

Minister's Message – June 2007

Deluded Dawkins

Many people live as if there is no God, but some like Richard Dawkins actually believe there is no God. His TV programme 'Root of all Evil' and book from this programme called 'The God Delusion' are being widely acclaimed. Dawkins believes in Darwinian evolution and thinks all scientists do. He says that science and religion are incompatible. But is this true? Is it impossible for a scientist to believe in God? Dawkins was taken aback to discover that at least 45% of Americans believe in God. He would be surprised just how many scientists also believe in the creator God.

Science as we know it today was actually established by men who believed in God – men like Pascal, Boyle, Newton, Linnaeus and others. Far from being anti-science the Bible endorses true scientific study. Adam was told to name all the birds and animals- the first taxonomist! Noah was told to save all the animals and birds in the ark – the first conservationist! And King Solomon was given wisdom to speak about trees, animals, creeping things and fish – the first scientist! In fact most advances in science have been through men and women who acknowledged God and feared God.

History reminds us of what happens when scientists do not fear God. Hitler recruited scientists to advance his ideology of a master race and world domination – not to mention extermination of those unfit to live. Hitler was merely following the Darwinian doctrine 'the survival of the fittest'! Evolutionists find nothing wrong with some of Hitler's ideas. Designer babies and euthanasia have put eugenics back on the agenda of some scientists, and politicians, today.

Dawkins ridiculed all religions, not just Christianity. Religions that are man- made and involve idol worship are of course open to ridicule. *Their idols are silver and gold, the work of men's hands...those who make them shall be like them* (Psalm 115). He was sceptical of the healing miracles claimed by those who went to the idol of Mary at Lourdes.

Dawkins went on to Jerusalem where he confronted a militant Moslem. He failed to convince him that there is no God. With Jews and Moslems fighting over this 'holy city', Dawkins blamed religion for all the hatred and hostility in the world. He managed to find a few atheists who were quiet and peace loving – and oppressed! This was in America where he challenged evangelical Christians in their belief in the Bible. 'How can modern man still believe in these ancient scribblings' he asked? With little understanding of holiness, sin, and divine justice, he tried to portray the God of the Bible as vindictive and violent. But the Christians were not swayed in their faith by his ridicule.

Would the world be a better place if there was no religion? No doubt much evil has been done in the name of religion, but a careful look at the Bible will show that the true God is holy, just and loving towards all he has made. Maybe next time Dawkins will go back in history and question men like Hitler, Stalin, Mao, Pol Pot, and others who like him believed there is no God.

What does God say about men like Dawkins? *The fool says in his heart there is no God* (Psalm 53:1). This Psalm goes on to say *Oh that the salvation of Israel would come out of Zion*. Salvation has come out of Zion in Jesus Christ the Son of God. He is our hope and salvation, as millions by faith believe, despite the ridicule of deluded men like Dawkins.

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