



CHURCH OF GOD BANNER



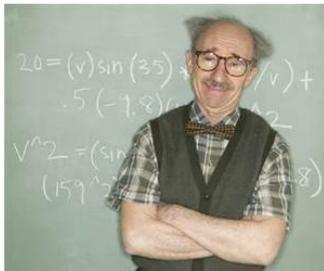
www.onalaskachurchofgod.com

OCTOBER, 2014

FIRST CHURCH OF GOD: 3RD. AVE. & HWY. 508 ONALASKA, WASHINGTON 98570

GOD VS. SCIENCE

A science professor begins his school year with a lecture to the students, 'Let me explain the problem science has with religion.' The atheist professor of philosophy pauses before his class and then asks one of his new students to stand.



'You're a Christian, aren't you, son?'

'Yes sir,' the student says.

'So you believe in God?'

'Absolutely.'

'Is God good?'

'Sure! God's good.'

'Is God all-powerful? Can God do anything?'

'Yes.'

'Are you good or evil?'

'The Bible says I'm evil.'

The professor grins knowingly. 'Aha! The Bible!' He considers for a moment. 'Here's one for you. Let's say there's a sick person over here and you can cure him. You can do it. Would you help him? Would you try?'

'Yes sir, I would.'

'So you're good...!'

'I wouldn't say that.'

'But why not say that? You'd help a sick and maimed person if you could. Most of us would if we could. But God doesn't.'

The student does not answer, so the professor continues. 'He doesn't, does he? My brother was a Christian who died of cancer, even though he prayed to Jesus to heal him. How is this Jesus good? Hmm? Can you answer that one?'

The student remains silent.

'No, you can't, can you?' the professor says. He takes a sip of water from a glass on his desk to give the student time to relax.

'Let's start again, young fella. Is God good?'

'Er...yes,' the student says.

'Is Satan good?'

The student doesn't hesitate on this one. 'No.'

'Then where does Satan come from?'

The student falters. 'From God'

'That's right. God made Satan, didn't he? Tell me, son... Is there evil in this world?'

'Yes, sir.'

'Evil's everywhere, isn't it? And God did make everything, correct?'

'Yes.'

'So who created evil?' The professor continued, 'If God created everything, then God created evil, since evil exists, and according to the principle that our works define who we are, then God is evil.'

Again, the student has no answer. 'Is there sickness, Immorality, Hatred, and Ugliness? All these terrible things, do they exist in this world?'

The student squirms on his feet. 'Yes.'

'So who created them?'

The student does not answer again, so the professor repeats

his question. 'Who created them?' There is still no answer. Suddenly the lecturer breaks away to pace in front of the classroom. The class is mesmerized. 'Tell me,' he continues onto another student. 'Do you believe in Jesus Christ, son?'

The student's voice betrays him and cracks. 'Yes, professor, I do.'

The old man stops pacing. 'Science says you have five senses you use to identify and observe the world around you. Have you ever seen Jesus?'

'No sir. I've never seen Him.'

'Then tell us if you've ever heard your Jesus?'

'No, sir, I have not.'

'Have you ever felt your Jesus, tasted your Jesus or smelt your Jesus? Have you ever had any sensory perception of Jesus Christ, or God for that matter?'

'No, sir, I'm afraid I haven't.'

'Yet you still believe in him?'

'Yes.'

'According to the rules of empirical, testable, demonstrable protocol, science says your God doesn't exist. What do you say to that, son?'

'Nothing,' the student replies. 'I only have my faith.'

'Yes, faith,' the professor repeats. 'And that is the problem science has with God. There is no evidence, only faith.'

At the back of the room another student stands quietly for a moment before asking a question of His own. 'Professor, is there such thing as heat?'

'Yes,' the professor replies. 'There's heat.'

Continued on page 2

'And is there such a thing as cold?'

'Yes, son, there's cold too.'

'No sir, there isn't.'

