
Subject: Re: hope none of you are them
Posted by [Crimson](#) on Sun, 16 Jul 2006 09:53:11 GMT
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Hydra wrote on Sat, 15 July 2006 23:03

If you haven't read the book, why are you quoting from it? [/NITPICKING]

Because I like the passage that I quoted and felt it appropriate to the discussion...

Quote:I feel sad for you, Crimson.

Notice I did not say "I pity you" (I don't view you as somehow lower than me simply because we disagree) but that I feel sad for you.

I feel sad that you have such a cynical view of not only all Christians but religion in general.

I didn't come of it lightly. I have done a LOT of reading of various peoples' ideas.

Quote:I'm sorry so many of my colleagues in Christ have failed to live up to the name "Christian"; though they may call themselves "Christian," many are hardly worthy of the title.

One of the many reasons I don't believe in an omniscient, omnibenevolent god that would allow such horrible acts to be carried out in his name.

Quote:But what I'm really sorry for is that you haven't seen all the good that Christianity is doing and has accomplished.

You're wrong about that. Since religion is a tool to control the masses, it makes them moral and in many cases, less selfish. The good acts are just a result of that.

Quote:Is it naiveté to look up at the sky at night and see the infinite complexity and order to the universe and not think that someone or something set it all into motion?

Absolutely.

Quote:How could our vast and great universe possibly have come about to exist if something didn't create it in the first place?

This is called the "God of the Gaps", or "Argument from ignorance" argument. Just because you can't explain it doesn't mean it's unexplainable. Just because you don't know how something came to be doesn't mean God did it. As science discovers more and more, there is less and less room for god to operate. One day, generations after us, belief in a god will probably be only in the history books, just as the ancient Greek and Roman gods.

Quote:Is it childish to believe that we humans have some higher value than the cow squeeze and slaughtered pig meat that I ate on my pizza tonight (cheese and pepperoni, just to clarify)?

Not necessarily childish, but we don't necessarily have more value. It's the height of egotism to believe this all exists solely for us who inhabit such a tiny fraction of the universe.

Quote:Like I said before, I'm sorry for the actions of my fellow "Christians" who judge and condemn others to Hell when it most certainly isn't their place.

I don't really care. If hell exists, it's not their place or duty to decide whether I go there or not.

Quote:Though they are obviously too abraasive in their tactics and don't know how to present their ideas in a tactful way, they really want the best for everyone.

They don't know what's best for me or anyone else.

Quote:What they mean by, "Believe in Jesus, or you're going to Hell!" is that they want you to experience the most beautiful gift God has ever given to mankind.

What gift? What are you TALKING about? This doesn't make ANY sense to me.

Quote:They don't want you to be left behind in the dust when the taxi to heaven drives off. Though they may not say it in the best way possible, they really want the best for you.

They assume this god exists when they think this is the best for me. I understand that it's more comfortable to imagine that something awaits you when you die, but the odds are good that you'll just be worm food.

Quote:When you think about it logically (of which many atheists are fans), it makes very good sense not to do many of the things the Bible says not to do.

Have you read "Kissing Hank's Ass" yet? Just because some of the advice in the bible is good, it doesn't immediate make the whole book good AND the holy word of this diety.

Quote:We Christians believe we have struck oil. We believe our well is bursting out of the ground, and we feel it is our duty to try to supply everyone with as much of it as we can. They can obviously reject us, as so many have done, and be superficially satisfied with their barrel of tar, yet deep down, something inside of them tells them that their tar isn't the oil they're looking for.

And yet you don't even see that when you have been told over and over and over and over and over and over and over that you must share this gift with everyone, that you have become a mouthpiece and a tool for this organization and you have been led to believe that brainwashing other people into your big cult is a GOOD thing for us? Ugh!

Quote:So please don't chastize us for only doing what everyone else, including yourself, has done--proclaiming we have struck oil and that our truth is absolute. How "open-minded" is it to say we haven't struck our oil when you haven't even begun drilling yet (that was a figurative "you," by the way)?

I don't get that analogy. It's like we all read a book and you decided it was true and I decided it was a fanciful fairy tale. Could I be wrong? Sure! But at least I am very thankful that I have been raised in such a way that I can be open minded and make my own decision. If you were told this

whole story of Jesus and god as your age having never heard of it before, you would think it was a total load of bullshit, too. It just doesn't make any sense at all. I am not any more or less happy than a god-believer anyway. Mankind has created literally thousands of deities in our lifetime. You don't believe in any of them but one. I just believe in one less than you. Once you understand the reason that you don't accept any of these other gods, you might begin to understand why I don't accept yours.
