



DID GOD DIE?

By Bill Glover

If there was ever a need for God then it is now!

But, where is He when we need him so badly?

[PROLOGUE: Where is God? - - Is there actually a God? - - Why does God allow such horrendous events of slaughter of innocent people repeatedly in recent times, especially the slaughter of 20 children in Newtown Connecticut? Why is God so silent IF HE ACTUALLY EXISTS? Does God really Care?]

We are, at this very moment, living in unprecedented times of an increasingly uncertain world with unstable economics worldwide, employment insecurity, violent weather changes [such as storms, floods, earthquakes and subsequent tsunamis, and droughts], violence against innocent victims, nuclear plant meltdowns, radiation poisoning and water pollution worldwide as well as wars and threats of wars on many fronts with resultant loss of tens of thousands and even millions of lives. Let us find out ***if God has died or whether He actually exists*** or maybe He just became obsolete or merely lost interest in humans!

But where is this God when we need Him so badly? Has He ***died*** or has He ***lost interest*** in the affairs of this earth? Why does God allow such tragedies, pain and suffering if He is a loving and compassionate God? [Please request our free article titled "Why, Oh God, Why?"]. Do you know the answer to these questions - - do you actually **want** to know the answers? Or, would you rather merely ***take your chances with fate?***

Did the God of Christianity die? What about the "god" of the Muslims? Or what about all the other hundreds of "gods" that are worshipped throughout the world - - ***have they all died too?*** Is there some kind of war going on between the different "gods?" Or, maybe God has just given up on humans. Maybe He has merely gone off somewhere else in the universe and left humans to themselves

and to their own devices. Is God obsolete? Is Stephen Hawkins, the famous astrophysicist, correct in claiming that God is now **obsolete** - - **he claims that the advances in science has made a belief in God obsolete** - - **Is God supposedly no longer needed? Or, did God ever exist in the first place (as evolutionists claim) or is He merely a figment of the imagination of humans?**

Is it not downright strange and even rather ridiculous that all the many “gods” that are worshipped throughout the world are **powerless** to defend themselves and protect humans who worship them? What kind of “god” has to rely on humans to protect and defend them and to advance their causes and beliefs through violence? For example, if someone insults the Muslim “god” then Muslims feel the need to place a death sentence on the offender and go all out to kill him. If Allah is truly a “god” then why can’t he protect and defend himself? How can anyone worship a POWERLESS “god” who is incapable of defending himself? Yet Muslims will hate me and try to kill me for merely posing such a question. If the Muslim “god” is actually a true “god” then why can’t he protect himself and his own integrity or protect some Muslims from other Muslims - - Muslims kill Muslims all in the name of “Alla” the Muslim god? Why is he so powerless that he must rely on humans and brute human force and violence for his own protection?

The same applies to the Christian “god.” Whether you are Catholic or protestant, if someone insults the “god” of your “church” or questions your church’s “religion” or beliefs then you feel obligated to defend your “god” and your beliefs. Is your “god” NOT capable of defending himself? Can he stand up for himself or must he rely on humans to protect him and his image? He is not much of a “god” if he must rely on frail humans to defend him. And if Stephen Hawkins is correct that science has made God obsolete and unnecessary; then is science actually going to save the human race from itself? Or, has not science created most of the problems humans face today? (Compare with Matthew 24:22 and verses 4-8). Is your “god” going to be willing to resolve these questions and silence the critics? How can you worship a “god” who cannot defend himself and your religious beliefs? If you cannot prove the validity of your beliefs then why would you worship YOUR “god?” The God of the Bible had Matthew 24:22 and vs. 4-8 written. Please study these scriptures carefully along with 2 Timothy 3:1-5. Apply these verses to today’s world and perhaps you can see that the fault is NOT with God but with human behavior against each other.

AN EXAMPLE OF A DEFENSELESS “GOD”

A Biblical example of a weak, powerless and defenseless “god” is found in 1 Kings 18. In this Biblical example we find the people of Israel confused about the “god” they served (***the same as humans today are confused about the “god” they claim to worship***). They were worshipping two different “gods” - - one was called Baal and the other was the “god” of Asherah. The prophet Elijah was called on to establish the identity of ***THE TRUE CREATOR GOD*** of the universe. The pagan “god” Baal had 450 representatives and the false “god” of Asherah had another 400 representatives present. Elijah confronted these 850 false leaders with the challenge: “If the Lord God I serve is the true God then worship Him but if Baal or Asherah are “gods” then worship them (see verse 21 as well as Joshua 24:15). In 1 Kings 18:22-29 we find Elijah’s challenge to the representatives of the other “gods.” In essence he said “If the “god” you serve has any power then call on him to ***PROVE IT!*** These representatives agreed to this challenge but their “gods” were powerless to respond. Elijah even taunted these false ministers by saying: “Shout louder (they had been shouting for their “gods” to answer them and even mutilating their bodies in an effort to get his attention) surely, ***IF HE IS A TRUE “GOD”*** then perhaps he is deep in thought, busy or traveling or maybe sleeping and must be awakened” (verses 26-28). These false ministers continued their frantic efforts to get the attention of their “god” to get him to respond to their pleas - - BUT TO NO AVAIL. They continued this WAIL until it was time for the evening sacrifice that the true God has commanded of His people Israel. Please notice that Elijah ***looked to the God he served to PROVE He was and is the true God!***

