

Original Post: More Than Questions

I recently put together a new web page to serve as an outreach tool for my church. You can check it out by clicking on www.morethanquestions.com. Or, if you're super lazy, you can just read some of the text below.

These days, it's cool to look for God—just as long as you don't find him.

Today, our culture is all about "being spiritual, but not religious;" all about eternally seeking the Divine, but never claiming to have "found God." The answer, we're told, is to just keep asking the questions. From movie stars to academics to corporate gurus, the wisdom du jour tells us that, when it comes to spiritual things, the journey is important—not the destination. We value having the conversation, not reaching any conclusions. Looking within ourselves, not without. We're into doubt, not certainty. In fact, if you think you really know something about God, you're doing it wrong.

Churches have even begun to echo this spiritual fad. We've moved beyond the dogmatism and exclusive religious claims of ages past, and into a more flexible, organic spirituality—one more suited for today's world. We've embraced the best aspects of the world's faith traditions while rejecting the antiquated, narrow-minded elements of organized religion. After all, every religion teaches basically the same thing.

We've spiritually evolved.

So, why are people feeling emptier than ever?

Maybe we've missed something. Something big.

Maybe we weren't meant to float from spiritual fad to spiritual fad, patching together a god of our own design. Perhaps we were intended to land on some answers. Perhaps God created us with some destination in mind, not just an aimless journey. What if he intended for us to actually find him? If that were the case, would you want to know?

Well, if you do, you'll have to head over to www.morethanquestions.com and check it out. Hurry, the suspense is killing you. Literally, it's slowly killing you.

chamblee54 said...Do you have a link for the "wisdom du jour"?

August 27, 2010 5:02 PM

Jacob said...Your line,"We won't hit you with some Papyrus font slogan" made my day. Very nice. I know some people who need to read that and Lord willing will be passing it on. I

don't think any of them are in Lansing though. I have a question though, on the picture with the smiley face and all the religious symbols, what religion does the top one correspond to? The little man.

August 27, 2010 11:11 PM

ZSB said...Chamblee, see any college sophomore's blog.

Jacob, the little man, I guess, just represents man-centeredness. That graphic is the logo of the Unitarian Universalist Church, but with the oil lamp in the middle replaced with a smiley face.

August 28, 2010 11:17 AM

Jacob said...Oh wow. I'd never seen that before and didn't know it was their logo. I thought you had made it. I figured it might've meant works-righteousness, he's stretching and striving and doing his best to try to reach Heaven! But yours sounds more right.

August 28, 2010 11:37 AM

chamblee54 said...Do you have a link to "any college sophomore's blog"? A specific post that addresses these issues would be helpful.

Think of this as being a paper to be submitted for one of your "multiple degrees". You need to show where you get your information.

August 28, 2010 2:17 PM

ZSB said...No, I don't need to cite specific examples when I'm anecdotally describing a general cultural phenomenon on my own blog. That's where you're wrong. Well, that's one of the areas where you're wrong.

But if you must have a specific example of that kind of empty, vague, "all about the journey" spirituality, check out http://bohemianbloggess.blogspot.com/ or

http://www.randybuist.com/ or http://chamblee54.wordpress.com/ or pretty much any episode of Oprah. Or read The Secret or The Shack or anything by Deepak Chopra August 28, 2010 2:30 PM

chamblee 54 said....Thank you for your reply.

No, you don't "need to" show where you get your information. There are many good reasons for doing so, but if you don't want to you don't have to.

As for your links. I went to <u>bohemianbloggess</u>, and found an essay about kindness. This is a subject I have written about (http://chamblee54.wordpress.com/2009/08/15/show-

<u>kindness-to-your-enemy/</u>). The bottom line is that the world can benefit more from acts of kindness than loudmouth religion. I also did not see any of what you call "wisdom du jour", but I only looked at the top post.

<u>Randybuist</u> is rather poorly written and tough to follow.

Thank you for the link to my own blog. I appreciate all the traffic I can get. The last five posts are about: The funeral of the Pillsbury Doughboy, copyright issues, clever sayings on facebook, football, and a murder in 1989. All have lots of pictures, which sometimes relate to the text. I don't recall ever posting anything like your "wisdom du jour", although I may

have and forgotten.

I don't exactly agree with the "wisdom du jour"...or with your alternative. But, this comment thread is about style rather than substance. We can go back and forth all day about substance, you can talk about your "multiple degrees" and show disrespect, and in the end no one will change their mind. This does, however, remind me of something I heard Deepak Chopra say on the radio once.

Did you know that if he married Oprah, she would be Oprah Choprah?

Mr. Chopra was plugging a new book, and appearing on a radio show. The host was rather hostile. (Before a commercial break, he felt the need to say, speeding up his words to beat the break, that Jesus Christ was his Lord and Savior.)

So, the host was being mean to Deepak Chopra. The response of Mr. Choprah "What you say says more about you than it does about me".

August 28, 2010 roughly 3:00 PM comment deleted

ZSB said...Oh, and I am turning over a new leaf here and making a solemn vow to no longer feed the trolls. All attempts to derail comment threads with irrelavent or semi-relavent tangents will be deleted. And this is for everyone: I'm glad my words got your mind whirring in a different direction, but the proper place for those spin-off thoughts would be your own blog...

August 28, 2010 3:34 PM

chamblee54 said... looked at the UU website (http://www.uua.org/) and they said the logo of the UU church is the chalice. I don't know where those other symbols came from.

August 28, 2010 4:56 PM

ZSB said...I found the above graphic on the site http://www.discoveruu.com/

August 28, 2010 5:06 PM

chamblee54 said...The "logo" is a link to an online test. That is not the logo of the UU church. This is an illustration of why you should show a link for your sources.

August 28, 2010 PM comment deleted