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I Am Not a Christian Because I’m Scared of Hell

by Jenny

*One of the many misconceptions that non-believers have about Christianity is that Christians only attend church, follow the Ten Commandments and the teachings of Jesus, and claim to believe in God because they are scared to spend eternity in hell.*

Jenny, that was the logical fallacy of composition.

Just because you can find some nonbelievers who think that the fear of Hell is the *only* reason people believe in God, doesn't mean that all nonbelievers think that. It is more likely that many nonbelievers perceive that the fear of Hell is not the only reason, but the most powerful reason, that Christians refuse to allow doubt to enter their minds, about the existence of God.

*They say that the Church uses hell as a scare tactic to gain more followers, that this method is not only unhealthy but also unfair.*

Jenny, actually I would use much stronger language to describe the concept of Hell. The term "child abuse" comes to mind.

Fortunately the horrors of Christianity are mercifully coming to an end in most of the world's advanced nations. Crusades, witch-burnings, blasphemy laws, human and animal sacrifice, stoning people to death for misdemeanors, slavery, and many other biblically-approved activities are no longer permissible.

Unfortunately, many Christian horrors are still with us such as the genital mutilation of boys, bombing of abortion clinics, murdering doctors who are providing legal abortion services, discriminating against homosexuals, Muslims, Atheists, and also Mormons (who apparently aren't 'Christian enough').

*While I am sure that there are some churches and individuals who use hell as a scare tactic, (and sadly, only follow Christ because they are scared of hell), I strongly disagree with this way of thinking.*

Jenny, it's not the church that uses Hell to frighten people ... it's the Bible. The Old Testament only created the small cult of Judaism, but when Christianity added the concept of Hell, their religion took off like shot and is now the largest religion on Earth. This success was not lost on the Muslims who added Hell to their religion when they broke away from Christianity. Their religion too, took off, and is now the second-largest religion in the world. Between the two they control half the world's population.

We know how effective the concept of Hell has been, and still is, because the majority of emails to the internet talk show "The Atheist Experience" are regarding the fear of Hell.

*Because as stated in the title of this post, I am not a Christian because I’m scared of hell.*

Jenny, the vast majority of Christians became Christians because they have been indoctrinated that way since birth. The book "Atheists" records in tragic detail the stories of those who refused to fall in line, and honor the family ghost. Whether Christian, Muslim, or other, the price for rebellion is steep. Ghost Worshippers have more loyalty to their invisible ghosts than they do to their own flesh and blood. Religion tears apart families unless the children remain subservient to their parent's beliefs. That is just one of the many horrors of your gruesome religion.

*Do I believe in hell? Sure.*

Jenny, that's what makes your religion the sickest of all. You claim to worship a loving God, and yet by your own admission, He is going to be spending the rest of eternity torturing people who chose the wrong ghost.

Jenny ... a worm has a better life than you do.

*But I have no idea what it’ll be like aside from the fact that it is a place void of God.*

Jenny, thanks for showing everyone just how dishonest you Ghost Worshippers are. You claim to be knowledgeable enough about your religion to give advice to everyone on the internet, yet your statement proves you don't even know what's in your own Bible.

If you have no idea what it'll be like, try googling "Hell, Bible" and you'll get swamped with verses ... verses that apparently you missed.

In fact, if you go to this link:

http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Bible-Verses-About-Hell/

you'll find so many verses discussing Hell that it makes it appear as though you've never even opened a Bible.

Not one of those verses say it'll be void of God. In fact, one verse states that this torture will be carried out in the presence of "The Lamb."

I'm pretty sure we all know who "The Lamb" is.

*And that is the #1 reason I do not want to be in hell.*

Jenny ... bullshit. You want us to believe that torture doesn't scare you? You want us to believe that you are braver than anyone who has ever lived?

The #1 reason not to go to Hell is because there has never been anything created by the human mind to rival the horror of eternal torture. That's why it was added to the Bible and to the Koran. There is no horror that can compare to it.

The only reason you don't fear it, is because you feel safe as long as you retain your belief. That is why you cannot free yourself from this religious horror.

Your kids will receive the same brainwashing you got. Will you still love them if they reject your ghost? Will they have the freedom to do so?

