God is unknowable . . . I'm saying I personally
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>>> not know who or what created this universe or when or why, and I see no
>>> evidence that anyone else does either, in spite of their fervent claims.
> I
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>>> connected to, but the attempts of religion in general to describe this
>>> "supreme being" anthropomorphically just strike me as very superficial
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Subject: Re: Oh gawd . .
Posted by Deej [1] on Thu, 17 Aug 2006 05:08:21 GMT
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> What about the Muslims already in Durango, what are you gonna do about
them?
>
Interesting that you should ask. there was recently a forum held at a local
church here. there were Christians, Jews, Buddhists, Muslims and American
Indians. Things were going nicely until a Jew asked the Muslims whether they
would renounce the use of non-retaliatory violence against those of other
religions. You could have heard a pin drop for about 10 seconds before the
Muslim gentleman started scooting around like a crawdad.....and he never
gave a straight answer.

"Jamie K" <Meta@Dimensional.com> wrote in message news:44e3f062@linux...
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> >>>>> the mystery, in fact, I like a good mystery. Sure, it can be fun to
> > say
> >>>>> "what if this . . . " or "what if that . . . " but let's be honest
> > here
> >>>> --
> >>>>> none of us will know until the time comes, and maybe not even then.
> > And
> >>>> I'm
> >>>>> sorry, but "because the bible tells me so" doesn't work for me.
It's
> > just
> >>>>> stuff that was written by the brighter members of some fairly
backward
> >>>>> human
> >>>>> societies thousands of years ago who may or may not have been
inspired
> > by
> >>>> a
> >>>>> supreme being.
> >>>> And you cannot see that this is merely your view, not fact.
> >>>> It is an assertion that there are no miracles, that God does not
> >>>> care if we have a we to know Him or not, that things proceeded in
> >>>> the past as they do today, and Jesus' death and resurrection are
> >>>> human myths created, as all "god talk" is, by humans to comfort
> >>>> themselves...
> >>>>

> >>>> You may not be an atheist, but you accept *all* of their basic
> >>>> assumptions about existence.
> >>>>
> >>>>
> >>>>> Meanwhile, back to the original topic: picture 100,000 dead Iraqis
> >>>>> (conservative estimate). Picture them all together in a pile. What
> > do
> >>>> you
> >>>>> think . . . would it fill a football stadium, like a big bowl of
brown
> >>>>> rice?
> >>>>> I don't know, but now tell me how many of those were terrorists?
100?
> >>>> 500?
> >>>>> 1000? It doesn't matter does it? Not to those who were innocent
and
> >>>>> their
> >>>>> families.
> >>>>>
> >>>>> Now picture 2500 dead American soldiers and the 62,000 wounded or
> > maimed.
> >>>>> If we were lied into this "war" based on hidden agendas, I can think
> > of
> >>>> some
> >>>>> heads of state whose heads should roll. They probably won't, but
it's
> > a
> >>>>> nice thought. Picture Bush, Cheney, and Rumsfeld in orange
jumpsuits
> > and
> >>>>> chains . . . ni-i-i-i-i-ice. I feel better.
> >>>>>
> >>>>> Sarah
> >>>> And it is this view that conerns me that we, as a people, are no
> >>>> longer able to protect freedom. There were innocents killed in all
> >>>> wars. This is no different. Would you broadcast from Dresden
> >>>> or Nagasaki calling for the jailing of Truman? By your rules, you
> >>>> would have to.
> >>>>
> >>>> We now have a whole generation of people who cannot bring themselves
to
> > do
> >>>> what they must to protect our way of life.
> >>>> Given that we face the most evil and implacable enemy in many
> >>>> years, I am not sure that we will retain the freedom that those
> >>>> WWII vets you admire so much, fought and died for.
> >>>>
> >>>> And finally, notice please, not one word of condemnation for the

> >>>> ghouls and head choppers. Those who would use baby bottles
> >>>> for binary explosives and die, with their infant in their arms, to
kill
> >>>> some of us. Not one word. This is why you simply are not
> >>>> convincing me here. It is selective pacifism, pointed only at
> >>>> Israel and the west and there is no righteousness in it.
> >>>>
> >>>> DC
> >>>>
> >>>>
> >>>>
> >>>
> >
> >

Subject: Re: Oh gawd . .
Posted by Jamie K on Thu, 17 Aug 2006 06:00:26 GMT
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It's all retaliatory. That's the beauty of the Hatfield/McCoy vicious cycle.

We retaliated against Iraq for 9/11, even though Iraq was not involved
in the attack.

No problem, we created a new policy of preemptive retaliation!
Preemptive retaliation, think about that oxymoron. Very creative. Lots
of pins dropped when we came up with that one.

I dunno Deej. I think your forum was a good step. I suppose some of what
you observed there illustrates the challenge we're talking about.

Cheers,
  -Jamie
  http://www.JamieKrutz.com

DJ wrote:
>> What about the Muslims already in Durango, what are you gonna do about
> them?
> Interesting that you should ask. there was recently a forum held at a local
> church here. there were Christians, Jews, Buddhists, Muslims and American
> Indians. Things were going nicely until a Jew asked the Muslims whether they
> would renounce the use of non-retaliatory violence against those of other
> religions. You could have heard a pin drop for about 10 seconds before the
> Muslim gentleman started scooting around like a crawdad.....and he never
> gave a straight answer.
>

>
> "Jamie K" <Meta@Dimensional.com> wrote in message news:44e3f062@linux...
>> Reality is measurable. The nature of reality is often debated. The
>> challenge is to accept and respect each other while still allowing for
>> disagreement.
>>
>> Can't let the other go without comment: The bloodletting on the nightly
>> news is just a drop in the bucket, we don't see most of it.
>>
>> Were the Muslims in Saddam's Iraq just about to march over to Durango to
>> convert your wife? Maybe with all of those WMD the inspectors concluded
>> weren't there? Wouldn't work anyway, she'd sic your big dogs on 'em!
>>
>> What about the Muslims already in Durango, what are you gonna do about
> them?
>> Maybe the problem isn't Muslims. Maybe the problem is that people with
>> little opportunity turn to fanatics for help and hope, and are used and
>> manipulated in the process.
>>
>> I don't know why we turn to fanatics here. Fear?
>>
>> Muslims, the new, improved "commies." They're in your closet. They're
>> after your wife. Vote for me and I'll $$olve the problem!
>>
>> Cheers,
>> -Jamie
>> http://www.JamieKrutz.com
>>
>>
>> DJ wrote:
>>>> between people who operate from very different assumptions about the
>>>> nature of reality.
>>> I think reality is pretty cut and dried and is evidenced by the nightly
> news
>>> bloodletting. I think the differences are defined in terms of who is
>>> justified in killing whom and for what reason. Thing is, I think I'd
> rather
>>> be dead than be forced to be a mulsim.....and I know my wife would
> rather
>>> die.....and she's mean enough to take quite a few with her.
>>>
>>>
>>>
>>> "Jamie K" <Meta@Dimensional.com> wrote in message news:44e3ae02@linux...
>>>> One of the biggest challenges we face is how to have constructive
> dialog
>>>> between people who operate from very different assumptions about the
>>>> nature of reality.

>>>>
>>>> Great post, Sarah.
>>>>
>>>> Cheers,
>>>> -Jamie
>>>> http://www.JamieKrutz.com
>>>>
>>>>
>>>> Sarah wrote:
>>>>> (heavy sigh) I'm not sure why I'm continuing with this . . . I
> learned
>>>>> years ago you can't argue with a religious person. Yet I feel
> compelled
>>> to
>>>>> make my views clear to you, since you are pretty much consistently
> wrong
>>> in
>>>>> your assumptions about what I'm saying. I think you're still trying
> to
>>> view
>>>>> me as a "type" rather than just as that unique thing I like to call
>>> "me."
>>>>> First of all, the term "blind faith" is pretty much redundant. Faith
> is
>>>>> essentially, by definition, blind. Faith is "belief that does not
> rest
>>> on
>>>>> logical proof or material evidence." You can have your own definition
>>> if
>>>>> you need to, but that's from the dictionary, and makes sense to me.
> If
>>> you
>>>>> have proof or evidence, it's not longer a belief, is it? I believe in
>>>>> gravity, even though I can't explain it to you. It's obviously,
>>>>> demonstrably, and universally agreeably real.
>>>>>
>>>>> Second, I am not saying God is unknowable . . . I'm saying I
> personally
>>> do
>>>>> not know who or what created this universe or when or why, and I see
> no
>>>>> evidence that anyone else does either, in spite of their fervent
> claims.
>>> I
>>>>> do believe in a higher power which is very exhilarating to feel truly
>>>>> connected to, but the attempts of religion in general to describe this
>>>>> "supreme being" anthropomorphically just strike me as very superficial
>>> and

>>>>> frankly, kind of childish. I put "God" in quotes because I think it's
>>> silly
>>>>> to try and turn this awesome everpresent life force into a "guy in the
>>> sky."
>>>>> I do not "blind" myself with this point of view. Quite the opposite,
> my
>>>>> mind is wide open to spiritual experience, not limited to ancient
> dogma
>>> that
>>>>> I have no reason to believe.
>>>>>
>>>>> Which leads me to the real point I was hoping to make in fewer words:
> I
>>>>> have been arguing these ideas with believers since I was 17 (LONG time
>>> ago),
>>>>> and in all that time not ONE of them has given me a REASON to believe
>>> that
>>>>> the bible is anything more than legend, parable, mythology, and a
>>> smattering
>>>>> of history. I should believe it's the word of God why? Because it
>>> claims
>>>>> to be? Those are the claims of Roman bishops and other ancient human
>>> beings
>>>>> whose motives and honesty I know nothing about. And if the bible is
> the
>>>>> word of God, I'm not impressed. I expect better from a supreme being.
>>>>>
>>>>> Like the dozens before you, you tell me repeatedly what you believe in
> a
>>> way
>>>>> that suggests no opposing belief can possibly be true. I know WHAT
> you
>>>>> believe, I've heard it a thousand times over the last 30-some years.
>>> What I
>>>>> don't know is WHY you believe it. Because it gives you hope? Because
>>> you
>>>>> were desperate for answers and a bible was handy? Because your
> parents
>>>>> believed it? Because you dropped acid and saw Jesus? Because you
>>> happened
>>>>> to be born here rather than India or Iran? And if you had been born
> in
>>>>> India or Iran, would you be just as fervently Hindu or Muslim?
>>>>>
>>>>> Nor has anyone ever been able to explain the logic in a supposedly
>>>>> omnipotent being sending his son to die for our sins. How does this
>>> make
>>>>> any sense? Isn't it more likely that Jesus simply became enough of a

>>> threat
>>>>> to the Romans and the Jewish heirarchy that they decided to kill him?
>>>>>
>>>>> You speak a lot about assumptions. OK, here's one you seem to share
> with
>>>>> other believers that drives me nuts: without God there is no right or
>>>>> wrong. This is such nonsense. One does not need to believe in God,
>>> Heaven,
>>>>> or Hell to know the difference between right and wrong and to behave
>>>>> accordingly. "A man's ethical behavior should be based effectually
> on
>>>>> sympathy, education, and social ties and needs; no religious basis is
>>>>> necessary. Man would indeed be in a poor way if he had to be
> restrained
>>> by
>>>>> fear of punishment and hope of reward after death." - Albert Einstein
>>>>>
>>>>> And finally, I didn't mention "ghouls and head choppers" because the
>>> evil of
>>>>> "ghouls and head choppers" is not in dispute. I'm concerned about
> what
>>> has
>>>>> been done and is being done in my name as an American, because I
> believe
>>>>> that to also be evil and I'm just a little more than worried about the
>>>>> potential consequences of this.
>>>>>
>>>>> But I have to be honest . . . I feel like I just wasted another hour
>>> that I
>>>>> could have been catching up on sleep in. I should have learned by now
>>> that
>>>>> the more you challenge fixed beliefs, the harder the believer clings
> to
>>>>> them. You are of course free to believe what you want, but again,
>>> beliefs
>>>>> are by definition unproven, and therefore someone else's beliefs are
> not
>>>>> wrong simply because they contradict yours.
>>>>>
>>>>> OK, I mean it this time . . . I give up.
>>>>>
>>>>> Sarah
>>>>>
>>>>>
>>>>> "DC" <dc@spammersinmaui.com> wrote in message news:44e23a46$1@linux...
>>>>>> "Sarah" <sarahjane@sarahtonin.com> wrote:
>>>>>>> The problem with blind faith is that one risks being blinded by
> faith.

>>>>>>> (Speaking from personal experience).
>>>>>> Faith in God is not blind. What is blind is the choice to call God
>>>>>> unknowable. That is a choice to remain blind, and its source is
>>>>>> solely and admittedly, human. Your assumption is that all views are
>>>>>> human at the source.
>>>>>>
>>>>>> I disagree emphatically.
>>>>>>
>>>>>> Everything prodeeds from one's assumptions. Even considering
>>>>>> that the creator cared enough to send his son to die for us,
>>>>>> changes the whole world. Scary huh?
>>>>>>
>>>>>>
>>>>>>> Perhaps the only thing "God" ever said to us was "Survive!" and then
>>> left
>>>>>> it
>>>>>>> up to us to figure out that cooperation works better than
> competition.
>>>>>> If God is in quotes for you, then why would "god's" opinion
>>>>>> matter? Well it doesn't of course. Survive, don't survive, bake
>>>>>> cookies, bake Jews, who is to say no? Why should anyone care if
>>>>>> they do? All is permitted.
>>>>>>
>>>>>> This is not God's plan for us.
>>>>>>
>>>>>>
>>>>>>> The
>>>>>>> "Golden Rule" is not simply a nice idea, it's a very practical and
>>>>>>> effective
>>>>>>> way to live peacefully with our fellow humans.
>>>>>> And the greedy dirtbag says "the one with the gold makes the
>>>>>> rules".
>>>>>>
>>>>>> And you disapprove. With only "god" (otherwise known as Sarah's
>>>>>> opinion) to rebut him, why should he care?
>>>>>>
>>>>>>
>>>>>>> As far as speculating on the afterlife, I just don't care. I'm fine
>>> with
>>>>>>> the mystery, in fact, I like a good mystery. Sure, it can be fun to
>>> say
>>>>>>> "what if this . . . " or "what if that . . . " but let's be honest
>>> here
>>>>>> --
>>>>>>> none of us will know until the time comes, and maybe not even then.
>>> And
>>>>>> I'm
>>>>>>> sorry, but "because the bible tells me so" doesn't work for me.

> It's
>>> just
>>>>>>> stuff that was written by the brighter members of some fairly
> backward
>>>>>>> human
>>>>>>> societies thousands of years ago who may or may not have been
> inspired
>>> by
>>>>>> a
>>>>>>> supreme being.
>>>>>> And you cannot see that this is merely your view, not fact.
>>>>>> It is an assertion that there are no miracles, that God does not
>>>>>> care if we have a we to know Him or not, that things proceeded in
>>>>>> the past as they do today, and Jesus' death and resurrection are
>>>>>> human myths created, as all "god talk" is, by humans to comfort
>>>>>> themselves...
>>>>>>
>>>>>> You may not be an atheist, but you accept *all* of their basic
>>>>>> assumptions about existence.
>>>>>>
>>>>>>
>>>>>>> Meanwhile, back to the original topic: picture 100,000 dead Iraqis
>>>>>>> (conservative estimate). Picture them all together in a pile. What
>>> do
>>>>>> you
>>>>>>> think . . . would it fill a football stadium, like a big bowl of
> brown
>>>>>>> rice?
>>>>>>> I don't know, but now tell me how many of those were terrorists?
> 100?
>>>>>> 500?
>>>>>>> 1000? It doesn't matter does it? Not to those who were innocent
> and
>>>>>>> their
>>>>>>> families.
>>>>>>>
>>>>>>> Now picture 2500 dead American soldiers and the 62,000 wounded or
>>> maimed.
>>>>>>> If we were lied into this "war" based on hidden agendas, I can think
>>> of
>>>>>> some
>>>>>>> heads of state whose heads should roll. They probably won't, but
> it's
>>> a
>>>>>>> nice thought. Picture Bush, Cheney, and Rumsfeld in orange
> jumpsuits
>>> and
>>>>>>> chains . . . ni-i-i-i-i-ice. I feel better.

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>>>>>>> Sarah
>>>>>> And it is this view that conerns me that we, as a people, are no
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>>>>>> wars. This is no different. Would you broadcast from Dresden
>>>>>> or Nagasaki calling for the jailing of Truman? By your rules, you
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>>>>>> We now have a whole generation of people who cannot bring themselves
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>>>>>> years, I am not sure that we will retain the freedom that those
>>>>>> WWII vets you admire so much, fought and died for.
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>>>>>> And finally, notice please, not one word of condemnation for the
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>>>>>> convincing me here. It is selective pacifism, pointed only at
>>>>>> Israel and the west and there is no righteousness in it.
>>>>>>
>>>>>> DC
>>>>>>
>>>>>>
>>>>>>
>>>
>
>

Subject: Re: Oh g-wd . .
Posted by DC on Thu, 17 Aug 2006 06:40:22 GMT
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Wow, I am impressed with both the number of people interested in
this topic, and with their civility. So, I will respond here.

"Sarah" <sarahjane@sarahtonin.com> wrote:
>(heavy sigh) I'm not sure why I'm continuing with this . . . I learned

>years ago you can't argue with a religious person. Yet I feel compelled
to
>make my views clear to you, since you are pretty much consistently wrong
in

>your assumptions about what I'm saying. I think you're still trying to view
>me as a "type" rather than just as that unique thing I like to call "me."

So, what you believe does not need to be actually true (as in reflecting reality) but can be true for you alone? Your reality?

This, of course, begs the question of the existence of God, since your system does not allow for objectivity. You define the "god" that you need, correct?

Christians believe in an objective creator and absolute morality. We do not know all of it, and we certainly don't live up to it very often, but we aspire to it because we believe it to be *real*. It is a truth claim.
Reality is that which makes universal claims to truth, not a unique set of views that works for one person only. I believe in a perfect and objective reality that I aspire to understand some day. I firmly believe that there is all the evidence I need to understand my role in life and what the future holds for me however.

>First of all, the term "blind faith" is pretty much redundant. Faith is

>essentially, by definition, blind. Faith is "belief that does not rest on

>logical proof or material evidence." You can have your own definition if

>you need to, but that's from the dictionary, and makes sense to me.

It's inadequate. Faith is really the active participation of humanity, in the context of millions of pieces of supportive evidence, with our eyes wide open, in the creative activity of understanding and being a part of, existence, as it really is.

It is not blind in the least.

>If you
>have proof or evidence, it's not longer a belief, is it? I believe in
>gravity, even though I can't explain it to you. It's obviously,
>demonstrably, and universally agreeably real.

No one else can explain it either. It's kind of.. ummm... the warping of the space-time fabric around objects that possess sufficent mass. Whatever that means.

Ok, the universe is expanding. Hubble's constant, supported by thousands of observations and experiments, proves it.

But wait, there's not enough mass to explain this... Ok, it must be
"dark matter" (don't ask), oh no, it's actually "vibrating strings"
which account for the missing mass (really, don't ask!).

No one has ever seen such things. But they make the equations
work out, so they or something like them, may be true.

Does this process sound a lot like my description of faith above?
Of course it does

You simply must discard the mistaken notion that there is objective
evidence that makes faith blind. There is not.

>Second, I am not saying God is unknowable . . . I'm saying I personally
do
>not know who or what created this universe or when or why, and I see no

>evidence that anyone else does either, in spite of their fervent claims.
I
>do believe in a higher power which is very exhilarating to feel truly
>connected to, but the attempts of religion in general to describe this
>"supreme being" anthropomorphically just strike me as very superficial and

>frankly, kind of childish. I put "God" in quotes because I think it's silly

>to try and turn this awesome everpresent life force into a "guy in the sky."

>I do not "blind" myself with this point of view. Quite the opposite, my

>mind is wide open to spiritual experience, not limited to ancient dogma
that
>I have no reason to believe.

No, you can make it up as you go along. Which of course, makes
you "god", doesn't it? How can you possibly be so sure that
God has not tried to contact us, and that Jesus was not who he said
he was? You believe he was not and your belief is based upon
at minimum, the work and traditions of atheists.

But, if God is real, the Creator God whose son was called Jesus,
then it is reasonable that He is interested in communicating with
us. Who has cast "god" solely in her own "unique" model, and who
has placed God outside of us all and needing to be known?
Who has anthropomorphized whom?
How does your "god" differ from an idealized Sarah Jane? How do
you answer atheists and natrualists who call your ideas mere

wishful thinking and comforting myth making?

My God does not fill me with warm feelings very often. He rarely thrills me and makes me feel loved. Mostly He teaches me, and sometimes in brutal fashion, how far I need to go from this wretched being I am. I sometimes really dislike God a lot for kicking my ass so hard and so regularly.

Religious? I dunno how you can call me that...

Now, when I look backwards at my life, and I see how God has led me through things that should have literally killed me, or at least *ruined* my life, and I look at who I am vs. who I would have been without Him, I shudder at how close a call it has been, and I thank Him again for saving me in spite of myself.

>Which leads me to the real point I was hoping to make in fewer words: I

>have been arguing these ideas with believers since I was 17 (LONG time ago),

>and in all that time not ONE of them has given me a REASON to believe that

>the bible is anything more than legend, parable, mythology, and a smattering

>of history.

The best reason of all is the unbroken line of millions of serious and devout Christians who considered the Bible important enough to dedicate their lives to making sure it did not die out. I have lived through several generations now, and I have seen God raise up those who will carry on the tradition into the next generation so it will not be lost to the world. No, I do not believe every word to be the word of God, but God's thoughts are there, even if imperfectly (or at least apprently imperfect to us)

Those people have done so precisely because the Bible tells the story of the redemption of humanity, and redemption is our only hope as the wretched middle east makes so clear.

There is no spiritual tradition with Jesus Christ in it other than the Christian church, and Jesus is the central figure in human history. I call it "the great Christian church invisible", consisting of those who

are truly commited to God. No other tradition explains the world as we see it and offers a better solution to what we see. It is most definetely NOT a denomination with a name. But you sure know it when you walk into one.

There are many other reasons to believe the Bible, but the best of reason of all is your search for God.

You have to have more than a "sleeping god" who fumbles his way through our lives. You have to be humble enough to be taught and be corrected. You have to honestly search for God outside of yourself and your preconceptions.

BTW, the Hindus believe that when they play that wonderful raga music, if they do it well enough, and they really open themselves to it, that the note at the heart of the universe will fly right out of their instruments for w while. You know what? I think I have heard them do it! So much for the right-wing patriot Bible Belt sort of image of me huh?

Of course people in other traditions can be saved! I had a dream one night where the Dalai Lama went to heaven and met Jesus. He did not know who Jesus was at first, but as they conversed, the Lama said: "This voice, I have heard this voice before"... And indeed he has. At least IMO.

This is how I see it: Those who seek God will find Him, no matter where they start. Every human soul is born with the Holy Spirit speaking to it, and it is our response to the voice that determines our destiny, not our tradition.

Just because I believe the Christian tradition to be the right one does not make God unavailable to non Christians. Even the Catholics believe this.

I do not care if you go to Sunday School. I care very much that you cannot envision a God that is at minimum, competent and loving, and interested in us. Most of all, the Christian church is the rock you build your foundation on to stand in these times. There is no other.

>And if the bible is the
>word of God, I'm not impressed. I expect better from a supreme being.

Ok, how about this:

http://hubblesite.org/gallery/album/galaxy_collection/pr2003 028a/web_print

It seems the word is everywhere. But the Bible has everything you need to be saved. thank God.

>Like the dozens before you, you tell me repeatedly what you believe in a way
>that suggests no opposing belief can possibly be true. I know WHAT you

>believe, I've heard it a thousand times over the last 30-some years. What I
>don't know is WHY you believe it. Because it gives you hope?

It give me hope because it took the lies away. The lies of the evil one. It gives me hope because it tells me the truth. It gives me hope because it connects me to the almighty.

>Because you
>were desperate for answers and a bible was handy?

No, because I hated the church, and I called out to God, and he led me back. I still hate it, but I am learning how to make it better.

>Because your parents believed it?

That lasted till about10 years old for me...

>Because you dropped acid and saw Jesus?

Never dropped acid. Always seemed a dumb-sh*t thing to do. sorry

>Because you happened to be born here rather than India or Iran?

See above...

>And if you had been born in India or Iran, would you be just as fervently Hindu or Muslim?

See above...

>Nor has anyone ever been able to explain the logic in a supposedly
>omnipotent being sending his son to die for our sins. How does this make

>any sense?

Do you have sins? I know I do. Where did this come from? This "sin" thing? It happened first when humans decided they knew better than God, what they should do. Boy, I wish we could take that one back. And so we sin to this day. We needed a way out, a way to escape the natural consequences of sin, that being

seperation from God, the source of life. When they Deluxe Reverb gets unplugged from the wall, the music goes away. When the human gets unplugged from God, the human goes away. Jesus was the great liberator of humanity. He provided a way to re-enter a healthy relationship with the almighty, and hey, it only requires a bit of trust and faith. What a deal!

>You speak a lot about assumptions. OK, here's one you seem to share with

>other believers that drives me nuts: without God there is no right or
>wrong. This is such nonsense. One does not need to believe in God, Heaven,

>or Hell to know the difference between right and wrong and to behave
>accordingly.

I never said that! I said without God, there is no basis for right and wrong other than what you think and what I think. Obviously, we think a lot about all this, and we have been trying to come up with secular models for morality since the Enlightenment, but they have all failed because they are all purely self-referential. Your model, for instance, rests on the assumption that "everyone just knows these things". I assure you they do not. This will get worse, not better, in the future.

We can threaten people, we can impose our version or morality with a gun, we can blather about "social contracts" and more, but we cannot come up with a morality that is transcendant and permanent. That's because only God has one.

Oh, and BTW, once again, you are arguing as an atheist:

>One does not need to believe in God, Heaven,
>or Hell to know the difference between right and wrong

But you claim to not be an atheist! But you also claim to not need God for much of anything other than good feelings. Does God inform your morality? In what way? If he does not, do you need Him?

>"A man's ethical behavior should be based effectually on
>sympathy, education, and social ties and needs; no religious basis is
>necessary. Man would indeed be in a poor way if he had to be restrained
by
>fear of punishment and hope of reward after death." - Albert Einstein

"God does not play with dice" Albert Einstein

"God not only plays with dice, but He throws them in a corner
where you cannot see them" Stephen Hawking

Seem like even Einstein gets revised. Why should a man care about
the things Einstein lists? Social pressure? Social contract?
And you accuse *God* of sleeping! How well is the alternative
working out so far??

>And finally, I didn't mention "ghouls and head choppers" because the evil
of
>"ghouls and head choppers" is not in dispute.

Sure it is! They are excused as poverty-stricken victims of
american empire who have no other way to express themselves.
This bull is spewed out on a daily basis by the left. If you expressed
1/10 of the anger towards them, that you do towards the Bushies,
you would have vastly more credibility with me.

>I'm concerned about what has
>been done and is being done in my name as an American, because I believe

>that to also be evil and I'm just a little more than worried about the
>potential consequences of this.

And you have a right to feel this way. You do not have a right to
blame Christians for it. There's lots of Christians who agree with you.

>But I have to be honest . . . I feel like I just wasted another hour that
I
>could have been catching up on sleep in. I should have learned by now that

>the more you challenge fixed beliefs, the harder the believer clings to

>them.

My beliefs are in constant growth as God leads me towards standing
up in these difficult times. But no, my faith in Jesus Christ is not
assailable. It would be like betraying my wife, only worse.