The professor turns to face the student, obviously interested. The room suddenly becomes very quiet. The student begins to explain. 'You can have lots of heat, even more heat, super-heat, mega-heat, unlimited heat, white heat, a little heat or no heat, but we don't have anything called 'cold'. We can hit up to 458 degrees below zero, which is no heat, but we can't go any further after that. There is no such thing as cold; otherwise we would be able to go colder than the lowest -458 degrees. Every body or object is susceptible to study when it has or transmits energy, and heat is what makes a body or matter have or transmit energy. Absolute zero (-458 F) is the total absence of heat. You see, sir, cold is only a word we use to describe the absence of heat. We cannot measure cold. Heat we can measure in thermal units because heat is energy. Cold is not the opposite of heat, sir, just the absence of it.'

Silence across the room. A pen drops somewhere in the classroom, sounding like a hammer.

'What about darkness, professor. Is there such a thing as darkness?'

'Yes,' the professor replies without hesitation. 'What is night if it isn't darkness?'

'You're wrong again, sir. Darkness is not something; it is the ab-



sence of something. You can have low light, normal light, bright light, flashing light, but if you have no light constantly you have nothing and it's called darkness, isn't it? That's the meaning we use to define the word. In reality, darkness

isn't. If it were, you would be able to make darkness darker, wouldn't you?' The professor begins to smile at the student in front of him. This will be a good semester.

'So what point are you making, young man?'

'Yes, professor. My point is, your philosophical premise is flawed to start with, and so your conclusion must also be flawed.'

The professor's face cannot hide his surprise this time. 'Flawed? Can you explain how?'

'You are working on the premise of duality,' the student explains. 'You argue that there is life and then there's death; a good God and a bad God. You are viewing the concept of God as something finite, something we can measure. Sir, science can't even explain a thought. It uses electricity and magnetism, but has never seen, much less fully understood either one. To view death as the opposite of life is to be ignorant of the fact that death cannot exist as a substantive thing. Death is not the opposite of life, just the absence of it.'

'Now tell me, professor. Do you teach your students that they evolved from a monkey?'

'If you are referring to the natural evolutionary process, young man, yes, of course I do.'

'Have you ever observed evolution with your own eyes, sir?'

The professor begins to shake his head, still smiling, as he realizes where the argument is going. A very good semester, indeed.

'Since no one has ever observed the process of evolution at work and cannot even prove that this process is an on-going endeavor, are you not teaching your opinion, sir? Are you now not a scientist, but a preacher?'

The class is in uproar. The student remains silent until the commotion has subsided.

'To continue the point you were making earlier to the other student, let me give you an example of what I mean.' The student looks around the room. 'Is there anyone in the class who has ever seen the professor's brain?' The class breaks out into laughter. 'Is there anyone here who has ever heard the professor's brain, felt the professor's brain, touched or smelt the professor's brain? No one appears to have done so. So, according to the established rules of empirical, stable, demonstrable protocol, science says that you have no brain, with all due respect, sir.' 'So if science says you have no brain, how can we trust your lectures, sir?'

Now the room is silent. The professor just stares at the student, his face unreadable. Finally, after what seems an eternity, the old man answers. 'I guess you'll have to take them on faith.'

'Now, you accept that there is faith, and, in fact, faith exists with life, the student continues. 'Now, sir, is there such a thing as evil?' Now uncertain, the professor responds, 'Of course, there is. We see it everyday. It is in the daily example of man's inhumanity to man. It is in the multitude of crime and violence everywhere in the world. These manifestations are nothing else but evil.'

To this the student replied, 'Evil does not exist sir, or at least it does not exist unto itself. Evil is simply the absence of God. It is just like darkness and cold, a word that man has created to describe the absence of God. God did not create evil. Evil is the result of what happens when man does not have God's love present in his heart. It's like the cold that comes when there is no heat or the darkness that comes when there is no light.'

The professor sat down.

