

GOD

on

GOD
**AND
OTHER
ISSUES**
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What On Earth Was He Thinking?

Scott MacGregor

GOD on GOD



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Introduction

Ever wonder why? Yes, why? Why this, why that, why the other thing? If you have, I am sure you have that in common with the vast majority of others of the human race ever since time began. So who has the answers? The only one I know who has the answers to all the whys is God. Seemed like a dead end to me. But as I thought about it more, a strange notion entered my head. I wonder if God would ever do an interview?

Nonsense! A nasty little voice piped up in the back of my mind. If He was going to, He surely would have done it before now.

It was, of course, an absurd idea. Even if it was possible, who was I to be the one to undertake it? There were countless people more qualified than me, I felt. I couldn't help but agree that if it was possible it would have been done before.

But the initial thought wouldn't go away.

"So how would I interview God?" I mused.

Noooo! screamed Nasty again. It's a ludicrous idea and you're off your rocker to even give it a second thought.

"Yes, undoubtedly!" I agreed once again.

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And so I went about my day trying to forget about the “stupid, idiotic, harebrained” idea. Yet the thought was persistent. But each time it came up, Nasty was there to add another disparaging adjective to the growing list that preceded the idea.

It was after many bouts with Nasty that I was stopped in my tracks as a new thought entered my mind.

You are certainly not having any trouble hearing from Nasty. Why would it be any more difficult to hear from God?

In my mind's eye, I could see that Nasty was just about to let me have it when he seemed to swallow his tongue. There wasn't a word. What had happened to my razor-tongued companion? He was gone.

Instead, a decidedly nicer voice chimed in. Why not just ask Him and see?

I looked around to make sure no one else was observing what was going on. Thankfully, I was alone.

Go on. Ask Him! Nice Voice urged again.

“Do you really think He would do it?” I asked out loud.

Nothing ventured, nothing gained, came the reply.

So I did and ... well, read for yourself what transpired.

“Hello! Are You There?”

Interview One

INTERVIEWER: Well, here goes! Ah, excuse me. Hello! Are You there? (At this point I think I hear a yes. I feel stupid but proceed.) I wonder if I might have a word with God?

VOICE FROM SOMEWHERE: With God! Any special reason?

INTERVIEWER: I'd like to ask Him some questions, if I may.

VOICE AGAIN: Questions? What questions?

INTERVIEWER: Rather a lot, I'm afraid. I wonder if He might be free to do ... well ... like an interview or something.

VOICE WHICH I NOW DUBBED “SECRETARY”: So is it an interview or a “something”?

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INTERVIEWER: An interview. Yes, an interview. (A bit more boldness was starting to come to me.)

SECRETARY: Well, that's a first! Back in a jiffy!

(A jiffy, I thought. I guess Heaven is timeless. Someone needs to update the secretary on what's in and what's old in the English language.)

SECRETARY: God says He's been expecting you. Go ahead!

INTERVIEWER: So He is here?

SECRETARY: Sure is. Ask away!

INTERVIEWER: Okay! Uh ... hello! I am very honored to be able to ask these questions and that You are able to take the time for this interview.

GOD: I am very pleased to be able to. It has taken awhile to get through to you on this and to get you this far.

INTERVIEWER: You mean that this was Your idea?

GOD: Did you think it was yours?

INTERVIEWER: I must admit that I thought it was a bit off the wall at first.

GOD: Like you were off your rocker or something?

INTERVIEWER: You could say that.

“Hello! Are You There?”

God: So now that we have straightened that out, do you want to get started?

INTERVIEWER: Sure, if it's okay with You.

God: No time like the present.

INTERVIEWER: Very well. My first question and I think one that most people would like to hear an answer to is: Who are You? Some think of You as a rather old, kindly looking gentleman with a long white beard. Others envision a very stern authoritarian with a large stick in His hand. Others a very nebulous, disinterested entity who has left us to our own fate. What are You really like?

God: I have always regarded the conceptions most of mankind has of Me with a mixture of amusement, puzzlement, and sadness. To best understand Me, it is better not to conceive of Me as a person but rather as the Spirit of love. That is what I am at My essence and that is how My presence is most commonly manifested in the world.

Everyone has been touched by love at some time in his or her life. Think of someone you love or have loved and are loved by in return. Recall how you feel when you are near that person. Now think what that would be like multiplied, not just a few, but very many times over. You now have an idea of what I am like.