>You are of course free to believe what you want,

Gee thanks. Too bad you feel the need to ridicule them on such a
regular basis. Seems, for the left, like Christians are the only group

it is still cool to hate

>but again, beliefs
>are by definition unproven,

Not for me. See above. It's all beliefs.
You just view yours as objective and not as beliefs at all. This is an illusion. The question always has been, are they true beliefs?

We come to different conclusions.

>and therefore someone else's beliefs are not
>wrong simply because they contradict yours.

Nor right. It is your search. All I can do is tell you of mine.

But If I am right, there are major consequences.
If I am wrong, hey, I still had a good life full of love, hope, kids and confidence of my future. Beats existential dread, bongos and bad poetry every time.

So,
You are walking down a dark alley, a bunch of young men come fly out a door and walk your way. Would you prefer, or not prefer that they are leaving a Bible study?

take care

DC

Subject: Re: Oh gawd . .
Posted by rick on Thu, 17 Aug 2006 10:11:11 GMT
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i didn't want to cause trouble by calling it #1

On 17 Aug 2006 06:17:12 +1000, "TCB" <nobody@ishere.com> wrote:

>
>I'd be interested to hear the nine candidates you would propose ahead of it.
>
>
>TCB
>
>rick <parnell68@hotmail.com> wrote:
>>sarah

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>>everyone wants to be the holder of "the truth" and feel compelled to
>>convince others even if they have to kill them to do it. thankfully
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>>that...on both sides of the argument. religion has to be in the top
>>ten killers of humanity throughout history.
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>>On Wed, 16 Aug 2006 12:00:26 -0700, "Sarah" <sarahjane@sarahtonin.com>
>>wrote:
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>>>(heavy sigh) I'm not sure why I'm continuing with this . . . I learned
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>>>years ago you can't argue with a religious person. Yet I feel compelled
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>>>make my views clear to you, since you are pretty much consistently wrong
>in
>>>your assumptions about what I'm saying. I think you're still trying to
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>>>me as a "type" rather than just as that unique thing I like to call "me."
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>>>First of all, the term "blind faith" is pretty much redundant. Faith is
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>>>essentially, by definition, blind. Faith is "belief that does not rest
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>>>logical proof or material evidence." You can have your own definition
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>>>you need to, but that's from the dictionary, and makes sense to me. If
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>>>have proof or evidence, it's not longer a belief, is it? I believe in
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>>>gravity, even though I can't explain it to you. It's obviously,
>>>demonstrably, and universally agreeably real.
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>>>Second, I am not saying God is unknowable . . . I'm saying I personally
>do
>>>not know who or what created this universe or when or why, and I see no
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>>>evidence that anyone else does either, in spite of their fervent claims.
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>>>connected to, but the attempts of religion in general to describe this
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>>>"supreme being" anthropomorphically just strike me as very superficial
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>>>to try and turn this awesome everpresent life force into a "guy in the
>sky."

>>>I do not "blind" myself with this point of view. Quite the opposite, my
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>>>mind is wide open to spiritual experience, not limited to ancient dogma
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>>>I have no reason to believe.
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>>>Which leads me to the real point I was hoping to make in fewer words:
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>>>and in all that time not ONE of them has given me a REASON to believe that
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>>>the bible is anything more than legend, parable, mythology, and a smattering
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>>>of history. I should believe it's the word of God why? Because it claims
>
>>>to be? Those are the claims of Roman bishops and other ancient human beings
>
>>>whose motives and honesty I know nothing about. And if the bible is the
>
>>>word of God, I'm not impressed. I expect better from a supreme being.
>>>
>>>Like the dozens before you, you tell me repeatedly what you believe in
>a way
>>>that suggests no opposing belief can possibly be true. I know WHAT you
>
>>>believe, I've heard it a thousand times over the last 30-some years. What
>I
>>>don't know is WHY you believe it. Because it gives you hope? Because
>you
>>>were desperate for answers and a bible was handy? Because your parents
>
>>>believed it? Because you dropped acid and saw Jesus? Because you happened
>
>>>to be born here rather than India or Iran? And if you had been born in
>
>>>India or Iran, would you be just as fervently Hindu or Muslim?
>>>
>>>Nor has anyone ever been able to explain the logic in a supposedly
>>>omnipotent being sending his son to die for our sins. How does this make
>
>>>any sense? Isn't it more likely that Jesus simply became enough of a threat
>
>>>to the Romans and the Jewish heirarchy that they decided to kill him?
>>>
>>>You speak a lot about assumptions. OK, here's one you seem to share with
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>>>other believers that drives me nuts: without God there is no right or

>
>>>wrong. This is such nonsense. One does not need to believe in God, Heaven,
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>>>or Hell to know the difference between right and wrong and to behave
>>>accordingly. "A man's ethical behavior should be based effectually on
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>>>
>>>Sarah
>>>
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>>>"DC" <dc@spammersinmaui.com> wrote in message news:44e23a46$1@linux...
>>>>
>>>> "Sarah" <sarahjane@sarahtonin.com> wrote:
>>>>>The problem with blind faith is that one risks being blinded by faith.
>>>>>(Speaking from personal experience).
>>>>
>>>> Faith in God is not blind. What is blind is the choice to call God
>>>> unknowable. That is a choice to remain blind, and its source is
>>>> solely and admittedly, human. Your assumption is that all views are
>>>> human at the source.

>>>>
>>>> I disagree emphatically.
>>>>
>>>> Everything prodeeds from one's assumptions. Even considering
>>>> that the creator cared enough to send his son to die for us,
>>>> changes the whole world. Scary huh?
>>>>
>>>>
>>>>>Perhaps the only thing "God" ever said to us was "Survive!" and then
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>>>>>up to us to figure out that cooperation works better than competition.
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>>>> If God is in quotes for you, then why would "god's" opinion
>>>> matter? Well it doesn't of course. Survive, don't survive, bake
>>>> cookies, bake Jews, who is to say no? Why should anyone care if
>>>> they do? All is permitted.
>>>>
>>>> This is not God's plan for us.
>>>>
>>>>
>>>>>The
>>>>>"Golden Rule" is not simply a nice idea, it's a very practical and
>>>>>effective
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>>>>>way to live peacefully with our fellow humans.
>>>>
>>>> And the greedy dirtbag says "the one with the gold makes the
>>>> rules".
>>>>
>>>> And you disapprove. With only "god" (otherwise known as Sarah's
>>>> opinion) to rebut him, why should he care?
>>>>
>>>>
>>>>>As far as speculating on the afterlife, I just don't care. I'm fine
>with
>>>>
>>>>>the mystery, in fact, I like a good mystery. Sure, it can be fun to
>say
>>>>
>>>>>"what if this . . . " or "what if that . . . " but let's be honest here
>>>> --
>>>>>none of us will know until the time comes, and maybe not even then.
>And
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>>>>>sorry, but "because the bible tells me so" doesn't work for me. It's
>just

>>>>
>>>>>stuff that was written by the brighter members of some fairly backward
>
>>>>>human
>>>>
>>>>>societies thousands of years ago who may or may not have been inspired
>by
>>>> a
>>>>>supreme being.
>>>>
>>>>
>>>> And you cannot see that this is merely your view, not fact.
>>>> It is an assertion that there are no miracles, that God does not
>>>> care if we have a we to know Him or not, that things proceeded in
>>>> the past as they do today, and Jesus' death and resurrection are
>>>> human myths created, as all "god talk" is, by humans to comfort
>>>> themselves...
>>>>
>>>> You may not be an atheist, but you accept *all* of their basic
>>>> assumptions about existence.
>>>>
>>>>
>>>>>Meanwhile, back to the original topic: picture 100,000 dead Iraqis
>>>>>(conservative estimate). Picture them all together in a pile. What
>do
>>>> you
>>>>>think . . . would it fill a football stadium, like a big bowl of brown
>
>>>>>rice?
>>>>
>>>>>I don't know, but now tell me how many of those were terrorists? 100?
>>>> 500?
>>>>>1000? It doesn't matter does it? Not to those who were innocent and
>
>>>>>their
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>>>>>families.
>>>>>
>>>>>Now picture 2500 dead American soldiers and the 62,000 wounded or maimed.
>>>>
>>>>>If we were lied into this "war" based on hidden agendas, I can think
>of
>>>> some
>>>>>heads of state whose heads should roll. They probably won't, but it's
>a
>>>>
>>>>>nice thought. Picture Bush, Cheney, and Rumsfeld in orange jumpsuits
>and

>>>>
>>>>>chains . . . ni-i-i-i-i-ice. I feel better.
>>>>>
>>>>>Sarah
>>>>
>>>>
>>>> And it is this view that conerns me that we, as a people, are no
>>>> longer able to protect freedom. There were innocents killed in all
>>>> wars. This is no different. Would you broadcast from Dresden
>>>> or Nagasaki calling for the jailing of Truman? By your rules, you
>>>> would have to.
>>>>
>>>> We now have a whole generation of people who cannot bring themselves
>to do
>>>> what they must to protect our way of life.
>>>> Given that we face the most evil and implacable enemy in many
>>>> years, I am not sure that we will retain the freedom that those
>>>> WWII vets you admire so much, fought and died for.
>>>>
>>>> And finally, notice please, not one word of condemnation for the
>>>> ghouls and head choppers. Those who would use baby bottles
>>>> for binary explosives and die, with their infant in their arms, to kill
>>>> some of us. Not one word. This is why you simply are not
>>>> convincing me here. It is selective pacifism, pointed only at
>>>> Israel and the west and there is no righteousness in it.
>>>>
>>>> DC
>>>>
>>>>
>>>>
>>>
>>

Subject: Re: Oh gawd . .
Posted by rick on Thu, 17 Aug 2006 10:16:02 GMT
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the sun does seem to be dimming again somewhat.

On Wed, 16 Aug 2006 13:52:19 -0700, "Sarah" <sarahjane@sarahtonin.com>
wrote:

>I would go so far as to say that religious fervor has been and continues to
>be one of the leading causes of suffering and death in all of human history.
>Unfortunately, I think our "War On Terror" is more of a religious crusade
>than is openly admitted.
>

>There was a time in human history when religion ruled the Western world.
>It's called "The Dark Ages."
>
>Sarah
>
>
>"rick" <parnell68@hotmail.com> wrote in message
>news:c9u6e2dqskmvij58nuv4tmj0gs1omuf518@4ax.com...
>> sarah
>>
>> everyone wants to be the holder of "the truth" and feel compelled to
>> convince others even if they have to kill them to do it. thankfully
>> not all go to that extreme...unfortunately many are willing to do just
>> that...on both sides of the argument. religion has to be in the top
>> ten killers of humanity throughout history.
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Subject: Re: Oh gawd . .
Posted by TCB on Thu, 17 Aug 2006 13:05:22 GMT
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Here's the thing, you'll cause just as much trouble saying it's #5 or #10
as #1. And I suspected you thought as much which is why I asked. Maybe not.
Influenza takes a few hundred thousand per year in the off years, so maybe
over the long haul it's first, just by the yearly grind. But even then I
doubt it.

But in any case, just tell the truth as you see it, regardless of the trouble
it might cause. We need more of that.

TCB

rick <parnell68@hotmail.com> wrote:
>i didn't want to cause trouble by calling it #1
>
>On 17 Aug 2006 06:17:12 +1000, "TCB" <nobody@ishere.com> wrote:
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>>>>> DC
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>>>>>
>>>>>
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>>>
>

Subject: Re: Oh gawd . .
Posted by Deej [1] on Thu, 17 Aug 2006 13:29:26 GMT
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Jamie,

Can you name even one instance wherein a population becaume Muslim by any
means other than military conquest?

Deej

"Jamie K" <Meta@Dimensional.com> wrote in message news:44e40472@linux...
>
> It's all retaliatory. That's the beauty of the Hatfield/McCoy vicious
cycle.
>
> We retaliated against Iraq for 9/11, even though Iraq was not involved
> in the attack.
>
> No problem, we created a new policy of preemptive retaliation!
> Preemptive retaliation, think about that oxymoron. Very creative. Lots
> of pins dropped when we came up with that one.
>
> I dunno Deej. I think your forum was a good step. I suppose some of what
> you observed there illustrates the challenge we're talking about.
>
> Cheers,
> -Jamie
> http://www.JamieKrutz.com
>
>
> DJ wrote:
> >> What about the Muslims already in Durango, what are you gonna do about
> > them?
> > Interesting that you should ask. there was recently a forum held at a
local

> > church here. there were Christians, Jews, Buddhists, Muslims and
American
> > Indians. Things were going nicely until a Jew asked the Muslims whether
they
> > would renounce the use of non-retaliatory violence against those of
other
> > religions. You could have heard a pin drop for about 10 seconds before
the
> > Muslim gentleman started scooting around like a crawdad.....and he
never
> > gave a straight answer.
> >
> >
> > "Jamie K" <Meta@Dimensional.com> wrote in message news:44e3f062@linux...
> >> Reality is measurable. The nature of reality is often debated. The
> >> challenge is to accept and respect each other while still allowing for
> >> disagreement.
> >>
> >> Can't let the other go without comment: The bloodletting on the nightly
> >> news is just a drop in the bucket, we don't see most of it.
> >>
> >> Were the Muslims in Saddam's Iraq just about to march over to Durango
to
> >> convert your wife? Maybe with all of those WMD the inspectors concluded
> >> weren't there? Wouldn't work anyway, she'd sic your big dogs on 'em!
> >>
> >> What about the Muslims already in Durango, what are you gonna do about
> > them?
> >> Maybe the problem isn't Muslims. Maybe the problem is that people with
> >> little opportunity turn to fanatics for help and hope, and are used and
> >> manipulated in the process.
> >>
> >> I don't know why we turn to fanatics here. Fear?
> >>
> >> Muslims, the new, improved "commies." They're in your closet. They're
> >> after your wife. Vote for me and I'll $$olve the problem!
> >>
> >> Cheers,
> >> -Jamie
> >> http://www.JamieKrutz.com
> >>
> >>
> >> DJ wrote:
> >>>> between people who operate from very different assumptions about the
> >>>> nature of reality.
> >>> I think reality is pretty cut and dried and is evidenced by the
nightly
> > news

> >>> bloodletting. I think the differences are defined in terms of who is
> >>> justified in killing whom and for what reason. Thing is, I think I'd
> > rather
> >>> be dead than be forced to be a mulsim.....and I know my wife would
> > rather
> >>> die.....and she's mean enough to take quite a few with her.
> >>>
> >>>
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> >>> "Jamie K" <Meta@Dimensional.com> wrote in message
news:44e3ae02@linux...
> >>>> One of the biggest challenges we face is how to have constructive
> > dialog
> >>>> between people who operate from very different assumptions about the
> >>>> nature of reality.
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> >>>> Great post, Sarah.
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> >>>> Cheers,
> >>>>   -Jamie
> >>>>   http://www.JamieKrutz.com
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> >>>> Sarah wrote:
> >>>>> (heavy sigh) I'm not sure why I'm continuing with this . . . I
> > learned
> >>>>> years ago you can't argue with a religious person. Yet I feel
> > compelled
> >>> to
> >>>>> make my views clear to you, since you are pretty much consistently
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> >>>>> your assumptions about what I'm saying. I think you're still trying
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Subject: Re: Oh gawd . .
Posted by Jamie K on Thu, 17 Aug 2006 14:01:46 GMT
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How about Hinduism? Sikhism? Buddhism?

People have converted to Islam right here in the USA. I don't think
we've been conquered by anyone lately (aside from the neo-con takeover
still in progress, maybe neo-cons are secretly Islamic? ;^)

I will grant you that conquering and spreading religious doctrine have
gone hand in hand in the past, notably by various Islamic AND Christian
sects. You start mixing religion and government and that's what you get.
Religion becomes a tool of empire.

I'm with Jefferson on this one.

Cheers,
  -Jamie
  http://www.JamieKrutz.com

DJ wrote:
> Jamie,
>
> Can you name even one instance wherein a population becaume Muslim by any
> means other than military conquest?
>
> Deej
>
> "Jamie K" <Meta@Dimensional.com> wrote in message news:44e40472@linux...
>> It's all retaliatory. That's the beauty of the Hatfield/McCoy vicious
> cycle.
>> We retaliated against Iraq for 9/11, even though Iraq was not involved
>> in the attack.
>>
>> No problem, we created a new policy of preemptive retaliation!
>> Preemptive retaliation, think about that oxymoron. Very creative. Lots
>> of pins dropped when we came up with that one.
>>
>> I dunno Deej. I think your forum was a good step. I suppose some of what
>> you observed there illustrates the challenge we're talking about.
>>
>> Cheers,
>>   -Jamie
>>   http://www.JamieKrutz.com
>>
>>
>> DJ wrote:
>>>> What about the Muslims already in Durango, what are you gonna do about
>>> them?
>>> Interesting that you should ask. there was recently a forum held at a
> local
>>> church here. there were Christians, Jews, Buddhists, Muslims and
> American
>>> Indians. Things were going nicely until a Jew asked the Muslims whether
> they
>>> would renounce the use of non-retaliatory violence against those of
> other
>>> religions. You could have heard a pin drop for about 10 seconds before
> the
>>> Muslim gentleman started scooting around like a crawdad.....and he

> never
>>> gave a straight answer.
>>>
>>>
>>> "Jamie K" <Meta@Dimensional.com> wrote in message news:44e3f062@linux...
>>>> Reality is measurable. The nature of reality is often debated. The
>>>> challenge is to accept and respect each other while still allowing for
>>>> disagreement.
>>>>
>>>> Can't let the other go without comment: The bloodletting on the nightly
>>>> news is just a drop in the bucket, we don't see most of it.
>>>>
>>>> Were the Muslims in Saddam's Iraq just about to march over to Durango
> to
>>>> convert your wife? Maybe with all of those WMD the inspectors concluded
>>>> weren't there? Wouldn't work anyway, she'd sic your big dogs on 'em!
>>>>
>>>> What about the Muslims already in Durango, what are you gonna do about
>>> them?
>>>> Maybe the problem isn't Muslims. Maybe the problem is that people with
>>>> little opportunity turn to fanatics for help and hope, and are used and
>>>> manipulated in the process.
>>>>
>>>> I don't know why we turn to fanatics here. Fear?
>>>>
>>>> Muslims, the new, improved "commies." They're in your closet. They're
>>>> after your wife. Vote for me and I'll $$olve the problem!
>>>>
>>>> Cheers,
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>>>> DJ wrote:
>>>>>> between people who operate from very different assumptions about the
>>>>>> nature of reality.
>>>>> I think reality is pretty cut and dried and is evidenced by the
> nightly
>>> news
>>>>> bloodletting. I think the differences are defined in terms of who is
>>>>> justified in killing whom and for what reason. Thing is, I think I'd
>>> rather
>>>>> be dead than be forced to be a mulsim.....and I know my wife would
>>> rather
>>>>> die.....and she's mean enough to take quite a few with her.
>>>>>
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Subject: Re: Oh gawd . .
Posted by Deej [1] on Thu, 17 Aug 2006 14:49:57 GMT
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But you still didn't answer my question. Can you name even one? Yes, there are examples of Chiristianity being spread by conquest, but there are also many examples where it wasn't. In this country, people can practice any religion they want. Is that true in countries that are Muslim theocracies? Can you name even one?

Deej

"Jamie K" <Meta@Dimensional.com> wrote in message news:44e47542@linux...
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> >> It's all retaliatory. That's the beauty of the Hatfield/McCoy vicious
> > cycle.
> >> We retaliated against Iraq for 9/11, even though Iraq was not involved
> >> in the attack.
> >>
> >> No problem, we created a new policy of preemptive retaliation!
> >> Preemptive retaliation, think about that oxymoron. Very creative. Lots
> >> of pins dropped when we came up with that one.
> >>
> >> I dunno Deej. I think your forum was a good step. I suppose some of
what
> >> you observed there illustrates the challenge we're talking about.
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> >> Cheers,
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> >>>> What about the Muslims already in Durango, what are you gonna do
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> >>> Interesting that you should ask. there was recently a forum held at a
> > local
> >>> church here. there were Christians, Jews, Buddhists, Muslims and
> > American
> >>> Indians. Things were going nicely until a Jew asked the Muslims
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> > they
> >>> would renounce the use of non-retaliatory violence against those of
> > other
> >>> religions. You could have heard a pin drop for about 10 seconds before

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> >>> Muslim gentleman started scooting around like a crawdad.....and he
> > never
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> >>>> Reality is measurable. The nature of reality is often debated. The
> >>>> challenge is to accept and respect each other while still allowing
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> >>>> disagreement.
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> >>>> Can't let the other go without comment: The bloodletting on the
nightly
> >>>> news is just a drop in the bucket, we don't see most of it.
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> >>>> Were the Muslims in Saddam's Iraq just about to march over to Durango
> > to
> >>>> convert your wife? Maybe with all of those WMD the inspectors
concluded
> >>>> weren't there? Wouldn't work anyway, she'd sic your big dogs on 'em!
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> >>>> Muslims, the new, improved "commies." They're in your closet. They're
> >>>> after your wife. Vote for me and I'll $$olve the problem!
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> >>>>> justified in killing whom and for what reason. Thing is, I think I'd
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> >>>>> "me."
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> >>> is
> >>>>>>> essentially, by definition, blind. Faith is "belief that does not
> >>> rest
> >>>>> on

> >>>>>>> logical proof or material evidence." You can have your own
> > definition
> >>>>> if
> >>>>>>> you need to, but that's from the dictionary, and makes sense to
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> >>> If
> >>>>> you
> >>>>>>> have proof or evidence, it's not longer a belief, is it? I
believe
> > in
> >>>>>>> gravity, even though I can't explain it to you. It's obviously,
> >>>>>>> demonstrably, and universally agreeably real.
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> >>>>>>> Second, I am not saying God is unknowable . . . I'm saying I
> >>> personally
> >>>>> do
> >>>>>>> not know who or what created this universe or when or why, and I
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> >>> no
> >>>>>>> evidence that anyone else does either, in spite of their fervent
> >>> claims.
> >>>>> I
> >>>>>>> do believe in a higher power which is very exhilarating to feel
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> >>> the
> >>>>>>> word of God, I'm not impressed. I expect better from a supreme
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> >>>>>>> Like the dozens before you, you tell me repeatedly what you
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> >>> a
> >>>>> way
> >>>>>>> that suggests no opposing belief can possibly be true. I know
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> >>> you
> >>>>>>> believe, I've heard it a thousand times over the last 30-some
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> >>>>> What I
> >>>>>>> don't know is WHY you believe it. Because it gives you hope?
> > Because
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> >>>>>>> were desperate for answers and a bible was handy? Because your
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> >>>>>>> believed it? Because you dropped acid and saw Jesus? Because you
> >>>>> happened
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> >>>>>>> Sarah
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> >>>>>>> "DC" <dc@spammersinmaui.com> wrote in message
> > news:44e23a46$1@linux...
> >>>>>>>> "Sarah" <sarahjane@sarahtonin.com> wrote:
> >>>>>>>>> The problem with blind faith is that one risks being blinded by
> >>> faith.
> >>>>>>>>> (Speaking from personal experience).
> >>>>>>>> Faith in God is not blind. What is blind is the choice to call
> > God
> >>>>>>>> unknowable. That is a choice to remain blind, and its source is
> >>>>>>>> solely and admittedly, human. Your assumption is that all views
> > are
> >>>>>>>> human at the source.
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> >>>>>>>> I disagree emphatically.
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> >>>>>>>> Everything prodeeds from one's assumptions. Even considering
> >>>>>>>> that the creator cared enough to send his son to die for us,
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> >>>>>>>> If God is in quotes for you, then why would "god's" opinion
> >>>>>>>> matter? Well it doesn't of course. Survive, don't survive, bake
> >>>>>>>> cookies, bake Jews, who is to say no? Why should anyone care if
> >>>>>>>> they do? All is permitted.
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> >>>>>>>> This is not God's plan for us.
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> >>>>>>>>> "Golden Rule" is not simply a nice idea, it's a very practical
and
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> >>>>>>>> And the greedy dirtbag says "the one with the gold makes the

> >>>>>>>> rules".
> >>>>>>>>
> >>>>>>>> And you disapprove. With only "god" (otherwise known as Sarah's
> >>>>>>>> opinion) to rebut him, why should he care?
> >>>>>>>>
> >>>>>>>>
> >>>>>>>>> As far as speculating on the afterlife, I just don't care. I'm
> > fine
> >>>>> with
> >>>>>>>>> the mystery, in fact, I like a good mystery. Sure, it can be
fun
> > to
> >>>>> say
> >>>>>>>>> "what if this . . . " or "what if that . . . " but let's be
honest
> >>>>> here
> >>>>>>>>> --
> >>>>>>>>> none of us will know until the time comes, and maybe not even
> > then.
> >>>>> And
> >>>>>>>>> I'm
> >>>>>>>>> sorry, but "because the bible tells me so" doesn't work for me.
> >>> It's
> >>>>> just
> >>>>>>>>> stuff that was written by the brighter members of some fairly
> >>> backward
> >>>>>>>>> human
> >>>>>>>>> societies thousands of years ago who may or may not have been
> >>> inspired
> >>>>> by
> >>>>>>>>> a
> >>>>>>>>> supreme being.
> >>>>>>>>> And you cannot see that this is merely your view, not fact.
> >>>>>>>>> It is an assertion that there are no miracles, that God does not
> >>>>>>>>> care if we have a we to know Him or not, that things proceeded in
> >>>>>>>>> the past as they do today, and Jesus' death and resurrection are
> >>>>>>>>> human myths created, as all "god talk" is, by humans to comfort
> >>>>>>>>> themselves...
> >>>>>>>>
> >>>>>>>>> You may not be an atheist, but you accept *all* of their basic
> >>>>>>>>> assumptions about existence.
> >>>>>>>>
> >>>>>>>>
> >>>>>>>>> Meanwhile, back to the original topic: picture 100,000 dead
> > Iraqis
> >>>>>>>>> (conservative estimate). Picture them all together in a pile.
> > What
> >>>>> do

> >>>>>>>> you
> >>>>>>>>> think . . . would it fill a football stadium, like a big bowl of
> >>> brown
> >>>>>>>>> rice?
> >>>>>>>>> I don't know, but now tell me how many of those were terrorists?
> >>> 100?
> >>>>>>>> 500?
> >>>>>>>>> 1000? It doesn't matter does it? Not to those who were
innocent
> >>> and
> >>>>>>>>> their
> >>>>>>>>> families.
> >>>>>>>>>
> >>>>>>>>> Now picture 2500 dead American soldiers and the 62,000 wounded
or
> >>>>> maimed.
> >>>>>>>>> If we were lied into this "war" based on hidden agendas, I can
> > think
> >>>>> of
> >>>>>>>> some
> >>>>>>>>> heads of state whose heads should roll. They probably won't,
but
> >>> it's
> >>>>> a
> >>>>>>>>> nice thought. Picture Bush, Cheney, and Rumsfeld in orange
> >>> jumpsuits
> >>>>> and
> >>>>>>>>> chains . . . ni-i-i-i-i-ice. I feel better.
> >>>>>>>>>
> >>>>>>>>> Sarah
> >>>>>>>> And it is this view that conerns me that we, as a people, are no
> >>>>>>>> longer able to protect freedom. There were innocents killed in
all
> >>>>>>>> wars. This is no different. Would you broadcast from Dresden
> >>>>>>>> or Nagasaki calling for the jailing of Truman? By your rules,
you
> >>>>>>>> would have to.
> >>>>>>>>
> >>>>>>>> We now have a whole generation of people who cannot bring
> > themselves
> >>> to
> >>>>> do
> >>>>>>>> what they must to protect our way of life.
> >>>>>>>> Given that we face the most evil and implacable enemy in many
> >>>>>>>> years, I am not sure that we will retain the freedom that those
> >>>>>>>> WWII vets you admire so much, fought and died for.
> >>>>>>>>
> >>>>>>>> And finally, notice please, not one word of condemnation for the

> >>>>>>>> ghouls and head choppers. Those who would use baby bottles
> >>>>>>>> for binary explosives and die, with their infant in their arms,
to
> >>> kill
> >>>>>>>> some of us. Not one word. This is why you simply are not
> >>>>>>>> convincing me here. It is selective pacifism, pointed only at
> >>>>>>>> Israel and the west and there is no righteousness in it.
> >>>>>>>>
> >>>>>>>> DC
> >>>>>>>>
> >>>>>>>>
> >>>>>>>>
> >>>
> >
> >

Subject: Re: Oh gawd . .
Posted by Deej [1] on Thu, 17 Aug 2006 15:14:20 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

Hi Jamie,

Here's some food for though vis-a-vis the Islamic fundamentalist situation
(as if thgere wasn't enough already).

http://www.iranfocus.com/modules/wfchannel/index.php?pagenum =1

The links relative to women and human rights are pretty grotesque. Yeah, I
realize that there is the Guantanamo thing to counter with (though I don't
buy it personally) and the "well, look at our inhumane laws regarding drug
offenses and racism" argument ("some" of which I definitely do buy) but man,
the Islamic Utopia is in a whole 'nuther league.