* Received from Joe Downs & Suzie Bergfalk

ONALASKA'S HAPPENINGS

**MORNING WORSHIP 8:15 AM
& 11:00 AM**

SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:45 AM

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WEDNESDAYS

SOUP & SANDWICHES

5:45 PM

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BIBLE STUDY

6:15 PM

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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11th

MEN'S BREAKFAST: 8:00 AM

LISA'S DINNER

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CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING:

9:30 AM

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LADIES LUNCHEON: 1100 AM

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SUNDAY, OCTOBER 12th

ANNUAL CHURCH BUSINESS

MEETING

FOLLOWING 11:00 AM SERVICE

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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 31st

HARVEST FEST 6:00 PM—8:00 PM

~

COMMUNITY EVENTS

OCTOBER 2nd - 4th

APPLE FEST



See our ad in their booklet

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 15th

SENIORS ON THE GO: 12:00 NOON

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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16th

AMERICAN LEGION: 6:00 PM

REDEMPTION

Mary Warner

*Before time itself had first began,
The Trinity devised a plan,
Before the world itself, was set in
place,
And there was just the void of
space,*

*The Three who were always one,
Decided then to send the Son,
The Word, who set the world in
place,*

Would rescue our fallen race,

*Though we still live with sin's
curse,*

*And this old world has seen its
worse,*

*When your heart is filled with
fright,*

And you walk the darkest night,

*When your eyes and ears can
stand no more,*

*Of terror and the threat of war,
When evil looms on every side,*

*And there is no place on earth
to hide,*

*Lift up your eyes and behold,
The Throne of Grace, the streets of
gold,
The trumpets blast so long and
loud,*

Our redeemer rides upon a cloud,

Our Lord of Lords, Our King of Kings,

*Let your voice with praises ring,
His church will be caught up in the
air,*

And forever we'll be with Him there,

*We will change in the twinkling of
an eye,*

Our new bodies will never die,

Earthly pain will all be erased,

Death and its awful sting replaced,

Our Jesus whom we long to see,

Will dwell with us Eternally,

Oh shout with Praise, look to the sky,

*Our Redemption surely draweth
nigh!*



ANNUAL CHURCH BUSINESS MEETING



Our Annual Church Business Meeting will be held on Sunday, October 12, 2014 following the 11:00 am Worship Service. Everyone who considers the Onalaska First Church of God as their home church are invited to attend. If you have accepted Jesus Christ as your Savior, are eighteen years of age or old and have attend the church for at least six months, you are eligible to vote in this meeting. We will be electing Church Officers and voting on the budget for the coming year.

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CONVICT'S MEDITATION

By Ralph Wayland Eidsmoe

It is written in stories that a convict
is hard
That he spends his whole life with-
out tears
But writers can't capture out mo-
ments alone
While remembering our hopes
and our fears



As I sit here in sorrow, my life
thrown away,
I think of my mother, now with-
ered and gray
I think of the sorrow and the years
that were spent
In raising a son that she hoped
would repent.

"Dear God", she would pray, as
she did every night
"Please show my boy the way
which is right.
Please show him the way and the
light, oh dear God,
Lest through the valley of death
he should trod

And not be prepared on that
judgment day,
Let not his soul be cast away".
This soul is crying as I sit here today
In the depths of despair, for here I
must stay.

A convict in prison, a soul lost at
sea,
Just remembering the past and
my dear mother's plea.
Now you've heard the story of the
convict who cried
Though the tear drops that fall
may just fall inside.

But please don't be bitter against
men such as I
For even a convict in sorrow can
cry.

TO A KEEPER

One day someone's mother died. And on that clear, cold morning, in the warmth of her bedroom, the daughter was struck with the pain of learning that sometimes there isn't any more. No more hugs, no more lucky moments to celebrate together, no more phone calls just to chat, no more "just one minute." Sometimes, what we care about the most goes away... never to return before we can say good-bye, say "I Love You." So while we have it...its best we love it...and care for it and fix it when it's broken...and take good care of it when it's sick. This is true for marriage...and friendships...and children with bad report cards; and dogs with bad hips; And aging parents and grandparents. We keep them because they are worth it, because we cherish them. Some things we keep...like a best friend who moved away or a classmate we grew up with. There are just some things that make us happy, no matter what. Life is important, and so are the people we know...and so, we keep them close!

I received this from someone who thought I was a 'KEEPER'! Then I sent it to the people I think of in the same way. Now it's your turn to send this to all those people who are "keepers" in your life. Thank you very much for being a special part of my life! **YOU ARE A KEEPER!** Have an awesome day and know that someone has thought about you today. I did.

*Blessed are
the flexible,
for they shall
not be bent
out of shape.*



*Remember to appreciate all the
different people in your life!*

ARE WE DRIVEN BY PASSION?

