**SPECIAL SHOW: SLAVERY AND THE BIBLE**

**2 weeks ago I broadcast a show on talkshoe entitled “The Irrational Mind” in which I explained the difference between how rational minds react to information that contradicts their beliefs versus how irrational minds react to information that contradicts their beliefs.**

**One of the subjects that I touched on was slavery in the bible and how one of my irrational friends (a Christian) had talked herself into a corner, and rather than admit she was wrong, felt compelled to say that she supported slavery.**

**During the show I was busy and failed to notice a “text argument” going on between two listeners. After the show, when I was reading the transcript, I saw the comments written by the listeners.**

**Though I was unable to address the issue at the time, I feel the subject is so important that I am producing this ‘special’ show for the purpose of responding to the listener who took the position of supporting slavery.**

**Here is a copy of the transcript of the show taken from the talkshoe control panel.**

**The only changes I have made are to highlight in yellow, the comments by one of the listeners to whom I want to respond.**

**TRANSCRIPT OF THE ACTUAL SHOW RECORDED ON TALKSHOE**

**(pay special attention to the comments below highlighted in yellow)**

**[6:22:35 PM] *--Neo-- is logged into the chat***

**[6:23:09 PM] *--Neo-- is on the call***

**[6:29:12 PM] *The recording has started.***

**[6:36:24 PM] *John\_Carter is logged into the chat***

**[6:37:27 PM] *John\_Carter has left the chat***

**[6:39:28 PM] *Guest 2 is logged into the chat***

**[6:43:09 PM] *agentx216 is logged into the chat***

**[6:43:09 PM] *Guest 3 is logged into the chat***

**[6:43:09 PM] *Guest 3 has left the chat***

**[6:43:09 PM] *Guest 4 is logged into the chat***

**[6:43:09 PM] <agentx216> however they claim that supernatural can never occur**

**[6:43:10 PM] *Guest 4 has left the chat***

**[6:44:18 PM] <agentx216> how can you claim that those are bad?**

**[6:45:26 PM] <agentx216> because southern slavery was way different than the "slavery" talked about in the Bible**

**[6:47:56 PM] <agentx216> that sounds like a Christian that doesn't know much about her faith**

**[6:49:48 PM] <Guest 2> Hello agentx216, reading the bible, it is the same slavery, even worse because slaves at that time were inherited by the offsprings and had no way ou**

**[6:50:11 PM] <Guest 2> I am a listener too**

**[6:51:39 PM] *agentx216 has left the chat***

**[6:51:39 PM] *agentx216 is logged into the chat***

**[6:51:56 PM] <agentx216> sorry browser crashed**

**[6:52:15 PM] <agentx216> the slavery that the Jews were suppose to do were only suppose to be for the payment of a debt**

**[6:52:24 PM] <agentx216> in fact after 7 years they were suppose to be set free**

**[6:52:28 PM] <agentx216> so it was different**

**[6:52:56 PM] <Guest 2> maybe you are referring to the slaves in egypt?**

**[6:53:04 PM] <agentx216> negative**

**[6:53:58 PM] <Guest 2> hmmm, i can enclose some passages in the bible for your reference, brb**

**[6:54:40 PM] <agentx216> Exodus 21:2-6**

**[6:55:57 PM] <agentx216> also, who is to say that slavery is wrong? man has been doing it forever**

**[6:56:11 PM] <agentx216> what basis does one have for claiming it is wrong**

**[6:57:49 PM] <agentx216> and evolution has been used to carry out mass murder as well...does that mean it's wrong?**

**[6:59:03 PM] <agentx216> hey no problem**

**[6:59:06 PM] <Guest 2> LEVITICUS 25:44-46**

**[6:59:20 PM] *The recording has ended.***

**[6:59:31 PM] *--Neo-- has hung up***

**[6:59:31 PM] *The Call has ended.***

**[6:59:47 PM] *Guest 2 has left the chat***

**<agentx216> the slavery was allowed here but the Law still protected the slave from being treated as nonhuman and with cruelty**

