

Who the Heck Do We Think We Are?

And Pharaoh said, Who is the LORD, that I should obey his voice to let Israel go? I know not the LORD, neither will I let Israel go.
Exodus 5:2

We have often thought about the lack of respect the human race has had for God Almighty, and Jesus Christ in particular, since the very beginning of time when Cain slew his brother and was asked by the Lord “*where is Abel thy brother?*” Cain replied, “*I know not: am I my brother’s keeper* (Genesis 4:9)?” Where the heck do we get the nerve to disrespect the Lord that way?

Back in 1980, when I was a new Christian, I preached to my brother about salvation through faith in Jesus Christ, and working for Jesus to bring others into the kingdom for His glory. His response was, “You mean I’m going to do the work and He’s going to get the credit?” I couldn’t believe the selfishness of his response, and in the 38 years since then, I have never heard that said again by anyone. The Bible says “*for out of the abundance of the heart, the mouth speaketh* (Matthew 12:34b)”. Where do we get the nerve to even say something like that?

And speaking of nerve, back in the 1960’s, John Lennon wrote a book called “Spaniard in the Works”. In it, he portrayed Jesus Christ as a garlic eating, stinking, little yellow, greasy fascist bas.... catholic Spaniard. The following year, he went on to say “Christianity will go. It will vanish and shrink. I needn’t argue that; I’m right and I will be proven right. We’re more popular than Jesus now.” Wow! I mean WOW! I wonder what he thinks of Jesus now?

At the very beginning of the Lord’s ministry, after having been tempted of the devil for 40 days, the Lord came to Nazareth where He had been brought up, and He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day to read. After He was done speaking, “*all they in the synagogue, when they heard these things, were filled with wrath, And rose up, and thrust him out of the city, and led him unto the brow of the hill whereon their city was built, that they might cast him down headlong*” (Luke 4:28-29).

The Bible says in John 1:11, “*He came unto His own, and they received Him not*”. In the three years that Jesus preached, He was mocked, scoffed at, rejected by most, and even blasphemed. While the Lord was down here, He was called Beelzebub (Mark 3:22), deceiver (Matthew 27:63), and was told He had a devil and was mad (John 10:20). Now you know why we are referred to in the Bible as dogs (Psalm 22:16), worms (Job 25:6), swine (Matthew 7:6), wolves (Matthew 10:16), and beasts (Job 18:3, 2Peter 2:12). Hallelujah!

It’s amazing how many times in the Bible we’ve had the nerve to tell God almighty, the creator of heaven and earth, who could take this planet in the palm of His hand and crush it like an egg shell, to get lost, or depart from us! It was said in Job 21:14, and again in Job 22:17, and many other times in the Bible. Once you read Romans 3:10 – 18 you will see where the human race gets the nerve to even talk to God this way.

-- WOE UNTO HIM THAT STRIVETH WITH HIS MAKER! (Isaiah 45:9) --

Job 21:14-15 *Therefore they say unto God, Depart from us; for we desire not the knowledge of thy ways. What is the Almighty, that we should serve him? and what profit should we have, if we pray unto him?*

Job 22:12-17 *Is not God in the height of heaven? and behold the height of the stars, how high they are! And thou sayest, How doth God know? can he judge through the dark cloud? Thick clouds are a covering to him, that he seeth not; and he walketh in the circuit of heaven. Hast thou marked the old way which wicked men have trodden? Which were cut down out of time, whose foundation was overflown with a flood: Which said unto God, Depart from us: and what can the Almighty do for them?*

Psalms 2:2-3 *The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD, and against his anointed, saying, Let us break their bands asunder, and cast away their cords from us.*

Psalms 10:4 *The wicked, through the pride of his countenance, will not seek after God: God is not in all his thoughts.*

Psalms 12:2-4 *They speak vanity every one with his neighbour: with flattering lips and with a double heart do they speak. The LORD shall cut off all flattering lips, and the tongue that speaketh proud things: Who have said, With our tongue will we prevail; our lips are our own: who is lord over us?*

Psalms 14:1 *The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God. They are corrupt, they have done abominable works, there is none that doeth good.*

Psalms 139:19-20 *Surely thou wilt slay the wicked, O God: depart from me therefore, ye bloody men. For they*

Speak against thee wickedly, and thine enemies take thy name in vain.

Isaiah 30:9-11 *That this is a rebellious people, lying children, children that will not hear the law of the LORD: Which say to the seers, See not; and to the prophets, Prophecy not unto us right things, speak unto us smooth things, prophesy deceits: Get you out of the way, turn aside out of the path, cause the Holy One of Israel to cease from before us.*

Jeremiah 2:31-32 *O generation, see ye the word of the LORD. Have I been a wilderness unto Israel? a land of darkness? wherefore say my people, We are lords; we will come no more unto thee? Can a maid forget her ornaments, or a bride her attire? yet my people have forgotten me days without number.*

Luke 19:12-14 *He said therefore, A certain nobleman went into a far country to receive for himself a kingdom, and to return. And he called his ten servants, and delivered them ten pounds, and said unto them, Occupy till I come. But his citizens hated him, and sent a message after him, saying, We will not have this man to reign over us.*

Revelation 16:8-11 *And the fourth angel poured out his vial upon the sun; and power was given unto him to scorch men with fire. And men were scorched with great heat, and blasphemed the name of God, which hath power over these plagues: and they repented not to give him glory. And the fifth angel poured out his vial upon the seat of the beast; and his kingdom was full of darkness; and they gnawed their tongues for pain, And blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores, and repented not of their deeds.*

Revelation 16:21 *And there fell upon men a great hail out of heaven, every stone about the weight of a talent: and men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail; for the plague thereof was exceeding great.*

The Bible says “The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom (Proverbs 9:10). Well, there must not be any wisdom out here because if there ever was a generation that has no fear of God, it’s the one we’re living in right now! Jesus was referring to the antichrist when He said, “*I come in my Father’s name and you receive me not, if another shall come in his own name, him you will receive* (John 5:43).” And receive him, this generation will – with open arms! Talk about a lack of respect for God almighty! Rebellion and rejection of the one true God (Isaiah 45:5, 46:9) is at an all time high. The Bible predicted this would come to pass, and it has (2 Timothy 3:1-5).

The only thing that is holding the antichrist back from coming right now is the Rapture of the true church and the removal of the Holy Spirit from off the earth (2 Thessalonians 2:8). And why is that? Because the Bible says: “*greater is he that is in you than he that is in the world* (1 John 4:4).” And since that removal could come at any time, the time to receive Jesus as your Lord and Saviour should be today (2 Corinthians 6:2).

He went willingly to the cross to bear all of our sins so that He could make the way for our salvation (John 14:6). He died, was buried, and rose again 3 days later according to the scriptures (1 Corinthians 15:3-4). He paid a price no one should ever have to pay. A sinless God (1Peter 2:22) paying the price for sinful mankind. The just for the unjust (1Peter 3:18). That’s how much He loved us.

Sometimes you do wonder, Who the heck do we think we are and how long is the Lord going to put up with all of this disrespect and rebellion from His creation? Men of God have been wondering about this very thing almost from the very beginning. In fact, a question was asked by King David in Psalm 94:3-4, “*Lord, how long shall the wicked, how long shall the wicked triumph? How long shall they utter and speak hard things? And all the workers of iniquity boast themselves?* Well, the answer can be found in Jude 14-15, “*And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints, To execute judgment upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard speeches which ungodly sinners have spoken against him.*” Yes, He will repay them, RIGHT TO THEIR FACE! (Deuteronomy 7:10)

AMEN