ELIJAH’S GOD ***IS GOD***

Now carefully study verses 30-35 to note how difficult Elijah made this challenge for himself and for his God. When it came time for reckoning, Elijah stepped forward and prayed a ***VERY SIMPLE AND BRIEF PRAYER***. He prayed: “O Lord, God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, LET IT BE KNOWN TODAY THAT YOU ARE GOD AND THAT I AM YOUR SERVANT. . . answer me, O Lord, answer me, so these people will know that you, O Lord, are God, and that you are turning their hearts back again!” Please notice that Elijah plainly told God that ***IT WOULD BE NECESSARY FOR HIM TO PROVE HIS OWN VALIDITY AND INTEGRITY!*** Elijah did NOT try to defend God. He frankly ***CHALLENGED GOD TO PROVE HIMSELF!***

Notice how brief and how simple **and challenging** that prayer was. Elijah merely said, in essence, "God, **IT IS NOW UP TO YOU AS I CANNOT CONVINC THESE PEOPLE BY MY OWN POWER AND STRENGTH OR ACTIVITIES.** Many ministers, priests and clergy of various types and imams tend to think one must shout and agonize at their "god" to try and get him to respond - - such as those Elijah challenged. But notice 2 Kings 17:40-41 where we find people **CLAIMING** to serve the God of the Bible but are actually serving idols and pagan practice as is done in "Christian" churches today. Most "Christian" churches do NOT know the origin of their beliefs and customs even though they claim allegiance to the God of the Bible. Do you know the origin of your religious beliefs? Do you actually **want to know** WHY you do the religious practices you do? Do you get angry when others challenge your religious beliefs? Let us consider that question seriously!

But first let us consider another Biblical example of a "god:" who could not defend himself and his integrity. This Biblical example is found in Judges 6 of the Bible. Here we find Gideon challenging the "god" called Baal: by saying "Are you going to plead Baal's cause? Are you trying to save him? . . . If Baal really is a "god," he can defend himself? . . . Let Baal contend with him" (since Gideon broke down Baal's altar - - verses 31-32.)

The point is quite simple - - any "god" claiming to be "god" should be powerful enough to defend himself from critics rather than relying on humans to defend and protect him. How can a person worship such a POWERLESS "god?" Just how powerful is the "god" you worship? Are you afraid to put your "god" to the test? The TRUE GOD OF THE BIBLE **CHALLENGES** us humans to put Him to the test. Jesus Christ, the God of the Bible, stated plainly: "I tell you the truth, anyone who HAS FAITH IN ME will DO WHAT I HAVE BEEN DOING. He will **DO EVEN GREATER THINGS THAN THESE, BECAUSE I AM GOING TO THE FATHER** And I WILL DO WHATEVER YOU ASK IN MY NAME. . . YOU MAY ASK ME FOR ANYTHING IN MY NAME, AND I WILL DO IT (John 14:12-14). Is the "god" you are serving doing GREATER THINGS than Jesus did? Will your "god" back up your words as the God of the Bible did for Elijah and Gideon? If not, WHY NOT? Why not **PUT YOUR "GOD" TO THE TEST?**

You should request and read our three free articles entitled "Defending God," "Why, Oh God, Why" and "The Great Debate" as well as other articles posted on our web page: [www.thelivinggodministry.org]. Go ahead and put your

“god” to the test. Why “worship” and “serve” a “god” when you have no proof that he actually exists?

Now back to the question: “Why does God allow such heart wrenching tragedies such as the senseless slaughter of innocent five and six year old children plus their teachers? Take the time to think about that question long enough to be realistic in your thinking. The United States claims to be a “Christian” nation and we have “In God We Trust” inscribed ON OUR MONEY. But we have used the courts to remove “GOD” and any and all instruction about Him from all our schools and public and legal buildings. Since we have kicked God out of our society we now have twenty times more violent crimes than any other civilized society. We have more delinquency among our youth, we have more broken homes, we are a drug infested culture, we have a steady stream of severe violence on TV and movies being fed to our children (and adults) every day. And we have the audacity to blame God for the violence that erupts regularly!

