

# How cool

is it that the same God who formed mountains and oceans and galaxies looked at you and thought the world needed

one of you. too.



Now when (rulers) saw the boldness of Peter & John, and saw they were ignorant & unlearned men, they marveled they had been with Jesus. Acts 4:13



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## The 3 Worst Words in the Bible

Betty was a friend of mine. Our husbands were members of a Businessmen's group who held world conventions, and we attended those as well as regional events. John Klem was head of the psychology dept at Ball State University - a funny guy! He often entered an elevator facing the rear, then asking the riders "I guess you wonder why I've gathered you all here..."

They are both gone now, having died in recent years. But I marvel at their impact on other people's lives, especially my *own*. Betty was the speaker one time at a ladies' luncheon and her words left their mark on me.

She shared how, when just out of college, she accepted a job as a teacher's aide in a class for children who were developmentally challenged. In the kindergarten class, a little boy named Johnny often came late – and filthy too. He still wore diapers (usually dirty), his face filthy & unkempt hair More, he was disruptive to the whole class!

It became Betty's task to clean him up and prepare him for class. She hated it, dreading each new day, And she considered quitting. But it was her first job and she didn't want quitting on her record. Finally, she prayed.

She didn't expect the message she got....

God said, "Don't look AT him; Look IN him, and call forth that which is made in My image!" She needed a new perspective...

She immediately noticed Johnny's bright blue eyes, and commented how pretty they were. He seemed pleased. Then she noticed his curly blond hair & said so. Not long after changing her tact with him. Johnny

appeared at school, having washed his own face; soon after, he'd combed his own hair. Betty realized Johnny was a pathetic object of neglect at home. She kept on praising him. He now seemed happy to see her each day.

Teachers soon commented to Betty that Johnny wasn"t acting out in class, and even doing his work. She praised his smile and good looks. Then, she coached him on his intelligence, the value of honesty & praising valor any way she could. Over months, he changed from a filthy problem child - to an outstanding student - even aiding other children at times.

This true story illustrates how, hidden in us all, is the plan of God *called 'design.'* 

You are not here by some accident, or are you reading this article by accident. There is a Master Designer with you in mind...even before you entered your mother's womb! The Bible actually says that! And He can make good out of the bad in your life just like He did with Johnny! And just like He did for me.

He formed the entire world for our enjoyment, the skies, the majesty of every mountain, the enormity of the oceans, the beauty of the earth and flowers, color, in birds & animals, the first cry of a newborn.... friendship, marriage, freedom.

But it is not a perfect world – it's fallen - because sin and evil exist here as well. There's disease, germs, evil men and women, and people who are just misguided & make bad choices – believers too, if they don't follow the Bible! Many people today are vacant inside & don't even have worldviews for guidance

But God bridged that breach when He sent Jesus to take on our limitations.

He emptied Himself of deity it says,1 and was tempted in every way as we are,2 yet without sin3. Have you wondered why you're here ...If your fingerprints and dna are unique, wouldn't your gifts & calling be also?

Begin to believe that Greatness lives within *you!* 

"Design" means plans; God's plans for You! 4 He says, "I know My plans for you, plans for good & not for evil, to give you a future and a hope." It's why it so grieves His heart to use those 3 worst words...

Just imagine you built a nice new home for your family, filled it with everything to please, with *them* in mind. As they grew up – they invited their friends over who cleaned out your refrigerator, ate all your food, trashed the houseabusing your furniture, spilling food & drinks on it

How would you feel, after **all** you have done? Disrespected.Unappreciated .Grieved. *His* plans blown!

Jesus taught the Beatitudes, inspiring people to live a Godly life,with right attitudes, to pray, how to let their light shine in a way that would draw others. But at the end He warned... Live to <u>**DO**</u> His will – or hear those hurtful words!

Put yourself before His Throne, where you say "Lord I did my Best!" And a very Loving Father says with tears in His eyes, "Depart From Me!" Why? He has to remain True to His Word!5 "But. But..! I just said I did my best...!."

He says, "You didn't look to Me for My Love, Wisdom, My Guidance or My plan for your Life daily. You treated Me just like another entity! You were being good to please yourself... not to please Me!"

That's the *difference*!



Most people don't have a clue how close we are to losing AMERICA.

"A House Divided..."

REPENT & PRAY

Some folks say *There's*Good in Everyone! But God
says everyone needs
Redemption.

