



Volume 2, Issue 17

ZWTF

Saturday, September 14, 2013 Zapping-you Whenever Thoughts Flow

Q & Hey

Thanks for asking about stuff I know.



Belief is a Struggle

Q: I have not attended church for two years, but I miss it. I have alienated one friend by giving him one of your books. I am feeling like a fish out of water.

I am always searching, but it doesn't make life com-

fortable. It doesn't even make living in my own skin comfortable. I wish sometimes I could turn my brain off and just live, as so many other people seem to do. I need someone to talk to. *What now?*

HEY: I understand what you mean about being uncomfortable in your own skin. You will note in Scripture how miserably situated (of soul) most of the men and women of God were. They, too, were fish out of water. We are fish out of water in the manner of Leonardo DaVinci. He was drawing pictures of helicopters five hundred years ago. Everybody thought he was nuts. But he wasn't nuts, he was ahead of his time. We are ahead of our time.

The teaching of the salvation of all will be very popular someday. It will not happen on this earth tomorrow, but we will watch it blossom when this wicked, ignorant age is past. Then our teaching will be very popular. There are very few living legends. That's because legendhood generally places one so far ahead of one's contemporaries, vision-wise, that no one can keep up. They're all watching television and playing church.

Keep trying to direct people toward my books. I like the reactions you are getting, because people either love them or hate them. Don't expect much from religious people. Religious people crucified Christ.

I have to turn off my brain occasionally, if only as a survival mechanism. I have safety valves keeping me from going crazy. (Watching 70's rock bands on YouTube is one of them). I take all my complaints to God, and I don't blame myself for being flawed. I am trying to enjoy my flaws as well as my accomplishments. I am enjoying being both abased and applauded. I think the same of the mud and the sun today, because they are both players in the drama of God's universe. Revel

in your miserableness. When you can learn to do that, then you will find you will never need psychotherapy. Psychotherapy is only for those who fail to be at peace with not being at peace, or who can't be happy about being so unhappy. Once you have learned these things, you can rest in not being restless. There's a verse for that, and it goes, "Don't worry about anything." (Philippians 4:6) If we are told not to worry, there must be things to worry about. I had to hurry up and quote Scripture there, before you thought that I might be crazy. Sometimes, this is as good as it gets this side of immortality.

Everything you said is part of the struggle which, coming to terms with, we no longer struggle against.

Keep up the non-work.

Driving Me Nuts ... But Right On!

Q: Months ago I asked to be removed from your newsletter because I thought you were too egotistical and you drove me nuts! Now, however, while you still sometimes jar my sensibilities (drive me nuts), I wish to



be reinstated to receive your newsletter—you are right on, and see so much truth that I need to see (from an interesting and iconoclastic perspective to be sure!) Father bless you!

HEY: Thank you! I am glad you are still on board. There are some people who look humble on the outside, but inside are proud of their spiritual accomplishments. Then there are people who are a tad bombastic on the outside (your's truly), but who inside are as spiritually humble as can be, knowing from whence come their blessings.

You are being blessed by the spirit of humility in

me. God made my surface the way it is to do just what you said: jar sensibilities. It does its job.

The Worst Sin of the Universe

Q: I understand that God is Sovereign, but how do you answer someone about things like the holocaust—and other indescribable events which are of God—without making God look like He is evil and sadistic? What about the cruel and vicious rape and murder of a little five year old girl?

HEY: I always tell people that, just because I recognize the sovereignty of God, doesn't mean I always like it.

I direct people to the worst sin in the history of the universe. No, it is not the Holocaust, and it is not the rape of a five year-old girl. The worst sin of the universe was the crucifixion of the Son of God. So far, no one has disagreed with me. Then I show people the amazing blessing that has come from that absolutely worst evil. So far, no one has disagreed with that, either. "Okay," I say. "If God can do this with the worst evil, don't you think He will justify and redeem these lesser evils, such as the Holocaust and the rape of a five year-old girl?"

Try that, and see what happens. The only answer is: The contrast of the coming glory will make ALL evil look small by comparison.

Absent From the Body

Q: Martin, you teach that the dead are dead, but didn't Paul write "to be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord"?

HEY: No, he did not. Not in any version. He wrote that he wanted to be absent from the body AND to be present with the Lord. The *Concordant Version* of 2 Corinthians 5:8 reads—

We are encouraged and are delighted rather to be away from home out of the body *and* to be at home with the Lord.

The key word in that verse is the second "and." Every version I know of says, "and," but people classically and mistakenly quote this as "is." The difference between "and" and "is" makes all the difference.



Let's say I want to be absent from Pennsylvania *and* in Hawaii. Does this statement preclude an intervening journey between these starting and ending points? No; in fact it requires an intervening journey. To say, "To be absent from Pennsylvania *is* to be in Hawaii," is ridiculous. It assumes that, once I cross the Pennsylvania border, I am automatically in Hawaii.

