**God**

**God – there is none else.**

***(Deuteronomy 4:39)***

**To whom then will you liken God?**

**Or what likeness will you compare unto him?**

***(Isaiah 40:18)***

**For God is Spirit; and those who worship him**

**must worship him in spirit and in truth.**

***(St. John 4:24)***

**May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace.**

***(Romans 15:13)***

**God comes to us before we go to him. God came to Abraham when there was nothing to come to, just an old man at a dead end. But that’s God for you. *(James Van Tholen, in The Best Spiritual Writing of 2000)***

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**Our school 's audio-visual coordinator wrote out this equipment order: "Send one glass plate for overhead projector. An overzealous minister broke ours when his hand came crashing down during religion class. Please bill us." A glass plate soon arrived, with a note from the supplier: "Please accept with our compliments," it read. "We do not charge for an act of God." *(Marilyn Tamm, in Reader's Digest)***

**Finding religion in the fine print: “How did God make it into millions of consumer contracts?” asked David Lazarus in the Los Angeles Times. Consider the one-year extended warranty offered by the eyewear chain LensCrafters. It excludes “damage from abuse” as well as damage from “fire, collision, vandalism, theft, etc.” But apparently that’s not enough: It also exempts damage resulting from “acts of God.” That would seem to include, “well, everything.” The roots of this clause can be traced as far back as a property-related case decided by an English court in 1581, which ruled that an “act of God” – a death – made the deal in question “null and void.” In recent years, it has evolved into “legal shorthand for unanticipated events beyond human control.” But according to one legal scholar, “there’s a reluctance to use a different phrase” because that one “has come to be well understood.” *(The Week magazine, January 24, 2020)***

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**Sometimes I do get to places just when God’s ready to have somebody click the shutter. *(Ansel Adams, famous photographer)***

**Affirmation: “God, it is You who created us and sustains us, and not I, myself. It is Your power which moves through all minds and bodies, leading us higher along the path. It is Your presence which stirs our souls and gladdens our hearts. Thank you, God, for blessing us so." *(Richard & Mary-Alice Jafolla, in The Quest, p. 364)***

**How can I believe in God when just last week I got my tongue caught in the roller of an electric typewriter? *(Woody Allen)***

**A record-low 81 percent of Americans say they believe in God, according to a new Gallup poll. More than 90 percent said they believed from 1944 through 2011. Fewer than 70 percent of liberals and young adults say they believe in a single deity, while self-identified conservatives maintain a high-level of belief – 94 percent. *(The Hill, as it appeared in The Week magazine, July 1, 2022)***

**Perhaps God and I owe each other an apology. *(Ashleigh Brilliant, in Pot-Shots)***

**God -- the one Presence and the one Power -- has three aspects or roles: mind, idea, and expression. The Trinity can be looked at as the creative process of God. Mind is the source, the origin, the parent--the Father/Mother. The mind gives birth to ideas or thoughts. Expression is the manifestation or outworking of these ideas. Expression is, in a sense, the working arm of God and is commonly referred to as the Holy Spirit. This aspect of God does the work in our lives. *(Richard & Mary-Alice Jafolla, in The Quest, p. 182)***

**The culture of the Australian aborigine recognizes no sort of Supreme Being. *(Boyd’s Curiosity Shop, p. 180)***

**Top 10 billboards by God: On behalf of an anonymous client, a Fort Lauderdale advertising agency launched a unique billboard campaign which has since spread to other parts of the country. All the messages are signed “God.” A sampling:**

**1. “Have You Read My #1 Best Seller? There Will Be A Test.”**

**2. “Need Directions?”**

**3. “That ‘Love Thy Neighbor’ Thing. I Meant It.”**

**4. “You Think It’s Hot Here?”**

**5. “Big Bang Theory. You’ve got to be kidding?”**

**6. “Will The Road You’re On Get You To My Place?”**

**7. “Keep Using My Name In Vain And I’ll Make Rush Hour Longer.”**

**8. “Loved The Wedding. Invite Me To The Marriage.”**

**9. “What Part of ‘Thou Shalt Not . . .’ Don’t You Understand?”**

**10. “Let’s Meet At My House Sunday Before The Game.” *(The Life @ Work Journal)***

**You have to remind yourself, you’re not taking care of your family, God is. And if you put God first, he’ll take care of you better than you can imagine. *(Paul Brandt, country music singer)***