The question we should be asking is WHY WOULD GOD BE INTERESTED IN INTERVENING IN OUR SOCIETY WITH ALL THE GRAFT AND CORRUPTION THROUGHOUT THE GOVERNMENT? It is not an exaggeration to say that SOCIETY HAS CAST GOD OUT and do not want Him back.

THE END HAS COME!

As we find in Ezekiel 7, “The End Has Come” - - the time when THAT GOD AMERICA WANTS TO CAST OUT OF ITS PRESENCE - - is now learning what it is like NOT to have God’s blessings. (Please study carefully Luke 21:7-28 along with Matthew 24:3-22 and 2 Timothy 3:1-7) Not take the time to carefully study Ezekiel 7, 8 and 9 for a realistic study of the United States and other modern Israelite countries who have a **profession** of “Christianity” but whose “Christian” practices, customs and teachings are NOT approved by God or the Bible. Note that thousands of years before the birth of Christ, Israel and the gentile nations were having “Easter Sunrise Services” in honor of Astarte, the “goddess” of fertility which God rejected as detestable (see Ezekiel 8:15-16). Today we have renamed this pagan festival and now call it “Christian” even though the original church never observed pagan practices such as suns rise services or “Christmas” since these customs came from paganism and not the God of the Bible. Though claiming to be “Christian,” the customs of traditional “Christian” churches are not based on the Jesus Christ of the Bible or Biblical principles. [This is being written

during the “Christmas” season 2012 and we, as a nation, are at this moment DRUNK ON CHRISAMAS and its pagan customs and yet we have the audacity to ask why God would allow such violent tragedies as have been occurring throughout the land. As a nation we have turned our backs on God and then wonder why God has turned His back on us. When will we wake up - - when will we learn that we cannot afford to kick God out of our society without experiencing serious consequences?

After the Newtown slaughter of 20 children, president Obama said “These tragedies must stop - - we must **CHANGE!**” **but not a single word has been spoken by Obama or ministers of the many different religious organizations about Actually turning to God and seeking His help. 2 Chronicles (in the Old Testament of the Bible) clearly tells us what we should do to actually rectify the many tragedies that are occurring in our country. “Whatever disaster or disease may come, and when a prayer (not merely a ‘moment of silence’) or plea is made by any of your people - - each one aware of his afflictions and pain, and spreading out his hands (in grief and repentance) then (God) hear from your dwelling place. FORGIVE, and deal with each man according to ALL HE DOES, SINCE YOU KNOW HIS HEART (for you alone know the hearts of men) so that they will FEAR YOU and (begin to) walk in the your ways all the time all the time they live in the land”(2 Chronicles 6:28-31).**

“when they sin against you - - for there is no one who does not sin - - and you become angry with them . . . and if they have a CHANGE OF HERART . . .and repent and plead with you and say ‘We have sinned, we have done wrong and acted wickedly; and if they turn back to you WITH ALL THEIR HEART AND SOUL . . . and forgive your people, who have sinned against you” (verses 36-40). Then in chapter 7:14-15 we find: “If my people, who are called by my name (we claim to be a Christian nation), will HUMBLE THEMSELVES and PRAY AND SEEK MY FACE AND TURN FROM THEIR WICKED WAYS, then will I hear and forgive their sin and will heal their land” President Obama stated “We must change” but he did not call on this nation to repent and seek God and His mercy. President Obama and much of the nation merely think it will be enough to regulate guns when it is the culture and very nature of all in the country that must be **CDHANGED!** Even if we enact stronger gun control laws, such is NOT going to change the culture that spawns such senseless violence. As a nation we have kicked God out of our society (even though we claim to be Christians) yet we are

unable to bring ourselves to actually *seek* the true God of the Bible. Thus, these senseless acts of violence and other problems will continue and even get worse.

It is now a matter of individual responsibility since the nation is unwilling to truly change its ways of corruption. God is available to all those who are individually willing to seek Him and His protection. The fault is not with God but with wayward humans who want God out of their lives and then wonder why these tragedies occur. This writer hopes that each of you seek God while He is near and can be found. If this writer can help any of you further, please let me know. You can reach me by writing to Box 2784, Eugene, Oregon 97402 or email: billgloverlgm@comcast.net or phone 541-461-3337.

The God of the Bible does not lie and challenges each of us to **PROVE HIM** to be true to His word. Our articles will help you see what the Bible says about this Almighty God in whom you can actually trust. We are here to serve you and help you learn about the TRUE GOD so you will have no need to explain why your “god” does not perform miracles for you personally as the Bible promises to those who serve Him in accordance with His instructions!