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TO MEL GIBSON: "WAKE UP, SAMSON, THE MEDIA IS UPON YOU!"

BY JEN SHRODER

*A calculating woman armed with a tape recorder — that's our modern day Delilah accompanied by Paparazzi Philistines in league to destroy a mighty warrior.*

Jen, by "mighty warrior" you wouldn't be referring to that alcoholic, wife-beating, anti-Semite Mel Gibson would you?

*"You don't care," Mel sneered at Oksana Giorieva. I wonder if Samson spat out those same words to Delilah as the Philistines gouged out his eyes.*

Jen, after all the abuse your "mighty warrior" heaped upon her, why would it surprise you that she didn't care? I would be more surprised if she still did.

*Samson was deeply in lust. So was Mel.*

So Jen, you're really going to compare Samson to ... Mel Gibson?

Let me guess, for your next analogy you're going to compare Nelson Mandela to ... Bobby Brown.

*Both men were strayed and betrayed, but let us examine the bait.*

Okay Jen, now I see your game: you're going to distract everyone's attention away from Mel by blaming the victim. How original.

*As a Hollywood chauffeur, I've heard a parade of sirens chew men up, spit them out and watch them crawl back begging for more. They know exactly what buttons to push, what words to say and how to say them. Mel should have suspected the trap when the part Oksana was playing rang false to her history. Samson should have suspected the trap after Delilah's rehearsals to weaken and bind him. Men can be so blind. Samson had many women. So did Mel. Samson became obsessed with one and sacrificed everything for her. So did Mel.*

Jen, millions of people do that (both men and women) - it's called love. It's been goin' on since the beginning of time.

*Delilah was a home-wrecker in league with an army, so was Oksana with the media in tow, three previous husbands and Mel's wife in her wake.*

Jen, your analogy is breaking down rapidly. Gibson was already apart from his wife when he started seeing Oksana so she was not a home-wrecker.

So according to you, anyone whom the media reports on ... is "in league" with them?

*Oksana delivered a poised performance and Gibson fell for it right on cue.*

Jen, and you would know that ... how?

*As disgusting as Mel's rant was, it's an all too common occurrence usually ignored as battered women forgive their abusers.*

Jen, so we should just ignore Mel's rants? We should forgive him because battered women forgive their abusers?

Jen, I wonder how this essay would have sounded if you had been the one married to Mel? I think we can all figure that one out for ourselves.

*Those are the women deserving of real help, not thrice-divorced socialites standing to gain multi-millions, living in the homes of their manipulated sugardaddys.*

Dear judgmental Jen, let's enumerate your insults:

1. She was divorced 3 times so she was obviously a wicked woman. It certainly couldn't have been the fault of the men.
2. Socialite is obviously meant as an insult though I wasn't aware that there was a law against being one.
3. By your standards no woman could ever marry a wealthy man without risk being accused of trying to gain "multi-millions."
4. You don't say anything negative about the sugar daddy, but provide an excuse for them by assuming they were manipulated.

Jen, that's a pretty impressive list of snobbish judgments for just one sentence.

*No, this was the tortured realization of a man that he lost the best thing he ever had, his wife of 30 years and mother of his 7 children.*

Jen, you're bias is so obvious. Instead of pointing out that his violent temper and alcohol abuse may have driven his first wife away, you phrase it euphemistically as "he lost."

*Robyn, the essence of grace recently said, "Mel never engaged in any physical abuse of any kind toward me before, during or after our marriage. Mel was a wonderful and loving father."*

Jen, you are cherry picking what you want your readers to see and avoiding the fact that, if he was all that wonderful ... why did she leave him? Let's face it Jen, he didn't leave her.

*Ever since "The Passion of the Christ," a film that rocked an audience to the core and that Hollywood failed to understand, those enemies have waited to tear Mel to shreds.*

Jen, they didn't have to wait to tear him to shreds - he pretty much did that to himself.

*Samson paid a heavy price and Gibson will as well. But the work of the Holy Spirit and what He did through Mel and Samson is no less miraculous.*

Jen, I would consider the Holy Ghost miraculous if He could find a way to keep Mel sober.

*None of us are perfect aside from Christ, and we have a part in this. For who among us thought to pray for Mel after God used him in such a way, knowing the fury of the enemy crouched at his door?*

Jen, why would talking to ourselves help Mel? If Mel is a major Christian as he claims, certainly he prays to God. If God wouldn't answer Mel's prayers, why would He answer ours?

*And Satan has his helpers,*

Jen, your little world is just full of all kinds of invisible, imaginary little dudes isn't it? But this one makes a great scapegoat every time you people need to duck responsibility.

*our main stream media, playing these sound bytes 24/7, naming Gibson as a racist while ignoring the New Black Panther's call for the killing of cracker babies.*

Jen, you should know that you can't excuse bad behavior by pointing to other bad behavior. That is a dishonest distraction technique designed to draw attention away from Mel.