**What God brings you to, God takes you through. *(Rev. Sharon Connors, in Adventures in Prayer)***

**Why Brooks isn’t religious: Mel Brooks grew up thinking most people were Jewish, said Judd Apatow in The Atlantic. His neighborhood in Brooklyn was nearly all-Jewish, to the point he thought “that’s what the world was. Mostly Jews and a few strange people.” His family was not religious: His father died when he was 2, and his mother – the mother of four – would not spend a dollara seat for her family to attend synagogue on High Holy Days. “She simply couldn’t afford it.” When he enlisted in the Army toward the end of World War II, he and two other soldiers were the only Jews in his battalion. “It was an eye-opener. Once in a while you’d get a couple of guys from Alabama who would ask, ‘Take off your helmet. I want to see if your ears are long.’ Sometimes for real, just curious. And sometimes just mean.” Assigned to defuse bombs in France, he defused anti-Semitism with humor. “I was entertaining and I was fun, and they overlooked that I was Jewish.” To this day, he remains culturally Jewish but not religious, and doesn’t know if he believes in God. “To this day, I haven’t worked it out,” he says. “I’m not dure. I say, “Well, if there is a God, I’m pretty sure he’s Jewish.’” *(The Week magazine, June 30, 2023)***

**Nature is the art of God. *(Thomas Browne)***

**Of all the movies I’ve made, the only one that had me worried was the one that turned out to be my biggest hit, Oh, God! The minute I accepted the role, I started to panic. Should I be the one to play God? We’re both about the same age, but we grew up in different neighborhoods. What kind of voice should I use? I was very confused, so I looked up and hollered, “How do you play God?” There was no answer. The closer we got to the starting date, the more nervous I got. Then one night I realized that no matter what, I couldn’t be criticized. Nobody has ever seen Him, so who would know if I played Him right or wrong. That changed my whole attitude. I couldn’t wait to get going. The week before shooting began, I rehearsed day and night. I got so into the role that one night when I said my prayers, I realized that I was talking to myself. *(George Burns, in 100 Years, 100 Stories)***

**“Maybe it was God calling to tell me to get out of my living room.” *(Mary Dhume of Summerford, Oregon, who got up to answer a hang-up phone call Monday night seconds before a pickup truck crashed into her living room and collapsed a wall into the chair where she’d been sitting. Rocky Mountain News, August 27, 2004)***

**Sometimes God calms the storm. At other times, he calms the sailor. And sometimes he makes us swim. *(Tidbits)***

**When it comes to God’s existence, I’m not an atheist and I’m not an agnostic. I’m an acrostic. The whole thing puzzles me. *(George Carlin)***

**If God didn’t want man to hunt, he wouldn’t have given us plaid shirts. *(Johnny Carson)***

**Bil Keane, creator of the Family Circus cartoon strip tells of a time when he was penciling one of his cartoons and his son Jeffy said, “Daddy, how do you know what to draw?” I said, “God tells me.” Jeffy said, “Then why do you keep erasing parts of it?”**

**I am prepared to meet my Maker. Whether my Maker is prepared for the great ordeal of meeting me is another matter. *(Sir Winston Churchill)***

**A young Communist girl once came to Dr. George Hedley, a college professor working with labor groups. She gave him the usual Communist line, saying that she didn’t believe in God. “What kind of a God don’t you believe in?” Hedley asked. It turned out that she didn’t think there was a grandfatherly gentleman sitting on a throne in the skies. “Do you think the universe makes sense?” he asked the girl. “Do you think that effect follows cause regularly enough so we can count on it?” She had to admit she did -- or abandon the whole Marxists philosophy. “Does it seem to you,” the questioner continued, “that this kind of sensible universe may have been planned and set going by a conscious intelligence?” “It must have been,” said the girl. “Well, then,” concluded Dr. Hedley, “if you are confident of that, you are much surer of your belief in God than a lot of clergymen and professors I know!” *(A Synoptic Study of the Teachings of Unity, p. 20)***

**What did Confucius have to say about the Supreme Being and the hereafter? Nothing. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**In a newspaper appeared an article which told of a little chapel in the Orient erected to God by native converts; and how, on the very day of dedication the building was struck by lightning and burned down. The natives were quite naturally taken aback by this happening, since the Chapel represented a real sacrifice on the part of each one of them. They began to grope about in their minds to find a cause. Their conclusion was that the “Devil God” had burned it. The Christian leader said, “We will rebuild it. The fire was caused by your wickedness. It was God’s way of showing His displeasure at your sins.” The natives refused at first to rebuild the church. They argued that it was useless to build churches to a God who would destroy them by lightning. The leader settled this by saying, “Ah, but this time we are going to put lightning rods on the church, and then it cannot burn down.” So a brace of metal rods were held up to these trusting souls as being able to off-set the anger of God. What a terrible undermining of the Power! The man would then turn around and try to tell these people “God is all powerful.” This is a typically confused picture of anthropomorphic deity. *(Walter Lanyon)***

