

A SHORT GOSPEL ACCORDING TO ATHEISM

ATHEISM IS LOVE

Love is the way to go and Atheism is love. Atheism should not be dogma but should be perception. It should be the perception about what right and wrong really are. If God is love, and God exists, then Atheism is the way to God too!

Atheism is not a system of dogma or a cult or a religion. It is a form of therapy. Atheism can be warm, exciting and liberating. We accept Atheism either in the sense that there is no God or that if there is we are going to pay no attention to him which is practical Atheism.

LOVE YOURSELF IS THE WHOLE OF THE LAW

The one thing I am most sure of is that I exist. I am less sure that others exist for they might be dreams. I can't dream I exist for I'd need to exist to have the dream. It follows that reason decrees that the only thing that should give me meaning in my life is loving myself. If I am healthy, then I love most what I am most sure of.

Put yourself first. We all do this though many of us pretend that we don't. When we help another person we do it not necessarily to feel good as a result of doing it but to feel good in doing it. When I feel sorry for a sick dog, I help the dog to improve my happiness for I would be happier if it were better. I don't do it to help the dog but because I see helping the dog as attractive. Everything I do I do because its attractive in some way. It's done to satisfy the attraction. I do nothing without desire. Even when I am forced I want to do what I do under the circumstances.

The good we do is done to feel good and secure in this world so it is really about us. We love ourselves in the sense that we value ourselves alone but we love others in the sense that we enjoy helping them. Strictly speaking I only care for myself no matter how much good I do for others. I can only care about others in the sense that I enjoy doing what is good for them.

The more you love yourself the more you are of benefit for others so there is nothing to be ashamed of.

All acts of malice are motivated by a lack of correct self-esteem. Whatever tries to harm self-esteem is bad. Whoever damages the self-esteem of another is not living like a person with self-esteem for it makes it more possible for the other person to hurt her or him. Secret evil is bad for it still makes you untrustworthy and if you see yourself as untrustworthy you will see others that way too and damage your self-esteem.

There are only two things: love and fear. Love is happiness and anything that is irrational is fear and its parent.

Be your own God and ignore any God that tells you what to do.

ATHEISM AGAINST HATRED

Free will is the power to do something that no force can stop you from doing. It is entirely your act and you are not forced or programmed to do it. Free will must necessarily be denied if you want self-esteem. Self-esteem is liking yourself the way you are and because you like yourself you are able to improve far more easily because fear isn't in the way. If you believe that you are not programmed by your genes, environment, memory and perception then you will believe that you are a free creator of evil rather than something that is at the mercy of forces that work through the freedom you think you have.

Free will is not a good belief. Dogs feel free and happy like us. But they have no free will but are programmed by their instincts and there is no reason to believe that we are any different. Free will is only an assumption and it is not right to accuse people of abusing free will without proof. Free will is a doctrine of hate.

Free to us means feeling free but the feeling is not real and we can be happy with that.

Only those who deny free will can be believed when they say they love the wrongdoer but hate the wrong act. To believe in free will and say John was the origin of a hateful act is to say that John is hateful for John did the act. The act is inseparable from John for it reveals the kind of person John freely is. To say that inner forces working through John performed the act rather than John doing the act avoids calling John hateful. It calls the forces hateful. Incitement to hatred must be expanded to cover those who preach the gospel of loving sinners and hating sins because too many use this to hide their hatred of the persons. They say it is hard to love sinners and oppose sins which is an admission that they are causing much hatred.

We only do evil because our perception breaks down and we see it as good but it is for the worst. We are always well-meaning. We cannot do evil just because it is evil but because we see something attractive or good in it and that is what we

are after. Therefore it is incitement to hatred to call anybody evil or sinful. No matter how much evil we do it is a mistake that happens for good and evil are often mixed. When we mean well we cannot have free will so God is to blame for evil.

It is vital that we never seek to punish people. Yes we must stop them committing crime but we must never do this in a judgmental way. You lock the criminal up so that the criminal will be forcibly stopped for a time and hopefully change before he or she is released but you must see the criminal as a good person who is a slave to forces that make him or her do inappropriate things. Judging is hatred and hatred causes fear and thrives on fear. Self-esteem is damaged and then this results in anti-social acts.

Free will is a religious hypothesis because there is no evidence that it exists and it would take a miracle to be able to know that it does exist. The state must throw the doctrine out for it undermines the separation that should exist between state and religion.

ATHEISM IS LIBERAL

Rules should be confined to the bare minimum for the more rules the more people who break them have to feel bad about and this harms self-esteem.

It is important that we be as liberal as possible. If you have too many ideas about morality you endanger yourself and others by having unnecessary rules. Some things are bad, some good, and some are unnecessary or neutral. Follow these guidelines that differ from conventional morality and you will never go wrong.

There can be no security, order or contentment without rules. Some say we should stick to rules no matter how much harm it does. "Believe in God and serve him and never do other than these" is a notorious example. Others say we should have no rules but do whatever makes the most people happiest. The right doctrine is found when we cross the two approaches and come up with, "Make the rules that are the best for most of us."

We should do what is best for most people which means keeping the rules for it is best to be happy yourself and to make another happy for two happy people are better than one.