Mel's racism has been documented and recorded. There is no way to deny the facts, so distraction is your only option.

*Most of us won't see Mel at future voting booths, but many of us will see swinging batons like Samir Shabazz's if Obama's administration doesn't start upholding the law.*

Jen, so now it's Obama's fault? Who you gonna blame next, Peter Pan?

*Samson brought down the coliseum blind and bound in chains, but our faith is not in Samson or Mel Gibson, our faith is in Christ.*

Speak for yourself Jen, I don't have invisible friends.

*Pray He delivers us from the storm brewing on all horizons.*

Jen, and why would we do that? According to the Bible (that's that book that Christians never open), everything is created by God. Therefore, the storms come from Him. If you don't believe me just ask Pat Robertson.

*Pray for Israel. Pray for Mel Gibson and pray for your pastor.*

Jen, apparently all the prayers for Mel, and I imagine they number in the millions, have fallen on invisible, deaf ears. Here's a question for you Jen, "Do you think Mel prays for Israel?"

If I had to make a wild guess I would say yes. I would bet he prays that Israel becomes the first test site for Iran's first nuclear weapon. I'm just basing that on Mel's opinion of Jews as recorded by the Philistines, I mean police officers.

*The greatest witnesses among us face the full brunt of darkness enraged. Our leaders seem strong, but they need His strength. And when our leaders fall, help them up again. And take heart. God has not forgotten us.*

Jen, it seems like the last 2,000 years ... indicate that He has.

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THE SCIENCE SEGMENT

FIVE-LIMBED BRITTLE STARS MOVE BILATERALLY, LIKE PEOPLE

Brittle stars and people have something in common: They move in fundamentally similar ways. Though not bilaterally symmetrical like humans and many other animals, brittle stars have come up with a mechanism to choose any of its five limbs to direct its movement on the seabed. It's as if each arm can be the creature's front, capable of locomotion and charting direction.

It appears that the brittle star, the humble, five-limbed dragnet of the seabed, moves very similarly to us. In a series of first-time experiments, researchers discovered that brittle stars, despite having no brain, move in a very coordinated fashion, choosing a central arm to chart direction and then designating other limbs to propel it along. Yet when the brittle star wants to change direction, it designates a new front, meaning that it chooses a new center arm and two other limbs to move. Brittle stars have come up with a mechanism to choose any of its five limbs to be central control, each capable of determining direction or pitching in to help it move.

Many animals, including humans, are bilaterally symmetrical -- they can be divided into matching halves by drawing a line down the center. In contrast, brittle stars are pentaradially symmetrical: There are five different ways to carve them into matching halves. Whereas bilateral symmetrical organisms have perfected locomotion by designating a "head" that charts direction and then commands other body parts to follow suit, radial symmetrical animals have no such central directional control.

Even though their bodies are radially symmetrical, they can define a front and basically behave as if they're bilaterally symmetrical and reap the advantages of bilateral symmetry. For an animal that doesn't have a central brain, they're pretty remarkable.

Scientists decided to study brittle stars after noticing that their appendages acted much like a snake's body, capable of coiling and unfurling from about any angle. Yet when researchers watched brittle stars move about, they couldn't figure out how the individual arms were coordinating. There's no obvious front.

To move, brittle stars usually designate one arm as the front, depending on which direction it seeks to go. An arm on either side of the central arm then begins a rowing motion, much like a sea turtle. The entire sequence of movement takes about two seconds. They're pretty slow in general.

To turn, the brittle star chooses a new center arm and the accompanying rowing arms to move it along. If bilateral animals need to turn, they need to not only change the direction of movement, but also, to rotate their bodies. Brittle stars don't have to rotate their bodies.

Oddly, the brittle star also chooses another type of locomotion -- that to bilaterals would appear to be moving backward -- about a quarter of the time. In this motion, the animal keeps the same front, but now designates the non-forward-rowing motion limbs to move it. The question, then, is why doesn't the brittle star define a new front and simply move forward? Researchers think it might be the relative stimulus strength on the arms.

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FAMOUS QUOTES

Neil deGrasse Tyson (1958-) 54 years old.

He is an American astrophysicist and science communicator. He is currently the Director of the Hayden Planetarium at the Rose Center for Earth and Space and a research associate in the department of astrophysics at the American Museum of Natural History. Since 2006 he has hosted the educational science television show NOVA scienceNOW on PBS and has been a frequent guest on The Daily Show, The Colbert Report, Real Time with Bill Maher, and Jeopardy!. It was announced that Tyson will be hosting a new sequel to Carl Sagan's Cosmos: A Personal Voyage television series.

"This case is not about the need to separate Church and State;

it's about the need to separate ignorant, scientifically illiterate people from the ranks of teachers."