

Shame! I have a son who used to work at the WTC. A few months before September 11 his office was moved a few blocks uptown NYC. I say this because I understand why we should bring the guilty to justice, dead or alive. However, here is a different perspective.

The world is going crazy! In the name of God, in the name of religion, we are killing and destroying each other. The world is soaked in blood shed every day in the name of God. The war in the Balkans, the war between Israel and Palestinians, the historic persecutions by the Catholic Church, and now Muslim extremists killing thousands of people in the name of God.

Armies of missionaries are going around the world trying to convince people that their definition of God is better than the others'. What is the purpose of religion if we use the name of God -- and what he supposedly taught us through the prophets -- to kill, kill, and kill without any shade of remorse? Why do we use God to justify our action because of some archaic understanding of what he said we should do? People fight wars, kill, destroy, and then are not ashamed to ask God's protection and blessing. This is plain, unadulterated, self-serving hypocrisy! Shame!

Of course, we are assuming he exists in the way our ancestors defined him. And I am stressing the word "define". We go to church. We pray. We sing. We bow our head. We prostrate on the ground. Our faces have an ascetic look. We listen attentively to someone on the pulpit selling us the idea that if we behave properly we go in a never-never land called "paradise".

We agree and accept all this. Then, as soon as we leave the church, temple, mosque, synagogue, we start killing each other like savages. What is happening to us all? Are we crazy? Who needs religion and God if this is how we understand his teachings.

We created a God that talks, gives us orders, tells us what to do. Religions then built a whole architecture around this definition. Fortunes have been amassed in the name of this invention. What if God is just you and I, or nature? What if God never existed in the way we define him.

Shame on us! All the religious sages should be humiliated and embarrassed for having invented a God who justifies war, destruction, and indiscriminate killing of innocents. We absolve ourselves of the sin we commit by saying it is "their" fault. It is always "their" fault.

We all lost our perspective. We all have become crazy. What is the purpose of being Christian, Jewish, or Muslim if we justify our religious beliefs and life style by killing and destroying humankind? Shame on us!

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