"Sure m'am, we've got chardours. What shade of black would you prefer?
Here's something nice to match the color of the revolutionary jackboot."

Regards,

Deej

"Jamie K" <Meta@Dimensional.com> wrote in message news:44e40472@linux...
>
> It's all retaliatory. That's the beauty of the Hatfield/McCoy vicious
cycle.
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> We retaliated against Iraq for 9/11, even though Iraq was not involved
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> No problem, we created a new policy of preemptive retaliation!
> Preemptive retaliation, think about that oxymoron. Very creative. Lots
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> >>>>>>> the mystery, in fact, I like a good mystery. Sure, it can be fun
to
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> >>>>>>> "what if this . . . " or "what if that . . . " but let's be honest
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> >>>>>>> none of us will know until the time comes, and maybe not even
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> >>>>>>> human
> >>>>>>> societies thousands of years ago who may or may not have been
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> >>> by
> >>>>>> a
> >>>>>>> supreme being.
> >>>>>> And you cannot see that this is merely your view, not fact.
> >>>>>> It is an assertion that there are no miracles, that God does not
> >>>>>> care if we have a we to know Him or not, that things proceeded in
> >>>>>> the past as they do today, and Jesus' death and resurrection are
> >>>>>> human myths created, as all "god talk" is, by humans to comfort
> >>>>>> themselves...
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> >>>>>> You may not be an atheist, but you accept *all* of their basic
> >>>>>> assumptions about existence.
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> >>>>>>
> >>>>>>> Meanwhile, back to the original topic: picture 100,000 dead
Iraqis
> >>>>>>> (conservative estimate). Picture them all together in a pile.
What
> >>> do
> >>>>>> you
> >>>>>>> think . . . would it fill a football stadium, like a big bowl of
> > brown
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> >>>>>>> I don't know, but now tell me how many of those were terrorists?
> > 100?
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> > and
> >>>>>>> their
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> >>>>>>> heads of state whose heads should roll. They probably won't, but
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> >>> a
> >>>>>>> nice thought. Picture Bush, Cheney, and Rumsfeld in orange
> > jumpsuits
> >>> and
> >>>>>>> chains . . . ni-i-i-i-i-ice. I feel better.
> >>>>>>>
> >>>>>>> Sarah
> >>>>>> And it is this view that conerns me that we, as a people, are no
> >>>>>> longer able to protect freedom. There were innocents killed in all
> >>>>>> wars. This is no different. Would you broadcast from Dresden
> >>>>>> or Nagasaki calling for the jailing of Truman? By your rules, you
> >>>>>> would have to.
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> >>>>>> We now have a whole generation of people who cannot bring
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> >>>>>> what they must to protect our way of life.
> >>>>>> Given that we face the most evil and implacable enemy in many
> >>>>>> years, I am not sure that we will retain the freedom that those
> >>>>>> WWII vets you admire so much, fought and died for.
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> >>>>>> And finally, notice please, not one word of condemnation for the
> >>>>>> ghouls and head choppers. Those who would use baby bottles
> >>>>>> for binary explosives and die, with their infant in their arms, to
> > kill
> >>>>>> some of us. Not one word. This is why you simply are not
> >>>>>> convincing me here. It is selective pacifism, pointed only at
> >>>>>> Israel and the west and there is no righteousness in it.
> >>>>>>
> >>>>>> DC
> >>>>>>
> >>>>>>
> >>>>>>
> >>>

> >
> >

Subject: Re: Oh gawd . .
Posted by Jamie K on Thu, 17 Aug 2006 15:58:50 GMT
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I am not a fan of dictatorships, theocracies or royalty. So you don't
have to waste any time convincing me on that point. But I'll check out
your link.

I am also not a fan of scapegoating and generalizing to justify war.

I am a fan of freedom, including freedom of religion. Aggressive
self-righteousness by any group is problematic. Too bad it works so well
for empire building. It's certainly something to be aware of in other
countries and especially in our own.

Cheers,
-Jamie
http://www.JamieKrutz.com

DJ wrote:
> Hi Jamie,
>
> Here's some food for though vis-a-vis the Islamic fundamentalist situation
> (as if thgere wasn't enough already).
>
> http://www.iranfocus.com/modules/wfchannel/index.php?pagenum =1
>
> The links relative to women and human rights are pretty grotesque. Yeah, I
> realize that there is the Guantanamo thing to counter with (though I don't
> buy it personally) and the "well, look at our inhumane laws regarding drug
> offenses and racism" argument ("some" of which I definitely do buy) but man,
> the Islamic Utopia is in a whole 'nuther league.
>
> "Sure m'am, we've got chardours. What shade of black would you prefer?
> Here's something nice to match the color of the revolutionary jackboot."
>
> Regards,
>
> Deej
>
> "Jamie K" <Meta@Dimensional.com> wrote in message news:44e40472@linux...
>> It's all retaliatory. That's the beauty of the Hatfield/McCoy vicious
> cycle.
>> We retaliated against Iraq for 9/11, even though Iraq was not involved

>> in the attack.
>>
>> No problem, we created a new policy of preemptive retaliation!
>> Preemptive retaliation, think about that oxymoron. Very creative. Lots
>> of pins dropped when we came up with that one.
>>
>> I dunno Deej. I think your forum was a good step. I suppose some of what
>> you observed there illustrates the challenge we're talking about.
>>
>> Cheers,
>> -Jamie
>> http://www.JamieKrutz.com
>>
>>
>> DJ wrote:
>>>> What about the Muslims already in Durango, what are you gonna do about
>>> them?
>>> Interesting that you should ask. there was recently a forum held at a
> local
>>> church here. there were Christians, Jews, Buddhists, Muslims and
> American
>>> Indians. Things were going nicely until a Jew asked the Muslims whether
> they
>>> would renounce the use of non-retaliatory violence against those of
> other
>>> religions. You could have heard a pin drop for about 10 seconds before
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>>> Muslim gentleman started scooting around like a crawdad.....and he
> never
>>> gave a straight answer.
>>>
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>>> "Jamie K" <Meta@Dimensional.com> wrote in message news:44e3f062@linux...
>>>> Reality is measurable. The nature of reality is often debated. The
>>>> challenge is to accept and respect each other while still allowing for
>>>> disagreement.
>>>>
>>>> Can't let the other go without comment: The bloodletting on the nightly
>>>> news is just a drop in the bucket, we don't see most of it.
>>>>
>>>> Were the Muslims in Saddam's Iraq just about to march over to Durango
> to
>>>> convert your wife? Maybe with all of those WMD the inspectors concluded
>>>> weren't there? Wouldn't work anyway, she'd sic your big dogs on 'em!
>>>>
>>>> What about the Muslims already in Durango, what are you gonna do about
>>> them?
>>>> Maybe the problem isn't Muslims. Maybe the problem is that people with

>>>> little opportunity turn to fanatics for help and hope, and are used and
>>>> manipulated in the process.
>>>>
>>>> I don't know why we turn to fanatics here. Fear?
>>>>
>>>> Muslims, the new, improved "commies." They're in your closet. They're
>>>> after your wife. Vote for me and I'll $$olve the problem!
>>>>
>>>> Cheers,
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>>>> http://www.JamieKrutz.com
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>>>> DJ wrote:
>>>>>> between people who operate from very different assumptions about the
>>>>>> nature of reality.
>>>>> I think reality is pretty cut and dried and is evidenced by the
> nightly
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>>>>> bloodletting. I think the differences are defined in terms of who is
>>>>> justified in killing whom and for what reason. Thing is, I think I'd
>>> rather
>>>>> be dead than be forced to be a mulsim.....and I know my wife would
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>>>>> die.....and she's mean enough to take quite a few with her.
>>>>>
>>>>>
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>>>>> "Jamie K" <Meta@Dimensional.com> wrote in message
> news:44e3ae02@linux...
>>>>>> One of the biggest challenges we face is how to have constructive
>>> dialog
>>>>>> between people who operate from very different assumptions about the
>>>>>> nature of reality.
>>>>>>
>>>>>> Great post, Sarah.
>>>>>>
>>>>>> Cheers,
>>>>>> -Jamie
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>>>>>>
>>>>>> Sarah wrote:
>>>>>>>> (heavy sigh) I'm not sure why I'm continuing with this . . . I
>>> learned
>>>>>>>> years ago you can't argue with a religious person. Yet I feel
>>> compelled
>>>>> to

>>>>>>> make my views clear to you, since you are pretty much consistently
>>> wrong
>>>>> in
>>>>>>> your assumptions about what I'm saying. I think you're still trying
>>> to
>>>>> view
>>>>>>> me as a "type" rather than just as that unique thing I like to call
>>>>> "me."
>>>>>>> First of all, the term "blind faith" is pretty much redundant.
> Faith
>>> is
>>>>>>> essentially, by definition, blind. Faith is "belief that does not
>>> rest
>>>>> on
>>>>>>> logical proof or material evidence." You can have your own
> definition
>>>>> if
>>>>>>> you need to, but that's from the dictionary, and makes sense to me.
>>> If
>>>>> you
>>>>>>> have proof or evidence, it's not longer a belief, is it? I believe
> in
>>>>>>> gravity, even though I can't explain it to you. It's obviously,
>>>>>>> demonstrably, and universally agreeably real.
>>>>>>>
>>>>>>> Second, I am not saying God is unknowable . . . I'm saying I
>>> personally
>>>>> do
>>>>>>> not know who or what created this universe or when or why, and I see
>>> no
>>>>>>> evidence that anyone else does either, in spite of their fervent
>>> claims.
>>>>> I
>>>>>>> do believe in a higher power which is very exhilarating to feel
> truly
>>>>>>> connected to, but the attempts of religion in general to describe
> this
>>>>>>> "supreme being" anthropomorphically just strike me as very
> superficial
>>>>> and
>>>>>>> frankly, kind of childish. I put "God" in quotes because I think
> it's
>>>>> silly
>>>>>>> to try and turn this awesome everpresent life force into a "guy in
> the
>>>>> sky."
>>>>>>> I do not "blind" myself with this point of view. Quite the
> opposite,

>>> my
>>>>>>> mind is wide open to spiritual experience, not limited to ancient
>>> dogma
>>>>> that
>>>>>>> I have no reason to believe.
>>>>>>>
>>>>>>> Which leads me to the real point I was hoping to make in fewer
> words:
>>> I
>>>>>>> have been arguing these ideas with believers since I was 17 (LONG
> time
>>>>> ago),
>>>>>>> and in all that time not ONE of them has given me a REASON to
> believe
>>>>> that
>>>>>>> the bible is anything more than legend, parable, mythology, and a
>>>>> smattering
>>>>>>> of history. I should believe it's the word of God why? Because it
>>>>> claims
>>>>>>> to be? Those are the claims of Roman bishops and other ancient
> human
>>>>> beings
>>>>>>> whose motives and honesty I know nothing about. And if the bible is
>>> the
>>>>>>> word of God, I'm not impressed. I expect better from a supreme
> being.
>>>>>>> Like the dozens before you, you tell me repeatedly what you believe
> in
>>> a
>>>>> way
>>>>>>> that suggests no opposing belief can possibly be true. I know WHAT
>>> you
>>>>>>> believe, I've heard it a thousand times over the last 30-some years.
>>>>> What I
>>>>>>> don't know is WHY you believe it. Because it gives you hope?
> Because
>>>>> you
>>>>>>> were desperate for answers and a bible was handy? Because your
>>> parents
>>>>>>> believed it? Because you dropped acid and saw Jesus? Because you
>>>>> happened
>>>>>>> to be born here rather than India or Iran? And if you had been born
>>> in
>>>>>>> India or Iran, would you be just as fervently Hindu or Muslim?
>>>>>>>
>>>>>>> Nor has anyone ever been able to explain the logic in a supposedly
>>>>>>> omnipotent being sending his son to die for our sins. How does this
>>>>> make

>>>>>>> any sense? Isn't it more likely that Jesus simply became enough of
> a
>>>>> threat
>>>>>>> to the Romans and the Jewish heirarchy that they decided to kill
> him?
>>>>>>> You speak a lot about assumptions. OK, here's one you seem to share
>>> with
>>>>>>> other believers that drives me nuts: without God there is no right
> or
>>>>>>> wrong. This is such nonsense. One does not need to believe in God,
>>>>> Heaven,
>>>>>>> or Hell to know the difference between right and wrong and to behave
>>>>>>> accordingly. "A man's ethical behavior should be based effectually
>>> on
>>>>>>> sympathy, education, and social ties and needs; no religious basis
> is
>>>>>>> necessary. Man would indeed be in a poor way if he had to be
>>> restrained
>>>>> by
>>>>>>> fear of punishment and hope of reward after death." - Albert
> Einstein
>>>>>>> And finally, I didn't mention "ghouls and head choppers" because the
>>>>> evil of
>>>>>>> "ghouls and head choppers" is not in dispute. I'm concerned about
>>> what
>>>>> has
>>>>>>> been done and is being done in my name as an American, because I
>>> believe
>>>>>>> that to also be evil and I'm just a little more than worried about
> the
>>>>>>> potential consequences of this.
>>>>>>>
>>>>>>> But I have to be honest . . . I feel like I just wasted another hour
>>>>> that I
>>>>>>> could have been catching up on sleep in. I should have learned by
> now
>>>>> that
>>>>>>> the more you challenge fixed beliefs, the harder the believer clings
>>> to
>>>>>>> them. You are of course free to believe what you want, but again,
>>>>> beliefs
>>>>>>> are by definition unproven, and therefore someone else's beliefs are
>>> not
>>>>>>> wrong simply because they contradict yours.
>>>>>>>
>>>>>>> OK, I mean it this time . . . I give up.
>>>>>>>
>>>>>>> Sarah

>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>
>>>>>>> "DC" <dc@spammersinmaui.com> wrote in message
> news:44e23a46$1@linux...
>>>>>>>> "Sarah" <sarahjane@sarahtonin.com> wrote:
>>>>>>>>> The problem with blind faith is that one risks being blinded by
>>> faith.
>>>>>>>>> (Speaking from personal experience).
>>>>>>>> Faith in God is not blind. What is blind is the choice to call
> God
>>>>>>>> unknowable. That is a choice to remain blind, and its source is
>>>>>>>> solely and admittedly, human. Your assumption is that all views
> are
>>>>>>>> human at the source.
>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>> I disagree emphatically.
>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>> Everything prodeeds from one's assumptions. Even considering
>>>>>>>> that the creator cared enough to send his son to die for us,
>>>>>>>> changes the whole world. Scary huh?
>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>>> Perhaps the only thing "God" ever said to us was "Survive!" and
> then
>>>>> left
>>>>>>>> it
>>>>>>>>> up to us to figure out that cooperation works better than
>>> competition.
>>>>>>>> If God is in quotes for you, then why would "god's" opinion
>>>>>>>> matter? Well it doesn't of course. Survive, don't survive, bake
>>>>>>>> cookies, bake Jews, who is to say no? Why should anyone care if
>>>>>>>> they do? All is permitted.
>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>> This is not God's plan for us.
>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>>> The
>>>>>>>>> "Golden Rule" is not simply a nice idea, it's a very practical and
>>>>>>>>> effective
>>>>>>>>> way to live peacefully with our fellow humans.
>>>>>>>> And the greedy dirtbag says "the one with the gold makes the
>>>>>>>> rules".
>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>> And you disapprove. With only "god" (otherwise known as Sarah's
>>>>>>>> opinion) to rebut him, why should he care?
>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>>> As far as speculating on the afterlife, I just don't care. I'm

> fine
>>>>> with
>>>>>>>>> the mystery, in fact, I like a good mystery. Sure, it can be fun
> to
>>>>> say
>>>>>>>>> "what if this . . . " or "what if that . . . " but let's be honest
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>>>>>>>> themselves...
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>>>>>>>> You may not be an atheist, but you accept *all* of their basic
>>>>>>>> assumptions about existence.
>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>>> Meanwhile, back to the original topic: picture 100,000 dead
> Iraqis
>>>>>>>>> (conservative estimate). Picture them all together in a pile.
> What
>>>>> do
>>>>>>>> you
>>>>>>>>> think . . . would it fill a football stadium, like a big bowl of
>>> brown
>>>>>>>>> rice?
>>>>>>>>> I don't know, but now tell me how many of those were terrorists?
>>> 100?
>>>>>>>> 500?
>>>>>>>>> 1000? It doesn't matter does it? Not to those who were innocent
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>>>>>>>>> Now picture 2500 dead American soldiers and the 62,000 wounded or
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>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>> DC
>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>>
>>>
>
>

Subject: Re: Oh gawd . .
Posted by Jamie K on Thu, 17 Aug 2006 15:58:55 GMT
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Yes I did answer your question. Islam CAN spread without conquest, we see it right here in the USA.

So if your point is that it cannot spread with conquest, yes it can and I gave an example.

On the flip side, Christianity and other religions can and have spread via conquest. So Islam is not alone in being spread by conquest and being spread without conquest.

You can argue degrees over history but you can't make a blanket statement that Islam (or Christianity) is only spread through conquest.

And although it clearly has at times been spread via conquest, you can't accurately claim that Islam is the only religion to ever be spread through conquest. You have to look at the larger issue of conquest and religions overall. Or conquest and enforced atheism, for that matter.

I think the important difference today is that we have a special country that guarantees freedom of religion. So you can be an atheist and I can be Islamic. Or I can be Baptist and you can be Unitarian. I can be Branch Davidian Reformed and you can be Pagan. I can be MAC-IAN and you can be MICROSOFT-IAN (oops, wrong religious debate... ;^)

One of the biggest challenges we face, back to my point again, is how to have constructive dialog between people who operate from very different assumptions about the nature of reality.

I think Jefferson had it right. Let people freely choose their religious affiliations, and keep any one religion from being the official religion. This requires a tolerance for freedom that sometimes bothers the more aggressively self-righteous sects but it keeps them from shooting at each other.

Cheers,
-Jamie
http://www.JamieKrutz.com

DJ wrote:
> But you still didn't answer my question. Can you name even one? Yes, there
> are examples of Chiristianity being spread by conquest, but there are also
> many examples where it wasn't. In this country, people can practice any
> religion they want. Is that true in countries that are Muslim theocracies?
> Can you name even one?

>
> Deej
>
> "Jamie K" <Meta@Dimensional.com> wrote in message news:44e47542@linux...
>> How about Hinduism? Sikhism? Buddhism?
>>
>> People have converted to Islam right here in the USA. I don't think
>> we've been conquered by anyone lately (aside from the neo-con takeover
>> still in progress, maybe neo-cons are secretly Islamic? ;^)
>>
>> I will grant you that conquering and spreading religious doctrine have
>> gone hand in hand in the past, notably by various Islamic AND Christian
>> sects. You start mixing religion and government and that's what you get.
>> Religion becomes a tool of empire.
>>
>> I'm with Jefferson on this one.
>>
>> Cheers,
>> -Jamie
>> http://www.JamieKrutz.com
>>
>>
>> DJ wrote:
>>> Jamie,
>>>
>>> Can you name even one instance wherein a population becaume Muslim by
> any
>>> means other than military conquest?
>>>
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>>>> It's all retaliatory. That's the beauty of the Hatfield/McCoy vicious
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>>>> We retaliated against Iraq for 9/11, even though Iraq was not involved
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>>>> No problem, we created a new policy of preemptive retaliation!
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>>>>>>>>> the bible is anything more than legend, parable, mythology, and a
>>>>>>> smattering
>>>>>>>>> of history. I should believe it's the word of God why? Because
> it
>>>>>>> claims
>>>>>>>>> to be? Those are the claims of Roman bishops and other ancient
>>> human
>>>>>>> beings
>>>>>>>>> whose motives and honesty I know nothing about. And if the bible
> is
>>>>> the
>>>>>>>>> word of God, I'm not impressed. I expect better from a supreme
>>> being.
>>>>>>>>> Like the dozens before you, you tell me repeatedly what you
> believe
>>> in
>>>>> a
>>>>>>> way
>>>>>>>>> that suggests no opposing belief can possibly be true. I know
> WHAT
>>>>> you
>>>>>>>>> believe, I've heard it a thousand times over the last 30-some
> years.
>>>>>>> What I
>>>>>>>>> don't know is WHY you believe it. Because it gives you hope?
>>> Because
>>>>>>> you
>>>>>>>>> were desperate for answers and a bible was handy? Because your

>>>>> parents
>>>>>>>>> believed it? Because you dropped acid and saw Jesus? Because you
>>>>>>> happened
>>>>>>>>> to be born here rather than India or Iran? And if you had been
> born
>>>>> in
>>>>>>>>> India or Iran, would you be just as fervently Hindu or Muslim?
>>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>>> Nor has anyone ever been able to explain the logic in a supposedly
>>>>>>>>> omnipotent being sending his son to die for our sins. How does
> this
>>>>>>> make
>>>>>>>>> any sense? Isn't it more likely that Jesus simply became enough
> of
>>> a
>>>>>>> threat
>>>>>>>>> to the Romans and the Jewish heirarchy that they decided to kill
>>> him?
>>>>>>>>> You speak a lot about assumptions. OK, here's one you seem to
> share
>>>>> with
>>>>>>>>> other believers that drives me nuts: without God there is no
> right
>>> or
>>>>>>>>> wrong. This is such nonsense. One does not need to believe in
> God,
>>>>>>> Heaven,
>>>>>>>>> or Hell to know the difference between right and wrong and to
> behave
>>>>>>>>> accordingly. "A man's ethical behavior should be based
> effectually
>>>>> on
>>>>>>>>> sympathy, education, and social ties and needs; no religious basis
>>> is
>>>>>>>>> necessary. Man would indeed be in a poor way if he had to be
>>>>> restrained
>>>>>>> by
>>>>>>>>> fear of punishment and hope of reward after death." - Albert
>>> Einstein
>>>>>>>>> And finally, I didn't mention "ghouls and head choppers" because
> the
>>>>>>> evil of
>>>>>>>>> "ghouls and head choppers" is not in dispute. I'm concerned about
>>>>> what
>>>>>>> has
>>>>>>>>> been done and is being done in my name as an American, because I
>>>>> believe
>>>>>>>>> that to also be evil and I'm just a little more than worried about

>>> the
>>>>>>>>> potential consequences of this.
>>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>>> But I have to be honest . . . I feel like I just wasted another
> hour
>>>>>>> that I
>>>>>>>>> could have been catching up on sleep in. I should have learned by
>>> now
>>>>>>> that
>>>>>>>>> the more you challenge fixed beliefs, the harder the believer
> clings
>>>>> to
>>>>>>>>> them. You are of course free to believe what you want, but again,
>>>>>>> beliefs
>>>>>>>>> are by definition unproven, and therefore someone else's beliefs
> are
>>>>> not
>>>>>>>>> wrong simply because they contradict yours.
>>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>>> OK, I mean it this time . . . I give up.
>>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>>> Sarah
>>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>>> "DC" <dc@spammersinmaui.com> wrote in message
>>> news:44e23a46$1@linux...
>>>>>>>>>> "Sarah" <sarahjane@sarahtonin.com> wrote:
>>>>>>>>>>> The problem with blind faith is that one risks being blinded by
>>>>> faith.
>>>>>>>>>>> (Speaking from personal experience).
>>>>>>>>>> Faith in God is not blind. What is blind is the choice to call
>>> God
>>>>>>>>>> unknowable. That is a choice to remain blind, and its source is
>>>>>>>>>> solely and admittedly, human. Your assumption is that all views
>>> are
>>>>>>>>>> human at the source.
>>>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>>>> I disagree emphatically.
>>>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>>>> Everything prodeeds from one's assumptions. Even considering
>>>>>>>>>> that the creator cared enough to send his son to die for us,
>>>>>>>>>> changes the whole world. Scary huh?
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>>>>>>>>>>> Perhaps the only thing "God" ever said to us was "Survive!" and
>>> then
>>>>>>> left
>>>>>>>>>> it

>>>>>>>>>>> up to us to figure out that cooperation works better than
>>>>> competition.
>>>>>>>>>> If God is in quotes for you, then why would "god's" opinion
>>>>>>>>>> matter? Well it doesn't of course. Survive, don't survive, bake
>>>>>>>>>> cookies, bake Jews, who is to say no? Why should anyone care if
>>>>>>>>>> they do? All is permitted.
>>>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>>>> This is not God's plan for us.
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>>>>>>>>>>> The
>>>>>>>>>>> "Golden Rule" is not simply a nice idea, it's a very practical
> and
>>>>>>>>>>> effective
>>>>>>>>>>> way to live peacefully with our fellow humans.
>>>>>>>>>> And the greedy dirtbag says "the one with the gold makes the
>>>>>>>>>> rules".
>>>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>>>> And you disapprove. With only "god" (otherwise known as Sarah's
>>>>>>>>>> opinion) to rebut him, why should he care?
>>>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>>>>> As far as speculating on the afterlife, I just don't care. I'm
>>> fine
>>>>>>> with
>>>>>>>>>>> the mystery, in fact, I like a good mystery. Sure, it can be
> fun
>>> to
>>>>>>> say
>>>>>>>>>>> "what if this . . . " or "what if that . . . " but let's be
> honest
>>>>>>> here
>>>>>>>>>> --
>>>>>>>>>>> none of us will know until the time comes, and maybe not even
>>> then.
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>>>>>>> just
>>>>>>>>>>> stuff that was written by the brighter members of some fairly
>>>>> backward
>>>>>>>>>>> human
>>>>>>>>>>> societies thousands of years ago who may or may not have been
>>>>> inspired
>>>>>>> by
>>>>>>>>>> a
>>>>>>>>>>> supreme being.

