

Re: The Voice of Religion.

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Below please find the latest version of The Voice of Religion.

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THE VOICE OF RELIGION.

I bought a striking 500(?) year old painting of the Holy Family depicting Holy Mary with the Christ child standing on her right knee. From the right top corner, Joseph is looking down while holding a book. From the left lower corner, the child Saint John the Baptist, is looking up at Jesus.

I already owned a gilded, framed icon showing the same scene, except that Joseph looks down from the top left and John the Baptist looks up from the bottom right corner. The difference between the two is that, in the icon Mary looks like a loving mother holding her son. Whereas in the older larger painting, Mary looks adoringly at the Son of God, who she has given birth to. The former is a human, whereas the latter a religious rendition.

I prefer the human icon to the religious painting in that it is real, whereas the latter preaches the Christian myth. For humans to assert that, a woman gave birth to the Son of God because it was fathered by God, is presumptuous. Mankind did not create God, God created mankind.

Any person, who claims to know what is on God's mind, is like a dog saying/knowing what is on the mind of the human who bred him. A dog is not human, no matter what its loving owner may think. This is why humans own dogs, instead of the other way around. Nor can a dog preach that one of its puppies is human because a man fathered it.

Most religions tend to be dangerous because their priests claim to be spokesmen for God. This means that their parishioners must do as they are told, because religious humans should obey the will of God.

As a result, more atrocities have been (and still are) committed in the name of religion than for any other reason. Because no matter what one may try and tell a religious fanatic, he knows he is right because he preaches God's will. Consequently, anyone who disagrees with him is a heretic, who must be saved from, or punished for, his evil ways.

In other words, the most destructive force in human history is not the

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iconoclastic agnostic, but the self-righteous voice of religion.

Len Gaasenbeek, April 4th, 2007, Revised: April 7, 2007.

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