The Texas Army National Guard has a group of special workers called riggers. Their job is to fold and pack the parachutes soldiers use when jumping from an air-



plane at 5,000 feet. These people are intensely dedicated to their task. The Rigger's Creed states, "I will be sure—always!" They know jumpers need assurance that everything regarding their chutes is perfect. In the 20 minutes it takes to meticulously pack an MC1-1 military parachute, 30 folds are required. A jumper has nothing to do with the chute until they put it on before a jump. Trust in the error-free performance of the riggers is all a jumper has to rely on.

The Rigger's Creed further states: "I will never let the idea that a piece of work is 'good enough' make me a potential murderer through a careless mistake or oversight, for I know there can be no compromise with perfection." Riggers know that the parachute business is a life-or-death enterprise. Mistakes cost lives. There is no room for complacency.

Do we approach our kingdom responsibilities with equal fervor?

Citation: Bill Donahue and Russ Robinson,
Walking the Small Group Tightrope
(Zondervan, 2003) p. 157-158

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HIDDEN BOOKS OF THE BIBLE

See how many books of the Bible that are hidden can you find.



"This is a most remarkable puzzle. It was found by a gentleman in an airplane seat pocket, on a flight from Los Angeles to Honolulu, keeping him occupied for hours. He enjoyed it very much and he passed it on to some of his friends. One friend from Illinois worked on this while fishing from his johnboat. Another friend studied it while playing on his banjo. Elaine Taylor, a columnist friend, was so intrigued by it she mentioned it in her weekly newspaper column. Another friend judges the job of solving this puzzle so involving she brews a cup of tea to help her nerves. There will be some names that are really easy to spot. That's a fact. Some people, however, will soon find themselves in a jam, especially since the book names are not necessarily capitalized. Truthfully, from answers we get, we are forced to admit it usually takes a minister or a scholar to see some of them at the worst. Research has shown

that something in our genes is responsible for the difficulty we have in seeing the books in this paragraph. During a fund raising event, which featured this puzzle, the Alpha Phi lemonade booth set a record. The local paper, the Chronicle, surveyed over 200 patrons who reported that this puzzle was one of the most difficult they had ever seen. As Daniel Humana humbly puts it, "The books are all right there in plain view hidden from sight". Those able to find all of them will hear great lamentations from those who have to be shown. One revelation that may help is that books like Timothy and Samuel may occur without their numbers. Also, keep in mind, that punctuation and spaces in the middle are normal. A chipper attitude will help you compete really well against those who claim to know the answers. Remember, there is no need for a mad exodus there really are 30 books of the Bible lurking somewhere in this paragraph waiting to be found.

RIVER RAFTING

Early this year, some Boeing employees on the airfield decided to steal a life raft from one of the 747s. They were successful in getting it out of the plane and home. Shortly after they took it for a float on the river, they noticed a Coast Guard helicopter coming toward them. It turned out that the chopper was homing in on the emergency locator beacon that activated when the raft was inflated.

They are no longer employed at Boeing.

THE POOR SPELLING BANK ROBBER

A man, wanting to rob a downtown Bank of America, walked into

the Branch and wrote this, "Put all your munny in this bag." While standing in line, waiting to give his note to the teller, he began to worry that someone had seen him write the note and might call the police before he reached the teller's window.

So he left the Bank of America and crossed the street to the Wells Fargo Bank.

After waiting a few minutes in line, he handed his note to the Wells Fargo teller. She read it and,



surmising from his spelling errors that he wasn't the brightest light in the harbor, told him that she could not accept his stickup note because

it was written on a Bank of America deposit slip and that he would either have to fill out a Wells Fargo deposit slip or go back to Bank of America.

Looking somewhat defeated, the man said, "OK" and left.

He was arrested a few minutes later, as he was waiting in line back at Bank of America.

PICTURE TICKET

A motorist was unknowingly caught in an automated speed trap that measured his speed using radar and photographed his car.

He later received in the mail a ticket for \$40 and a photo of his car. Instead of payment, he sent the police department a photograph of \$40.



Several days later, he received a letter from the police that contained another picture, this time of handcuffs.

He immediately mailed in his \$40.