
Subject: Re: Questions I would like to pose to athiests

Posted by [Spoony](#) on Thu, 26 Apr 2012 21:17:30 GMT

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fredcow9 wrote on Thu, 26 April 2012 12:55Quote:[b]Spoony: so you're ok with the instruction for genocide if another town worships another god, or the instruction of what to do if a friend or family member tries to tell you about a different religion?

If they are wicked yes. I still dont get this part and I would like some explanation.

Quote:or the instruction of what to do if a friend or family member tries to tell you about a different religion?

Whats the famed biblical instruction?

Deuteronomy 13:13-19 Suppose you hear in one of the towns the LORD your God is giving you that some worthless rabble among you have led their fellow citizens astray by encouraging them to worship foreign gods. In such cases, you must examine the facts carefully. If you find it is true and can prove that such a detestable act has occurred among you, you must attack that town and completely destroy all its inhabitants, as well as all the livestock. Then you must pile all the plunder in the middle of the street and burn it. Put the entire town to the torch as a burnt offering to the LORD your God. That town must remain a ruin forever; it may never be rebuilt. Keep none of the plunder that has been set apart for destruction. Then the LORD will turn from his fierce anger and be merciful to you. He will have compassion on you and make you a great nation, just as he solemnly promised your ancestors. "The LORD your God will be merciful only if you obey him and keep all the commands I am giving you today, doing what is pleasing to him.

Deuteronomy 13:7-12 If your own full brother, or your son or daughter, or your beloved wife, or you intimate friend, entices you secretly to serve other gods, whom you and your fathers have not known, gods of any other nations, near at hand or far away, from one end of the earth to the other: do not yield to him or listen to him, nor look with pity upon him, to spare or shield him, but kill him. Your hand shall be the first raised to slay him; the rest of the people shall join in with you. You shall stone him to death, because he sought to lead you astray from the Lord, your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, that place of slavery. And all Israel, hearing of this, shall fear and never do such evil as this in your midst.

Deuteronomy 17:2-5 Suppose a man or woman among you, in one of your towns that the LORD your God is giving you, has done evil in the sight of the LORD your God and has violated the covenant by serving other gods or by worshiping the sun, the moon, or any of the forces of heaven, which I have strictly forbidden. When you hear about it, investigate the matter thoroughly. If it is true that this detestable thing has been done in Israel, then that man or woman must be taken to the gates of the town and stoned to death.

Quote:Quote:2. it is permissible to deliberately slaughter children to frighten the adults in their society

The slaughtering of children was to show to what extent pharaoh would go to in holding Gods people and the fact that God could kill all the firstborns would prove that hes God because only God could do such a thing could he not?

The quoted question still doesnt really pertain to the Egyptian story. The point was not to frighten anyone but to show who is really who.

isn't there some small part of you that wonders why you're trying to justify intentional and systematic genocide of innocent children?

Quote:Quote:i've already gone over the quite major problems with the concept of hell, the system of torture for not being the right religion that you have repeatedly defended. you had no response to any of them. shall i repeat them?

If you have a problem with the concept of gravity, its still going to exist and be an acting force. gravity does not care if you accept it or dont think gravity is a permissible thing. Its still there. You knowing its there are unexcused for jumping off a cliff and not expecting to fall.

i guess i do need to repeat them, then?

Toggle SpoilerSpoony: isn't the concept of hell revolting and intolerable? why is it a mainstream religious view? i'm talking about the most common description of hell, i.e. a place of torture where you go after you die if you're either a criminal or a non-member of insert-religion-here.

why's it considered acceptable to make such a sick, demented threat to someone? agree with me or you will be tortured in the afterlife? what the fuck? if anyone thinks that hell is real, perhaps they can explain what kind of sick bastard of a god would send someone there just for not worshipping him, and why would you worship a god as merciless and unjust as that?