>>>>>>>>>> And you cannot see that this is merely your view, not fact.
>>>>>>>>>> It is an assertion that there are no miracles, that God does not
>>>>>>>>>> care if we have a we to know Him or not, that things proceeded in
>>>>>>>>>> the past as they do today, and Jesus' death and resurrection are
>>>>>>>>>> human myths created, as all "god talk" is, by humans to comfort
>>>>>>>>>> themselves...
>>>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>>>> You may not be an atheist, but you accept *all* of their basic
>>>>>>>>>> assumptions about existence.
>>>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>>>>>> Meanwhile, back to the original topic: picture 100,000 dead
>>> Iraqis
>>>>>>>>>>> (conservative estimate). Picture them all together in a pile.
>>> What
>>>>>>> do
>>>>>>>>>> you
>>>>>>>>>>> think . . . would it fill a football stadium, like a big bowl of
>>>>> brown
>>>>>>>>>>> rice?
>>>>>>>>>>> I don't know, but now tell me how many of those were terrorists?
>>>>> 100?
>>>>>>>>>> 500?
>>>>>>>>>>> 1000? It doesn't matter does it? Not to those who were
> innocent
>>>>> and
>>>>>>>>>>> their
>>>>>>>>>>> families.
>>>>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>>>>> Now picture 2500 dead American soldiers and the 62,000 wounded
> or
>>>>>>> maimed.
>>>>>>>>>>> If we were lied into this "war" based on hidden agendas, I can
>>> think
>>>>>>> of
>>>>>>>>>> some
>>>>>>>>>>> heads of state whose heads should roll. They probably won't,
> but
>>>>> it's
>>>>>>> a
>>>>>>>>>>> nice thought. Picture Bush, Cheney, and Rumsfeld in orange
>>>>> jumpsuits
>>>>>>> and
>>>>>>>>>>> chains . . . ni-i-i-i-i-ice. I feel better.
>>>>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>>>>> Sarah
>>>>>>>>>> And it is this view that conerns me that we, as a people, are no
>>>>>>>>>> longer able to protect freedom. There were innocents killed in

> all
>>>>>>>>>> wars. This is no different. Would you broadcast from Dresden
>>>>>>>>>> or Nagasaki calling for the jailing of Truman? By your rules,
> you
>>>>>>>>>> would have to.
>>>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>>>> We now have a whole generation of people who cannot bring
>>> themselves
>>>>> to
>>>>>>> do
>>>>>>>>>> what they must to protect our way of life.
>>>>>>>>>> Given that we face the most evil and implacable enemy in many
>>>>>>>>>> years, I am not sure that we will retain the freedom that those
>>>>>>>>>> WWII vets you admire so much, fought and died for.
>>>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>>>> And finally, notice please, not one word of condemnation for the
>>>>>>>>>> ghouls and head choppers. Those who would use baby bottles
>>>>>>>>>> for binary explosives and die, with their infant in their arms,
> to
>>>>> kill
>>>>>>>>>> some of us. Not one word. This is why you simply are not
>>>>>>>>>> convincing me here. It is selective pacifism, pointed only at
>>>>>>>>>> Israel and the west and there is no righteousness in it.
>>>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>>>> DC
>>>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>>>>
>>>
>
>

Subject: Re: Oh gawd . .
Posted by Deej [1] on Thu, 17 Aug 2006 16:03:31 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

I doubt very seriously that this country is going to become an Islamic
theocracy without just a little conflits here and there.

"Jamie K" <Meta@Dimensional.com> wrote in message news:44e490b7@linux...
>
> Yes I did answer your question. Islam CAN spread without conquest, we
> see it right here in the USA.
>
> So if your point is that it cannot spread with conquest, yes it can and
> I gave an example.
>

> On the flip side, Christianity and other religions can and have spread
> via conquest. So Islam is not alone in being spread by conquest and
> being spread without conquest.
>
> You can argue degrees over history but you can't make a blanket
> statement that Islam (or Christianity) is only spread through conquest.
>
> And although it clearly has at times been spread via conquest, you can't
> accurately claim that Islam is the only religion to ever be spread
> through conquest. You have to look at the larger issue of conquest and
> religions overall. Or conquest and enforced atheism, for that matter.
>
> I think the important difference today is that we have a special country
> that guarantees freedom of religion. So you can be an atheist and I can
> be Islamic. Or I can be Baptist and you can be Unitarian. I can be
> Branch Davidian Reformed and you can be Pagan. I can be MAC-IAN and you
> can be MICROSOFT-IAN (oops, wrong religious debate... ;^)
>
> One of the biggest challenges we face, back to my point again, is how to
> have constructive dialog between people who operate from very different
> assumptions about the nature of reality.
>
> I think Jefferson had it right. Let people freely choose their religious
> affiliations, and keep any one religion from being the official
> religion. This requires a tolerance for freedom that sometimes bothers
> the more aggressively self-righteous sects but it keeps them from
> shooting at each other.
>
> Cheers,
> -Jamie
> http://www.JamieKrutz.com
>
>
> DJ wrote:
> > But you still didn't answer my question. Can you name even one? Yes,
there
> > are examples of Chiristianity being spread by conquest, but there are
also
> > many examples where it wasn't. In this country, people can practice any
> > religion they want. Is that true in countries that are Muslim
theocracies?
> > Can you name even one?
> >
> > Deej
> >
> > "Jamie K" <Meta@Dimensional.com> wrote in message news:44e47542@linux...
> >> How about Hinduism? Sikhism? Buddhism?
> >>

> >> People have converted to Islam right here in the USA. I don't think
> >> we've been conquered by anyone lately (aside from the neo-con takeover
> >> still in progress, maybe neo-cons are secretly Islamic? ;^)
> >>
> >> I will grant you that conquering and spreading religious doctrine have
> >> gone hand in hand in the past, notably by various Islamic AND Christian
> >> sects. You start mixing religion and government and that's what you
get.
> >> Religion becomes a tool of empire.
> >>
> >> I'm with Jefferson on this one.
> >>
> >> Cheers,
> >> -Jamie
> >> http://www.JamieKrutz.com
> >>
> >>
> >> DJ wrote:
> >>> Jamie,
> >>>
> >>> Can you name even one instance wherein a population becaume Muslim by
> > any
> >>> means other than military conquest?
> >>>
> >>> Deej
> >>>
> >>> "Jamie K" <Meta@Dimensional.com> wrote in message
news:44e40472@linux...
> >>>> It's all retaliatory. That's the beauty of the Hatfield/McCoy vicious
> >>> cycle.
> >>>> We retaliated against Iraq for 9/11, even though Iraq was not
involved
> >>>> in the attack.
> >>>>
> >>>> No problem, we created a new policy of preemptive retaliation!
> >>>> Preemptive retaliation, think about that oxymoron. Very creative.
Lots
> >>>> of pins dropped when we came up with that one.
> >>>>
> >>>> I dunno Deej. I think your forum was a good step. I suppose some of
> > what
> >>>> you observed there illustrates the challenge we're talking about.
> >>>>
> >>>> Cheers,
> >>>> -Jamie
> >>>> http://www.JamieKrutz.com
> >>>>
> >>>>

> >>>> DJ wrote:
> >>>>>> What about the Muslims already in Durango, what are you gonna do
> > about
> >>>>> them?
> >>>>> Interesting that you should ask. there was recently a forum held at
a
> >>> local
> >>>>> church here. there were Christians, Jews, Buddhists, Muslims and
> >>> American
> >>>>> Indians. Things were going nicely until a Jew asked the Muslims
> > whether
> >>> they
> >>>>> would renounce the use of non-retaliatory violence against those of
> >>> other
> >>>>> religions. You could have heard a pin drop for about 10 seconds
before
> >>> the
> >>>>> Muslim gentleman started scooting around like a crawdad.....and
he
> >>> never
> >>>>> gave a straight answer.
> >>>>>
> >>>>>
> >>>>> "Jamie K" <Meta@Dimensional.com> wrote in message
> > news:44e3f062@linux...
> >>>>>> Reality is measurable. The nature of reality is often debated. The
> >>>>>> challenge is to accept and respect each other while still allowing
> > for
> >>>>>> disagreement.
> >>>>>>
> >>>>>> Can't let the other go without comment: The bloodletting on the
> > nightly
> >>>>>> news is just a drop in the bucket, we don't see most of it.
> >>>>>>
> >>>>>> Were the Muslims in Saddam's Iraq just about to march over to
Durango
> >>> to
> >>>>>> convert your wife? Maybe with all of those WMD the inspectors
> > concluded
> >>>>>> weren't there? Wouldn't work anyway, she'd sic your big dogs on
'em!
> >>>>>>
> >>>>>> What about the Muslims already in Durango, what are you gonna do
> > about
> >>>>> them?
> >>>>>> Maybe the problem isn't Muslims. Maybe the problem is that people
> > with
> >>>>>> little opportunity turn to fanatics for help and hope, and are used

> > and
> >>>>>> manipulated in the process.
> >>>>>>
> >>>>>> I don't know why we turn to fanatics here. Fear?
> >>>>>>
> >>>>>> Muslims, the new, improved "commies." They're in your closet.
They're
> >>>>>> after your wife. Vote for me and I'll $$olve the problem!
> >>>>>>
> >>>>>> Cheers,
> >>>>>> -Jamie
> >>>>>> http://www.JamieKrutz.com
> >>>>>>
> >>>>>>
> >>>>>> DJ wrote:
> >>>>>>>>> between people who operate from very different assumptions about
> > the
> >>>>>>>>> nature of reality.
> >>>>>>>> I think reality is pretty cut and dried and is evidenced by the
> >>> nightly
> >>>>> news
> >>>>>>> bloodletting. I think the differences are defined in terms of who
is
> >>>>>>> justified in killing whom and for what reason. Thing is, I think
I'd
> >>>>> rather
> >>>>>>> be dead than be forced to be a mulsim.....and I know my wife
> > would
> >>>>> rather
> >>>>>>> die.....and she's mean enough to take quite a few with her.
> >>>>>>>
> >>>>>>>
> >>>>>>>
> >>>>>>> "Jamie K" <Meta@Dimensional.com> wrote in message
> >>> news:44e3ae02@linux...
> >>>>>>>>> One of the biggest challenges we face is how to have constructive
> >>>>> dialog
> >>>>>>>>> between people who operate from very different assumptions about
> > the
> >>>>>>>>> nature of reality.
> >>>>>>>>>
> >>>>>>>>> Great post, Sarah.
> >>>>>>>>>
> >>>>>>>>> Cheers,
> >>>>>>>>> -Jamie
> >>>>>>>>> http://www.JamieKrutz.com
> >>>>>>>>>
> >>>>>>>>>

> >>>>>>>> Sarah wrote:
> >>>>>>>>> (heavy sigh) I'm not sure why I'm continuing with this . . . I
> >>>>> learned
> >>>>>>>>> years ago you can't argue with a religious person. Yet I feel
> >>>>> compelled
> >>>>>>> to
> >>>>>>>>> make my views clear to you, since you are pretty much
consistently
> >>>>> wrong
> >>>>>>> in
> >>>>>>>>> your assumptions about what I'm saying. I think you're still
> > trying
> >>>>> to
> >>>>>>> view
> >>>>>>>>> me as a "type" rather than just as that unique thing I like to
> > call
> >>>>>>> "me."
> >>>>>>>>> First of all, the term "blind faith" is pretty much redundant.
> >>> Faith
> >>>>> is
> >>>>>>>>> essentially, by definition, blind. Faith is "belief that does
not
> >>>>> rest
> >>>>>>> on
> >>>>>>>>> logical proof or material evidence." You can have your own
> >>> definition
> >>>>>>> if
> >>>>>>>>> you need to, but that's from the dictionary, and makes sense to

> > me.
> >>>>> If
> >>>>>>> you
> >>>>>>>>> have proof or evidence, it's not longer a belief, is it? I
> > believe
> >>> in
> >>>>>>>>> gravity, even though I can't explain it to you. It's obviously,
> >>>>>>>>> demonstrably, and universally agreeably real.
> >>>>>>>>>
> >>>>>>>>> Second, I am not saying God is unknowable . . . I'm saying I
> >>>>> personally
> >>>>>>> do
> >>>>>>>>> not know who or what created this universe or when or why, and I
> > see
> >>>>> no
> >>>>>>>>> evidence that anyone else does either, in spite of their fervent
> >>>>> claims.
> >>>>>>> I
> >>>>>>>>> do believe in a higher power which is very exhilarating to feel

> >>> truly
> >>>>>>>>> connected to, but the attempts of religion in general to
describe
> >>> this
> >>>>>>>>> "supreme being" anthropomorphically just strike me as very
> >>> superficial
> >>>>>>> and
> >>>>>>>>> frankly, kind of childish. I put "God" in quotes because I
think
> >>> it's
> >>>>>>> silly
> >>>>>>>>> to try and turn this awesome everpresent life force into a "guy
in
> >>> the
> >>>>>>> sky."
> >>>>>>>>> I do not "blind" myself with this point of view. Quite the
> >>> opposite,
> >>>>> my
> >>>>>>>>> mind is wide open to spiritual experience, not limited to
ancient
> >>>>> dogma
> >>>>>>> that
> >>>>>>>>> I have no reason to believe.
> >>>>>>>>>
> >>>>>>>>> Which leads me to the real point I was hoping to make in fewer
> >>> words:
> >>>>> I
> >>>>>>>>> have been arguing these ideas with believers since I was 17
(LONG
> >>> time
> >>>>>>> ago),
> >>>>>>>>> and in all that time not ONE of them has given me a REASON to
> >>> believe
> >>>>>>> that
> >>>>>>>>> the bible is anything more than legend, parable, mythology, and
a
> >>>>>>> smattering
> >>>>>>>>> of history. I should believe it's the word of God why? Because
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> >>>>> jumpsuits
> >>>>>>> and
> >>>>>>>>>>> chains . . . ni-i-i-i-i-ice. I feel better.
> >>>>>>>>>>>
> >>>>>>>>>>> Sarah
> >>>>>>>>>> And it is this view that conerns me that we, as a people, are
no
> >>>>>>>>>> longer able to protect freedom. There were innocents killed in
> > all
> >>>>>>>>>> wars. This is no different. Would you broadcast from
Dresden
> >>>>>>>>>> or Nagasaki calling for the jailing of Truman? By your rules,
> > you
> >>>>>>>>>> would have to.
> >>>>>>>>>>
> >>>>>>>>>> We now have a whole generation of people who cannot bring
> >>> themselves

> >>>>> to
> >>>>>>> do
> >>>>>>>>>> what they must to protect our way of life.
> >>>>>>>>>> Given that we face the most evil and implacable enemy in many
> >>>>>>>>>> years, I am not sure that we will retain the freedom that those
> >>>>>>>>>> WWII vets you admire so much, fought and died for.
> >>>>>>>>>>
> >>>>>>>>>> And finally, notice please, not one word of condemnation for
the
> >>>>>>>>>> ghouls and head choppers. Those who would use baby bottles
> >>>>>>>>>> for binary explosives and die, with their infant in their arms,
> > to
> >>>>> kill
> >>>>>>>>>> some of us. Not one word. This is why you simply are not
> >>>>>>>>>> convincing me here. It is selective pacifism, pointed only at
> >>>>>>>>>> Israel and the west and there is no righteousness in it.
> >>>>>>>>>>
> >>>>>>>>>> DC
> >>>>>>>>>>
> >>>>>>>>>>
> >>>>>>>>>>
> >>>
> >
> >

Subject: Re: Oh gawd . .
Posted by Deej [1] on Thu, 17 Aug 2006 16:19:11 GMT
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Are Christians doing this to former Christians who decide to convert to
Islam?

http://www.iranfocus.com/modules/news/article.php?storyid=82 16

"Jamie K" <Meta@Dimensional.com> wrote in message news:44e490b1@linux...
>
> I am not a fan of dictatorships, theocracies or royalty. So you don't
> have to waste any time convincing me on that point. But I'll check out
> your link.
>
> I am also not a fan of scapegoating and generalizing to justify war.
>
> I am a fan of freedom, including freedom of religion. Aggressive
> self-righteousness by any group is problematic. Too bad it works so well
> for empire building. It's certainly something to be aware of in other
> countries and especially in our own.

>
> Cheers,
> -Jamie
> http://www.JamieKrutz.com
>
> DJ wrote:
> > Hi Jamie,
> >
> > Here's some food for though vis-a-vis the Islamic fundamentalist
situation
> > (as if thgere wasn't enough already).
> >
> > http://www.iranfocus.com/modules/wfchannel/index.php?pagenum =1
> >
> > The links relative to women and human rights are pretty grotesque. Yeah,
I
> > realize that there is the Guantanamo thing to counter with (though I
don't
> > buy it personally) and the "well, look at our inhumane laws regarding
drug
> > offenses and racism" argument ("some" of which I definitely do buy) but
man,
> > the Islamic Utopia is in a whole 'nuther league.
> >
> > "Sure m'am, we've got chardours. What shade of black would you prefer?
> > Here's something nice to match the color of the revolutionary jackboot."
> >
> > Regards,
> >
> > Deej
> >
> > "Jamie K" <Meta@Dimensional.com> wrote in message news:44e40472@linux...
> >> It's all retaliatory. That's the beauty of the Hatfield/McCoy vicious
> > cycle.
> >> We retaliated against Iraq for 9/11, even though Iraq was not involved
> >> in the attack.
> >>
> >> No problem, we created a new policy of preemptive retaliation!
> >> Preemptive retaliation, think about that oxymoron. Very creative. Lots
> >> of pins dropped when we came up with that one.
> >>
> >> I dunno Deej. I think your forum was a good step. I suppose some of
what
> >> you observed there illustrates the challenge we're talking about.
> >>
> >> Cheers,
> >> -Jamie
> >> http://www.JamieKrutz.com

> >>
> >>
> >> DJ wrote:
> >>>> What about the Muslims already in Durango, what are you gonna do
about
> >>> them?
> >>> Interesting that you should ask. there was recently a forum held at a
> > local
> >>> church here. there were Christians, Jews, Buddhists, Muslims and
> > American
> >>> Indians. Things were going nicely until a Jew asked the Muslims
whether
> > they
> >>> would renounce the use of non-retaliatory violence against those of
> > other
> >>> religions. You could have heard a pin drop for about 10 seconds before
> > the
> >>> Muslim gentleman started scooting around like a crawdad.....and he
> > never
> >>> gave a straight answer.
> >>>
> >>>
> >>> "Jamie K" <Meta@Dimensional.com> wrote in message
news:44e3f062@linux...
> >>>> Reality is measurable. The nature of reality is often debated. The
> >>>> challenge is to accept and respect each other while still allowing
for
> >>>> disagreement.
> >>>>
> >>>> Can't let the other go without comment: The bloodletting on the
nightly
> >>>> news is just a drop in the bucket, we don't see most of it.
> >>>>
> >>>> Were the Muslims in Saddam's Iraq just about to march over to Durango
> > to
> >>>> convert your wife? Maybe with all of those WMD the inspectors
concluded
> >>>> weren't there? Wouldn't work anyway, she'd sic your big dogs on 'em!
> >>>>
> >>>> What about the Muslims already in Durango, what are you gonna do
about
> >>> them?
> >>>> Maybe the problem isn't Muslims. Maybe the problem is that people
with
> >>>> little opportunity turn to fanatics for help and hope, and are used
and
> >>>> manipulated in the process.
> >>>>

> >>>> I don't know why we turn to fanatics here. Fear?
> >>>>
> >>>> Muslims, the new, improved "commies." They're in your closet. They're
> >>>> after your wife. Vote for me and I'll $$olve the problem!
> >>>>
> >>>> Cheers,
> >>>> -Jamie
> >>>> http://www.JamieKrutz.com
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> >>>>
> >>>> DJ wrote:
> >>>>>> between people who operate from very different assumptions about
the
> >>>>>> nature of reality.
> >>>>> I think reality is pretty cut and dried and is evidenced by the
> > nightly
> >>> news
> >>>>> bloodletting. I think the differences are defined in terms of who is
> >>>>> justified in killing whom and for what reason. Thing is, I think I'd
> >>> rather
> >>>>> be dead than be forced to be a mulsim.....and I know my wife
would
> >>> rather
> >>>>> die.....and she's mean enough to take quite a few with her.
> >>>>>
> >>>>>
> >>>>>
> >>>>> "Jamie K" <Meta@Dimensional.com> wrote in message
> > news:44e3ae02@linux...
> >>>>>> One of the biggest challenges we face is how to have constructive
> >>> dialog
> >>>>>> between people who operate from very different assumptions about
the
> >>>>>> nature of reality.
> >>>>>>
> >>>>>> Great post, Sarah.
> >>>>>>
> >>>>>> Cheers,
> >>>>>> -Jamie
> >>>>>> http://www.JamieKrutz.com
> >>>>>>
> >>>>>>
> >>>>>> Sarah wrote:
> >>>>>>> (heavy sigh) I'm not sure why I'm continuing with this . . . I
> >>> learned
> >>>>>>> years ago you can't argue with a religious person. Yet I feel
> >>> compelled
> >>>>> to

> >>>>>>> make my views clear to you, since you are pretty much consistently
> >>> wrong
> >>>>> in
> >>>>>>> your assumptions about what I'm saying. I think you're still
trying
> >>> to
> >>>>> view
> >>>>>>> me as a "type" rather than just as that unique thing I like to
call
> >>>>> "me."
> >>>>>>> First of all, the term "blind faith" is pretty much redundant.
> > Faith
> >>> is
> >>>>>>> essentially, by definition, blind. Faith is "belief that does not
> >>> rest
> >>>>> on
> >>>>>>> logical proof or material evidence." You can have your own
> > definition
> >>>>> if
> >>>>>>> you need to, but that's from the dictionary, and makes sense to
me.
> >>> If
> >>>>> you
> >>>>>>> have proof or evidence, it's not longer a belief, is it? I
believe
> > in
> >>>>>>> gravity, even though I can't explain it to you. It's obviously,
> >>>>>>> demonstrably, and universally agreeably real.
> >>>>>>>
> >>>>>>> Second, I am not saying God is unknowable . . . I'm saying I
> >>> personally
> >>>>> do
> >>>>>>> not know who or what created this universe or when or why, and I
see
> >>> no
> >>>>>>> evidence that anyone else does either, in spite of their fervent
> >>> claims.
> >>>>> I
> >>>>>>> do believe in a higher power which is very exhilarating to feel
> > truly
> >>>>>>> connected to, but the attempts of religion in general to describe
> > this
> >>>>>>> "supreme being" anthropomorphically just strike me as very
> > superficial
> >>>>> and
> >>>>>>> frankly, kind of childish. I put "God" in quotes because I think
> > it's
> >>>>> silly

> >>>>>>> to try and turn this awesome everpresent life force into a "guy in
> > the
> >>>>> sky."
> >>>>>>> I do not "blind" myself with this point of view. Quite the
> > opposite,
> >>> my
> >>>>>>> mind is wide open to spiritual experience, not limited to ancient
> >>> dogma
> >>>>> that
> >>>>>>> I have no reason to believe.
> >>>>>>>
> >>>>>>> Which leads me to the real point I was hoping to make in fewer
> > words:
> >>> I
> >>>>>>> have been arguing these ideas with believers since I was 17 (LONG
> > time
> >>>>> ago),
> >>>>>>> and in all that time not ONE of them has given me a REASON to
> > believe
> >>>>> that
> >>>>>>> the bible is anything more than legend, parable, mythology, and a
> >>>>> smattering
> >>>>>>> of history. I should believe it's the word of God why? Because
it
> >>>>> claims
> >>>>>>> to be? Those are the claims of Roman bishops and other ancient
> > human
> >>>>> beings
> >>>>>>> whose motives and honesty I know nothing about. And if the bible
is
> >>> the
> >>>>>>> word of God, I'm not impressed. I expect better from a supreme
> > being.
> >>>>>>> Like the dozens before you, you tell me repeatedly what you
believe
> > in
> >>> a
> >>>>> way
> >>>>>>> that suggests no opposing belief can possibly be true. I know
WHAT
> >>> you
> >>>>>>> believe, I've heard it a thousand times over the last 30-some
years.
> >>>>> What I
> >>>>>>> don't know is WHY you believe it. Because it gives you hope?
> > Because
> >>>>> you
> >>>>>>> were desperate for answers and a bible was handy? Because your

> >>> parents
> >>>>>>> believed it? Because you dropped acid and saw Jesus? Because you
> >>>>> happened
> >>>>>>> to be born here rather than India or Iran? And if you had been
born
> >>> in
> >>>>>>> India or Iran, would you be just as fervently Hindu or Muslim?
> >>>>>>>
> >>>>>>> Nor has anyone ever been able to explain the logic in a supposedly
> >>>>>>> omnipotent being sending his son to die for our sins. How does
this
> >>>>> make
> >>>>>>> any sense? Isn't it more likely that Jesus simply became enough
of
> > a
> >>>>> threat
> >>>>>>> to the Romans and the Jewish heirarchy that they decided to kill
> > him?
> >>>>>>> You speak a lot about assumptions. OK, here's one you seem to
share
> >>> with
> >>>>>>> other believers that drives me nuts: without God there is no
right
> > or
> >>>>>>> wrong. This is such nonsense. One does not need to believe in
God,
> >>>>> Heaven,
> >>>>>>> or Hell to know the difference between right and wrong and to
behave
> >>>>>>> accordingly. "A man's ethical behavior should be based
effectually
> >>> on
> >>>>>>> sympathy, education, and social ties and needs; no religious basis
> > is
> >>>>>>> necessary. Man would indeed be in a poor way if he had to be
> >>> restrained
> >>>>> by
> >>>>>>> fear of punishment and hope of reward after death." - Albert
> > Einstein
> >>>>>>> And finally, I didn't mention "ghouls and head choppers" because
the
> >>>>> evil of
> >>>>>>> "ghouls and head choppers" is not in dispute. I'm concerned about
> >>> what
> >>>>> has
> >>>>>>> been done and is being done in my name as an American, because I
> >>> believe
> >>>>>>> that to also be evil and I'm just a little more than worried about

> > the
> >>>>>>> potential consequences of this.
> >>>>>>>
> >>>>>>> But I have to be honest . . . I feel like I just wasted another
hour
> >>>>> that I
> >>>>>>> could have been catching up on sleep in. I should have learned by
> > now
> >>>>> that
> >>>>>>> the more you challenge fixed beliefs, the harder the believer
clings
> >>> to
> >>>>>>> them. You are of course free to believe what you want, but again,
> >>>>> beliefs
> >>>>>>> are by definition unproven, and therefore someone else's beliefs
are
> >>> not
> >>>>>>> wrong simply because they contradict yours.
> >>>>>>>
> >>>>>>> OK, I mean it this time . . . I give up.
> >>>>>>>
> >>>>>>> Sarah
> >>>>>>>
> >>>>>>>
> >>>>>>> "DC" <dc@spammersinmaui.com> wrote in message
> > news:44e23a46$1@linux...
> >>>>>>>> "Sarah" <sarahjane@sarahtonin.com> wrote:
> >>>>>>>>> The problem with blind faith is that one risks being blinded by
> >>> faith.
> >>>>>>>>> (Speaking from personal experience).
> >>>>>>>> Faith in God is not blind. What is blind is the choice to call
> > God
> >>>>>>>> unknowable. That is a choice to remain blind, and its source is
> >>>>>>>> solely and admittedly, human. Your assumption is that all views
> > are
> >>>>>>>> human at the source.
> >>>>>>>>
> >>>>>>>> I disagree emphatically.
> >>>>>>>>
> >>>>>>>> Everything prodeeds from one's assumptions. Even considering
> >>>>>>>> that the creator cared enough to send his son to die for us,
> >>>>>>>> changes the whole world. Scary huh?
> >>>>>>>>
> >>>>>>>>
> >>>>>>>>> Perhaps the only thing "God" ever said to us was "Survive!" and
> > then
> >>>>> left
> >>>>>>>> it

> >>>>>>>>> up to us to figure out that cooperation works better than
> >>> competition.
> >>>>>>>> If God is in quotes for you, then why would "god's" opinion
> >>>>>>>> matter? Well it doesn't of course. Survive, don't survive, bake
> >>>>>>>> cookies, bake Jews, who is to say no? Why should anyone care if
> >>>>>>>> they do? All is permitted.
> >>>>>>>>
> >>>>>>>> This is not God's plan for us.
> >>>>>>>>
> >>>>>>>>
> >>>>>>>>> The
> >>>>>>>>> "Golden Rule" is not simply a nice idea, it's a very practical
and
> >>>>>>>>> effective
> >>>>>>>>> way to live peacefully with our fellow humans.
> >>>>>>>> And the greedy dirtbag says "the one with the gold makes the
> >>>>>>>> rules".
> >>>>>>>>
> >>>>>>>> And you disapprove. With only "god" (otherwise known as Sarah's
> >>>>>>>> opinion) to rebut him, why should he care?
> >>>>>>>>
> >>>>>>>>
> >>>>>>>>> As far as speculating on the afterlife, I just don't care. I'm
> > fine
> >>>>> with
> >>>>>>>>> the mystery, in fact, I like a good mystery. Sure, it can be
fun
> > to
> >>>>> say
> >>>>>>>>> "what if this . . . " or "what if that . . . " but let's be
honest
> >>>>> here
> >>>>>>>> --
> >>>>>>>>> none of us will know until the time comes, and maybe not even
> > then.
> >>>>> And
> >>>>>>>> I'm
> >>>>>>>>> sorry, but "because the bible tells me so" doesn't work for me.
> >>> It's
> >>>>> just
> >>>>>>>>> stuff that was written by the brighter members of some fairly
> >>> backward
> >>>>>>>>> human
> >>>>>>>>> societies thousands of years ago who may or may not have been
> >>> inspired
> >>>>> by
> >>>>>>>> a
> >>>>>>>>> supreme being.