INTERVIEWER: So when we feel warm and fuzzy, that's You? Some might take exception to that and think that You are appropriating the love they feel for or from someone.

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God: Perhaps some might take exception, but please understand that this is simply a statement of fact. I am not just assigning all your nice, warm, loving feelings to Myself. I am simply stating that love is not just part of Me, but it is Me. I place it in the world so people can have a taste of what I am like. I am love.

INTERVIEWER: You said you are a spirit. Does that mean You don't have human-like features such as a head, legs, arms, etc.?

God: I created man in My likeness, but the part of man that is particularly My likeness is the spirit that dwells within his body. I can and do manifest Myself in the bodily likeness of a man, but I am not limited to that.

INTERVIEWER: So when we see works of art where You are depicted similar to how Jupiter or Zeus of the old Grecian or Roman mythology were depicted, then this is somewhat right?

God: I have never posed for an earthly portrait, but some have seen Me on occasion in a human manifestation. So that sort of representation comes pretty close to how you could imagine Me. But in reality, I would like it if people could get past the human concept and come to understand Me more spiritually.

INTERVIEWER: How would one do that?

“Hello! Are You There?”

God: By seeking to understand My Words to mankind rather than engaging in debate over My appearance and nature.

INTERVIEWER: I see. Yet it is our human nature to be somewhat on the skeptical, analytical side. We like to understand who we are dealing with. Surely You must understand this, since You created humanity?

God: Yes, I do understand, but the reason I created you like this was to see who would rise above the level of skepticism to an attitude of simple belief.

INTERVIEWER: You are talking about faith.

God: Yes, exactly.

INTERVIEWER: But, is faith in fact a good thing? Faith is often manipulated by the unscrupulous. Isn't it better for one to be less gullible and more cautious?

God: I am not talking about being gullible. That is not what faith in Me is supposed to be. Faith is not being duped. Faith is confidence. Faith is knowing.

INTERVIEWER: Okay, now I am going to throw out a question that has been in the back of my mind since this started. How do I know I really am talking to You? I mean, all this could just be in my mind.

God: It could be, but it is not. You need faith.

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INTERVIEWER: I know I need faith, but I am wondering if I am just deluded or something.

GOD: You can check this out by looking at the results.

INTERVIEWER: I am not sure what You mean by results.

GOD: You can see how this affects you once you sit down and read over the transcript. Does it sound like you're delusional? Or does what you read make sense?

INTERVIEWER: Okay, I'll do that. But what is the test? How do I know that this is not a delusion? Maybe it will all make wonderful sense to me, but once it gets around that I am here talking to You, I can see the commitment papers being drawn up right away.

GOD: Then you'll just have to let them read what you are hearing and let them make up their own minds. The worst they can think is that you are a harmless kook.

INTERVIEWER: A kook! People are going to think I am a kook? That thought doesn't fill me with a lot of confidence right now.

GOD: If you are going to worry too much about what people think, then you have gotten into the wrong line of work. Most people whom I have spoken to have been derided by their critics as daft ... or worse.

"Hello! Are You There?"

INTERVIEWER: Oh, no. It has gone from being a kook to me having derisive critics. Life was a lot simpler before this started.

GOD: Simpler doesn't necessarily mean better.

INTERVIEWER: You're not going to tell me to do anything crazy, are You?

GOD: What do you mean by crazy?

INTERVIEWER: To go pull some stunt or something.

GOD: No, I am not in the business of stunts, although I do like to get people's attention.

INTERVIEWER: You have mine right now and I am still feeling pretty awkward about all this.

GOD: You were the one who requested an interview.

INTERVIEWER: Yes, that's true. But it is because I have lots of questions that I want to get answers on.

GOD: So ask away.

INTERVIEWER: How can we establish the fact that You are real?

GOD: The testament to a creator is his creation. Look at what I made. That is the main way you can establish that I am real.

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INTERVIEWER: But couldn't the world have created itself?

GOD: Does that make sense to you?

INTERVIEWER: Well, no. But a lot of intelligent people seem to think it does.

GOD: Look around you at all the things in your room. Everything that is manufactured has a maker, doesn't it?

INTERVIEWER: Yes, but there are some things that weren't manufactured—like the plant in the corner.

