

# god\_is\_dead

4/5/1999

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Life is a roller coaster that one has no choice in riding, one has a choice about how we face that ride. We can tremble in fear, close our eyes and pray for the ride to end and stand on firm unmoving land. The others off us lift our arms in the air, whoop and holler, and learn to enjoy the ride for what it is. I leave it to you to decide which you want to be, nobody can make that choice for you.

AUTHOUR UNKNOWN

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"I do not believe in the creed professed by the Jewish Church, by the Roman Church, by the Greek Church, by the Turkish Church, by the Protestant Church, nor by any church that I know of. My own mind is my own church."

Thomas Paine, "The Age of Reason"

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"Nearly all men can stand adversity, but if you want to test a man's character, give him power."

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"Some of the world's greatest feats were accomplished by people not smart enough to know they were impossible."

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"The supreme crime of the church today is that everywhere and in all its operations and influences it is on the side of sloth of mind; that it banishes brains, it sanctifies stupidity, it canonizes incompetence."

- Upton Sinclair, "The Profits of Religion"

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"There are two types of power. There is authority, which can only be given, and control, which can only be taken."

Wingedbeast, C. Adam Scott, Atheist #1438

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I usually answer them by saying that we simply "Do not know", then I caution them against being fooled by the illusion of an answer, created by merely adding another variable into the question, but still leaving the question unanswered.

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I usually answer with a question : "if everything needs a creator, then who created God?"

If they answer that God didn't need a creator, then I ask them "so why does the Universe?" Gets them every time.

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"All national institutions of churches, whether Jewish, Christian or Turkish, appear to me no other than human inventions, set up to terrify and enslave mankind, and monopolize power and profit."

- Thomas Paine

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You might counter by saying something like, if it was created, how do you know it was your God?

If they answer: "because the bible says so", then it's hopeless and

you should stop discussing it with them.

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So, when is Jesus coming? A prophecy without a due date is a joke. It is a tool for allowing con-men to claim that 'God is coming soon!' while always being able to deny that the prophecy has failed. No doubt Lindsey has figured out his 'mistake' and has recalibrated his Jesus T-zero date and, surprise!, it's just around the corner. This has been going on for 2000 years. Can't we now declare Jesus legally dead and divide his estate (church wealth) among all of us, his children?

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**\*\* 20th Century Pope Leo XIII\*\***

"The death sentence is a necessary and efficacious means for the church to attain its ends when rebels act against it and disturbers of the ecclesiastical unity, especially obstinate heretics and heresiarchs, cannot be restrained by any other penalty from continuing to derange the ecclesiastical order and impelling others to all sorts of crime.. When the perversity of one or several is calculated to bring upon the ruin of many of its children it is bound effectively to remove it, in such wise that if there be no other remedy for saving its people it can and must put these people to death."

Lloyd M Graham, Deceptions and myths of the bible-468.

( Pope Leo is advocating the extermination of people whose only sin, is one of different faith.)

**\*\*19th Century Pope Gregory XVI wrote on freedom\*\***

"It is no way lawful to demand, to defend, or to grant unconditional freedom of thought, or speech, of writing, or of religion, as if they were so many rights that nature gave to man."

John Dollison, Pope-Pourri, 9

**\*\* Pope Innocent III declared\*\***

"...that anyone who attempted to construe a personal view of God, must be burned without pity"

Helen Ellerbe-Dark side of Christianity

**\*\*During the inquisition\*\*** the church distanced itself from the killing by turning heretics over to secular authorities for the actual burning. Such secular authorities, however, were not allowed to decline. When the Senate of Venice in 1521 refused to approve such executions, for example, POPE LEO X wrote that the secular officials were>

"...to intervene no more in this kind of trial, but promptly, without changing or inspecting the sentence which they are enjoined to carry out.. And if they neglect or refuse, you (the Papal Legate) are to compel them with the church's censure and other appropriate measures. From this order there is no appeal."

Helen Ellerbe- Dark side of Christianity.

**\*\*AND THE JEWS\*\***

Inquisition often targeted other religions as severely as it did heretics. The inquisition

lent its papal authority to the long standing persecution of

Jews.Particular during the Christian Holy Week of Passion,Christians frequently rioted against the Jews or refused to sell them food in the hope of starving them.At the beginning of the 13th Century< POPE INNOCENT III required Jews to wear distinctive clothing.(Deje Vou Hitler).

By 1391 the Archdeacon of Seville launched a "holy war against the Jews".By 1492 the inquisition of Spain had become so virulent in its persecution of Jews that it demanded either their conversion to Christianity or their expulsion.Not surprisingly, Islamic countries offered far safer sanctuaries to escaping Jews than Christian lands...

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"The mentality for blind faith secures its own perpetuation by the simple unconscious expedient of discouraging rational inquiry."  
[Richard Dawkins, "Viruses of the Mind"]

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"Science is the true theology" -- Thomas Paine

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Stripping away the irrational, the illogical, and the impossible, I am left with atheism. I can live with that.

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"When 25 percent of the population believe that the president should be impeached and 51 percent believe in UFO's, you may or may not need a new president, but you definitely need a new population."  
--Harry Reasoner

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"If American politicians don't trust the people, why don't they just dissolve the population and elect a new people?"  
R.A. Wilson.

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Elf M. Sternberg, rational romantic mystic cynical idealist  
If you're so smart, why aren't you naked?

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F.A. von Hayek once said "The roads to hell are paved with good intentions".

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Christian Fundamentalism: The doctrine that there is an absolutely powerful, infinitely knowledgeable, universe spanning entity that is deeply obsessed with my sex life.

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On the belief in immortality: "It is a state of unrelieved theatricality."  
-- James P. Carse, \_Finite and Infinite Game

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There is no god worth our worship.  
Martin Schlottmann

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We're all the same, we just evaluate the evidence differently.

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"You're basically killing each other to see who's got the better imaginary friend."  
\* Yasir Arrafat (PLO leader)