**HERE WE GO!**

**I am going to skip over the early banter because I want to concentrate on the main issues I have with AGENTX216.**

**In the first highlighted section above AGENTX216 comments:**

**“also, who is to say that slavery is wrong? man has been doing it forever”**

**AGENTX216 commits the logical fallacy of “Appeal to Tradition” (**[**http://www.nizkor.org/features/fallacies/appeal-to-tradition.html**](http://www.nizkor.org/features/fallacies/appeal-to-tradition.html)**).**

**The fact that man has been doing something “forever” does not make it right.**

**Man has been murdering and raping “forever” and according to the logic of AGENTX216 “who is to say it’s wrong?”**

**But he might say that the bible says it’s wrong.**

**Well at least that is true for murder.**

**But the ten commandments don’t say anything about rape.**

**So again, applying the logic of AGENTX216, it’s been done “forever” and the bible doesn’t say it’s wrong so “who is to say that rape is wrong?”**

**I think that’s enough for the fallacy of “appeal to tradition”, now I want to deal with the first part of his comment: “who is to say that slavery is wrong?”**

**Well let’s think about that one.**

**Obviously slave owners are not going to say it’s wrong.**

**I think we can all agree that those who capture humans and sell them into slavery are not going to say it’s wrong.**

**So far AGENTX216 has a great bunch of guys on his side.**

**So maybe he has a point?**

**After all AGENTX216 asks the unbeatable question “what basis does one have for claiming it is wrong?”**

**AGENTX216 cannot tell right from wrong without his bible.**

**So he takes the position that it is morally acceptable to enslave another human being because his bible tells him it’s okay.**

**Even little children know better than that.**

**How can you go through life, get an education and wind up having less common sense and lower moral values than a small child?**

**When that education consists of blindly accepting religious teachings and ignoring all else, any belief becomes possible, even one as disgusting as AGENTX216’s.**

**The fact that AGENTX216 requires a “basis” to keep him from enslaving other human beings should send chills down your spine.**

**The fact that he is not alone should send you into hiding.**

**Do you get the feeling that when discussing the issue of slavery, AGENTX216 only pictures himself as the ‘Master’ and not the ‘Slave’?**

**I get that distinct impression.**

**How accepting of the concept of slavery do you think he would be if we surprised him and told him that there was going to be slavery but that he was going to be one of the slaves?**

**It’s funny how those who support slavery never imagine themselves as slaves.**

**A slave gives up every single human right:**

**the right to go home at night and live where he chooses,**

**the right to do the kind of work he enjoys doing,**

**the right to get paid for that work,**

**the right to buy the things he wants to buy,**

**the right to date someone of his own choosing,**

**the right of freedom of speech,**

**the right of freedom of assembly,**

**the right of freedom of religion,**

**and the right of freedom period.**

**What do you think AGENTX216 would do if you tried to take even one tiny little right away from him?**

**I think he would scream bloody murder from the east coast all the way to the west coast.**

**I think he would have Gloria Allred on the phone and would be lining up anyone with a last name that he could sue.**

**Yet he has no problem with depriving another human being of all his rights**

**(isn’t it just great when you get to be the master?).**

**Why do I get the impression that AGENTX216 is not black; or Jewish; or female; or Cambodian; or Central American; or South American; or anyone whose ancestors were slaves?**

**Again quoting AGENTX216:**

**“and evolution has been used to carry out mass murder as well...**

**does that mean it's wrong?”**

**I have absolutely no idea what he is talking about and I would be amazed if he did either.**

**How could evolution have been used to carry out mass murder when polls show that even today very few people even believe in it?**

**(in the 1930’s almost no one did) - remember the Scopes Monkey Trial?**

**I think he is trying to tie in Hitler, using an argument that never made any sense even to the couple of people who tried to use it. Go to “google” and type in “Hitler” and “religion” and you will see that Hitler was a very devout Catholic.**

**AGENTX216 then implies that it’s not wrong to use evolution to commit mass murder??**

**I think AGENTX216 is very confused.**

**Finally he comments that**

**“the slavery was allowed here but the Law still protected the slave from being treated as nonhuman and with cruelty.”**

**I know. It’s hard to believe that anyone could be naïve enough to believe what he just said.**

**AGENTX216 is trying to slip the argument by us that the slaves really had it good.**

**Please be reminded, especially if you are African-American, that this is NOT the opinion held by normal ‘thinking’ Christians, but is reflective of the attitudes of some ‘Fundamentalist’ Christians.**