MARRIAGE – THE SHOCKING TRUTH

Marriage is wrong though it may be permissible when it is easily got out of but only then because it doesn't really mean much. The problem with marriage is that it is manipulative. It is trying to tie a person to you for life even if you make life with you impossible because marriage is taken for life.

Marriage is not for making sure a man and woman stay together because marriage is still encouraged in cultures that make it easy to get out of via divorce.

Marriage implies that divorce and even a legal separation is wrong for it says that even a wife who leaves a brute of a husband to avoid being beaten to death still has no right to have sex with anyone except her husband. To say otherwise would be saying the marriage was no more. When the husband has the right to her body which is the most important thing she has, she cannot have the right to divorce him because her right to be happy with another man is less important than the right of the husband over her body. To ban divorce and separation would be the utmost assault on her dignity and assuring her subjection to patriarchy. Marriage then is disgusting and is not about two equals sharing their lives together but is meant to be about the one half, usually the male half, deceiving and exploiting the other half.

Marriage implies that sex outside marriage is wrong. Otherwise what would it be needed for it if were not for the Church and state giving permission to have sex? So loveless sex in marriage must be better than two loving people who are not married going to bed to express their total love. How absurd!

Marital union is not even necessary to our welfare so it is unjustifiable. There is nothing that marriage can do that some other arrangement can't do just as well.

Marriage vows don't bind until the couple have sex. So they are tied together because of one sex act. That clearly proves what a humiliating superstition marriage is. The wife is sold to the husband by sex. She is his because she gave him her body once. That is prostitution and to use women that way is appalling. The wife owns half of what the husband owns when they have sex. If they don't, they can get the marriage annulled with the result that neither is any financially better off than before. Worse the sex makes the husband own her body.

If you really wanted your partner to be happy you would not mind them leaving you and then meeting somebody else that makes them happier than you can. People's needs change. Jealousy is about trying to stop your partner being happier.

Marriage is about power not love.

Civil partnerships should replace marriage.

SEXUALITY

There is nothing wrong with a woman having a baby and having no intention of having a man around as long as she has plenty of male relations and friends to befriend her baby.

Erotica is written or auricular or visual celebration of human sexual enjoyment. Anything that involves force is pornographic and should be prohibited. Erotica should arouse sexually but in a way that wants to bring happiness to yourself and others. It needs to involve some kind of love or goodness. Erotica will not corrupt a person unless that person is already corrupt in which case erotica is a good thing that is abused.

Some object that erotica treats a person as an object. It doesn't have to as long as it is about the beauty of the body and sexuality.

It is not true that contraception makes the man see the woman as a sex object for all agree that sex when conception is eliminated or very unlikely is loving and moral. Women must have the same freedom as men to explore their sexuality. It is not true that the contracepting person sees the baby as a burden for anti-contracepting people see the baby as something to be avoided when they try to reduce the chances of conception for nobody thinks sex is more about babies than anything else.

Homosexuality is not wrong in itself. As long as it involves some kind of love it is not wrong. Love is the most important thing. Nature is often evil so its ways need not be respected. Homosexuality is natural however because sexuality is different for every person. To condemn homosexuality means that you consider the feelings bad too for the feelings invite you to sexual activity. That is the same as saying that the homosexual person is bad for the person does not have the same feelings as a person who is not gay. This is denied by the Church but it is undoubtedly true.

ABORTION AND LIFE

Human life is the most important thing there is. We all agree with making people happy. That means people are more important than happiness which is the best thing possible so people are most important. To say that God is the most important is to put a belief before life which is reprehensible and why we say that if religion does good it does it in spite of itself.

To believe an embryo in the early stages is a person is stupid. An adult dog will have more consciousness than an early human embryo and we abort such dogs! Abortion is fine but only as early as possible. When the foetus develops enough it will have a brain that can register pain. Abortion after that is only justified by a serious threat to the life of the mother. Abortion on demand must be allowed as early as possible and encouraged for women who don't want unwanted babies so that abortion does not become murderous at a later stage.

Capital punishment is always wrong for because the human person is more valuable than anything else it is wrong to take life.

People must make up their own minds about euthanasia. Is it a tolerable evil that should only be allowed to happen under strict conditions? But bear in mind that the opponents allowing patients to take drugs that kill them as long as the drugs take pain away is euthanasia because if life comes first then it should be prolonged forever.

Eating the meat of the animals like cows and pigs that have enough brain matter to be conscious is wrong. To be safe it is best to stick to prawns and fish. Meat often is murder.

EQUALITY

Nobody should be discriminated against just because they are a different colour, or because of their religion, sex or sexual orientation. These things have nothing to do with doing a job or mean that we can't be friends with them and they with us.

Does religion have the right to discriminate against people? For example, should the law force the Catholic Church to ordain women? Some say that private organisations do have this right. But if people are equal then you cannot say that because the whole point of saying it is to get people treated equally. It would be unfair to let the Catholic Church discriminate and the law should be about protecting equality and not religion for equality has to do with individual persons and religion is about something that people set up. If people come first then religion does not. The state comes before the

Church for it cannot be done without. Then the civil law should dominate Church affairs. This amounts to dominating a few leaders for most of their own followers resent the power they claim and seek.