Fredcow: youv been warned, if your willing to do the crime then be willing to pay the time

Spoony: firstly, you use the word "crime". not being convinced in the truth of your religion is a "crime". having doubts, thinking for yourself... crimes. wow.

secondly, the threatened punishment for this "crime" is torture, forever. you've just defended torture... and we're not talking waterboarding here, we're talking endless inescapable torture. i repeat: you just defended torture. you think kids are going there too or just adults? and isn't god a COLOSSAL twat for doing something so... let's not beat about the bush here... evil? torturing someone FOR EVER just for not believing in him? what a prick.

thirdly, suppose that non-belief in your god and your jesus was a crime, though nobody of any normal moral sense would think it was. suppose it was. i'm not "willing" to do the crime, and it's pointless "warning" me not to do it, because this law (i.e. Believe in God!) is not one i can choose to follow. do you understand that? i don't believe it, but i didn't choose not to believe it. i can't flick a switch and make myself believe in your religion. i could pretend i did, and that's about the best i could do. maybe i could fool the people around me, but i'd be lying, and i won't do that. i'd rather be honest about my non-belief. and according to the usual crap we keep hearing about your god, he seems to know everything and he'd know i was lying too. do you think god would prefer i PRETENDED to believe in him just to get myself out of a punishment, or would he prefer i continued being honest about the fact i just don't believe any of this crap?

fourthly, supposing i COULD choose to take heed of the threat and believe in god. which one? which religion? the pope says only catholics are going to heaven, all the other christian denominations are "deficient". many protestant churches say the same thing in reverse. islam says all non-muslims are going to hell, which would include all christians. who's right here? none of them ever come with any evidence.

Fredcow: you either agree with the concept that God created the world and set up laws both spiritual and scientific or you dont, there really is no discussion to be had here. I still see no problem with hell, you either accept him or you reject him

Spoony: I said you were literally defending torture. You don't mind that.

I said that I cannot choose to follow this law, and therefore the threat of endless torture is not something I could avoid if I wanted to. You don't mind that.

I said that even if I could, which god and which religion am I supposed to obey? The pope who says only Catholics will be saved because other forms of Christianity are "deficient"? The various Protestant churches who say it's the other way around? Islam which says all non-Muslims (i.e. puts you and I in the same category) are going to hell? I say none of you have come up with a damn shred of evidence as to who's right, because they can't all be. You don't even answer the question of which of the above is right, or if it's a different denomination altogether... LET ALONE show any evidence.

No. You "see no problem" with any of this. I've been saying for a while what a fundamentalist you are and how you obviously don't know right from wrong (that became obvious when you said it's OK to kill someone if they preach a different religion, and when you said you'd murder an innocent child if God told you to) - thanks for making it even clearer what a complete lack of moral sense you suffer. Aren't you even remotely ashamed of yourself for supporting such a wicked, oppressive concept of hell? Actively supporting it against its intended victims? Do you have any humanity inside you at all?

Torture as punishment for not being the right religion. What a horrible idea, how completely opposite to the idea of religious freedom. I'm very much in favour of religious freedom - you're a fanatical opponent of it.

Fredcow: I dont mind that you cant avoid endless torture, sorry thats just the way it is

Spoony: Then what a sick, demented, evil god your God is. He's gonna torture me and there's absolutely nothing I can do about it. What a mean lady. What an evil prick, what a cruel, merciless, bloodthirsty tyrant. Why do you worship him?

Do me a favour? say that out loud. say "I'm in favour of the idea that people who are the wrong religion are going to be tortured. This guy said it was wrong, but I defended it." Say that out loud, alone in your room. Then say it to your family. Then go into the street and say it to a complete stranger.

I assume you have no qualms about saying it? It is what you think, isn't it?

Fredcow: sure, you will be tortured for eternity if you dont accept Jesus as your lord and savior, and i firmly believe this.

Spoony: so you're officially pro-torture for people who are not of the right religion, and you're completely unmoved by the 3-4 rather major objections i raised to that.

^^

Quote:Quote:Not important enough to believe it himself, though

So? the High priest according to the bible itself didnt believe Jesus was the son of God that was supposed to come. Many people you would have expected to believe simply did not[/quote]

Quote:Quote:This is a Jewish man, apparently quite devout. He believes in Yahweh and the Jewish concept of an oncoming messiah (he thought it was some other guy at one point)... and he obviously didn't think Jesus was it.

As didnt many others.

Quote:Quote:easy tiger, i just asserted that he is not a contemporary of jesus. you can't seem to

find any, can you?

He was alive a reasonable time afterwards and lived to probably see some of the people that actually saw Jesus face to face. thus why he wrote that

i've been asking for pages and pages a simple question about where the likes of Josephus got their information from... nobody seems to know. they were repeating what they'd heard... from whom? even if these historians believed it themselves, which they generally don't, there's still not much credibility to what they write, and what they write would be unimpressive even if it were true (generally stuff along the lines of "there was a group of people who believed X...")