> >>>>>>>> And you cannot see that this is merely your view, not fact.
> >>>>>>>> It is an assertion that there are no miracles, that God does not
> >>>>>>>> care if we have a we to know Him or not, that things proceeded in
> >>>>>>>> the past as they do today, and Jesus' death and resurrection are
> >>>>>>>> human myths created, as all "god talk" is, by humans to comfort
> >>>>>>>> themselves...
> >>>>>>>>
> >>>>>>>> You may not be an atheist, but you accept *all* of their basic
> >>>>>>>> assumptions about existence.
> >>>>>>>>
> >>>>>>>>
> >>>>>>>>> Meanwhile, back to the original topic: picture 100,000 dead
> > Iraqis
> >>>>>>>>> (conservative estimate). Picture them all together in a pile.
> > What
> >>>>> do
> >>>>>>>> you
> >>>>>>>>> think . . . would it fill a football stadium, like a big bowl of
> >>> brown
> >>>>>>>>> rice?
> >>>>>>>>> I don't know, but now tell me how many of those were terrorists?
> >>> 100?
> >>>>>>>> 500?
> >>>>>>>>> 1000? It doesn't matter does it? Not to those who were
innocent
> >>> and
> >>>>>>>>> their
> >>>>>>>>> families.
> >>>>>>>>>
> >>>>>>>>> Now picture 2500 dead American soldiers and the 62,000 wounded
or
> >>>>> maimed.
> >>>>>>>>> If we were lied into this "war" based on hidden agendas, I can
> > think
> >>>>> of
> >>>>>>>> some
> >>>>>>>>> heads of state whose heads should roll. They probably won't,
but
> >>> it's
> >>>>> a
> >>>>>>>>> nice thought. Picture Bush, Cheney, and Rumsfeld in orange
> >>> jumpsuits
> >>>>> and
> >>>>>>>>> chains . . . ni-i-i-i-i-ice. I feel better.
> >>>>>>>>>
> >>>>>>>>> Sarah
> >>>>>>>> And it is this view that conerns me that we, as a people, are no
> >>>>>>>> longer able to protect freedom. There were innocents killed in

all
> >>>>>>>> wars. This is no different. Would you broadcast from Dresden
> >>>>>>>> or Nagasaki calling for the jailing of Truman? By your rules,
you
> >>>>>>>> would have to.
> >>>>>>>>
> >>>>>>>> We now have a whole generation of people who cannot bring
> > themselves
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> >>>>>>>> years, I am not sure that we will retain the freedom that those
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> >>>>>>>>
> >>>
> >
> >

Subject: Re: Oh gawd . .
Posted by Jamie K on Thu, 17 Aug 2006 16:19:54 GMT
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We're a lot closer to becoming a Christian theocracy at the moment.

Cheers,
  -Jamie
  http://www.JamieKrutz.com

DJ wrote:
> I doubt very seriously that this country is going to become an Islamic
> theocracy without just a little conflits here and there.
>

> "Jamie K" <Meta@Dimensional.com> wrote in message news:44e490b7@linux...
>> Yes I did answer your question. Islam CAN spread without conquest, we
>> see it right here in the USA.
>>
>> So if your point is that it cannot spread with conquest, yes it can and
>> I gave an example.
>>
>> On the flip side, Christianity and other religions can and have spread
>> via conquest. So Islam is not alone in being spread by conquest and
>> being spread without conquest.
>>
>> You can argue degrees over history but you can't make a blanket
>> statement that Islam (or Christianity) is only spread through conquest.
>>
>> And although it clearly has at times been spread via conquest, you can't
>> accurately claim that Islam is the only religion to ever be spread
>> through conquest. You have to look at the larger issue of conquest and
>> religions overall. Or conquest and enforced atheism, for that matter.
>>
>> I think the important difference today is that we have a special country
>> that guarantees freedom of religion. So you can be an atheist and I can
>> be Islamic. Or I can be Baptist and you can be Unitarian. I can be
>> Branch Davidian Reformed and you can be Pagan. I can be MAC-IAN and you
>> can be MICROSOFT-IAN (oops, wrong religious debate... ;^)
>>
>> One of the biggest challenges we face, back to my point again, is how to
>> have constructive dialog between people who operate from very different
>> assumptions about the nature of reality.
>>
>> I think Jefferson had it right. Let people freely choose their religious
>> affiliations, and keep any one religion from being the official
>> religion. This requires a tolerance for freedom that sometimes bothers
>> the more aggressively self-righteous sects but it keeps them from
>> shooting at each other.
>>
>> Cheers,
>> -Jamie
>> http://www.JamieKrutz.com
>>
>>
>> DJ wrote:
>>> But you still didn't answer my question. Can you name even one? Yes,
> there
>>> are examples of Chiristianity being spread by conquest, but there are
> also
>>> many examples where it wasn't. In this country, people can practice any
>>> religion they want. Is that true in countries that are Muslim
> theocracies?

>>> Can you name even one?
>>>
>>> Deej
>>>
>>> "Jamie K" <Meta@Dimensional.com> wrote in message news:44e47542@linux...
>>>> How about Hinduism? Sikhism? Buddhism?
>>>>
>>>> People have converted to Islam right here in the USA. I don't think
>>>> we've been conquered by anyone lately (aside from the neo-con takeover
>>>> still in progress, maybe neo-cons are secretly Islamic? ;^)
>>>>
>>>> I will grant you that conquering and spreading religious doctrine have
>>>> gone hand in hand in the past, notably by various Islamic AND Christian
>>>> sects. You start mixing religion and government and that's what you
> get.
>>>> Religion becomes a tool of empire.
>>>>
>>>> I'm with Jefferson on this one.
>>>>
>>>> Cheers,
>>>> -Jamie
>>>> http://www.JamieKrutz.com
>>>>
>>>>
>>>> DJ wrote:
>>>>> Jamie,
>>>>>
>>>>> Can you name even one instance wherein a population becaume Muslim by
>>> any
>>>>> means other than military conquest?
>>>>>
>>>>> Deej
>>>>>
>>>>> "Jamie K" <Meta@Dimensional.com> wrote in message
> news:44e40472@linux...
>>>>>> It's all retaliatory. That's the beauty of the Hatfield/McCoy vicious
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>>>>>> We retaliated against Iraq for 9/11, even though Iraq was not
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>>>>>>>>>> Great post, Sarah.

>>>>>>>>>>
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>>> believe
>>>>> in
>>>>>>>>>>> gravity, even though I can't explain it to you. It's obviously,
>>>>>>>>>>> demonstrably, and universally agreeably real.
>>>>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>>>>> Second, I am not saying God is unknowable . . . I'm saying I
>>>>>>> personally
>>>>>>>>> do
>>>>>>>>>>> not know who or what created this universe or when or why, and I

>>> see
>>>>>>> no
>>>>>>>>>>> evidence that anyone else does either, in spite of their fervent
>>>>>>> claims.
>>>>>>>>> I
>>>>>>>>>>> do believe in a higher power which is very exhilarating to feel
>>>>> truly
>>>>>>>>>>> connected to, but the attempts of religion in general to
> describe
>>>>> this
>>>>>>>>>>> "supreme being" anthropomorphically just strike me as very
>>>>> superficial
>>>>>>>>> and
>>>>>>>>>>> frankly, kind of childish. I put "God" in quotes because I
> think
>>>>> it's
>>>>>>>>> silly
>>>>>>>>>>> to try and turn this awesome everpresent life force into a "guy
> in
>>>>> the
>>>>>>>>> sky."
>>>>>>>>>>> I do not "blind" myself with this point of view. Quite the
>>>>> opposite,
>>>>>>> my
>>>>>>>>>>> mind is wide open to spiritual experience, not limited to
> ancient
>>>>>>> dogma
>>>>>>>>> that
>>>>>>>>>>> I have no reason to believe.
>>>>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>>>>> Which leads me to the real point I was hoping to make in fewer
>>>>> words:
>>>>>>> I
>>>>>>>>>>> have been arguing these ideas with believers since I was 17
> (LONG
>>>>> time
>>>>>>>>> ago),
>>>>>>>>>>> and in all that time not ONE of them has given me a REASON to
>>>>> believe
>>>>>>>>> that
>>>>>>>>>>> the bible is anything more than legend, parable, mythology, and
> a
>>>>>>>>> smattering
>>>>>>>>>>> of history. I should believe it's the word of God why? Because
>>> it
>>>>>>>>> claims
>>>>>>>>>>> to be? Those are the claims of Roman bishops and other ancient
>>>>> human

>>>>>>>>> beings
>>>>>>>>>>> whose motives and honesty I know nothing about. And if the
> bible
>>> is
>>>>>>> the
>>>>>>>>>>> word of God, I'm not impressed. I expect better from a supreme
>>>>> being.
>>>>>>>>>>> Like the dozens before you, you tell me repeatedly what you
>>> believe
>>>>> in
>>>>>>> a
>>>>>>>>> way
>>>>>>>>>>> that suggests no opposing belief can possibly be true. I know
>>> WHAT
>>>>>>> you
>>>>>>>>>>> believe, I've heard it a thousand times over the last 30-some
>>> years.
>>>>>>>>> What I
>>>>>>>>>>> don't know is WHY you believe it. Because it gives you hope?
>>>>> Because
>>>>>>>>> you
>>>>>>>>>>> were desperate for answers and a bible was handy? Because your
>>>>>>> parents
>>>>>>>>>>> believed it? Because you dropped acid and saw Jesus? Because
> you
>>>>>>>>> happened
>>>>>>>>>>> to be born here rather than India or Iran? And if you had been
>>> born
>>>>>>> in
>>>>>>>>>>> India or Iran, would you be just as fervently Hindu or Muslim?
>>>>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>>>>> Nor has anyone ever been able to explain the logic in a
> supposedly
>>>>>>>>>>> omnipotent being sending his son to die for our sins. How does
>>> this
>>>>>>>>> make
>>>>>>>>>>> any sense? Isn't it more likely that Jesus simply became enough
>>> of
>>>>> a
>>>>>>>>> threat
>>>>>>>>>>> to the Romans and the Jewish heirarchy that they decided to kill
>>>>> him?
>>>>>>>>>>> You speak a lot about assumptions. OK, here's one you seem to
>>> share
>>>>>>> with
>>>>>>>>>>> other believers that drives me nuts: without God there is no
>>> right
>>>>> or

>>>>>>>>>>> wrong. This is such nonsense. One does not need to believe in
>>> God,
>>>>>>>>> Heaven,
>>>>>>>>>>> or Hell to know the difference between right and wrong and to
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>>>>>>>>>>> accordingly. "A man's ethical behavior should be based
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>>>>>>> on
>>>>>>>>>>> sympathy, education, and social ties and needs; no religious
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>>>>> is
>>>>>>>>>>> necessary. Man would indeed be in a poor way if he had to be
>>>>>>> restrained
>>>>>>>>> by
>>>>>>>>>>> fear of punishment and hope of reward after death." - Albert
>>>>> Einstein
>>>>>>>>>>> And finally, I didn't mention "ghouls and head choppers" because
>>> the
>>>>>>>>> evil of
>>>>>>>>>>> "ghouls and head choppers" is not in dispute. I'm concerned
> about
>>>>>>> what
>>>>>>>>> has
>>>>>>>>>>> been done and is being done in my name as an American, because I
>>>>>>> believe
>>>>>>>>>>> that to also be evil and I'm just a little more than worried
> about
>>>>> the
>>>>>>>>>>> potential consequences of this.
>>>>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>>>>> But I have to be honest . . . I feel like I just wasted another
>>> hour
>>>>>>>>> that I
>>>>>>>>>>> could have been catching up on sleep in. I should have learned
> by
>>>>> now
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>>>>>>>>>>> the more you challenge fixed beliefs, the harder the believer
>>> clings
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>>>>>>>>>>> them. You are of course free to believe what you want, but
> again,
>>>>>>>>> beliefs
>>>>>>>>>>> are by definition unproven, and therefore someone else's beliefs
>>> are
>>>>>>> not
>>>>>>>>>>> wrong simply because they contradict yours.
>>>>>>>>>>>

>>>>>>>>>>> OK, I mean it this time . . . I give up.
>>>>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>>>>> Sarah
>>>>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>>>>> "DC" <dc@spammersinmaui.com> wrote in message
>>>>> news:44e23a46$1@linux...
>>>>>>>>>>>> "Sarah" <sarahjane@sarahtonin.com> wrote:
>>>>>>>>>>>>> The problem with blind faith is that one risks being blinded
> by
>>>>>>> faith.
>>>>>>>>>>>>> (Speaking from personal experience).
>>>>>>>>>>>> Faith in God is not blind. What is blind is the choice to
> call
>>>>> God
>>>>>>>>>>>> unknowable. That is a choice to remain blind, and its source
> is
>>>>>>>>>>>> solely and admittedly, human. Your assumption is that all
> views
>>>>> are
>>>>>>>>>>>> human at the source.
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>>>>>>>>>>>> I disagree emphatically.
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>>>>>>>>>>>> Everything prodeeds from one's assumptions. Even considering
>>>>>>>>>>>> that the creator cared enough to send his son to die for us,
>>>>>>>>>>>> changes the whole world. Scary huh?
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>>>>>>>>>>>>>> Perhaps the only thing "God" ever said to us was "Survive!"
> and
>>>>> then
>>>>>>>>> left
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>>>>>>>>>>>>>> up to us to figure out that cooperation works better than
>>>>>>> competition.
>>>>>>>>>>>> If God is in quotes for you, then why would "god's" opinion
>>>>>>>>>>>> matter? Well it doesn't of course. Survive, don't survive,
> bake
>>>>>>>>>>>> cookies, bake Jews, who is to say no? Why should anyone care
> if
>>>>>>>>>>>> they do? All is permitted.
>>>>>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>>>>>> This is not God's plan for us.
>>>>>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>>>>>>>> The
>>>>>>>>>>>>>> "Golden Rule" is not simply a nice idea, it's a very practical

>>> and
>>>>>>>>>>>>> effective
>>>>>>>>>>>>> way to live peacefully with our fellow humans.
>>>>>>>>>>>> And the greedy dirtbag says "the one with the gold makes the
>>>>>>>>>>>> rules".
>>>>>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>>>>>> And you disapprove. With only "god" (otherwise known as
> Sarah's
>>>>>>>>>>>> opinion) to rebut him, why should he care?
>>>>>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>>>>>>> As far as speculating on the afterlife, I just don't care.
> I'm
>>>>> fine
>>>>>>>>> with
>>>>>>>>>>>>> the mystery, in fact, I like a good mystery. Sure, it can be
>>> fun
>>>>> to
>>>>>>>>> say
>>>>>>>>>>>>> "what if this . . . " or "what if that . . . " but let's be
>>> honest
>>>>>>>>> here
>>>>>>>>>>>> --
>>>>>>>>>>>>> none of us will know until the time comes, and maybe not even
>>>>> then.
>>>>>>>>> And
>>>>>>>>>>>> I'm
>>>>>>>>>>>>> sorry, but "because the bible tells me so" doesn't work for
> me.
>>>>>>> It's
>>>>>>>>> just
>>>>>>>>>>>>> stuff that was written by the brighter members of some fairly
>>>>>>> backward
>>>>>>>>>>>>> human
>>>>>>>>>>>>> societies thousands of years ago who may or may not have been
>>>>>>> inspired
>>>>>>>>> by
>>>>>>>>>>>> a
>>>>>>>>>>>>> supreme being.
>>>>>>>>>>>> And you cannot see that this is merely your view, not fact.
>>>>>>>>>>>> It is an assertion that there are no miracles, that God does
> not
>>>>>>>>>>>> care if we have a we to know Him or not, that things proceeded
> in
>>>>>>>>>>>> the past as they do today, and Jesus' death and resurrection
> are
>>>>>>>>>>>> human myths created, as all "god talk" is, by humans to comfort
>>>>>>>>>>>> themselves...

>>>>>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>>>>>> You may not be an atheist, but you accept *all* of their basic
>>>>>>>>>>>> assumptions about existence.
>>>>>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>>>>>>> Meanwhile, back to the original topic: picture 100,000 dead
>>>>> Iraqis
>>>>>>>>>>>>> (conservative estimate). Picture them all together in a pile.
>>>>> What
>>>>>>>>> do
>>>>>>>>>>>>> you
>>>>>>>>>>>>> think . . . would it fill a football stadium, like a big bowl
> of
>>>>>>> brown
>>>>>>>>>>>>> rice?
>>>>>>>>>>>>> I don't know, but now tell me how many of those were
> terrorists?
>>>>>>> 100?
>>>>>>>>>>>>> 500?
>>>>>>>>>>>>> 1000? It doesn't matter does it? Not to those who were
>>> innocent
>>>>>>> and
>>>>>>>>>>>>> their
>>>>>>>>>>>>> families.
>>>>>>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>>>>>>> Now picture 2500 dead American soldiers and the 62,000 wounded
>>> or
>>>>>>>>> maimed.
>>>>>>>>>>>>> If we were lied into this "war" based on hidden agendas, I can
>>>>> think
>>>>>>>>> of
>>>>>>>>>>>>> some
>>>>>>>>>>>>> heads of state whose heads should roll. They probably won't,
>>> but
>>>>>>> it's
>>>>>>>>> a
>>>>>>>>>>>>> nice thought. Picture Bush, Cheney, and Rumsfeld in orange
>>>>>>> jumpsuits
>>>>>>>>> and
>>>>>>>>>>>>> chains . . . ni-i-i-i-i-ice. I feel better.
>>>>>>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>>>>>>> Sarah
>>>>>>>>>>>> And it is this view that conerns me that we, as a people, are
> no
>>>>>>>>>>>> longer able to protect freedom. There were innocents killed in
>>> all
>>>>>>>>>>>> wars. This is no different. Would you broadcast from
> Dresden

>>>>>>>>>>>>> or Nagasaki calling for the jailing of Truman? By your rules,
>>> you
>>>>>>>>>>>>> would have to.
>>>>>>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>>>>>>> We now have a whole generation of people who cannot bring
>>>>> themselves
>>>>>>> to
>>>>>>>>> do
>>>>>>>>>>>>> what they must to protect our way of life.
>>>>>>>>>>>>> Given that we face the most evil and implacable enemy in many
>>>>>>>>>>>>> years, I am not sure that we will retain the freedom that those
>>>>>>>>>>>>> WWII vets you admire so much, fought and died for.
>>>>>>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>>>>>>> And finally, notice please, not one word of condemnation for
> the
>>>>>>>>>>>>> ghouls and head choppers. Those who would use baby bottles
>>>>>>>>>>>>> for binary explosives and die, with their infant in their arms,
>>> to
>>>>>>> kill
>>>>>>>>>>>>> some of us. Not one word. This is why you simply are not
>>>>>>>>>>>>> convincing me here. It is selective pacifism, pointed only at
>>>>>>>>>>>>> Israel and the west and there is no righteousness in it.
>>>>>>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>>>>>>> DC
>>>>>>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>>>>>>>
>>>
>
>

Subject: Re: Oh gawd . .
Posted by Jamie K on Thu, 17 Aug 2006 17:13:02 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

There are untold of examples of man's inhumanity to man via religious persecution. The enforcement of empire and power has long been tied to religion.

The Egyptians ruled for thousands of years based on a claim to deity, and they were brutal to Christian slaves!

The KKK thought they were protecting Christianity by hanging black people!

China persecutes members of Falun Gong!

We could come up with examples all day.

Are you trying to say that all religious persecution should be stopped
or are you trying to say Islamic religious persecution should be stopped?

Did you somehow think I was advocating putting people to death for their
beliefs? I'm having a hard time figuring out your point, exactly. What
are you getting at?

One of the biggest challenges we face is how to have constructive dialog
between people who operate from very different assumptions about the
nature of reality. That's my point in this thread. Are we living it
here? :^)

I don't think our assumptions about the nature of reality are that far
apart but we seem to have a difference in our view of religion and
public policy. Specifically (correct me if I'm wrong), you seem to be
very afraid of Muslims, any Muslims, wherever you find them. Whereas it
looks to me that yet another group is being scapegoated, all members
tarred because of the actions of a few, possibly to detract from real
failures in our own foreign policy.

Cheers,
  -Jamie
  http://www.JamieKrutz.com

DJ wrote:
> Are Christians doing this to former Christians who decide to convert to
> Islam?
>
> http://www.iranfocus.com/modules/news/article.php?storyid=82 16
>
>
> "Jamie K" <Meta@Dimensional.com> wrote in message news:44e490b1@linux...
>> I am not a fan of dictatorships, theocracies or royalty. So you don't
>> have to waste any time convincing me on that point. But I'll check out
>> your link.
>>
>> I am also not a fan of scapegoating and generalizing to justify war.
>>
>> I am a fan of freedom, including freedom of religion. Aggressive
>> self-righteousness by any group is problematic. Too bad it works so well
>> for empire building. It's certainly something to be aware of in other
>> countries and especially in our own.
>>
>> Cheers,
>>   -Jamie
>>   http://www.JamieKrutz.com

>>
>> DJ wrote:
>>> Hi Jamie,
>>>
>>> Here's some food for though vis-a-vis the Islamic fundamentalist
> situation
>>> (as if thgere wasn't enough already).
>>>
>>> http://www.iranfocus.com/modules/wfchannel/index.php?pagenum =1
>>>
>>> The links relative to women and human rights are pretty grotesque. Yeah,
> I
>>> realize that there is the Guantanamo thing to counter with (though I
> don't
>>> buy it personally) and the "well, look at our inhumane laws regarding
> drug
>>> offenses and racism" argument ("some" of which I definitely do buy) but
> man,
>>> the Islamic Utopia is in a whole 'nuther league.
>>>
>>> "Sure m'am, we've got chardours. What shade of black would you prefer?
>>> Here's something nice to match the color of the revolutionary jackboot."
>>>
>>> Regards,
>>>
>>> Deej
>>>
>>> "Jamie K" <Meta@Dimensional.com> wrote in message news:44e40472@linux...
>>>> It's all retaliatory. That's the beauty of the Hatfield/McCoy vicious
>>> cycle.
>>>> We retaliated against Iraq for 9/11, even though Iraq was not involved
>>>> in the attack.
>>>>
>>>> No problem, we created a new policy of preemptive retaliation!
>>>> Preemptive retaliation, think about that oxymoron. Very creative. Lots
>>>> of pins dropped when we came up with that one.
>>>>
>>>> I dunno Deej. I think your forum was a good step. I suppose some of
> what
>>>> you observed there illustrates the challenge we're talking about.
>>>>
>>>> Cheers,
>>>>   -Jamie
>>>>   http://www.JamieKrutz.com
>>>>
>>>>
>>>> DJ wrote:
>>>>>> What about the Muslims already in Durango, what are you gonna do

> about
>>>>> them?
>>>>> Interesting that you should ask. there was recently a forum held at a
>>> local
>>>>> church here. there were Christians, Jews, Buddhists, Muslims and
>>> American
>>>>> Indians. Things were going nicely until a Jew asked the Muslims
> whether
>>> they
>>>>> would renounce the use of non-retaliatory violence against those of
>>> other
>>>>> religions. You could have heard a pin drop for about 10 seconds before
>>> the
>>>>> Muslim gentleman started scooting around like a crawdad.....and he
>>> never
>>>>> gave a straight answer.
>>>>>
>>>>>
>>>>> "Jamie K" <Meta@Dimensional.com> wrote in message
> news:44e3f062@linux...
>>>>>> Reality is measurable. The nature of reality is often debated. The
>>>>>> challenge is to accept and respect each other while still allowing
> for
>>>>>> disagreement.
>>>>>>
>>>>>> Can't let the other go without comment: The bloodletting on the
> nightly
>>>>>> news is just a drop in the bucket, we don't see most of it.
>>>>>>
>>>>>> Were the Muslims in Saddam's Iraq just about to march over to Durango
>>> to
>>>>>> convert your wife? Maybe with all of those WMD the inspectors
> concluded
>>>>>> weren't there? Wouldn't work anyway, she'd sic your big dogs on 'em!
>>>>>>
>>>>>> What about the Muslims already in Durango, what are you gonna do
> about
>>>>> them?
>>>>>> Maybe the problem isn't Muslims. Maybe the problem is that people
> with
>>>>>> little opportunity turn to fanatics for help and hope, and are used
> and
>>>>>> manipulated in the process.
>>>>>>
>>>>>> I don't know why we turn to fanatics here. Fear?
>>>>>>
>>>>>> Muslims, the new, improved "commies." They're in your closet. They're
>>>>>> after your wife. Vote for me and I'll $$olve the problem!

>>>>>>
>>>>>> Cheers,
>>>>>> -Jamie
>>>>>> http://www.JamieKrutz.com
>>>>>>
>>>>>>
>>>>>> DJ wrote:
>>>>>>>> between people who operate from very different assumptions about
> the
>>>>>>>> nature of reality.
>>>>>>> I think reality is pretty cut and dried and is evidenced by the
>>> nightly
>>>>> news
>>>>>>> bloodletting. I think the differences are defined in terms of who is
>>>>>>> justified in killing whom and for what reason. Thing is, I think I'd
>>>>> rather
>>>>>>> be dead than be forced to be a mulsim.....and I know my wife
> would
>>>>> rather
>>>>>>> die.....and she's mean enough to take quite a few with her.
>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>
>>>>>>> "Jamie K" <Meta@Dimensional.com> wrote in message
>>> news:44e3ae02@linux...
>>>>>>>> One of the biggest challenges we face is how to have constructive
>>>>> dialog
>>>>>>>> between people who operate from very different assumptions about
> the
>>>>>>>> nature of reality.
>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>> Great post, Sarah.
>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>> Cheers,
>>>>>>>> -Jamie
>>>>>>>> http://www.JamieKrutz.com
>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>>
>>>>>>>> Sarah wrote:
>>>>>>>>> (heavy sigh) I'm not sure why I'm continuing with this . . . I
>>>>> learned
>>>>>>>>> years ago you can't argue with a religious person. Yet I feel
>>>>> compelled
>>>>>>> to
>>>>>>>>> make my views clear to you, since you are pretty much consistently
>>>>> wrong
>>>>>>> in
>>>>>>>>> your assumptions about what I'm saying. I think you're still

> trying
>>>>> to
>>>>>>> view
>>>>>>>>> me as a "type" rather than just as that unique thing I like to
> call
>>>>>>> "me."
>>>>>>>>> First of all, the term "blind faith" is pretty much redundant.
>>> Faith
>>>>> is
>>>>>>>>> essentially, by definition, blind. Faith is "belief that does not
>>>>> rest
>>>>>>> on
>>>>>>>>> logical proof or material evidence." You can have your own
>>> definition
>>>>>>> if
>>>>>>>>> you need to, but that's from the dictionary, and makes sense to
> me.
>>>>> If
>>>>>>> you
>>>>>>>>> have proof or evidence, it's not longer a belief, is it? I
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>>>>>>>>>> And it is this view that conerns me that we, as a people, are no
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>>>>>>>>>> Given that we face the most evil and implacable enemy in many
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>>>>>>>>>>
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>>>
>
>

Subject: Re: Oh gawd . .
Posted by TCB on Thu, 17 Aug 2006 17:27:38 GMT
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I think there might be some civilians in Gaza who would be interested in the answer to the other side of that question.