GOD: But it came from a parent plant, right? It had a maker, so to speak.

INTERVIEWER: Yes, but maybe the ancestor just popped out of the primordial soup at some distant point in time and...

GOD: Why don't you just relax and have faith?

INTERVIEWER: Is it back to that?

GOD: Looks like it. Want to stop worrying and start asking some questions?

INTERVIEWER: All right. I asked about what You look like. Perhaps I can ask what You like?

GOD: If you want to know what I like, just check and see what I made.

“Hello! Are You There?”

INTERVIEWER: One must conclude that You like a lot of different things if we look at the variety of creation. But not all of it is beautiful.

GOD: In its original state, it is.

INTERVIEWER: That would be wilderness?

GOD: No, I didn't originally create it wilderness, but if it is not tended, it turns into wilderness.

INTERVIEWER: So You intended humanity to tend the earth?

GOD: Yes. Looking after the earth was one of the original tasks for humanity.

INTERVIEWER: You say “one of.” Are there others?

GOD: Living in harmony with his fellows and helping each other are also the duties of man.

INTERVIEWER: I assume, from what I have heard, that interacting with You is another?

GOD: Yes, most definitely.

INTERVIEWER: You said You gave us the job of tending the earth. Did You then intend for man to leave it pretty much as is? Or was it in Your plan for us to improve things?

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GOD: Oh yes! Of course I wanted humanity to improve on what I gave, to make advancements, to learn and to progress.

INTERVIEWER: But aren't You conservative by nature?

GOD: Explain what you mean by conservative.

INTERVIEWER: One has the opinion that those who are religious tend to be conservative in their views, liking things the way they are and preferring not to change. If You are the main influence in their lives, it would seem by association that You must also be conservative.

GOD: If by that you mean someone who is resistant to change, then I would have to say that I am anything but conservative. But if you mean someone who holds traditional views, then depending on what the tradition is, I could be regarded as conservative.

INTERVIEWER: So You are and You aren't.

GOD: I am not someone or something that you can neatly define. I am God and so I do not fit into any of your pigeonholes.

INTERVIEWER: So You like change.

GOD: Being static and predictable is boring, don't you think?

“Hello! Are You There?”

INTERVIEWER: Well, a bit of predictability is nice. Like the sun coming up in the morning and things like that.

GOD: You can be sure of that at least. But I don't like things being the same day after day. I prefer to inject variety. I like every sunset to be different from the one the day before. I like every person to be different from the next. The earth is filled with variety and change.

INTERVIEWER: You also talked about being traditional in some respects?

GOD: A lot has been made of values lately, and, yes, I believe in maintaining values that are good. However, I think people tend to look through rose-colored glasses at the good ol' days. Some things weren't so good then, either.

INTERVIEWER: So what are we to base our standards on?

GOD: On Me and My Spirit, which is love. Base your actions on whether they are loving or not, and with that rule of thumb you can't go far wrong.

INTERVIEWER: We shouldn't base our standard on things like the Ten Commandments?

GOD: Would two be easier than ten?

INTERVIEWER: Two?

GOD: Yes, to love Me and to love others. If you follow those two, then you won't go wrong.

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INTERVIEWER: Those are pretty broad.

GOD: True, but if you stick within their parameters, you will be doing well.

INTERVIEWER: This is something I would like to explore a bit later, if I may. But getting back to Your nature and views, would You put Yourself in the liberal camp at all?

GOD: I wouldn't put Myself in any camp. You can't put Me in a box and neatly package Me up and say, "Here is God!" I am not in a fishbowl here, with man peering in. But let Me say that I like freedom and I like for humanity to not be bound up in restrictive traditions. I am not a fuddy-duddy.

INTERVIEWER: So are we in the fishbowl?

GOD: In a way, yes.

INTERVIEWER: That makes it sound as if You keep us like pets or something.

GOD: If you mean that I love you and want to pamper and care for you, then yes, I am inclined that way. But you are far more than pets. You are created in My image.

INTERVIEWER: You said You are not a fuddy-duddy. I think many people have the impression that You are. We see You by and large being worshiped in reverent and subdued tones, by people dressed and groomed conservatively.

