

## George W. Bush: Closet Atheist

If one considers the evidence, then one can only conclude that George W. Bush is not the “Christian” which he claims to be.

This is significant because it provides some insight into Bush’s cavalier attitude toward “homosexuals.” Consider this: George W. Bush lies about a fundamental aspect of his personhood. He pretends to be a Christian when he is in fact a non-believer. This deception is for the sole purpose of maintaining public acceptance. Thus it should not be surprising that Bush sees nothing wrong with telling “homosexuals” to deceive others and to remain “in the closet” to gain public acceptance. He is obviously comfortable enough with all his lies and deceit. Bush’s error is in assuming everyone else is equally comfortable with living a lie.

So what is the evidence of Bush’s non-belief? The overwhelming bulk of evidence is simply the disparity between his behavior and the behavior of a person truly following the dictates of the Christian Bible. Recall that according to Christian dogma the Holy Bible is the “inerrant word of God.” Unfortunately for Bush the “inerrant word of God” sets some fairly strict standards.

For example there is contained within the Bible any number of passages concerning the accumulation of wealth and worldly goods. In the Gospel According to Saint Matthew 13:45-46: “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a merchant man, seeking goodly pearls: Who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had, and bought it.” This is saying eternal life in Heaven is of such value that one should trade all their worldly possessions to attain it.

This is an oft repeated theme. There is a story related later within the Gospel According to Saint Matthew. We’ll start with 19:16: “And, behold, one came and said unto him, Good Master, what good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life? And he said unto him, Why callest thou me good? there is none good but one, that is, God: but if thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments. He saith unto him, Which? Jesus said, Thou shalt do no murder, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness, Honour thy father and thy mother: and, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. The young man saith unto him, All these things have I kept from my youth up: what lack I yet? Jesus said unto him, If thou wilt be perfect, go and sell that thou hast, and

give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come and follow me. But when the young man heard that saying, he went away sorrowful: for he had great possessions.”

The short version is basically this: A man asked Jesus what he needed to do to assure himself a place in Heaven. Jesus told him that he must obey the Commandments plus one more thing - the young man must give up all his worldly possessions and give to the poor. The man knew he could not do this because he loved his wealth more than he loved the promise of Heaven so he turned away and wept.

It is also worth noting that one of the commandments may not sound quite like the Ten Commandments of the Old Testament. “Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.” This is significant because it is the “Golden Rule” and it was uttered by Jesus - presumably a Christian’s ultimate authority on such things.

Jesus had another thing to say once the man went away weeping. The tale continues at Matthew 19: 23: “Then said Jesus unto his disciples, Verily I say unto you, That a rich man shall hardly enter into the kingdom of heaven. And again I say unto you, It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God.”

The entire tale is repeated in the Gospel According to Saint Mark - starting at 10:17: “And when he was gone forth into the way, there came one running, and kneeled to him, and asked him, Good Master, what shall I do that I may inherit eternal life? And Jesus said unto him, Why callest thou me good? there is none good but one, that is, God. Thou knowest the commandments, Do not commit adultery, Do not kill, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Defraud not, Honour thy father and mother. And he answered and said unto him, Master, all these have I observed from my youth. Then Jesus beholding him loved him, and said unto him, One thing thou lackest: go thy way, sell whatsoever thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come, take up the cross, and follow me. And he was sad at that saying, and went away grieved: for he had great possessions. And Jesus looked round about, and saith unto his disciples, How hardly shall they that have riches enter into the kingdom of God! And the disciples were astonished at his words. But Jesus answereth again, and saith unto them, Children, how hard is it for them that trust in riches to enter into the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God.”

There are some slight differences worth noting. “Defraud not” is not part of the traditional Decalogue. So Jesus said believers must not cheat.

The story must be very important because it is repeated yet again. This time in the Gospel According to Saint Luke. Starting at 18: 18. “And a certain ruler asked him, saying, Good Master, what shall I do to inherit eternal life? And Jesus said unto him, Why callest thou me good? none is good, save one, that is, God. Thou knowest the commandments, Do not commit adultery, Do not kill, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Honour thy father and thy mother. And he said, All these have I kept from my youth up. Now when Jesus heard these things, he said unto him, Yet lackest thou one thing: sell all that thou hast, and distribute unto the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come, follow me. And when he heard this, he was very sorrowful: for he was very rich. And when Jesus saw that he was very sorrowful, he said, How hardly shall they that have riches enter into the kingdom of God! For it is easier for a camel to go through a needle's eye, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God.”