The necessary "journey" between being away from home—out of the body—and present with the Lord, is death. In this case, death is not a journey, it is the state of not being alive. Paul has been dead for 2,000 years, so obviously "to be away from the body" is not to be with the Lord. Paul wanted to be away from here, and to be there. So far, so good. Death intervenes, but at the resurrection, Paul will finally be with the Lord.

"Is" precludes a death state; "and" does not. Every version I know of says, "and." Every Christian I know says, "is." Christians believe the first lie of Satan, "You shall not surely die."

Violating the Laws of God

Q: How can we be required by our Father to obey human laws which violate His laws? The commandant and the guards of Auschwitz were discharging the law-

ful orders of their government, but that did not absolve them of the murders of millions of innocents. What if the government passed a law that required you and me to kill our firstborn child? Does Romans 13 require us to obey?

HEY: God purposely causes people to violate His laws (Pharaoh, Calvary, Auschwitz) in order to effect His intention. This does not absolve anyone from murder. The murderers are accountable for their actions but, absolutely speaking, they are not responsible. Only God is responsible for everything that happens in the universe. We are to obey human laws which violate His laws only if obeying human laws *is* one of His "laws"—which it is (Romans, 13:1). Let me put it this way: Romans 13:1 does not *require* us to obey, which is why I put the "laws" of the previous paragraph in quotation marks. The laws of Moses *required* people to obey, but we are living in an administration of grace. These are not requirements, but exhortations and ideals. You mentioned the killing one's firstborn son; this is precisely what God demanded of Abraham, concerning his son Isaac. If the government today passed such a law, I would tell the government to go to hell; I could not live the ideal. But someone with more faith than I who went ahead and did it would have Scriptural recourse, namely, Romans 13:1

Is It Crazy to Actually Believe the End is Near?

Q: I have made the same statements as you about one world government and the end of America, and people thought I was overreacting. As scary as it is to hear you say it, it is also a comfort to know that I am not going off the deep end. Why do people think we're so "over the top"?

HEY: I know exactly what you mean. No, you have not gone off the deep end at all. My gosh, when we read in the book of Revelation of what is coming on this earth, and we take it all at face value—as it is meant to be taken—who would not be tempted to imagine that God Himself has gone off the deep end? People get so comfortable in their daily, hum-drum lives that it shocks them to think of fundamental changes rocking this planet.

Peter addresses the "it could never happen" mind-set



in 2 Peter 3:3, writing,

In the last days scoffers will be coming with scoffing, going according to their own desires ... and saying, "Where is the promise of His presence? For since the fathers were put to repose, all is continuing thus from the beginning of creation."

People get used to how things are. Our Lord said the last days would be like the days of Noah. Who believed Noah when he spoke of a worldwide flood? They all thought he had a drinking problem. Nothing like what Noah spoke of had ever occurred before, at least not on the inhabited earth. So the people went along, marrying and doing their business—until it started raining. If these days are like those of Noah's day, then we are looking down the barrel of major catastrophe while the majority sleep. Keep sounding the alarm, but not for the sake of alarm. Herald the Word. Send people to my website. Tell people that there is an alternative to the horrible news of the world. If they scoff at you and call you crazy, you're in good company.

LETTERS TO THE IRRITATOR



Martin, the institutional church has been getting to me. As you are aware, institutions do whatever necessary to perpetuate themselves. Do you really think the NAACP wants to eliminate racism? Of course not, for then their organization would become irrelevant. Likewise, sin is big business

and the churches are eager to step in, pump up guilt, and create anxiety.

Keep up the great work and thanks for your ministry.

Hi, Martin! I listen to you every morning and I really enjoy it. Thanks to you, I am a fun person again and I'm enjoying life with my family.

The other day I ran across something written by a man who thinks the apostle Paul was one of the ones Christ warned us against. This man said Paul was teaching a different Christ. I don't believe what he was saying, but I do give the guy credit for recognizing that what Paul preached is very different from what Christ taught the Jews. You are the first teacher I have ever heard that has actually pointed out the difference between the two gospels and what God is doing with two



different groups of people. All other preachers try to mix it into one, and in doing that they have to sweep verses under the carpet to fit their mixture.

It's nice to hear someone who acknowledges *all* of the Scriptures and puts each one in its place instead of sweeping a bunch under the rug. Thanks. Keep up the good work. I thank God for you every day! I know you have a full life, so I wanted you to know that the time that you spend on your talk show really helps those of us who are walking this alone.

Your Sister in Christ,
FH.

► Thank you, everyone! I hope you are listening to my Hebrews series at www.martinzender.com, "The Martin Zender/Dan Sheridan Show."

As always, I appreciate—and could not keep going without—your continued support of this ministry.

Martin