**My conversation with God has been going on so long, I forget who originally placed the call. *(Ashleigh Brilliant, in Pot-Shots)***

**Correction in the Milton-Freewater, Oregon, Valley Herald: “The title of a First Christian Church program in last week’s paper was written as ‘Our God Resigns.’ The actual title is ‘Our God Reigns.’” *(Reader’s Digest)***

**Dolly: “How much would it cost to see a sunset if God decided to charge for it?” *(Bil Keane, in The Family Circus comic strip)***

**I was raised in an avid Democratic family and then married into a die-hard Republican one. Once I was trying to win an argument with my father-in-law. “Dad,” I said, “you wouldn’t vote for God himself if he ran on the Democratic ticket.” He drew himself up and replied very seriously, “Phyllis, God wouldn’t run as a Democrat.” *(Phyllis F. Higgins, in Reader’s Digest)***

**No harm in becoming dependent, so long as what you depend on is always there. *(Ashleigh Brilliant, in Pot-Shots)***

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**Girl: “I missed you so much over the holidays, Eric.” Boy: “I missed you too. I thought about you every day.” Girl: “Just imagine . . . if I hadn't come up north to this campus, at this time, we might never have met! Do you believe in destiny? Were our paths meant to cross? Is there a power somewhere that subliminally guides each and every one of us?” Boy: “I dunno . . . but if so, I'd hate to be on their Board of Directors.” *(Lynn Johnston, in For Better Or For Worse comic strip)***

**Whom the gods wish to destroy they first call promising. *(Cyril Connolly, British journalist-writer)***

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**Ziggy: “If cleanliness is next to godliness, I wonder why God made so much dirt?” *(Tom Wilson, in Ziggy comic strip)***

**A doctor died and was sitting at the gates of heaven waiting for a space to open up so he could finally get in to see God. While he was waiting, a guy in a white coat ran out of heaven. Then the guy returned and walked right back in, he didn't even have to wait! The doctor was pretty upset and said to the gatekeeper, “How come that guy gets to go in and out and I have to just wait here?” “Oh,” said the gatekeeper, “That guy? That's God, He likes to play doctor.” (On Course magazine)**

**Mother Goose: “Did you know in Egypt . . . cats were worshipped as gods?” Grimm: “What do you think ‘dog’ spelled backward is?” *(Mike Peters, in Mother Goose & Grimm comic strip)***

**A granddaughter is sitting on grandpa’s lap as he reads the paper not paying any attention to her studying the wrinkles on his old face. She gets up the nerve and rubs her fingers over the wrinkles and then over her own face and looks more puzzled. She finally asks, “Grandpa, did God make you?” “He sure did honey, a long time ago,” he replied. “Well did God make me?” she said. “Yes, He did, and that wasn’t too long ago,” he said. “Boy, He’s sure doing a lot better job these days, isn’t He?” *(Tidbits)***

**A little girl was sitting on the floor furiously drawing a picture with colored crayons on a big sheet of cardboard. Her mother asked her what she was doing. “I am drawing a picture of God,” said the little one. The mother was shocked at this and said, “But nobody knows how God looks.” The little girl wet her crayon in her mouth and dashed it again at the paper, saying, “They will when I get through.” *(A Synoptic Study of the Teachings of Unity, p. 10)***

**Inspirational speaker Dr. Wayne Dyer still remembers the card his kids gave him for his 64th birthday. The front said, “Inside is a message from God.” Pleased they finally appreciated his work, he opened it to read, “See you soon!” *(Christine Kitto, in Reader’s Digest)***

**Let God be God in you. *(Meister Eckhart, German monk and mystic)***

**In 1643 an Indian ruler wanted to express his love for a woman, so he built the Taj Mahal. If humans can express themselves so generously, you can expect that the One who loves you with an everlasting love will be even more generous in His expressions of it. All He asks is that you depend on Him. *(Russ Johnston, in God Can Make It Happen, p. 25)***

**The existence of God has already been proven to my satisfaction by the existence of everything else. *(Ashleigh Brilliant, in Pot-Shots)***

**The most extraordinary thing about the 20th century was the failure of God to die. The collapse of mass religious belief, especially among the educated and prosperous, had been widely and confidently predicted. It did not take place. Somehow God survived, flourished even. *(Paul Johnson, in The Quest for God)***