Campaign disclosure laws allow us to know that George W. Bush was worth somewhere between \$9M and \$26M back in 2004. It is a reasonable guess that he is worth considerably more now. The point is that if there were room in his heart for Jesus, then he would do some good works with all that money and then live out his days in poverty. But there is no room in his heart for Jesus - there is only room for his avarice - defined as an “excessive or insatiable desire for wealth or gain.”

In the gospel according to Saint Matthew 6:19 and 6:20 one is admonished “Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal.”

The term “treasure in heaven” does not refer to wealth. Anyone who reads the Bible can only conclude that “treasure in heaven” refers to having one’s name appear in the “Lamb’s Book of Life”. This is made clear in graphic terms. Revelation 20:12 “And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and

death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works. And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.”

Poverty is the way to eternal life. The Bible is quite consistent and quite insistent upon this point. Only those who love Jesus more than money will have eternal life. Yet there are those who will argue that salvation is granted by believing that Jesus died for ones sin and that alone is sufficient. I would counter that if someone *sincerely* believes and has *sincerely* invited Jesus into their heart then they will honor the example of Christ. One cannot simultaneously have love for Jesus and lust for money in ones heart. The two are mutually exclusive - at least according to the Christian Bible.

The Bible does tell us how to identify believers - those who have made room for Jesus within their hearts.

In the Gospel Accoring to Saint Matthew (7:20): “Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them. Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.”

Their “fruits” refer to the things they do - such as good works or selfish acts. Matthew 7:17: Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit. A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit.”

The Bible does contain a few important bits of wisdom. For example we’ve already seen the “Golden Rule” uttered by none other than Jesus himself. Interestingly, the Bible contains the “Golden Rule” more than once. Matthew 7:12 “Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets.” In modern English this is an admonishment to treat others as one would have those others treat oneself.

Now would George W. Bush want people recklessly invading his country and plunging it into chaos? How would George W. Bush react if he were locked up and not given any legal recourse? Or water-boarded? George W. Bush does not practice the “Golden Rule” in any of its various forms.

And he lies.

One of the most egregious lies told by George W. Bush is related to abortion. George W. Bush publically supports the agenda of religiously motivated “pro-lifers” to gain their support in elections. He has duped them.

The truth is that George W. Bush places no value on unborn children other than as tools of his divisiveness. He lied to evangelical voters when he told them he would protect all those unborn children. If he valued unborn children then he would respect the sanctity of the womb. Instead we see a pattern in which every time George W. Bush was given a choice between the public health and the avarice of he and his wealthy supporters, then he invariably chose avarice. The position of he and his administration regarding release of mercury from coal-fired power plants is simply unconscionable. Under rules in place at the beginning of his administration mercury would have been limited to about five tons per year. In 2005 he changed the rules to allow twenty-six tons each year. Biological processes change mercury into methylated mercury which impedes the development of unborn children and causes nervous system defects. It is a hazard to the public health in general and growing youngsters in particular. Unbelievably this was originally part of legislation which Bush referred to as his “Clear Skies Initiative”.

There is also evidence that Bush and his administration systematically suppressed studies which indicated a limit of five tons of mercury released into the air each year was in fact not stringent enough to protect the public health. This was typical of Bush’s profit bias and much more obvious when he and his administration favored profit by carbon-emitting industries over the science of global warming. And mercury was not the only toxic heavy metal about which Bush and his administration lied. There were efforts to allow more lead and arsenic in your drinking water. And do not forget all the depleted uranium ammunition blasted to smithereens in Iraq - releasing toxic dust to kill or injure not only Iraqis, but anyone who inhaled it. But no body count has been allowed. We will likely never know the number of unborn children maimed in the womb by the Bush Doctrine.

Bush’s lies could fill volumes. Saddam’s yellow cake uranium, having no connection to Enron or Kenneth Lay, that whole “Mission Accomplished” publicity stunt, the list could go on and on.

These are not the fruits of a God-fearing man. If Bush believed, then he would fear for his mortal soul and repent. He does not. Therefore one can only conclude George W. Bush is an atheist and a deceiver. He is smart enough to know the consequences of being outed - he would be disowned and cast out with nothing. So he talks like a Christian. He probably even goes to church and puts money in the collection plate. For him it is a small price to pay in exchange for the millions which he gets to keep.