Quote:Quote:he probably wrote this stuff half a century or so after jesus was supposed to have been crucified.

According to who?

...when do you think josephus wrote about jesus?

Quote:Also what time period is someone writing about a person after they existed can that not be trusted?

in a time when most people couldn't read or write, and the world (at the time and place) was frothing with messianic delusions and schismatic sects?

sorry, but you're gonna have to do a little better than a few droning scribblings written decades after the guy they're talking about is supposed to have died. that's feeble, and if your god is intelligent, he'd know how feeble it is. a decent god who was interested in people all over the world joining his religion ought to be able to do better than this.

Quote:Quote:They coincide with the writings of tacitus who wrote during Christ life up to about the 40s ad.

Quote:eh? Publius (or Gaius) Cornelius Tacitus (AD 56 – AD 117)? that Tacitus?

yes, 40+ 33= 73...

"tacitus wrote during Christ's life"? are you sure you meant to say that?

Quote:Why did the jewish disciples believe Jesus was the son of God and not deny it even unto death?

why don't so many people believe it even though you threaten them with worse than death?

not quite the same thing in practice, because you're obviously full of shit, but the principle is the same.

Quote:9/11 is one of the most witnessed events in history because of the major footage covered by it yet you have a division of people that think 9/11 was fake and then you have people that think 9/11 was legitimate. People will always believe or not believe what they wish regardless of evidence.

let's not compare the two.

Quote:Quote:They didn't. What say you to that? You think the Jewish authorities simply didn't know he was the messiah? Or you think they purposely had the messiah killed, which would have to be pretty fucking brave of them given what they believed about Yahweh in the old testament? They expected Jesus to come and destroy the romans, slay all the non believers and grant the grace of God to the Jews only.

Jesus came in peace, preached humbleness, preached against their adopted customs at the time and really preached against everything the Jewish authority at the time stood for.
which is another way of saying that Jesus and God have nothing to do with each other.

Quote: They were really just evil men who wanted God all to themselves and no one else.
sounds quite devout, by old testament standards.

Quote: Quote: It's true you can't seem to come up with a better one, discounting the Jewish authorities themselves. Or are they not eyewitnesses?

Where's their discounting writings?

you misunderstand.

"you can't seem to come up with better eyewitness accounts, not counting the Jewish authorities"

Quote: If a man claimed to be the son of God, died fulfilled prophecies the son of God was supposed to AND rose from the dead, that's someone I'm willing to believe. You just sound like you're not willing to believe no matter what. You would really fall in line with the pharisees at the time. unless I'm wrong and you would be convinced by direct witnessing.
whatever makes you feel better about the fact that you can't prove anything important about Jesus.

"claimed to be the son of God" - plenty of people claimed stuff like that

"died" - woop de doo

"fulfilled prophecies" - wanna give a few examples?

"rose from the dead" - prove it

as for me "falling in line with the pharisees", let's remember that I've consistently been in favour of religious freedom, whereas you've openly defended murder and torture as punishments for not being the right religion, for offending the religious bullies of the time... which happened to Jesus, didn't it? doesn't that make you reconsider? can you really be in favour of persecuting people for not being the right religion when someone you admire was the victim of the same thing?

Quote: Quote: 2. it obviously has nothing to teach me about morality. the good stuff I already knew, the bad stuff is - well, bad.

God's image is in every man, everyone has some feeling of morality no matter how evil they really are.

what utter drivel

Quote: Quote: 3. following on with the bad stuff, I could refer you to the stuff above, such as the concept of hell... which is a strong contender for the most evil idea anyone came up with.

According to what you think.

no, you're just too fucking retarded to realise that you think it too.

do you want to live in a society where you can be horribly punished for not being the right religion according to those in power? where the ones in power say that the right religion is not the same as yours?

Quote: You disagree with the way God does things.

you're still aware that I don't think this God of yours is real?

Quote:So did Satan.
so?

i have a question. why's satan the villain of the bible?