*A couple of weeks ago, my friend Miriam wrote about some of her thoughts on God and recounted a question asked of her: why do you want to go to heaven?*

*I want to go to heaven because I love God and want to be close to Him.*

Jenny, when an invisible monster holds a gun to your head (Hell) and says "Worship me or I'll torture you forever" - that is not love.

That is the very definition of coercion.

*Sure, that is not the only reason — there are many others, such as being able to meet and walk among all Christians throughout history, including Biblical characters whom I am sure will make me squeal like a little girl face to face with Justin Bieber when I meet them — but this reason is my first and foremost.*

Jenny, I've got a great idea - when you get to your own special little cloud and you're looking for Christians, make a left at that nimbus cloud at the top of the stratosphere. I hear that's where you can hang out with all those wonderful Christians who burned helpless innocent women to death because of the Bible. I know you'll have a great time when they recount all those wonderful stories about how they danced around the stake, while those women frantically screamed for mercy ... before their faces melted off.

And don't forget to say hello to Hitler, a devout Catholic, who expressed his belief in, and love for God, in his autobiography "Mein Kampf."

And the next day you can join those Christians who went on all those Crusades to kill Muslims and they can tell you great war stories about how much fun they had running their swords through people stupid enough to choose the wrong ghost.

Hey, and then you can visit those Christians who were serial murderers and rapists but accepted Jesus before they died and ensured their place in Heaven. I'll bet they will have great stories to tell.

Yeah Jenny, your Heaven sounds like a swell place ... just full of really interesting Christians.

*There have been a few instances in my life where I have been in the presence of God, and there is nothing like it.*

Jenny, I thought God was everywhere, all the time? Did I get that part wrong? How do you know you were in the presence of God?

Jenny, you should look up the word "delusion."

*Never have I felt so humbled, so inadequate, yet so LOVED.*

Jenny, if someone is making you feel inadequate ... that is not love. And as I mentioned earlier, when someone loves you, they don't threaten you with torture by fire ... if you leave them.

*Never have I been so overcome with a barrage of emotions that my body automatically gives out from under me; I stumble, kneel, and bow. Never have I felt more at HOME, more safe or comforted.*

Jenny, forget about looking up delusion. Instead, look up the word "stoned."

*And I know that this is just a fraction of what I will experience in heaven.*

Jenny, only if God has better stuff up there than we do down here.

*Do I know that I will go to heaven? Yes. I am confident that I will go to heaven.*

Jenny, thanks for proving my earlier statement. You just explained to everyone why you don't fear Hell.

I don't fear Hell either, but unlike you, my lack of fear is based on rational thinking ... not being held captive by the threats of an invisible monster.

*And I am not being arrogant or presumptuous here — I know that God loves me, sent His only Son to die on the cross for me, that by His grace I am saved, and that I will enter heaven when my life on earth is over.*

Jenny, it's so comical how irrational people always start with a disclaimer "not being arrogant or presumptuous here" and then follow that, with a claim that proves that, in fact, that is exactly what they are.

*I am not afraid to die.*

Jenny, now you are just lying to yourself. That is one of the main perks of your religion: eternal life. Only childish adults, like you, who cannot overcome your fear of death, are reduced to clinging to ancient fairy tales that sooth your fears by telling you what you so desperately want to believe.

*I often think back to the haunting dream I had late last year. How, at the moment when I knew I was about to die…*

*…my life does not flash before my eyes. I am afraid for a split second before a sense of calm and acceptance overwhelms my being. I know I have lived an imperfect life, but I also am certain that I will soon be with God.*

See Jenny, that's exactly what I just said: you control your fear of death through belief in an ancient fairy tale provided by ignorant goat herders, rather than rationally accepting death as the inevitable end to life.

Hanging on to your superstitions in the face of all scientific evidence to the contrary, proves that you are afraid of Hell, no matter how vehemently you may deny it. Remaining trapped by your faith is not escape from the fear ... it's lifetime imprisonment.

*The only fear I have about the afterlife is that my loved ones will not be in heaven with me.*

Jenny, I guess you won't see many Japanese or Chinese people there either, huh?