"DJ" <animix_spam-this-ahole_@animas.net> wrote:
>> What about the Muslims already in Durango, what are you gonna do about
>them?
>>
>Interesting that you should ask. there was recently a forum held at a local
>church here. there were Christians, Jews, Buddhists, Muslims and American
>Indians. Things were going nicely until a Jew asked the Muslims whether
they
>would renounce the use of non-retaliatory violence against those of other
>religions. You could have heard a pin drop for about 10 seconds before the
>Muslim gentleman started scooting around like a crawdad.....and he never
>gave a straight answer.

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>"Jamie K" <Meta@Dimensional.com> wrote in message news:44e3f062@linux...
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>> Reality is measurable. The nature of reality is often debated. The
>> challenge is to accept and respect each other while still allowing for
>> disagreement.
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>> Can't let the other go without comment: The bloodletting on the nightly
>> news is just a drop in the bucket, we don't see most of it.
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>> Were the Muslims in Saddam's Iraq just about to march over to Durango
to
>> convert your wife? Maybe with all of those WMD the inspectors concluded
>> weren't there? Wouldn't work anyway, she'd sic your big dogs on 'em!
>>
>> What about the Muslims already in Durango, what are you gonna do about
>them?
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>> Maybe the problem isn't Muslims. Maybe the problem is that people with
>> little opportunity turn to fanatics for help and hope, and are used and
>> manipulated in the process.
>>
>> I don't know why we turn to fanatics here. Fear?
>>
>> Muslims, the new, improved "commies." They're in your closet. They're
>> after your wife. Vote for me and I'll $$olve the problem!
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>> Cheers,
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>> DJ wrote:
>> >> between people who operate from very different assumptions about the
>> >> nature of reality.
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>> > justified in killing whom and for what reason. Thing is, I think I'd
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>> > be dead than be forced to be a mulsim.....and I know my wife would
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>> >> between people who operate from very different assumptions about the
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>> >> Sarah wrote:
>> >>> (heavy sigh) I'm not sure why I'm continuing with this . . . I
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>> >>> years ago you can't argue with a religious person. Yet I feel
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>> > to
>> >>> make my views clear to you, since you are pretty much consistently
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>> > in
>> >>> your assumptions about what I'm saying. I think you're still trying
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>> > view
>> >>> me as a "type" rather than just as that unique thing I like to call
>> > "me."
>> >>> First of all, the term "blind faith" is pretty much redundant. Faith
>is
>> >>> essentially, by definition, blind. Faith is "belief that does not
>rest
>> > on
>> >>> logical proof or material evidence." You can have your own definition
>> > if
>> >>> you need to, but that's from the dictionary, and makes sense to me.
>If
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>> >>> have proof or evidence, it's not longer a belief, is it? I believe
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>> >>> gravity, even though I can't explain it to you. It's obviously,
>> >>> demonstrably, and universally agreeably real.
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>> >>> Second, I am not saying God is unknowable . . . I'm saying I
>personally
>> > do
>> >>> not know who or what created this universe or when or why, and I see
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>claims.
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>> >>> to be? Those are the claims of Roman bishops and other ancient human
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>> >>> whose motives and honesty I know nothing about. And if the bible
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>> >>>
>> >>> Like the dozens before you, you tell me repeatedly what you believe
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>a
>> > way
>> >>> that suggests no opposing belief can possibly be true. I know WHAT
>you
>> >>> believe, I've heard it a thousand times over the last 30-some years.
>> > What I
>> >>> don't know is WHY you believe it. Because it gives you hope? Because
>> > you

>> >>> were desperate for answers and a bible was handy? Because your
>parents
>> >>> believed it? Because you dropped acid and saw Jesus? Because you
>> > happened
>> >>> to be born here rather than India or Iran? And if you had been born
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>> >>> the more you challenge fixed beliefs, the harder the believer clings
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>not
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>> >>> OK, I mean it this time . . . I give up.
>> >>>
>> >>> Sarah
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>> >>> "DC" <dc@spammersinmaui.com> wrote in message news:44e23a46$1@linux...
>> >>>> "Sarah" <sarahjane@sarahtonin.com> wrote:
>> >>>>> The problem with blind faith is that one risks being blinded by
>faith.
>> >>>>> (Speaking from personal experience).
>> >>>> Faith in God is not blind. What is blind is the choice to call
God
>> >>>> unknowable. That is a choice to remain blind, and its source is
>> >>>> solely and admittedly, human. Your assumption is that all views
are
>> >>>> human at the source.
>> >>>>
>> >>>> I disagree emphatically.
>> >>>>
>> >>>> Everything prodeeds from one's assumptions. Even considering
>> >>>> that the creator cared enough to send his son to die for us,
>> >>>> changes the whole world. Scary huh?
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>> >>>>> Perhaps the only thing "God" ever said to us was "Survive!" and
then
>> > left
>> >>>> it
>> >>>>> up to us to figure out that cooperation works better than
>competition.
>> >>>> If God is in quotes for you, then why would "god's" opinion
>> >>>> matter? Well it doesn't of course. Survive, don't survive, bake
>> >>>> cookies, bake Jews, who is to say no? Why should anyone care if
>> >>>> they do? All is permitted.
>> >>>>
>> >>>> This is not God's plan for us.
>> >>>>
>> >>>>
>> >>>>> The
>> >>>>> "Golden Rule" is not simply a nice idea, it's a very practical and

>> >>>>> effective
>> >>>>> way to live peacefully with our fellow humans.
>> >>>> And the greedy dirtbag says "the one with the gold makes the
>> >>>> rules".
>> >>>>
>> >>>> And you disapprove. With only "god" (otherwise known as Sarah's
>> >>>> opinion) to rebut him, why should he care?
>> >>>>
>> >>>>
>> >>>>> As far as speculating on the afterlife, I just don't care. I'm
fine
>> > with
>> >>>>> the mystery, in fact, I like a good mystery. Sure, it can be fun
to
>> > say
>> >>>>> "what if this . . . " or "what if that . . . " but let's be honest
>> > here
>> >>>> --
>> >>>>> none of us will know until the time comes, and maybe not even then.
>> > And
>> >>>> I'm
>> >>>>> sorry, but "because the bible tells me so" doesn't work for me.
>It's
>> > just
>> >>>>> stuff that was written by the brighter members of some fairly
>backward
>> >>>>> human
>> >>>>> societies thousands of years ago who may or may not have been
>inspired
>> > by
>> >>>> a
>> >>>>> supreme being.
>> >>>> And you cannot see that this is merely your view, not fact.
>> >>>> It is an assertion that there are no miracles, that God does not
>> >>>> care if we have a we to know Him or not, that things proceeded in
>> >>>> the past as they do today, and Jesus' death and resurrection are
>> >>>> human myths created, as all "god talk" is, by humans to comfort
>> >>>> themselves...
>> >>>>
>> >>>> You may not be an atheist, but you accept *all* of their basic
>> >>>> assumptions about existence.
>> >>>>
>> >>>>
>> >>>>> Meanwhile, back to the original topic: picture 100,000 dead Iraqis
>> >>>>> (conservative estimate). Picture them all together in a pile.
What
>> > do
>> >>>> you

>> >>>>> think . . . would it fill a football stadium, like a big bowl of
>brown
>> >>>>> rice?
>> >>>>> I don't know, but now tell me how many of those were terrorists?
>100?
>> >>>> 500?
>> >>>>> 1000? It doesn't matter does it? Not to those who were innocent
>and
>> >>>>> their
>> >>>>> families.
>> >>>>>
>> >>>>> Now picture 2500 dead American soldiers and the 62,000 wounded or
>> > maimed.
>> >>>>> If we were lied into this "war" based on hidden agendas, I can think
>> > of
>> >>>> some
>> >>>>> heads of state whose heads should roll. They probably won't, but
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>> >>>>> nice thought. Picture Bush, Cheney, and Rumsfeld in orange
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Subject: Re: Oh gawd . .
Posted by TCB on Thu, 17 Aug 2006 18:10:29 GMT
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For most of its life Islam was a comparatively tolerant religion. In the
Persian muslim and Ottoman empires local populations were not forced to convert
and could practice whatever religion they wished. Often they we subject to
additional taxes or travel restrictions or restrictive property rights, but
they certainly weren't killed. Most converted.

But the comparison of Islam to Christianity on the conquest front is grossly
unfair. Had Mohammed NOT been an effective soldier and military leader we
would not no know of him. He was born at a time when no religion had a chance
if it couldn't defend and, yes, conquer. Jesus (the historical one I recognize,
not the divine one you believe in) was born into occupied Palestine and had
he had a shred of militant resistance about him his movement would have been
subjected to the violence of the sword the Romans so casually used on non-Romans.
It was precisely because early Christians had no political/military ambitions
that they were allowed to work their way into Roman society. Had they expressed
any ambitions beyond personal salvation they'd have been squashed like bugs.
All of which is to say that there are historical reasons why one religion
might tend toward militaristism than the other.

And then the question becomes, is western 'secular militarism' better than
middle eastern 'religious militarism?' Think of that from the perspective
of a) a middle class American christian, b) a Guatemalan union organizer,
c) and Egyptian medical doctor, d) a Turkish guest worker living in Frankfurt,
and e) a Thai buddhist motorcycle messenger.

TCB

"DJ" <animix_spam-this-ahole_@animas.net> wrote:
>Jamie,
>
>Can you name even one instance wherein a population becaume Muslim by any
>means other than military conquest?
>
>Deej

>
>"Jamie K" <Meta@Dimensional.com> wrote in message news:44e40472@linux...
>>
>> It's all retaliatory. That's the beauty of the Hatfield/McCoy vicious
>cycle.
>>
>> We retaliated against Iraq for 9/11, even though Iraq was not involved
>> in the attack.
>>
>> No problem, we created a new policy of preemptive retaliation!
>> Preemptive retaliation, think about that oxymoron. Very creative. Lots
>> of pins dropped when we came up with that one.
>>
>> I dunno Deej. I think your forum was a good step. I suppose some of what
>> you observed there illustrates the challenge we're talking about.
>>
>> Cheers,
>> -Jamie
>> http://www.JamieKrutz.com
>>
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>> DJ wrote:
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>> >>>>>> And the greedy dirtbag says "the one with the gold makes the
>> >>>>>> rules".
>> >>>>>>
>> >>>>>> And you disapprove. With only "god" (otherwise known as Sarah's
>> >>>>>> opinion) to rebut him, why should he care?
>> >>>>>>
>> >>>>>>
>> >>>>>>> As far as speculating on the afterlife, I just don't care. I'm
>fine
>> >>> with
>> >>>>>>> the mystery, in fact, I like a good mystery. Sure, it can be
fun
>to
>> >>> say
>> >>>>>>> "what if this . . . " or "what if that . . . " but let's be honest
>> >>> here
>> >>>>>> --
>> >>>>>>> none of us will know until the time comes, and maybe not even
>then.
>> >>> And
>> >>>>>> I'm
>> >>>>>>> sorry, but "because the bible tells me so" doesn't work for me.
>> > It's

>> >>> just
>> >>>>>>> stuff that was written by the brighter members of some fairly
>> > backward
>> >>>>>>> human
>> >>>>>>> societies thousands of years ago who may or may not have been
>> > inspired
>> >>> by
>> >>>>>> a
>> >>>>>>> supreme being.
>> >>>>>> And you cannot see that this is merely your view, not fact.
>> >>>>>> It is an assertion that there are no miracles, that God does not
>> >>>>>> care if we have a we to know Him or not, that things proceeded
in
>> >>>>>> the past as they do today, and Jesus' death and resurrection are
>> >>>>>> human myths created, as all "god talk" is, by humans to comfort
>> >>>>>> themselves...
>> >>>>>>
>> >>>>>> You may not be an atheist, but you accept *all* of their basic
>> >>>>>> assumptions about existence.
>> >>>>>>
>> >>>>>>
>> >>>>>>> Meanwhile, back to the original topic: picture 100,000 dead
>Iraqis
>> >>>>>>> (conservative estimate). Picture them all together in a pile.
>What
>> >>> do
>> >>>>>> you
>> >>>>>>> think . . . would it fill a football stadium, like a big bowl
of
>> > brown
>> >>>>>>> rice?
>> >>>>>>> I don't know, but now tell me how many of those were terrorists?
>> > 100?
>> >>>>>> 500?
>> >>>>>>> 1000? It doesn't matter does it? Not to those who were innocent
>> > and
>> >>>>>>> their
>> >>>>>>> families.
>> >>>>>>>
>> >>>>>>> Now picture 2500 dead American soldiers and the 62,000 wounded
or
>> >>> maimed.
>> >>>>>>> If we were lied into this "war" based on hidden agendas, I can
>think
>> >>> of
>> >>>>>> some
>> >>>>>>> heads of state whose heads should roll. They probably won't,
but

>> > it's
>> >>> a
>> >>>>>>> nice thought. Picture Bush, Cheney, and Rumsfeld in orange
>> > jumpsuits
>> >>> and
>> >>>>>>> chains . . . ni-i-i-i-i-ice. I feel better.
>> >>>>>>>
>> >>>>>>> Sarah
>> >>>>>> And it is this view that conerns me that we, as a people, are no
>> >>>>>> longer able to protect freedom. There were innocents killed in
all
>> >>>>>> wars. This is no different. Would you broadcast from Dresden
>> >>>>>> or Nagasaki calling for the jailing of Truman? By your rules,
you
>> >>>>>> would have to.
>> >>>>>>
>> >>>>>> We now have a whole generation of people who cannot bring
>themselves
>> > to
>> >>> do
>> >>>>>> what they must to protect our way of life.
>> >>>>>> Given that we face the most evil and implacable enemy in many
>> >>>>>> years, I am not sure that we will retain the freedom that those
>> >>>>>> WWII vets you admire so much, fought and died for.
>> >>>>>>
>> >>>>>> And finally, notice please, not one word of condemnation for the
>> >>>>>> ghouls and head choppers. Those who would use baby bottles
>> >>>>>> for binary explosives and die, with their infant in their arms,
to
>> > kill
>> >>>>>> some of us. Not one word. This is why you simply are not
>> >>>>>> convincing me here. It is selective pacifism, pointed only at
>> >>>>>> Israel and the west and there is no righteousness in it.
>> >>>>>>
>> >>>>>> DC
>> >>>>>>
>> >>>>>>
>> >>>>>>
>> >>>
>> >
>> >
>
>

Subject: Re: Oh gawd . .
Posted by Sarah on Thu, 17 Aug 2006 19:03:45 GMT

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Well, thank you very much, mate. :) We do the best we can. I'm enjoying yours, too. Tell ten friends to buy our CD, then they'll tell ten friends, then they'll tell ten friends . . . .

Hugs,

Sarah

"macle" <Mates9999@cs.com> wrote in message news:44e3cc28$1@linux...
>
> Oh my gawd, lucifer!
> either way, it's so absurd,
> look around it's
> such a blur you see!!
>
> Why is live and let live so hard? I dunno. Seems so easy.
>
> I've taken to burying my head in the sand. Ignorance is bliss
> sort of nearly almost. It'll all work out in the end (except
> for those of us burning in hell for eternity...OUCH!)
>
> Sarah, I listened to the clips on your site...very very
> nice Paris sound. Thumbs up!
>
> Peace brothers and sisters!!
>

Subject: Re: Oh gawd . .
Posted by rick on Thu, 17 Aug 2006 19:50:21 GMT
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okay, i'll put it in the top two as i'm sure many killings go un publicized if it doesn't involve population segments not currently popular on the "oh that's really a shame" or "hey, dems my peeps" index.

On 17 Aug 2006 23:05:22 +1000, "TCB" <nobody@ishere.com> wrote:

>
>Here's the thing, you'll cause just as much trouble saying it's #5 or #10
>as #1. And I suspected you thought as much which is why I asked. Maybe not.
>Influenza takes a few hundred thousand per year in the off years, so maybe
>over the long haul it's first, just by the yearly grind. But even then I
>doubt it.

>
>But in any case, just tell the truth as you see it, regardless of the trouble
>it might cause. We need more of that.
>
>TCB
>
>rick <parnell68@hotmail.com> wrote:
>>i didn't want to cause trouble by calling it #1
>>
>>On 17 Aug 2006 06:17:12 +1000, "TCB" <nobody@ishere.com> wrote:
>>
>>>
>>>I'd be interested to hear the nine candidates you would propose ahead of
>it.
>>>
>>>
>>>TCB
>>>
>>>rick <parnell68@hotmail.com> wrote:
>>>>sarah
>>>>
>>>>everyone wants to be the holder of "the truth" and feel compelled to
>>>>convince others even if they have to kill them to do it. thankfully
>>>>not all go to that extreme...unfortunately many are willing to do just
>>>>that...on both sides of the argument. religion has to be in the top
>>>>ten killers of humanity throughout history.
>>>>
>>>>On Wed, 16 Aug 2006 12:00:26 -0700, "Sarah" <sarahjane@sarahtonin.com>
>>>>wrote:
>>>>
>>>>>(heavy sigh) I'm not sure why I'm continuing with this . . . I learned
>>>
>>>>>years ago you can't argue with a religious person. Yet I feel compelled
>>>to
>>>>>make my views clear to you, since you are pretty much consistently wrong
>>>in
>>>>>your assumptions about what I'm saying. I think you're still trying
>to
>>>view
>>>>>me as a "type" rather than just as that unique thing I like to call "me."
>>>>>
>>>>>First of all, the term "blind faith" is pretty much redundant. Faith
>is
>>>
>>>>>essentially, by definition, blind. Faith is "belief that does not rest
>>>on
>>>>>logical proof or material evidence." You can have your own definition
>>>if

>>>>>you need to, but that's from the dictionary, and makes sense to me.
>If
>>>you
>>>>>have proof or evidence, it's not longer a belief, is it? I believe in
>>>
>>>>>gravity, even though I can't explain it to you. It's obviously,
>>>>>demonstrably, and universally agreeably real.
>>>>>
>>>>>Second, I am not saying God is unknowable . . . I'm saying I personally
>>>do
>>>>>not know who or what created this universe or when or why, and I see
>no
>>>
>>>>>evidence that anyone else does either, in spite of their fervent claims.
>>> I
>>>>>do believe in a higher power which is very exhilarating to feel truly
>
>>>>>connected to, but the attempts of religion in general to describe this
>>>
>>>>>"supreme being" anthropomorphically just strike me as very superficial
>>>and
>>>>>frankly, kind of childish. I put "God" in quotes because I think it's
>>>silly
>>>>>to try and turn this awesome everpresent life force into a "guy in the
>>>sky."
>>>>>I do not "blind" myself with this point of view. Quite the opposite,
>my
>>>
>>>>>mind is wide open to spiritual experience, not limited to ancient dogma
>>>that
>>>>>I have no reason to believe.
>>>>>
>>>>>Which leads me to the real point I was hoping to make in fewer words:
>
>>>I
>>>>>have been arguing these ideas with believers since I was 17 (LONG time
>>>ago),
>>>>>and in all that time not ONE of them has given me a REASON to believe
>that
>>>
>>>>>the bible is anything more than legend, parable, mythology, and a smattering
>>>
>>>>>of history. I should believe it's the word of God why? Because it claims
>>>
>>>>>to be? Those are the claims of Roman bishops and other ancient human
>beings
>>>
>>>>>whose motives and honesty I know nothing about. And if the bible is

>the
>>>
>>>>>word of God, I'm not impressed. I expect better from a supreme being.
>>>>>
>>>>>Like the dozens before you, you tell me repeatedly what you believe in
>>>a way
>>>>>that suggests no opposing belief can possibly be true. I know WHAT you
>>>
>>>>>believe, I've heard it a thousand times over the last 30-some years.
> What
>>>I
>>>>>don't know is WHY you believe it. Because it gives you hope? Because
>>>you
>>>>>were desperate for answers and a bible was handy? Because your parents
>>>
>>>>>believed it? Because you dropped acid and saw Jesus? Because you happened
>>>
>>>>>to be born here rather than India or Iran? And if you had been born
>in
>>>
>>>>>India or Iran, would you be just as fervently Hindu or Muslim?
>>>>>
>>>>>Nor has anyone ever been able to explain the logic in a supposedly
>>>>>omnipotent being sending his son to die for our sins. How does this
>make
>>>
>>>>>any sense? Isn't it more likely that Jesus simply became enough of a
>threat
>>>
>>>>>to the Romans and the Jewish heirarchy that they decided to kill him?
>>>>>
>>>>>You speak a lot about assumptions. OK, here's one you seem to share with
>>>
>>>>>other believers that drives me nuts: without God there is no right or
>>>
>>>>>wrong. This is such nonsense. One does not need to believe in God,
>Heaven,
>>>
>>>>>or Hell to know the difference between right and wrong and to behave
>
>>>>>accordingly. "A man's ethical behavior should be based effectually
>on
>>>
>>>>>sympathy, education, and social ties and needs; no religious basis is
>
>>>>>necessary. Man would indeed be in a poor way if he had to be restrained
>>>by
>>>>>fear of punishment and hope of reward after death." - Albert Einstein

>>>>>
>>>>>And finally, I didn't mention "ghouls and head choppers" because the
>evil
>>>of
>>>>>"ghouls and head choppers" is not in dispute. I'm concerned about what
>>>has
>>>>>been done and is being done in my name as an American, because I believe
>>>
>>>>>that to also be evil and I'm just a little more than worried about the
>>>
>>>>>potential consequences of this.
>>>>>
>>>>>But I have to be honest . . . I feel like I just wasted another hour
>that
>>>I
>>>>>could have been catching up on sleep in. I should have learned by now
>>>that
>>>>>the more you challenge fixed beliefs, the harder the believer clings
>to
>>>
>>>>>them. You are of course free to believe what you want, but again, beliefs
>>>
>>>>>are by definition unproven, and therefore someone else's beliefs are
>not
>>>
>>>>>wrong simply because they contradict yours.
>>>>>
>>>>>OK, I mean it this time . . . I give up.
>>>>>
>>>>>Sarah
>>>>>
>>>>>
>>>>>"DC" <dc@spammersinmaui.com> wrote in message news:44e23a46$1@linux...
>>>>>>
>>>>>> "Sarah" <sarahjane@sarahtonin.com> wrote:
>>>>>>>The problem with blind faith is that one risks being blinded by faith.
>>>>>>>(Speaking from personal experience).
>>>>>>
>>>>>> Faith in God is not blind. What is blind is the choice to call God
>>>>>> unknowable. That is a choice to remain blind, and its source is
>>>>>> solely and admittedly, human. Your assumption is that all views are
>>>>>> human at the source.
>>>>>>
>>>>>> I disagree emphatically.
>>>>>>
>>>>>> Everything prodeeds from one's assumptions. Even considering
>>>>>> that the creator cared enough to send his son to die for us,
>>>>>> changes the whole world. Scary huh?

>>>>>>
>>>>>>
>>>>>>>Perhaps the only thing "God" ever said to us was "Survive!" and then
>>>left
>>>>>> it
>>>>>>>up to us to figure out that cooperation works better than competition.
>>>>>>
>>>>>>
>>>>>> If God is in quotes for you, then why would "god's" opinion
>>>>>> matter? Well it doesn't of course. Survive, don't survive, bake
>>>>>> cookies, bake Jews, who is to say no? Why should anyone care if
>>>>>> they do? All is permitted.
>>>>>>
>>>>>> This is not God's plan for us.
>>>>>>
>>>>>>
>>>>>>>The
>>>>>>>"Golden Rule" is not simply a nice idea, it's a very practical and
>
>>>>>>>effective
>>>>>>
>>>>>>>way to live peacefully with our fellow humans.
>>>>>>
>>>>>> And the greedy dirtbag says "the one with the gold makes the
>>>>>> rules".
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>>>>>>>rice?
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>>>>>>>1000? It doesn't matter does it? Not to those who were innocent and
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>>>>>>
>>>>>> DC
>>>>>>
>>>>>>
>>>>>>
>>>>>
>>>>
>>

Subject: Re: Oh gawd . .
Posted by Dedric Terry on Thu, 17 Aug 2006 22:16:18 GMT
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On 8/17/06 10:19 AM, in article 44e495a1@linux, "Jamie K"
<Meta@Dimensional.com> wrote:

>
> We're a lot closer to becoming a Christian theocracy at the moment.
>
> Cheers,
> -Jamie
> http://www.JamieKrutz.com

Actually most Christians, including many Christian leaders and ministers

I've talked to agree with me that we are closer to outlawing Christianity than accepting it as a nation, much less adopting it. Separation of church and state is actually quite a well-respected concept for most of the Christian community. However, it isn't really fair to expect Christians to just sit out of politics and voting completely to ease the fears of the non-Christian community. For a non-Christian, any hint of Christianity may seem like too much, or even a threat, but to a longtime Christian, the deterioration of acceptance for our faith is sadly quite apparent, even on this forum.

Let's be brutally honest here, how many people on this forum really don't mind a Christian sharing their views with conviction, and how many truthfully have a problem with it? I'm sure it is tolerable (at best) as long as it doesn't challenge or confront others' views (which by very nature, it will, otherwise it wouldn't be faith with any life-impacting substance). On the other hand, most religious threads here have rather strong opinions on the non-Christian side - often even claiming that Christianity is more violent than Islam, or that Christianity somehow is responsible for our country going to Iraq (incredibly far from the truth). Isn't that just one step away from Mel Gibson's drunken debacle of slandering Jews? I'm sure that may not be the intention, but consider the arguments here for equal rights and peace vs. the way Christianity is discussed. If we are truly tolerant of one another, we wouldn't need to ascribe violence and/or all of our country's, or the world's problems to the faith of someone we might chat with casually in other circumstances. I'm not asking this from a "victim" mentality in any form or fashion (far from it). I'm just raising the question out of genuine curiosity and broadening the perspectives here.

For one societal example, in New Orleans the ACLU is protesting (and probably filed suit) against people in one community for wanting to build a memorial to victims of Katrina - one that includes a cross. The land is private as is the funding, but as it is in public view, the ACLU is taking issue. If we exercise equality of "rights" would that not give me the right as a Christian to file suit against an adult nightclub for a billboard promoting topless dancing, with suggestive photos? No, that would violate the owner's right to free speech, and others' opinion of what is "suggestive" and whether that could "suggest" anything objectionable for anyone. What is the difference? A cross isn't going to tempt anyone to get drunk, spend money that should be going to support a family, or worst case, rape a woman (really worst case, not a statistical norm that I know of, at least hope not) - it is actually more likely to cause the exact opposite, but yet it is becoming a more common source of public outcry than crime rates or corporate corruption.

My prediction is that Christian churches will start being targeted by the ACLU and other "rights" groups not wanting structures of any kind that promote Christianity in public view. And it wouldn't be much of a leap from

there to having something as simple as praying over one's meal in public become grounds for dismissal from a restaurant, if not legal or criminal action. Sure, that's extrapolation, but that may give you a bit of insight into why there seems to be more of a push by Christians to get Christians involved in political issues - not to take over or dictate, but to protect the freedom we are also supposed to be allowed. There are other examples of how this trend is progressing, but I have to get back to work. ;-)

The thing is, most Christians believe it is coming. The question is, who wants to be on the side that one day tells me personally that I and my family will no longer be welcome here? Just something to think about. I really don't mind opposing opinions in the least and enjoy well-tempered discussions. My faith is far greater than any government, threat of being ostracized, or even death, so a little discussion is hardly a .

