During a debate I was confronted with the fact that I had posted on my web site, a quote from John Adams that was taken out of context.

When I researched the accusation (at Positive Atheism.org) I learned to my dismay that my opponent was correct: I had been fooled by the quote. Naturally I removed the quote immediately.

Here is the quote taken out of context as it appeared on my site:

*"This would be the best of all possible worlds if there were no religion in it!!!"*

Here is the quote in its full context:

*"Twenty times in the course of my late reading have I been on the point of breaking out, "This would be the best of all possible worlds, if there were no religion in it!!!" But in this exclamation I would have been as fanatical as Bryant or Cleverly. Without religion this world would be something not fit to be mentioned in polite company, I mean hell."*

That is the kind of dishonest crap we usually get from the Creationist side. It was quite depressing to see Atheists engaging in similar dishonesty. I then replaced the out of context quote with this one from Adams (which is in its complete context):

*"As I understand the Christian religion,*

*it was, and is, a revelation.*

*But how has it happened*

*that millions of fables, tales, legends,*

*have been blended with both Jewish and Christian revelation*

*that have made them*

*the most bloody religion that ever existed?"*

When taken together, the context of both quotes makes it clear

that the "religion" Adams was referring to in the first quote ...

did not include Christianity.