Quote:Good luck. As for target demographic? everyone who doesn't believe is. I don't know why you would belittle a commandment to "go and make disciples of all nations" to old/sick/dying people and children.

isn't it true that the overwhelming majority of conversions are done by indoctrinating children?

telling kids that religion X or Y is real when they're too young to know any better. kids are taught this bullshit with the same certainty as what they're taught in maths and science, and they're not told "by the way, there's basically no evidence that any of this crap is true, and you can just live your life without a religion btw", and they're threatened with extraordinary punishments.

and of course children are the target demographic, because it doesn't work on intelligent adults. i've debated dozens of religious people and not a single one has said anything to make me think their religions are worthwhile. seriously, not a damn thing. (most of them were less fanatical than you)

Quote:It's quite undeniable that Jesus at the very least existed as a person.
so?

Quote:The fact the gospels align with these other writings is quite amazing, it shows that the things of Jesus were quite common knowledge for people in that area.
the gospels don't even agree with each other. but then, i wouldn't expect them to.

Quote:The apostles didn't have an internet or public distribution center for their writings and their writings didn't even turn up until decades after the events they purport to describe. sorry, are you still talking about why they're reliable?

Quote:People will always deny he was, even the high priests of the Jews at the time did and most of the secular historical sources you cite, Josephus etc, they deny it too despite believing in the Jewish messiah. sorry, are you still talking about why Jesus really was the messiah?

Quote:The fact Christianity spread so rapidly and quickly, still surviving to today and its given history really stands testimony enough that the gospel writers are not lying
the fact it became so widespread is because it was given power by the Roman empire
collusion with secular dictatorship + indoctrination of children = survival. but despite all this, you still can't prove it's true.

Quote:people acknowledged a man Christ had died and rose from the grave otherwise others in the time period would have written about the lunacy of all these Christians worshipping a man that never existed.

first, swap "never existed" for "was a man, not the son of a god". as for lunacy, have you even read the "secular historical sources" you keep citing? they tend to refer to "the Christians" derisively, calling them superstitious and troublemakers, and the Jewish ones among them who do believe in the messiah don't think Jesus was it.

Quote:EDIT: just wanted to add to this already long post what happened to the disciples and their associates.

Matthew - killed by stabbing as ordered by King Hircanus

James, son of Alphaeus - crucified

James, brother of Jesus - thrown down from a height, stoned and then beaten to death at the hands of Ananias (circa AD 66)

John - tortured by boiling oil, exiled to Patmos in AD 95

Mark - burned during Roman emperor Trajan's reign

Peter - crucified upside-down by the gardens of Nero on the Vatican hill circa AD 64

Andrew - crucified on an "X" shaped cross by Aegeas, governor of the Edessenes, around AD 80

Philip - stoned and crucified in Hierapolis, Phrygia

Simon - crucified in Egypt under Trajan's reign

Thomas - death by spear thrust in Calamina, India

Thaddaeus - killed by arrows

James, son of Zebedee - killed by sword in AD 44 by order of King Herod Agrippa I of Judea

Bartholomew - beaten, flayed alive, crucified upside down, then beheaded

Nasty stuff. But I can say that, cos unlike you i've always been against people being persecuted for their religion (if that is, indeed, why they were all killed...), whereas you're enthusiastically in favour of it.

Quote:^^Find me in history ANY religion that claimed that God was in human form, walked amongst them, did not forcibly take over or preach through force, written about by the sources of said religion and outside sources wrote and corroborate their story of the "god" that walked among them, the founders of said religion were also tormented and died still claiming that their "god" was god, in such ways as pointed out above and grew rapidly lasting to even this day.
it's a shame you didn't put any full stops in here, because this might be a record for the most number of fallacies in a single sentence.

1. "find me in history any religion..." - you must realise you're asking the wrong guy here
2. "claimed that God was in human form" - you haven't proven that Jesus said any such thing.
3. "did not forcibly take over or preach through force" - are you fucking retarded? what is Hell? Jesus says follow me and do as I say or you'll go to hell.
4. "outside sources corroborate the story" - they do more to undermine than corroborate

5. this isn't exactly a fallacy, but rather something odd I've noticed about you.

you speak highly of the disciples who supposedly stuck to their religion even in the face of threats of death and torture. if this is admirable, why are you so contemptuous towards me sticking to my intellectual position in the face of torture?

it isn't exactly the same thing, if only because your threats are obviously lies, but if you're gonna praise the disciples who kept their faith under fire, can't you admit a grudging respect for someone like me who continues to be honest and open about my non-belief no matter what you threaten me with?