Since there are only 2 places they can go, that means they'll be frying in Hell, right?

One Hell of a God you worship there, Jenny.

Our worst serial killers aren't that evil.

*And this is the reason I evangelize, especially to those who are important in my life.*

Jenny, no different than any other virus trying to survive.

Fortunately this virus is finally beginning to vanish from most advanced nations. Even America has never recorded lower religiosity. Religion still thrives in the most backward nations, but with our help, they too may one day join a world free from ghost worship for the first time in history.

*Because I cannot imagine spending the next life without — not experiencing the glory of God without — J, our children, the rest of my family, or my beloved friends.*

*I also know that I will meet the child we had lost last year in heaven.*

Jenny, you don't see it do you?

Your lost child - religion preys upon the weakest and most vulnerable among us.

Always has ... always will.

*I know that many will read this and think that I am delusional.*

Jenny, if it's any comfort ... most of the world is delusional.

*That is fine. All I know is that I am confident in my faith,*

Jenny, you *must* be confident in your faith, otherwise you risk eternal damnation. Your last statement adds even more proof that your claim of not fearing Hell is nothing more than false bravado.

*and that I want to share my faith with others because I want them to experience this same joy.*

Jenny, Muslims say the same thing.

*Not because I want them to be scared of hell.*

Jenny, speaking of Muslims, did you know that their holy book says that Christians will burn in Hell forever for believing that Jesus was the Son of God?

How does it feel to be threatened with eternal torture by a billion people? Doesn't bother you a bit does it?

Well, the threats of your invisible monster doesn't scare them either. They lose as much sleep over it as you do ... none at all.

Both of you are banging each other over the head with your invisible ghosts. They must be pretty evenly matched because in 1,400 years your God hasn't been able to defeat Allah. In fact, Islam is projected to pass Christianity as the world's top religion before the end of this century.

What's most embarrassing about that is that you have 3 Gods against their 1 ... and you're still losing.

*So, to reiterate, I am not a Christian because I am scared. I am a Christian because I am loved.*

Jenny, millions of people are loved - by real flesh and blood people. They don't need to invent magic ghosts to make them feel loved.

You seriously have a lot of growing up to do.

Jenny, you also wrote:

*As a Calvinist, I believe in the doctrines of pre-destination and total depravity.*

Jenny, you are even more screwed up than I imagined. You brag on your web site about your intelligence. But this essay is proof that James Randi was right when he said,

"Just cause you're educated ... doesn't mean you're smart."

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THE SCIENCE SEGMENT

"Designer Sperm" Inserts Custom Genes Into Offspring

The "new genetics" promises to change faulty genes of future generations by introducing new, functioning genes using "designer sperm."

New research shows that introducing new genetic material via a viral vector into the sperm of mice leads to the presence and activity of those genes in the resulting embryos. This new genetic material is actually inherited, present and functioning through three generations of the mice tested. This discovery -- if successful in humans -- could lead to a new frontier in genetic medicine in which diseases and disorders are effectively cured, and new human attributes, such as organ regeneration, may be possible.

Transgenic technology is a most important tool for researching all kinds of disease in humans and animals, and for understanding crucial problems in biology.

To achieve these results, researchers used lentiviruses to generate transgenic animals via the male germ line. When pseudotyped lentiviral vectors encoding green fluorescent protein were incubated with mouse spermatozoa, these sperm were highly successful in producing transgenics. Lentivirally-transduced mouse spermatozoa were used in, in vitro fertilization studies and when followed by embryo transfer, at least 42 percent of founders were transgenic for green fluorescent protein. Green fluorescent protein expression was detected in a wide range of murine tissues, including testis and the transgene was stably transmitted to a third generation of transgenic animals.

Using modified sperm to insert genetic material has the potential to be a major breakthrough not only in future research, but also in human medicine. It facilitates the development of transgenic animal models, and may lead to therapeutic benefits for people as well. For years scientists have chased effective gene therapies and have hit numerous speed bumps and dead ends. If they are able to alter sperm to improve the health of future generations, it would completely change our notions of preventative medicine.

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FAMOUS QUOTES

ANONYMOUS

"The best substitute for brains ... is silence."