The notion that men and women have different roles that they have to fulfil no matter how much unhappiness this brings on them is as hurtful and fallacious as it is popular and is blatant sexism. It is sexism making an attempt to look politically correct. It is arbitrary to say that it is a woman's job to make the dinner and a man's job to fix the sink. Why can't a man who is better with children than his wife allow her to be the breadwinner? If you can do the job it is nonsense to speak of roles. And as for the role of motherhood, men would have to carry babies if a virus wiped out all women. To assign sexual roles is simplistic.

LIFE AFTER DEATH

People are happy or reasonably happy while rejecting the doctrine of going to Heaven after death or having no opinion on it or little faith in it. They show that belief in an afterlife can be lived without. Anybody who needs the doctrine is not trying hard enough to be happy now.

We know that human life is absolutely valuable. It is more valuable if this life is thought to be the only one because if we die and live on then death isn't so serious. If human life is absolutely valuable then anything that reduces that importance is to be forbidden. Faith in an afterlife is therefore evil and if apparitions and miracles support that faith they are evil too and their evidence stands for nothing and their influence is a grave danger that must be fought by debunkers.

We should see value in our lives because there is no afterlife.

CHURCH AND STATE

Do not give the Church any money to pay its clergy, maintain its Churches and publish its ideas. Pay charity instead. The Church is not a charity and should not be taking money that charity should get.

The Church must be made to pay taxes like everything else. A system that offers no proof for its teachings being correct has no right to accept a tax-free existence.

Religion should be a private affair. People like us who believe that religion is offensive and harmful should not be harassed by seeing religious statues in public places, by prayer in schools and by public displays of faith.

The state should not be influenced by religious dogmas. The state is for looking after this world not the next. It is a lot easier to decide what laws are best if you keep faith out of it for everybody has a different faith. To believe in an all good God is to say that God deserves to be put first. So belief in God then is intrinsically opposed to the autonomy of the state and is intolerant.

Children are impressionable and vulnerable and must never be exposed to religious propaganda in state schools. That is child-abuse. Children may only be given religious education in a comparative way at school so that the child can make up her or his own mind. However, there is nothing wrong with these lessons focusing on what is good in each religion so that the child will grow as a person through what he or she learns.

I must promote secularism (separation of religion and state) because it looks at problems and their solutions only on the human level. I must resolve to correct anyone who opposes secularism. If we start bringing in gods and magic into our politics we will end up getting nowhere for no two people can agree on what their deities want us to do so it is simpler to keep the state secular. It's hard enough to decide and do the right thing when you take one world into account without involving God's world as well. There is no other way. It is not enough to stop the Church meddling in the affairs of the state – the Church will still be able to manipulate the state if it has an undue influence on the people. The taxpayer should not have to pay the state and the Church to let the Church spread its propaganda in the schools to the vulnerable and easily conditioned. It is important to get people to look with clarity at all issues from as many angles as possible so the secular voice must be raised caringly but loudly and firmly.

Secularism is definitely against the law of God because God commands faith as a duty and says his law comes first and that his right to his opinion comes before yours for he is the perfect being and deserves all honour. This is incompatible with the view that the state should run as if the word of God didn't exist. It seems that only Atheism avoids what is in effect treason against the state.

ATHEISM AND SELF-DEVELOPMENT

Atheism alone can give self-esteem and so it gives you the power to look at yourself and like what you see because:

It tells you to think for yourself without any God. It puts value on your own independent opinion and thinking. The more rational you get the more self-esteem will be possible for you for self-esteem cannot come to the person who is not sure of her or his position in the world. Fear causes all evil so to make yourself agree with God means you are afraid of him and that is bad.

It tells you, that despite the wrong you do, are perfect as you are. You are not a bad person but a person that is the victim of bad perception that makes you do bad things.

It delivers you from hatred for it denies free will, and therefore takes away any reason or excuse to hate anybody.

It tells you that happiness is not in anything outside yourself. It is in your hands. It is not other thing that make you happy but how you react to them. Anybody who says you find happiness in God is cheating you. If you find God makes you happy then it is the way you have made yourself feel about the idea that does it so it is you not God that has done this. Atheism frees you from illusions.

If people see your Atheism and how loving it makes you even if they hurt you they will not take much pleasure in it or really want to because they will see that your Atheism will benefit them and seeks only their benefit. They will admire the honesty that stops you pretending that sinners can be loved and their sins not loved. If they hurt you because they are jealous then it is a compliment.

Meditation by perhaps concentrating on your slow breathing for five or ten minutes is better for you than prayer. Prayer is trying to put your future in the hands of another but meditation but your fate in the person you feel safest with, yourself. You know yourself best and you love yourself more than anything. So meditation is best.

When you breathe you could imagine that you are breathing with a force that makes you want to smile. Smiling is good for you and you will soon get the feeling that this force is really putting a smile in you.

If you look after your outer self more than your inner self the inner self will soon progress and be enveloped in happiness. Do not put your spirit before your body. If we look good we feel good and the admiration of others is good for us.