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God: Well, let's not be too harsh on people by implying they are fuddy-duddy by the way they dress and act. If people worship Me honestly and truly, from their hearts, then I accept their worship gratefully, but I am not that quiet Myself. I love change, exuberance, excitement. I am not usually for subdued reverence. At times it is good to be still and contemplative, but I certainly don't expect people to be that way all the time in their worship of Me, not even most of the time.

INTERVIEWER: Where did we get it wrong then?

God: It seems like humanity has always liked to have an air of mystique around religious ceremonies, with holy symbols and rituals and hallowed places. There is also within man an innate feeling that religiosity and somberness go together.

INTERVIEWER: And that is not the case?

God: While the spiritual world is mysterious to humanity, I don't require symbols and rituals and somber tones. There is a time and place for seriousness, but overall I want people to be joyous rather than solemn. I would rather have people collapsing from exhaustion because of the exuberance of their worship than falling asleep because they are bored with it.

INTERVIEWER: So we should raise the roof?

God: Why not? Man was created to be happy and for his communion with Me to be happy.

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INTERVIEWER: But You did say that there are times to be quiet and contemplative.

GOD: It is good to stop and get quiet in meditative prayer. Although I love the happiness of joyful singing and praise, it is when people get quiet that they can hear Me talking to them.

INTERVIEWER: How do You do that?

GOD: Ever feel that inner voice trying to encourage you to do something helpful and beneficial for others? That is My voice, or the voice of My agents.

INTERVIEWER: You have agents?

GOD: Yes, of course. You don't think I limit all the fun to Myself, do you?

INTERVIEWER: You find talking to humans fun?

GOD: I love to communicate with people, but I will admit "fun" isn't the word to describe every aspect of it. It can often be hard work.

INTERVIEWER: So who are these "agents" You referred to?

GOD: There are two general classes of agents that help Me in My work: angels and spirits. Angels are supernatural beings of many sorts with various functions. Spirits are former or future spirits of humans who have or will spend time on earth in a human body. Although they lack some of

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the power of angels, they have a greater understanding of mankind.

INTERVIEWER: Fascinating!

GOD: Glad you think so.

INTERVIEWER: I assume these all live in Heaven. Where exactly is that?

GOD: They all dwell in the spiritual dimension where Heaven is located right now.

INTERVIEWER: You say right now as though that is going to change.

GOD: It will, somewhat.

INTERVIEWER: And how is that?

GOD: Eventually Heaven will come to earth.

INTERVIEWER: This is extremely intriguing. What exactly do You mean by “come to earth”?

GOD: In the course of time, I will transform the earth's surface into a paradise that will surpass even the original Garden of Eden in beauty. Then upon that paradise will descend a city of enormous dimensions. Those who live there will not be confined to living within it, but will be able to travel throughout all the physical and spiritual realms. The beauty of this city will be unsurpassed.

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INTERVIEWER: When will this happen?

GOD: Over a thousand years from now.

INTERVIEWER: Good Lord, that is a terribly long time to wait!

GOD: Nice of you to call Me good!

INTERVIEWER: Yes, well, of course that is just an expression. First time I have used that when I actually was talking to the good Lord. But I must say that is a long time to wait.

GOD: You don't have to wait to live there, but it will be over a thousand years before it comes to earth.

INTERVIEWER: So this ... this city, is going to be Heaven?

GOD: It is part of Heaven—the central core, so to speak. But it is by no means the be all and end all of Heaven.

INTERVIEWER: It seems You are not telling the full story.

GOD: It would be impossible to tell the full story here, but I will tell you more about it in a later interview.

INTERVIEWER: A later interview?

GOD: Yes. We've just made a start here. There is still much to cover. You didn't think you could confine an interview with God to just one sitting, did you?

“Hello! Are You There?”

INTERVIEWER: Why I ... I mean, I never really considered that You would consent to this first interview, let alone come back for another. I am very pleasantly surprised.

GOD: Life is full of surprises, and I am glad this one was enjoyable.

INTERVIEWER: Then on behalf of my readers, if I ever have any, let me say thank You.

GOD: You are more than welcome. And I look forward to covering all sorts of issues with you.

INTERVIEWER: It has been a pleasure.

And so my first interview with God was over, with the promise of more to come. I looked over what was said and it seemed to make sense to me. I asked a few others for their opinions, and they also seemed to like it, so I guess I wasn't nuts to try it. I hope you found His answers as fascinating as I did.