**Just a little advice to AGENTX216:**

**it might be wise to change your internet handle since I doubt that the name AGENTX216 will be welcomed at many websites after this show gets broadcast.**

**I can assure you that African-American sites will not want you there nor will many others.**

**But rest assured you will still be welcomed at your Hitler Youth meetings and the Aryan Brotherhood chatrooms.**

**And believe it or not, you will still be welcome to return to “The Skeptic Arena” where freedom of speech will always be allowed no matter how revolting and disgusting the ideas behind that speech are - because when we start censoring free speech because we find it offensive then everyone loses the right of free speech.**

**The best defense against inhumane ideas (like those expressed above by AGENT X216) is not censorship but superior ideas.**

**The Skeptic Arena may be the only site that will allow AGENTX216 to spew his hate and garbage.**

**But the Arena will never deny to anyone the right to do so as the loss of freedom of speech would hurt our society more than allowing the free expression of ALL ideas.**

**Coming onto a website and presenting yourself as a jack-booted neo-nazi storm trooper (who attends church) probably isn’t the best way to promote your faith.**

**AGENTX216 should take some time to grow up (mentally) and think about the statements he has made which could only cause pain to many people; people whose moral values are far superior to the ones he has exhibited to everyone on the internet.**

**So what is really going on here?**

**Do I really believe that AGENTX216 would enslave another human being if given the chance?**

**Well, I don’t know AGENTX216 and after hearing his ideas, I don’t want to know him.**

**But as much as I hate to defend such an odius individual, I must admit that I don’t believe he would.**

**What I really think is going on here is a perfect example of how the irrational mind works.**

**From his comments, it is obvious that AGENTX216 considers himself a Christian.**

**As such I believe he is determined to defend his bible in the face of anything he sees as an attack on those beliefs.**

**Most Christians have learned that there are things in the bible that simply cannot be defended: slavery being one of them.**

**AGENTX216 hasn’t yet gotten that message.**

**Do not judge all Christians by AGENTX216.**

**I’m sure (at least I hope) that most Christians are as disgusted and repulsed by his comments as are the rest of us.**

**Every group has its crazies: that goes for Christians, Muslims, Hindus, and Non-believers alike.**

**AGENTX216 - change your handle, grow up, and consider learning critical thinking skills.**

**REFERENCES: SLAVERY AND THE BIBLE**

**exodus 21:2 “If thou buy an Hebrew servant, six years**

**he shall serve: and in the seventh he shall**

**go out free for nothing.”**

**God goes easy on his chosen people: they**

**can only be enslaved for 6 years.**

**leviticus 25:44-46 “Both thy bondmen, and thy bondmaids,**

**which thou shalt have, shall be of the**

**heathen that are round about you; of them**

**shall ye buy bondmen and bondmaids.**

**Moreover of the children of the strangers**

**that do sojourn among you, of them shall**

**ye buy, and of their families that are with**

**you, which they begat in your land: and**

**they shall be your possession. And ye**

**shall take them as an inheritance for your**

**children after you, to inherit them for a**

**possession; they shall be your bondmen**

**for ever: but over your brethren the**

**children of Israel, ye shall not rule one**

**over another with rigour.”**

#### This makes it pretty clear that God has

**absolutely no problem with slavery.**

**To Him they are just property to be passed**

**down to heirs just as you might will an old**

**TV set to your aunt.**

**I wonder how an almighty, all-powerful,**

**loving God can’t come up with a better**

**plan than one that includes brutal,**

**inhuman slavery for millions of people?**

**But that’s just me.**

**luke 7:10 “And they that were sent, returning to the**

 **house, found the servant whole that had**

**been sick.”**

Jesus healed the centurion’s slave.

**Well that was nice.**

**Did it ever cross his immortal mind to**

**actually FREE the slave?**

**Guess not.**

**ephesians 6:5 “Servants, be obedient to them that are**

**& colossians 3:22-24 your masters according to the flesh, with**

**& 1 peter 2:18 fear and trembling, in singleness of your**

**heart, as unto Christ;”**

#### Ah, consistency: the New Testament is just

**as supportive of slavery as the Old.**