I hope anyone reading this (however few ;-) will take it in the spirit it is intended - just something to consider.

Regards,
Dedric

>
>
>

Subject: Re: Oh gawd . .
Posted by Aaron Allen on Thu, 17 Aug 2006 22:26:46 GMT
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Can anyone confirm or deny this information?
Sources please :)

http://www.aish.com/movies/PhotoFraud.asp

Subject: Re: Oh gawd . .
Posted by Jamie K on Thu, 17 Aug 2006 23:05:32 GMT
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Hey Dedric,

If I've said anything that makes you think I am advocating shipping you and your family out of the country, call me on it and let's talk. I do not support the making of scapegoats. And we'd miss you around here!

The Bill of Rights protects religious freedom. I am all for that.

The point I've been trying to make in this thread is that getting people to talk to each other rather than past each other is a major challenge when people have very different understandings of the nature of reality.

Yet we must succeed at communicating between groups as diverse as Christians and Muslims, or for a tougher example, AELC Lutherans and Wisconsin Synod Lutherans. I'm only half joking about that last one...

In the USA some (not all) members of the following groups feel persecuted because of religious bias in our culture:

1) Christians (way too diverse a group to be under a single label, BTW).
2) Muslims
3) Jews
4) Sikhs
5) Atheists
6) etc.

I don't know if Buddhists bother feeling persecuted.

I do like the ACLU for the most part, because the Bill of Rights is constantly under attack. Since it's a fundamental part of what makes the USA a special place it needs to be looked after. So I'll add:

7) The Bill Of Rights

Even though it's not a group, it protects all of us from a variety of bad stuff. Hey, it's my list and I'm adding it! :^)

How do we balance different outlooks and perceptions around all this? It ain't easy. Talking is good, though.

I don't see anything that indicates we are about to outlaw Christianity. You'll have to convince me on that one. The appropriateness of government sanctioning of the symbol of one religion over another is an interesting issue but I wouldn't read that as moving toward banning Christianity. Probably makes great material for rousing sermons, though, in some churches, while other churches can and do support the separation of church and state for religious reasons so their sermons would go the other way. See how hard it is to generalize about Christianity as one entity?

Our great Bill of Rights protects Christianity and all its sects. It seems to me that certain subsets of Christian thought are very influential in our government right now, hence my comment. I'm not

seeing that level of influence from other religions.

We should have a conversation about this, Dedric, next time you're up
this way.

Cheers,
-Jamie
http://www.JamieKrutz.com

Dedric Terry wrote:
> On 8/17/06 10:19 AM, in article 44e495a1@linux, "Jamie K"
> <Meta@Dimensional.com> wrote:
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>
> Regards,
> Dedric
>
>
>>
>>
>

Subject: Re: Oh gawd . .
Posted by macle on Thu, 17 Aug 2006 23:16:00 GMT
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Yes, we must spread *the word*!! Our hope is to be bigger than
Jesus, Allah, John Lennon and L.Ron Hubbard put together!!

Rock on Sarah!!

"Sarah" <sarahjane@sarahtonin.com> wrote:
>Well, thank you very much, mate. :) We do the best we can. I'm enjoying

>yours, too. Tell ten friends to buy our CD, then they'll tell ten friends,

>then they'll tell ten friends . . . .
>
>Hugs,
>
>Sarah
>
>
>"macle" <Mates9999@cs.com> wrote in message news:44e3cc28$1@linux...
>>
>> Oh my gawd, lucifer!
>> either way, it's so absurd,
>> look around it's
>> such a blur you see!!
>>
>> Why is live and let live so hard? I dunno. Seems so easy.
>>
>> I've taken to burying my head in the sand. Ignorance is bliss
>> sort of nearly almost. It'll all work out in the end (except
>> for those of us burning in hell for eternity...OUCH!)
>>
>> Sarah, I listened to the clips on your site...very very
>> nice Paris sound. Thumbs up!
>>
>> Peace brothers and sisters!!
>>
>
>

Subject: Re: Oh gawd . .
Posted by steve the artguy on Thu, 17 Aug 2006 23:31:20 GMT
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it just so happpens that the two CDs on constant rotation in my car are sarah's

and yours.

Very very good stuff.

-steve

"macle" <Mates9999@cs.com> wrote:
>
>Yes, we must spread *the word*!! Our hope is to be bigger than
>Jesus, Allah, John Lennon and L.Ron Hubbard put together!!
>
>Rock on Sarah!!
>
>"Sarah" <sarahjane@sarahtonin.com> wrote:
>>Well, thank you very much, mate. :) We do the best we can. I'm enjoying
>
>>yours, too. Tell ten friends to buy our CD, then they'll tell ten friends,
>
>>then they'll tell ten friends . . . .
>>
>>Hugs,
>>
>>Sarah
>>
>>
>>"macle" <Mates9999@cs.com> wrote in message news:44e3cc28$1@linux...
>>>
>>> Oh my gawd, lucifer!
>>> either way, it's so absurd,
>>> look around it's
>>> such a blur you see!!
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>>> Why is live and let live so hard? I dunno. Seems so easy.
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>>> I've taken to burying my head in the sand. Ignorance is bliss
>>> sort of nearly almost. It'll all work out in the end (except
>>> for those of us burning in hell for eternity...OUCH!)
>>>
>>> Sarah, I listened to the clips on your site...very very
>>> nice Paris sound. Thumbs up!
>>>
>>> Peace brothers and sisters!!
>>>
>>
>>
>

Subject: Re: Oh gawd . .
Posted by John [1] on Fri, 18 Aug 2006 00:19:13 GMT
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I can confirm it. :-)

"Aaron Allen" <nospam@not_here.dude> wrote:
>Can anyone confirm or deny this information?
>Sources please :)
>
>
>http://www.aish.com/movies/PhotoFraud.asp
>
>

Subject: Re: Oh gawd . .
Posted by Neil on Fri, 18 Aug 2006 01:42:17 GMT
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LOL! Good point, Thad!

I'll take a shot at a few. Maybe...:

Famine or malnutrition
Influenza (various endemics of such, throughout time)
Old Age (ok, it's kind of a "Duh!", but it's still a killer)
Infection of wounds
Death at the hands (paws) of wild beasts

That's all I can come up with.

Neil

"TCB" <nobody@ishere.com> wrote:
>
>I'd be interested to hear the nine candidates you would propose ahead of
it.
>
>
>TCB
>
>rick <parnell68@hotmail.com> wrote:
>>sarah
>>
>>everyone wants to be the holder of "the truth" and feel compelled to

>>convince others even if they have to kill them to do it. thankfully
>>not all go to that extreme...unfortunately many are willing to do just
>>that...on both sides of the argument. religion has to be in the top
>>ten killers of humanity throughout history.
>>
>>On Wed, 16 Aug 2006 12:00:26 -0700, "Sarah" <sarahjane@sarahtonin.com>
>>wrote:
>>
>>>(heavy sigh) I'm not sure why I'm continuing with this . . . I learned
>
>>>years ago you can't argue with a religious person. Yet I feel compelled
>to
>>>make my views clear to you, since you are pretty much consistently wrong
>in
>>>your assumptions about what I'm saying. I think you're still trying to
>view
>>>me as a "type" rather than just as that unique thing I like to call "me."
>>>
>>>First of all, the term "blind faith" is pretty much redundant. Faith
is
>
>>>essentially, by definition, blind. Faith is "belief that does not rest
>on
>>>logical proof or material evidence." You can have your own definition
>if
>>>you need to, but that's from the dictionary, and makes sense to me. If
>you
>>>have proof or evidence, it's not longer a belief, is it? I believe in
>
>>>gravity, even though I can't explain it to you. It's obviously,
>>>demonstrably, and universally agreeably real.
>>>
>>>Second, I am not saying God is unknowable . . . I'm saying I personally
>do
>>>not know who or what created this universe or when or why, and I see no
>
>>>evidence that anyone else does either, in spite of their fervent claims.
> I
>>>do believe in a higher power which is very exhilarating to feel truly

>>>connected to, but the attempts of religion in general to describe this
>
>>>"supreme being" anthropomorphically just strike me as very superficial
>and
>>>frankly, kind of childish. I put "God" in quotes because I think it's
>silly
>>>to try and turn this awesome everpresent life force into a "guy in the
>sky."

>>>I do not "blind" myself with this point of view. Quite the opposite,
my
>
>>>mind is wide open to spiritual experience, not limited to ancient dogma
>that
>>>I have no reason to believe.
>>>
>>>Which leads me to the real point I was hoping to make in fewer words:

>I
>>>have been arguing these ideas with believers since I was 17 (LONG time
>ago),
>>>and in all that time not ONE of them has given me a REASON to believe
that
>
>>>the bible is anything more than legend, parable, mythology, and a smattering
>
>>>of history. I should believe it's the word of God why? Because it claims
>
>>>to be? Those are the claims of Roman bishops and other ancient human
beings
>
>>>whose motives and honesty I know nothing about. And if the bible is the
>
>>>word of God, I'm not impressed. I expect better from a supreme being.
>>>
>>>Like the dozens before you, you tell me repeatedly what you believe in
>a way
>>>that suggests no opposing belief can possibly be true. I know WHAT you
>
>>>believe, I've heard it a thousand times over the last 30-some years.
What
>I
>>>don't know is WHY you believe it. Because it gives you hope? Because
>you
>>>were desperate for answers and a bible was handy? Because your parents
>
>>>believed it? Because you dropped acid and saw Jesus? Because you happened
>
>>>to be born here rather than India or Iran? And if you had been born in
>
>>>India or Iran, would you be just as fervently Hindu or Muslim?
>>>
>>>Nor has anyone ever been able to explain the logic in a supposedly
>>>omnipotent being sending his son to die for our sins. How does this make
>
>>>any sense? Isn't it more likely that Jesus simply became enough of a
threat

>
>>>to the Romans and the Jewish heirarchy that they decided to kill him?
>>>
>>>You speak a lot about assumptions. OK, here's one you seem to share with
>
>>>other believers that drives me nuts: without God there is no right or
>
>>>wrong. This is such nonsense. One does not need to believe in God, Heaven,
>
>>>or Hell to know the difference between right and wrong and to behave
>>>accordingly. "A man's ethical behavior should be based effectually on
>
>>>sympathy, education, and social ties and needs; no religious basis is

>>>necessary. Man would indeed be in a poor way if he had to be restrained
>by
>>>fear of punishment and hope of reward after death." - Albert Einstein
>>>
>>>And finally, I didn't mention "ghouls and head choppers" because the evil
>of
>>>"ghouls and head choppers" is not in dispute. I'm concerned about what
>has
>>>been done and is being done in my name as an American, because I believe
>
>>>that to also be evil and I'm just a little more than worried about the
>
>>>potential consequences of this.
>>>
>>>But I have to be honest . . . I feel like I just wasted another hour that
>I
>>>could have been catching up on sleep in. I should have learned by now
>that
>>>the more you challenge fixed beliefs, the harder the believer clings to
>
>>>them. You are of course free to believe what you want, but again, beliefs
>
>>>are by definition unproven, and therefore someone else's beliefs are not
>
>>>wrong simply because they contradict yours.
>>>
>>>OK, I mean it this time . . . I give up.
>>>
>>>Sarah
>>>
>>>
>>>"DC" <dc@spammersinmaui.com> wrote in message news:44e23a46$1@linux...
>>>>
>>>> "Sarah" <sarahjane@sarahtonin.com> wrote:

>>>>>The problem with blind faith is that one risks being blinded by faith.
>>>>>(Speaking from personal experience).
>>>>
>>>> Faith in God is not blind. What is blind is the choice to call God
>>>> unknowable. That is a choice to remain blind, and its source is
>>>> solely and admittedly, human. Your assumption is that all views are
>>>> human at the source.
>>>>
>>>> I disagree emphatically.
>>>>
>>>> Everything prodeeds from one's assumptions. Even considering
>>>> that the creator cared enough to send his son to die for us,
>>>> changes the whole world. Scary huh?
>>>>
>>>>
>>>>>Perhaps the only thing "God" ever said to us was "Survive!" and then
>left
>>>> it
>>>>>up to us to figure out that cooperation works better than competition.
>>>>
>>>>
>>>> If God is in quotes for you, then why would "god's" opinion
>>>> matter? Well it doesn't of course. Survive, don't survive, bake
>>>> cookies, bake Jews, who is to say no? Why should anyone care if
>>>> they do? All is permitted.
>>>>
>>>> This is not God's plan for us.
>>>>
>>>>
>>>>>The
>>>>>"Golden Rule" is not simply a nice idea, it's a very practical and
>>>>>effective
>>>>
>>>>>way to live peacefully with our fellow humans.
>>>>
>>>> And the greedy dirtbag says "the one with the gold makes the
>>>> rules".
>>>>
>>>> And you disapprove. With only "god" (otherwise known as Sarah's
>>>> opinion) to rebut him, why should he care?
>>>>
>>>>
>>>>>As far as speculating on the afterlife, I just don't care. I'm fine
>with
>>>>
>>>>>the mystery, in fact, I like a good mystery. Sure, it can be fun to
>say
>>>>

>>>>>"what if this . . . " or "what if that . . . " but let's be honest here
>>>> --
>>>>>none of us will know until the time comes, and maybe not even then.

>And
>>>> I'm
>>>>>sorry, but "because the bible tells me so" doesn't work for me. It's
>just
>>>>
>>>>>stuff that was written by the brighter members of some fairly backward
>
>>>>>human
>>>>
>>>>>societies thousands of years ago who may or may not have been inspired
>by
>>>> a
>>>>>supreme being.
>>>>
>>>>
>>>> And you cannot see that this is merely your view, not fact.
>>>> It is an assertion that there are no miracles, that God does not
>>>> care if we have a we to know Him or not, that things proceeded in
>>>> the past as they do today, and Jesus' death and resurrection are
>>>> human myths created, as all "god talk" is, by humans to comfort
>>>> themselves...
>>>>
>>>> You may not be an atheist, but you accept *all* of their basic
>>>> assumptions about existence.
>>>>
>>>>
>>>>>Meanwhile, back to the original topic: picture 100,000 dead Iraqis
>>>>>(conservative estimate). Picture them all together in a pile. What
>do
>>>> you
>>>>>think . . . would it fill a football stadium, like a big bowl of brown
>
>>>>>rice?
>>>>
>>>>>I don't know, but now tell me how many of those were terrorists? 100?
>>>> 500?
>>>>>1000? It doesn't matter does it? Not to those who were innocent and
>
>>>>>their
>>>>
>>>>>families.
>>>>>
>>>>>Now picture 2500 dead American soldiers and the 62,000 wounded or maimed.
>>>>

>>>>>If we were lied into this "war" based on hidden agendas, I can think
>of
>>>> some
>>>>>heads of state whose heads should roll. They probably won't, but it's
>a
>>>>
>>>>>nice thought. Picture Bush, Cheney, and Rumsfeld in orange jumpsuits
>and
>>>>
>>>>>chains . . . ni-i-i-i-i-ice. I feel better.
>>>>>
>>>>>Sarah
>>>>
>>>>
>>>> And it is this view that conerns me that we, as a people, are no
>>>> longer able to protect freedom. There were innocents killed in all
>>>> wars. This is no different. Would you broadcast from Dresden
>>>> or Nagasaki calling for the jailing of Truman? By your rules, you
>>>> would have to.
>>>>
>>>> We now have a whole generation of people who cannot bring themselves
>to do
>>>> what they must to protect our way of life.
>>>> Given that we face the most evil and implacable enemy in many
>>>> years, I am not sure that we will retain the freedom that those
>>>> WWII vets you admire so much, fought and died for.
>>>>
>>>> And finally, notice please, not one word of condemnation for the
>>>> ghouls and head choppers. Those who would use baby bottles
>>>> for binary explosives and die, with their infant in their arms, to kill
>>>> some of us. Not one word. This is why you simply are not
>>>> convincing me here. It is selective pacifism, pointed only at
>>>> Israel and the west and there is no righteousness in it.
>>>>
>>>> DC
>>>>
>>>>
>>>>
>>>
>>
>

Subject: Re: photo fraud
Posted by DC on Fri, 18 Aug 2006 02:46:59 GMT
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Reuters, the folks who published the phony pics, took down all the

work of the photog, and fired him.

Sounds confirmed.

DC

"Aaron Allen" <nospam@not_here.dude> wrote:
>Can anyone confirm or deny this information?
>Sources please :)
>
>
>http://www.aish.com/movies/PhotoFraud.asp
>
>

Subject: Re: Oh gawd . .
Posted by Dedric Terry on Fri, 18 Aug 2006 03:06:28 GMT
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Hey Jamie,

I probably should have replied originally in a generic post so you didn't think all of that was referring to you (I wasn't referring to anyone in particular - in general this is a great group of people - diverse opinions, but usually even tempered discussion which I greatly appreciate).

The possibility of our country outlawing Christianity isn't a given, but a trend I see - I really don't want to be right, and don't assume I am either. We may never reach that point, but there are many other reasons why I see that as a distinct possibility (for one, in Revelation when God talks about the last days, there is not correlation to any entity resembling the United States in its' current form - not that tying Revelation to any country outside of Israel is obvious - it isn't. But there are parallels for other countries, in some form).

I just sense that our country won't exist in this form eventually - either through hostile, economic or religious takeover (not Christianity btw), or gradual descent into another social and governmental form that self-destructs. Another possibility is that we team up with Canada and Mexico and form the North American Trade Union to compete with the EU (we would have more letters in our acronym, which is always good, or not), but that's completely unrelated, and far more likely to occur in our lifetimes...

Specifically related to your post, I was mainly addressing your assertion that our country is becoming a theocracy. Since the beginning of our country we have actually taken more associations with and public acceptances

of God and Christianity out of our society and out of public view, not the other way around. Some of that is just part of our ever changing interpretation of the separation of church and state, but the problem is, we don't seem to be abiding by a solid basis for many constitutional decisions as we might like to believe. As the separation of church and state concept isn't actually in the Constitution in that form (we've all discussed that before here), we are interpreting what is there in various forms - the original statement just says that the state/government shall not advocate a given religion, which it doesn't, and never has. There are of course state laws and tax laws that further define what that means (e.g. a minister can not endorse any political candidate from the pulpit and retain non-profit/religious institution status - that's a grey area between the restriction of the government not endorsing a religion and freedom of speech - e.g. the bill of rights applies as long as it doesn't interfere with our interpretation of the Constitution, and hence its' malleability gradually increases when it applies to religion).

Bill of Rights - there is a reason for it no doubt, and it works, or should, for everyone's benefit. That doesn't make governments, laws or bills more morally perfect than God's laws, but I think most of the ones we have work pretty well usually. But we have to remember that in a situation such as faith, a lack of faith can't be considered a neutral point of view in terms of rights. Where faith must be bound, so must irreligious beliefs - both are faith decisions - one deciding to believe in God, the other deciding not to. The reason is that to provide equal rights without conflict or contradiction between two contradictory belief systems (Christianity vs. Atheism/Agnosticism for example), one belief would have to be false to the point of being considered non-existent.

Sidebar - Blaise Pascal had an interesting comment on the idea of conflicting beliefs:
"Pascal's wager":

"Either Christianity is true or it's false. If you bet that it's true, and you believe in God and submit to Him, then if it IS true, you've gained God, heaven, and everything else. If it's false, you've lost nothing, but you've had a good life marked by peace and the illusion that ultimately, everything makes sense. If you bet that Christianity is not true, and it's false, you've lost nothing. But if you bet that it's false, and it turns out to be true, you've lost everything and you get to spend eternity in hell."

On 8/17/06 5:05 PM, in article 44e4f4b2@linux, "Jamie K" <Meta@Dimensional.com> wrote:

>
> Yet we must succeed at communicating between groups as diverse as
> Christians and Muslims, or for a tougher example, AELC Lutherans and
> Wisconsin Synod Lutherans. I'm only half joking about that last one...

Agreed. The church we attend here isn't one of the largest (about 1000), but has held two community discussion forums (both got local press) - the first was to discuss homosexuality, and the second religious diversity (including a Jew, Muslim, Catholic, etc). I wasn't able to attend either one, but heard both were very successful at opening up dialogue and giving people a chance to ask questions of panel members on all sides of both issues. The reason our church hosted this was simply to open up dialogue. I believe it both were moderated by 3rd parties so there wouldn't be a question of objectivity.
>
> In the USA some (not all) members of the following groups feel
> persecuted because of religious bias in our culture:
>
> 1) Christians (way too diverse a group to be under a single label, BTW).
To a degree that is true, but a Christian is simply someone who believes that Jesus is the son of one true God, and that he died to overcome our sins, giving us a direct path to God and the promise of eternal life.

> 2) Muslims
> 3) Jews
> 4) Sikhs
> 5) Atheists
> 6) etc.
>
> I don't know if Buddhists bother feeling persecuted.
>
> I do like the ACLU for the most part, because the Bill of Rights is
> constantly under attack. Since it's a fundamental part of what makes the
> USA a special place it needs to be looked after. So I'll add:
>
> 7) The Bill Of Rights
>
> Even though it's not a group, it protects all of us from a variety of
> bad stuff. Hey, it's my list and I'm adding it! :^)

7 is a good number. I do also see the Bill of Rights under attack, but perhaps from a different perspective.
>
> How do we balance different outlooks and perceptions around all this? It
> ain't easy. Talking is good, though.

It isn't easy, from any perspective. But I also agree, talking is the only way to understand, if not resolve differences.
>
> I don't see anything that indicates we are about to outlaw Christianity.
> You'll have to convince me on that one. The appropriateness of
> government sanctioning of the symbol of one religion over another is an

> interesting issue but I wouldn't read that as moving toward banning
> Christianity. Probably makes great material for rousing sermons, though,
> in some churches, while other churches can and do support the separation
> of church and state for religious reasons so their sermons would go the
> other way. See how hard it is to generalize about Christianity as one
> entity?

Actually I've never heard a sermon about a specific move to outlaw Christianity. Some ministers do refer to specific events where a Christian organization or event was sanctioned because it was perceived as being too public (a deviation of the separation of church and state). Why would the ACLU want to prevent someone from putting a cross on their own land? Are we going to extend eminent domain to enforce the separation of church and state, as a local judicial court chooses to interpret it?

In general most Christians don't worry about the future, and I don't either. I only proposed this perspective, hypothetically for the sake of this discussion, to open up thinking about where we could end up if the trend many of us see continues to build. Most of the events indicating such a trend never make the news. If you are interested, I'll relate more the next time we have a chance to get together.

>
> Our great Bill of Rights protects Christianity and all its sects. It
> seems to me that certain subsets of Christian thought are very
> influential in our government right now, hence my comment. I'm not
> seeing that level of influence from other religions.

And I see the opposite also being true - Ted Kennedy for one. There is some public profile and influence from prominent Christians, but I don't think it is nearly as strong as the news would have you believe. I've either attended churches headed by some of these leaders, or know other ministers that have relationships with them.
>
> We should have a conversation about this, Dedric, next time you're up
> this way.

That would be great. I'll drop you a line the next time I'm in your neck of the hills - probably should make a business trip up that way soon.

Regards,
Dedric

>
> Cheers,
> -Jamie
> http://www.JamieKrutz.com
>

>
>
> Dedric Terry wrote:
>> On 8/17/06 10:19 AM, in article 44e495a1@linux, "Jamie K"
>> <Meta@Dimensional.com> wrote:
>>
>>> We're a lot closer to becoming a Christian theocracy at the moment.
>>>
>>> Cheers,
>>> -Jamie
>>> http://www.JamieKrutz.com
>>
>> Actually most Christians, including many Christian leaders and ministers
>> I've talked to agree with me that we are closer to outlawing Christianity
>> than accepting it as a nation, much less adopting it. Separation of church
>> and state is actually quite a well-respected concept for most of the
>> Christian community. However, it isn't really fair to expect Christians to
>> just sit out of politics and voting completely to ease the fears of the
>> non-Christian community. For a non-Christian, any hint of Christianity may
>> seem like too much, or even a threat, but to a longtime Christian, the
>> deterioration of acceptance for our faith is sadly quite apparent, even on
>> this forum.
>>
>> Let's be brutally honest here, how many people on this forum really don't
>> mind a Christian sharing their views with conviction, and how many
>> truthfully have a problem with it? I'm sure it is tolerable (at best) as
>> long as it doesn't challenge or confront others' views (which by very
>> nature, it will, otherwise it wouldn't be faith with any life-impacting
>> substance). On the other hand, most religious threads here have rather
>> strong opinions on the non-Christian side - often even claiming that
>> Christianity is more violent than Islam, or that Christianity somehow is
>> responsible for our country going to Iraq (incredibly far from the truth).
>> Isn't that just one step away from Mel Gibson's drunken debacle of
>> slandering Jews? I'm sure that may not be the intention, but consider the
>> arguments here for equal rights and peace vs. the way Christianity is
>> discussed. If we are truly tolerant of one another, we wouldn't need to
>> ascribe violence and/or all of our country's, or the world's problems to the
>> faith of someone we might chat with casually in other circumstances. I'm
>> not asking this from a "victim" mentality in any form or fashion (far from
>> it). I'm just raising the question out of genuine curiosity and broadening
>> the perspectives here.
>>
>> For one societal example, in New Orleans the ACLU is protesting (and
>> probably filed suit) against people in one community for wanting to build a
>> memorial to victims of Katrina - one that includes a cross. The land is
>> private as is the funding, but as it is in public view, the ACLU is taking
>> issue. If we exercise equality of "rights" would that not give me the right
>> as a Christian to file suit against an adult nightclub for a billboard

>> promoting topless dancing, with suggestive photos? No, that would violate
>> the owner's right to free speech, and others' opinion of what is
>> "suggestive" and whether that could "suggest" anything objectionable for
>> anyone. What is the difference? A cross isn't going to tempt anyone to get
>> drunk, spend money that should be going to support a family, or worst case,
>> rape a woman (really worst case, not a statistical norm that I know of, at
>> least hope not) - it is actually more likely to cause the exact opposite,
>> but yet it is becoming a more common source of public outcry than crime
>> rates or corporate corruption.
>>
>> My prediction is that Christian churches will start being targeted by the
>> ACLU and other "rights" groups not wanting structures of any kind that
>> promote Christianity in public view. And it wouldn't be much of a leap from
>> there to having something as simple as praying over one's meal in public
>> become grounds for dismissal from a restaurant, if not legal or criminal
>> action. Sure, that's extrapolation, but that may give you a bit of insight
>> into why there seems to be more of a push by Christians to get Christians
>> involved in political issues - not to take over or dictate, but to protect
>> the freedom we are also supposed to be allowed. There are other examples of
>> how this trend is progressing, but I have to get back to work. ;-)
>>
>> The thing is, most Christians believe it is coming. The question is, who
>> wants to be on the side that one day tells me personally that I and my
>> family will no longer be welcome here? Just something to think about. I
>> really don't mind opposing opinions in the least and enjoy well-tempered
>> discussions. My faith is far greater than any government, threat of being
>> ostracized, or even death, so a little discussion is hardly a .
>>
>> I hope anyone reading this (however few ;-) will take it in the spirit it is
>> intended - just something to consider.
>>
>> Regards,
>> Dedric
>>
>>
>>>
>>>
>>

Subject: Re: Oh gawd . .
Posted by rick on Fri, 18 Aug 2006 10:02:23 GMT
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boring lectures
brittany spears interviews
stuff like that

On 18 Aug 2006 11:42:17 +1000, "Neil" <OIUOIU@OIU.com> wrote:

>
>LOL! Good point, Thad!
>
>I'll take a shot at a few. Maybe...:
>
>Famine or malnutrition
>Influenza (various endemics of such, throughout time)
>Old Age (ok, it's kind of a "Duh!", but it's still a killer)
>Infection of wounds
>Death at the hands (paws) of wild beasts
>
>That's all I can come up with.
>
>Neil
>
>
>
>"TCB" <nobody@ishere.com> wrote:
>>
>>I'd be interested to hear the nine candidates you would propose ahead of
>it.
>>
>>
>>TCB
>>
>>rick <parnell68@hotmail.com> wrote:
>>>sarah
>>>
>>>everyone wants to be the holder of "the truth" and feel compelled to
>>>convince others even if they have to kill them to do it. thankfully
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>>>that...on both sides of the argument. religion has to be in the top
>>>ten killers of humanity throughout history.
>>>
>>>On Wed, 16 Aug 2006 12:00:26 -0700, "Sarah" <sarahjane@sarahtonin.com>
>>>wrote:
>>>
>>>>(heavy sigh) I'm not sure why I'm continuing with this . . . I learned
>>
>>>>years ago you can't argue with a religious person. Yet I feel compelled
>>to
>>>>make my views clear to you, since you are pretty much consistently wrong
>>in
>>>>your assumptions about what I'm saying. I think you're still trying to

>>view
>>>>me as a "type" rather than just as that unique thing I like to call "me."
>>>>
>>>>First of all, the term "blind faith" is pretty much redundant. Faith
>is
>>
>>>>essentially, by definition, blind. Faith is "belief that does not rest
>>on
>>>>logical proof or material evidence." You can have your own definition
>>if
>>>>you need to, but that's from the dictionary, and makes sense to me. If
>>you
>>>>have proof or evidence, it's not longer a belief, is it? I believe in
>>
>>>>gravity, even though I can't explain it to you. It's obviously,
>>>>demonstrably, and universally agreeably real.
>>>>
>>>>Second, I am not saying God is unknowable . . . I'm saying I personally
>>do
>>>>not know who or what created this universe or when or why, and I see no
>>
>>>>evidence that anyone else does either, in spite of their fervent claims.
>> I
>>>>do believe in a higher power which is very exhilarating to feel truly
>
>>>>connected to, but the attempts of religion in general to describe this
>>
>>>>"supreme being" anthropomorphically just strike me as very superficial
>>and
>>>>frankly, kind of childish. I put "God" in quotes because I think it's
>>silly
>>>>to try and turn this awesome everpresent life force into a "guy in the
>>sky."
>>>>I do not "blind" myself with this point of view. Quite the opposite,
>my
>>
>>>>mind is wide open to spiritual experience, not limited to ancient dogma
>>that
>>>>I have no reason to believe.
>>>>
>>>>Which leads me to the real point I was hoping to make in fewer words:
>
>>I
>>>>have been arguing these ideas with believers since I was 17 (LONG time
>>ago),
>>>>and in all that time not ONE of them has given me a REASON to believe
>that
>>

>>>>the bible is anything more than legend, parable, mythology, and a smattering
>>
>>>>of history. I should believe it's the word of God why? Because it claims
>>
>>>>to be? Those are the claims of Roman bishops and other ancient human
>beings
>>
>>>>whose motives and honesty I know nothing about. And if the bible is the
>>
>>>>word of God, I'm not impressed. I expect better from a supreme being.
>>>>
>>>>Like the dozens before you, you tell me repeatedly what you believe in
>>a way
>>>>that suggests no opposing belief can possibly be true. I know WHAT you
>>
>>>>believe, I've heard it a thousand times over the last 30-some years.
>What
>>I
>>>>don't know is WHY you believe it. Because it gives you hope? Because
>>you
>>>>were desperate for answers and a bible was handy? Because your parents
>>
>>>>believed it? Because you dropped acid and saw Jesus? Because you happened
>>
>>>>to be born here rather than India or Iran? And if you had been born in
>>
>>>>India or Iran, would you be just as fervently Hindu or Muslim?
>>>>
>>>>Nor has anyone ever been able to explain the logic in a supposedly
>>>>omnipotent being sending his son to die for our sins. How does this make
>>
>>>>any sense? Isn't it more likely that Jesus simply became enough of a
>threat
>>
>>>>to the Romans and the Jewish heirarchy that they decided to kill him?
>>>>
>>>>You speak a lot about assumptions. OK, here's one you seem to share with
>>
>>>>other believers that drives me nuts: without God there is no right or
>>
>>>>wrong. This is such nonsense. One does not need to believe in God, Heaven,
>>
>>>>or Hell to know the difference between right and wrong and to behave
>>>>accordingly. "A man's ethical behavior should be based effectually on
>>
>>>>sympathy, education, and social ties and needs; no religious basis is
>
>>>>necessary. Man would indeed be in a poor way if he had to be restrained

>>by
>>>>fear of punishment and hope of reward after death." - Albert Einstein
>>>>
>>>>And finally, I didn't mention "ghouls and head choppers" because the evil
>>of
>>>>"ghouls and head choppers" is not in dispute. I'm concerned about what
>>has
>>>>been done and is being done in my name as an American, because I believe
>>
>>>>that to also be evil and I'm just a little more than worried about the
>>
>>>>potential consequences of this.
>>>>
>>>>But I have to be honest . . . I feel like I just wasted another hour that
>>I
>>>>could have been catching up on sleep in. I should have learned by now
>>that
>>>>the more you challenge fixed beliefs, the harder the believer clings to
>>
>>>>them. You are of course free to believe what you want, but again, beliefs
>>
>>>>are by definition unproven, and therefore someone else's beliefs are not
>>
>>>>wrong simply because they contradict yours.
>>>>
>>>>OK, I mean it this time . . . I give up.
>>>>
>>>>Sarah
>>>>
>>>>
>>>>"DC" <dc@spammersinmaui.com> wrote in message news:44e23a46$1@linux...
>>>>>
>>>>> "Sarah" <sarahjane@sarahtonin.com> wrote:
>>>>>>The problem with blind faith is that one risks being blinded by faith.
>>>>>>(Speaking from personal experience).
>>>>>
>>>>> Faith in God is not blind. What is blind is the choice to call God
>>>>> unknowable. That is a choice to remain blind, and its source is
>>>>> solely and admittedly, human. Your assumption is that all views are
>>>>> human at the source.
>>>>>
>>>>> I disagree emphatically.
>>>>>
>>>>> Everything prodeeds from one's assumptions. Even considering
>>>>> that the creator cared enough to send his son to die for us,
>>>>> changes the whole world. Scary huh?
>>>>>
>>>>>

>>>>>>Perhaps the only thing "God" ever said to us was "Survive!" and then
>>left
>>>>> it
>>>>>>up to us to figure out that cooperation works better than competition.
>>>>>
>>>>>
>>>>> If God is in quotes for you, then why would "god's" opinion
>>>>> matter? Well it doesn't of course. Survive, don't survive, bake
>>>>> cookies, bake Jews, who is to say no? Why should anyone care if
>>>>> they do? All is permitted.
>>>>>
>>>>> This is not God's plan for us.
>>>>>
>>>>>
>>>>>>The
>>>>>>"Golden Rule" is not simply a nice idea, it's a very practical and
>>>>>>effective
>>>>>
>>>>>>way to live peacefully with our fellow humans.
>>>>>
>>>>> And the greedy dirtbag says "the one with the gold makes the
>>>>> rules".
>>>>>
>>>>> And you disapprove. With only "god" (otherwise known as Sarah's
>>>>> opinion) to rebut him, why should he care?
>>>>>
>>>>>
>>>>>>As far as speculating on the afterlife, I just don't care. I'm fine
>>with
>>>>>
>>>>>>the mystery, in fact, I like a good mystery. Sure, it can be fun to
>>say
>>>>>
>>>>>>"what if this . . . " or "what if that . . . " but let's be honest here
>>>>> --
>>>>>>none of us will know until the time comes, and maybe not even then.
>
>>And
>>>>> I'm
>>>>>>sorry, but "because the bible tells me so" doesn't work for me. It's
>>just
>>>>>
>>>>>>stuff that was written by the brighter members of some fairly backward
>>
>>>>>>human
>>>>>
>>>>>>societies thousands of years ago who may or may not have been inspired
>>by

>>>>> a
>>>>>>supreme being.
>>>>>
>>>>>
>>>>> And you cannot see that this is merely your view, not fact.
>>>>> It is an assertion that there are no miracles, that God does not
>>>>> care if we have a we to know Him or not, that things proceeded in
>>>>> the past as they do today, and Jesus' death and resurrection are
>>>>> human myths created, as all "god talk" is, by humans to comfort
>>>>> themselves...
>>>>>
>>>>> You may not be an atheist, but you accept *all* of their basic
>>>>> assumptions about existence.
>>>>>
>>>>>
>>>>>>Meanwhile, back to the original topic: picture 100,000 dead Iraqis
>>>>>>(conservative estimate). Picture them all together in a pile. What
>>do
>>>>> you
>>>>>>think . . . would it fill a football stadium, like a big bowl of brown
>>
>>>>>>rice?
>>>>>
>>>>>>I don't know, but now tell me how many of those were terrorists? 100?
>>>>> 500?
>>>>>>1000? It doesn't matter does it? Not to those who were innocent and
>>
>>>>>>their
>>>>>
>>>>>>families.
>>>>>>
>>>>>>Now picture 2500 dead American soldiers and the 62,000 wounded or maimed.
>>>>>
>>>>>>If we were lied into this "war" based on hidden agendas, I can think
>>of
>>>>> some
>>>>>>heads of state whose heads should roll. They probably won't, but it's
>>a
>>>>>
>>>>>>nice thought. Picture Bush, Cheney, and Rumsfeld in orange jumpsuits
>>and
>>>>>
>>>>>>chains . . . ni-i-i-i-i-ice. I feel better.
>>>>>>
>>>>>>Sarah
>>>>>
>>>>>
>>>>> And it is this view that conerns me that we, as a people, are no

>>>>> longer able to protect freedom. There were innocents killed in all
>>>>> wars. This is no different. Would you broadcast from Dresden
>>>>> or Nagasaki calling for the jailing of Truman? By your rules, you
>>>>> would have to.
>>>>>
>>>>> We now have a whole generation of people who cannot bring themselves
>>to do
>>>>> what they must to protect our way of life.
>>>>> Given that we face the most evil and implacable enemy in many
>>>>> years, I am not sure that we will retain the freedom that those
>>>>> WWII vets you admire so much, fought and died for.
>>>>>
>>>>> And finally, notice please, not one word of condemnation for the
>>>>> ghouls and head choppers. Those who would use baby bottles
>>>>> for binary explosives and die, with their infant in their arms, to kill
>>>>> some of us. Not one word. This is why you simply are not
>>>>> convincing me here. It is selective pacifism, pointed only at
>>>>> Israel and the west and there is no righteousness in it.
>>>>>
>>>>> DC
>>>>>
>>>>>
>>>>>
>>>>
>>>
>>

Subject: Re: Oh gawd . .
Posted by TCB on Fri, 18 Aug 2006 15:09:58 GMT
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I know I'm going to sound like a pedant but I'm going to say it anyway. The founders were keenly aware of the importance of keeping religion out of the public sphere precisely because the recent history of Europe had shown how dangerous it is when it gets there. About a hundred years earlier (and the American aristocracy that made the country were keen historians almost to a one) a religious war had sent England very close to complete anarchy. The entire idea of the country was to avoid entanglement in the issues that had plagued Europe for centuries, sectarian violence surrounding religion and monarchy. It bothers me immensely when somehow Franklin and Jefferson are retrofitted with vestments.

As I've said here, I respect anyone's beliefs unless and until they interfere with my life, liberty, and pursuit of happiness. If you don't like 'suggestive' billboards or strip clubs you'll have to pass laws against them that meet the standards of the constitution. As Jefferson said, whether my neighbor wishes to worship a different god than I do, or no god at all, neither picks

my pockets nor breaks my bones. But considering the damage that religious
strife has caused in history I think any error should be made on the side
of caution.

TCB

Dedric Terry <dterry@keyofd.net> wrote:
>On 8/17/06 10:19 AM, in article 44e495a1@linux, "Jamie K"
><Meta@Dimensional.com> wrote:
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>> Cheers,
>> -Jamie
>> http://www.JamieKrutz.com
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>discussed. If we are truly tolerant of one another, we wouldn't need to
>ascribe violence and/or all of our country's, or the world's problems to
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>not asking this from a "victim" mentality in any form or fashion (far from

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>For one societal example, in New Orleans the ACLU is protesting (and
>probably filed suit) against people in one community for wanting to build
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>private as is the funding, but as it is in public view, the ACLU is taking
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>Regards,
>Dedric

>
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>>
>>
>>
>

Subject: Re: church and state
Posted by dc[3] on Fri, 18 Aug 2006 15:35:19 GMT
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>

Subject: Re: church and state one more thing...
Posted by dc[3] on Fri, 18 Aug 2006 15:43:58 GMT
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"TCB" <nobody@ishere.com> wrote:
>But considering the damage that religious
>strife has caused in history I think any error should be made on the side
>of caution.

I call comments like these "atheist campfire songs", because they
allow atheists to feel superior while ignoring history.

Considering that the 20th century brought us 200 million dead
at the hands of secularists like Mao, Stalin, Pol Pot and so many
others, it might not quite be time for the superior dance yet...

Well I wasn't expecting the STALINIST PURGES!

NOBODY expects the STALINIST PURGES!! our chief weapons are
fear, intimidation, the gulag and murder!!

DC

Subject: Re: church and state
Posted by TCB on Fri, 18 Aug 2006 15:54:03 GMT
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Actually, I said that _I consider_ the three religions based on the vengeful
Levantine sky god 'morally suspect' which I still believe. Unsurprisingly,
you equate a general 'belief in God' with 'DC's christian beliefs' which
might bring quizzical looks from 850 million Hindus.

And of course our currency always had 'in god we trust' on it, except that
it didn't.

http://www.treasury.gov/education/fact-sheets/currency/in-go d-we-trust.shtml

We atheists don't really have an agenda. How could we? There's not much prosteltizing
to be done for non-belief. I guess we do have one agenda, to be left alone
on that pursuit that happiness Jefferson promised us.

TCB

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Subject: Re: church and state
Posted by DC on Fri, 18 Aug 2006 16:08:22 GMT
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But you said *right below* that you respect "anyone's" beliefs,
and indeed you do not. Glad to hear you say you respect Hindus,
but I doubt many of them would find your respect something they
could be certain of.

As far as proselytizing. Here you go:

Atheist evangelists on parade:

http://www.the-brights.net/
http://www.atheists.org/
http://www.atheists.com/

and there's lots more. My uncles were good friends with Madalyn
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As far as the currency goes, I care much less that the statement
is on there, than I am alarmed at the push to take it off, all the
while denying an agenda...

amazing really.

DC

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>>>>> Cheers,
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Subject: Re: church and state
Posted by TCB on Fri, 18 Aug 2006 16:19:30 GMT
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I think you're confusing 'respect' with 'adhere to.' I can respect someone's beliefs and still disagree with them. I respect the beliefs of those who believe an alien abduction but I don't think that happens.

As an atheist, when I get tax exempt buildings and special parking spaces I'll start believing we have an agenda.

TCB

"DC" <dc@spammersinhell.org> wrote:
>
>But you said *right below* that you respect "anyone's" beliefs,
>and indeed you do not. Glad to hear you say you respect Hindus,
>but I doubt many of them would find your respect something they
>could be certain of.
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Subject: Re: church and state
Posted by DC on Fri, 18 Aug 2006 16:56:07 GMT
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>beliefs and still disagree with them. I respect the beliefs of those who
>believe an alien abduction but I don't think that happens.

No you don't. You have zero respect for those beliefs and
anyone who knows you can confirm this.

We say we respect beliefs, but we often do not. Madalyn Murray
O'Hare was a nasty old bat, full of hate and bitterness, who in the
end was killed by someone who subscribed to the same almighty
self as the final authority, that she did. Her beliefs lead straight to

hell IM-ever-so-HO.

Now, as an american, and certainly as a christian, I hope I would
change her tire in the rain, and I hope I would jump in and save
your butt from a beating if you got too friendly with one of your
brazilian stripper chicks and some guy decided to teach you a
lesson.

This practice of respect is what is lacking, not the profession of
respect, which is just words... I wish atheists practiced respect
more towards Christians. But hey, we understand your need to
dump on us. After all, we know about your doubt that we are
wrong, and your fear that we may be right...

DC

Subject: Re: church and state
Posted by TCB on Fri, 18 Aug 2006 17:54:20 GMT
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First, I had to google Madelyn O'Hare to find out who she was, so at the very least I'm not part of the grand atheist conspiracy. I'm just a plain old atheist. And, just so you know, I spend LOTS of time with people who don't agree with what I think, and have no problem at all with them. Anyone who actually does know me would happily confirm this. Enjoying their company and conversation to me is the greatest proof of my 'respect' for their beliefs, even if I don't always agree with them.

You, of course, in a daunting display of respect, tell me my beliefs consign me to hell, which is already crowded with all those Hindus we were talking about before.

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Subject: Re: church and state
Posted by dc[3] on Fri, 18 Aug 2006 18:20:39 GMT
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"TCB" <nobody@ishere.com> wrote:
>
>First, I had to google Madelyn O'Hare to find out who she was, so at the very
>least I'm not part of the grand atheist conspiracy.

Wow, she was behind the landmark 1964 School Prayer decision that formed the basis for much of our current case law on church-state issues. Oh, well, like a said, a nasty old bat, so you did not miss much.

I'm just a plain old
>atheist. And, just so you know, I spend LOTS of time with people who don't
>agree with what I think, and have no problem at all with them.

I never doubted it. You do also ridicule Christians on occasion, and spare me the blather about your respect for UFO cultists. You practice respect towards them, but you still think they are fools.

Which makes you like everyone else.

>You, of course, in a daunting display of respect, tell me my beliefs consign
>me to hell, which is already crowded with all those Hindus we were talking
>about before.

Why should you care? There IS no hell right? And you got my position wrong anyway.

You must have missed some of what I said to Sarah. I strongly believe that Hindus, Muslims etc can go to heaven. It is not about adherence to Christian orthodoxy, it is about our response to the Spirit of God. Everyone deals with that issue, regardless of their faith or lack of it. No one goes to hell because some missionary did not get to them in time. No little kid who dies of cancer at the age of 5 goes to hell because they have not heard the name of Jesus. That would be pure barbarity, and I think it is unscriptural as well.

I do believe that a sincere search for God will lead them (and us) to Jesus Christ at some point, but if they die before they get

there, do they go to hell? That's not what I see in the Bible.

BTW, I can envision an atheist in heaven. (In an anechoic chamber
testing mics... forever and ever, and never opening the doooorrr...)

Seriously though, imagine someone who saw "religious" people
of whatever stripe, slaughter their family? Wouldn't their atheism
make sense? Wouldn't it be a further injustice for them to go to hell
because of what they had no power over?

I differ strongly with the Bible Belt folks who think anyone that
doesn't say the name of Jesus is conigned to eternal fire which
I don't believe in either. What the hell (pardon the pun) is the
point of burning someone for ever and ever? Is it not simple
cruelty? Is it not simple perversity at some point? After 20 years
or so of burning, is it not just silly?

Oy, coffee break's over, back on yer 'eads!

(remember that joke?)

So, no, I don't *know* you are going to hell, and it's not my place
to make that call. I really hope you do not.

We need mic testers!

heh heh

DC

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Subject: Re: Oh gawd . .
Posted by Jamie K on Tue, 22 Aug 2006 03:41:26 GMT
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Hey Dedric,

Dedric Terry wrote:
 > That would be great. I'll drop you a line the next time I'm in your
neck of
 > the hills - probably should make a business trip up that way soon.

Cool!

Just to be clear, we aren't a theocracy. Good thing, too. The point I
was trying to make is our government is more influenced by Christians
than any other religion on policy matters simply because almost all
elected officials are Christians. Ted Kennedy is Catholic BTW. So it
seems alarmist to paint Christianity as being in anything like dire
straights in the USA.

OTH, GWB once said his favorite political philosopher is Jesus (during a
primary presidential debate), and if he truly believes Jesus is a
political philosopher then theocracy would not be out of the question
for him.

Perhaps others have helped him sort it out by now:

http://clarionherald.org/20000106/maestri.htm

Cheers,
-Jamie
http://www.JamieKrutz.com

> Hey Jamie,
>
> I probably should have replied originally in a generic post so you didn't
> think all of that was referring to you (I wasn't referring to anyone in
> particular - in general this is a great group of people - diverse opinions,
> but usually even tempered discussion which I greatly appreciate).
>
> The possibility of our country outlawing Christianity isn't a given, but a
> trend I see - I really don't want to be right, and don't assume I am either.
> We may never reach that point, but there are many other reasons why I see
> that as a distinct possibility (for one, in Revelation when God talks about
> the last days, there is not correlation to any entity resembling the United
> States in its' current form - not that tying Revelation to any country
> outside of Israel is obvious - it isn't. But there are parallels for other
> countries, in some form).
>
> I just sense that our country won't exist in this form eventually - either
> through hostile, economic or religious takeover (not Christianity btw), or
> gradual descent into another social and governmental form that
> self-destructs. Another possibility is that we team up with Canada and
> Mexico and form the North American Trade Union to compete with the EU (we
> would have more letters in our acronym, which is always good, or not), but
> that's completely unrelated, and far more likely to occur in our
> lifetimes...
>
> Specifically related to your post, I was mainly addressing your assertion
> that our country is becoming a theocracy. Since the beginning of our
> country we have actually taken more associations with and public acceptances
> of God and Christianity out of our society and out of public view, not the
> other way around. Some of that is just part of our ever changing
> interpretation of the separation of church and state, but the problem is, we
> don't seem to be abiding by a solid basis for many constitutional decisions
> as we might like to believe. As the separation of church and state concept
> isn't actually in the Constitution in that form (we've all discussed that
> before here), we are interpreting what is there in various forms - the
> original statement just says that the state/government shall not advocate a
> given religion, which it doesn't, and never has. There are of course state
> laws and tax laws that further define what that means (e.g. a minister can

> not endorse any political candidate from the pulpit and retain
> non-profit/religious institution status - that's a grey area between the
> restriction of the government not endorsing a religion and freedom of speech
> - e.g. the bill of rights applies as long as it doesn't interfere with our
> interpretation of the Constitution, and hence its' malleability gradually
> increases when it applies to religion).
>
> Bill of Rights - there is a reason for it no doubt, and it works, or should,
> for everyone's benefit. That doesn't make governments, laws or bills more
> morally perfect than God's laws, but I think most of the ones we have work
> pretty well usually. But we have to remember that in a situation such as
> faith, a lack of faith can't be considered a neutral point of view in terms
> of rights. Where faith must be bound, so must irreligious beliefs - both
> are faith decisions - one deciding to believe in God, the other deciding not
> to. The reason is that to provide equal rights without conflict or
> contradiction between two contradictory belief systems (Christianity vs.
> Atheism/Agnosticism for example), one belief would have to be false to the
> point of being considered non-existent.
>
> Sidebar - Blaise Pascal had an interesting comment on the idea of
> conflicting beliefs:
> "Pascal's wager":
>
> "Either Christianity is true or it's false. If you bet that it's true, and
> you believe in God and submit to Him, then if it IS true, you've gained God,
> heaven, and everything else. If it's false, you've lost nothing, but you've
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>>> Dedric
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Subject: Re: Oh gawd . .
Posted by Dedric Terry on Tue, 22 Aug 2006 05:23:13 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

Hey Jamie,

I do understand your perspective. We can pick up the discussion over lunch
one day, as well as music too of course. :-) Probably early to mid-September
before my next trip up that way, as it's looking right now.

Regards,
Dedric

"Jamie K" <Meta@Dimensional.com> wrote in message news:44ea7b53@linux...
>
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> Hey Dedric,
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> Dedric Terry wrote:
> > That would be great. I'll drop you a line the next time I'm in your
> neck of
> > the hills - probably should make a business trip up that way soon.
>
> Cool!
>
> Just to be clear, we aren't a theocracy. Good thing, too. The point I was
> trying to make is our government is more influenced by Christians than any

> other religion on policy matters simply because almost all elected
> officials are Christians. Ted Kennedy is Catholic BTW. So it seems
> alarmist to paint Christianity as being in anything like dire straights in
> the USA.
>
> OTH, GWB once said his favorite political philosopher is Jesus (during a
> primary presidential debate), and if he truly believes Jesus is a
> political philosopher then theocracy would not be out of the question for
> him.
>
> Perhaps others have helped him sort it out by now:
>
> http://clarionherald.org/20000106/maestri.htm
>
> Cheers,
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>
>
>> Hey Jamie,
>>
>> I probably should have replied originally in a generic post so you didn't
>> think all of that was referring to you (I wasn't referring to anyone in
>> particular - in general this is a great group of people - diverse
>> opinions,
>> but usually even tempered discussion which I greatly appreciate).
>>
>> The possibility of our country outlawing Christianity isn't a given, but
>> a
>> trend I see - I really don't want to be right, and don't assume I am
>> either.
>> We may never reach that point, but there are many other reasons why I see
>> that as a distinct possibility (for one, in Revelation when God talks
>> about
>> the last days, there is not correlation to any entity resembling the
>> United
>> States in its' current form - not that tying Revelation to any country
>> outside of Israel is obvious - it isn't. But there are parallels for
>> other
>> countries, in some form).
>>
>> I just sense that our country won't exist in this form eventually -
>> either
>> through hostile, economic or religious takeover (not Christianity btw),
>> or
>> gradual descent into another social and governmental form that
>> self-destructs. Another possibility is that we team up with Canada and

>> Mexico and form the North American Trade Union to compete with the EU (we
>> would have more letters in our acronym, which is always good, or not),
>> but
>> that's completely unrelated, and far more likely to occur in our
>> lifetimes...
>>
>> Specifically related to your post, I was mainly addressing your assertion
>> that our country is becoming a theocracy. Since the beginning of our
>> country we have actually taken more associations with and public
>> acceptances
>> of God and Christianity out of our society and out of public view, not
>> the
>> other way around. Some of that is just part of our ever changing
>> interpretation of the separation of church and state, but the problem is,
>> we
>> don't seem to be abiding by a solid basis for many constitutional
>> decisions
>> as we might like to believe. As the separation of church and state
>> concept
>> isn't actually in the Constitution in that form (we've all discussed that
>> before here), we are interpreting what is there in various forms - the
>> original statement just says that the state/government shall not advocate
>> a
>> given religion, which it doesn't, and never has. There are of course
>> state
>> laws and tax laws that further define what that means (e.g. a minister
>> can
>> not endorse any political candidate from the pulpit and retain
>> non-profit/religious institution status - that's a grey area between the
>> restriction of the government not endorsing a religion and freedom of
>> speech
>> - e.g. the bill of rights applies as long as it doesn't interfere with
>> our
>> interpretation of the Constitution, and hence its' malleability gradually
>> increases when it applies to religion).
>>
>> Bill of Rights - there is a reason for it no doubt, and it works, or
>> should,
>> for everyone's benefit. That doesn't make governments, laws or bills
>> more
>> morally perfect than God's laws, but I think most of the ones we have
>> work
>> pretty well usually. But we have to remember that in a situation such as
>> faith, a lack of faith can't be considered a neutral point of view in
>> terms
>> of rights. Where faith must be bound, so must irreligious beliefs - both
>> are faith decisions - one deciding to believe in God, the other deciding
>> not

>> to. The reason is that to provide equal rights without conflict or
>> contradiction between two contradictory belief systems (Christianity vs.
>> Atheism/Agnosticism for example), one belief would have to be false to
>> the
>> point of being considered non-existent.
>>
>> Sidebar - Blaise Pascal had an interesting comment on the idea of
>> conflicting beliefs:
>> "Pascal's wager":
>>
>> "Either Christianity is true or it's false. If you bet that it's true,
>> and
>> you believe in God and submit to Him, then if it IS true, you've gained
>> God,
>> heaven, and everything else. If it's false, you've lost nothing, but
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