John 3:16 and 36

# Get The REAL Thing....

Did you know that the people Jesus was warning "Depart From Me" felt secure because they did mighty works for Him? 6 They were "religious" but Jesus denied even knowing them,,,not by relationship!!7

You cannot win brownie points or favor with God! You already have all His favor... He has chosen you and loves you madly! But you **must** have a relationship with Him...8

I must tell you though, you cannot have that relationship with him if you don't come HIS way!9 You cannot deny the Saviour and be saved. *Period*. Faith in a phony man-made religion won't keep you out of *hell*...10 All cults are man-made, man's rules. The 1st earmark of *every cult* is controlling what else you can read or listen to....

It's as simple as A, B, C.

Accept His Word as true!

Believe in Jesus' work on
the cross for you.

Confess that you've gone
your own way & sinned

Then invite Him to Live inside

**"Believe in** the LORD **Jesus**, and you will be **saved**- you and your household." Acts 16:31

Your heart forever....

I don't get melodramatic often, but I will here. I've been a believer since April of 1968 and been a student of scripture most of that time. But God has forgiven me for some really wild sins. Thank YOU...Lord! (See my book!)

But I've never had a time in my life like this time. I worked on the road for almost 20 years working for hotels. Eating KFC & Taco Bell to keep expenses down has caught up with me! I am facing a triple bypass & repair

of my mitral valve...openheart surgery! 3 wks ago, the last gal in my apt bldg who went in for heart treatment, died. **Sobering!** But. I. Am. Not. Afraid!

Instead, I can only say His **Love** is like a cocoon surroundimg me right now..

"The LORD is my Shepherd.....Even though I walk in the valley of the shadow of death, You are <u>on</u> my side!...Surely goodness & mercy shall follow me all my days.".Ps 23 by Brooklyn Tabernacle. This song comforts me SO!

I have written these for over 7 1/2 years, to 100"s of people. It is because I so love you all to take 2 weeks to write it, for you – Will You consider my Jesus? – I can't bear the thought of you not being in Heaven...

 ${\it Affection} ately, Sharon$ 

#### **ASK AGATHA**



References 1) Phil.2:7
2) Heb.4:15 3) I Pet.2:22,
2 Cor. 5:21, John 8:29
4) Jer. 29:10-13
5) Matt.7:21-23
Psalm 138:2, John 1:14
6) Matt.7:22 7) Matt.7:23
8) John 3:36 9) John 3:3,5;
Luke 13:5 10) Matt. 7:8
11) John 8:44 12) 2 Cor.6:2
John 6:44 13) Psalms 19:13
14) Matt. 5:48 15) Heb. 5:11-14
16) John 10:10

### Are You Kind of 'Whole?'

Dear Agatha . Hi Agatha. I've wanted to surrender my life to Christ for years. Yet I am reluctant to do so! I am interested but something holds me back. What is up with me? Ben.

Dear Ben: It's the devil. Yes! No kidding! His method is to delay us, or to push us on over. He is the Father of lies 11 & he's simply lying to you! And robbing you. Because his other lie is to convince you that surrender to God will deprive you of something. But the truth is, God will give you everything! How do I know? He gives me everything! Everything I need & besides,

Some people sense the call to repent, and spurn it,12 thinking "I'll do it before the end." planning an eleventh

hour repentance. That's a presumptuous sin!13 Why? Because you're not promised tomorrow. I've been in a head on car crash, and there was no time to pray, people...!!

Sometimes those people counting on that eleventh hour surrender, die at 10:30, If we wake up in hell, the only reason we're there is unbelief! See Rev. 21:8 to see that **unbelief** (and **fear**) precedes all the reasons we think people go to hell for...

We're told we "must be perfect, as God is perfect."14 Sounds impossible, huh? But not in God's mind.15The Greek word' 'perfect' is *telios*, meaning complete, mature.15

Let's say I invited my 30 yr old daughter to sing & play her guitar at the microphone.

Wouldn't it embarrass me if, between songs she sucked her thumb...?

God wants us to grow up16 -:be whole & mature! Why would anyone resist wholeness? We're all broken; we all need Jesus .Life did that to us!

A verse I Love: Ps.16:11 "In His presence is fullness of joy, at His right hand, pleasure forevermore."

Stop letting the devil rob you! 16 High school students are full of dreams. But too many sabotage themselves, like drugs & pregnancy, forfeiting their dreams! You can have a new start, and a fresh beginning! His dreams for you! He can redeem pasts!

Find His PRESENCE!