**Saving someone’s life is like falling in love. The best drug in the world. For days, sometimes weeks afterward, you walk the streets, making infinite whatever you see. Once, for a few weeks, I couldn’t feel the earth – everything I touched became lighter. Horns played in my shoes. Flowers fell from my pockets. You wonder if you’ve become immortal, as if you’ve saved your own life as well. God has passed through you. Why deny it, that for a moment there – God was you? *(EMT Frank Pierce, in Bringing Out the Dead)***

**A child being put to bed expressed fear of the dark. The mother said, “But darling, you have God with you all the time, there is nothing to fear.” The child replied, “Yes, I know that, but I want somebody with skin on.” *(A Synoptic Study of the Teachings of Unity)***

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**Finding God would be hard enough, even if he didn’t go under so many different names. *(Ashleigh Brilliant, in Pot Shots)***

**I protest this constant phrase, “finding God.” I have never heard that He was lost. Let us not speak of “finding” but of “being aware.” God is playing no game of hide-and-seek. It is not his hiddenness, it is our blindness*. (Paul Scherer)***

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**The finest fruit of serious learning should be the ability to speak the word God without reserve or embarrassment. (Nathan M. Pusey)**

**A woman arrived at the Pearly Gates where St. Peter met her and said, “Before you enter, can you tell me God’s first name?” She thought just a moment before answering, “Andy.” St. Peter, astonished, asked, “How did you arrive at ‘Andy’?” “Oh, we sing it in church often,” the woman replied. “Andy walks with me, Andy talks with me, Andy tells me I am His own.” *(Christ Church Newsletter)***

**First man: “If God appeared and said, ‘give up all your worldly possessions and become a fisherman,’ what would you do?” Second man: “I thought He already did.” *(Ted Dawson, in Spooner comic strip)***

**God is a verb, not a noun. *(R. Buckminster Fuller, in No More Secondhand God)***

**The existence of God could be proved statistically. Take the human body alone -- the chance that all the functions of the individual would just happen is a statistical monstrosity. *(George Gallup)***

**To the millions who have to go without two meals a day, the only acceptable form in which God dare appear is food. *(Mahatma Gandhi)***

**In our parish a three-year-old was listening to her grandmother reading aloud from Genesis. After she had finished, the girl seemed lost in thought. “Well, dear,” asked her grandmother, “what do you think of it?” “Oh, I love it,” the girl replied. “You never know what God is going to do next.” *(Gladys Kent, in Catholic Digest)***

**A little boy, after having many weeks of Sunday school lessons devoted to the Old Testament, and then coming to the first lesson in the New Testament, remarked to one of his classmates after Sunday school: “Boy, God sure got better as He got older, didn't He?” *(Eric Butterworth, in Discover the Power Within You, p. 31)***

 **One day when my granddaughter was visiting, she asked, “Grandma, do you know how you and God are alike?” I mentally polished my halo as I asked, “No, how are we alike?” “You’re both old*.” (Raymonde Bourgeois, in Country Extra magazine)***

**He who seeks God has already found Him. *(Graham Greene)***

**To me it seems as if when God conceived the world, that was Poetry; He formed it, and that was Sculpture; He colored it, and that was Painting. He peopled it with living beings, and that was the grand, divine, eternal Drama. *(Charlotte Saunders Cushman, American actress)***

**About 74 years ago I learned that I was not God. And so, when the people of the various states want to do something and I can’t find anything in the Constitution expressly forbidding it, I say, whether I like it or not: Damn it, let ‘em do it. *(Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr., Supreme Court Justice)***

**Somebody should tell Jerry Falwell that God is an Independent . . . he’s not rich enough to be Republican. *(Bob Hope)***

**Late one night in a mental hospital, one patient shouted, “I am Napoleon!” “How do you know?” asked another patient, “Because God told me!” the first patient said. “I did NOT!” yelled a third patient. *(Rocky Mountain News)***

**Many Western liberals and secular types look at the zealotry closing in on them and draw an obvious conclusion: religion is the problem. As our global politics become more enamored of religious certainty, the stakes have increased, they argue, and they have a point. Thereof terrorists of Al-Qaeda invoke God as the sanction for their mass murder. And many beleaguered Americans respond by invoking God’s certainty. And the cycle intensifies into something close to a religious war. When the Presidents of the U.S. and Iran speak as much about God as about diplomacy, we have entered a newly dangerous era. The Islamist resurgence portends the worst. Imagine the fanaticism of 18th century Christians, waging religious war and burning heretics at the stake. Now give them nukes. See the problem? Domestically, the resurgence of religious certainty has deepened our cultural divisions. And so our political discourse gets more polarized, and our global discourse gets close to impossible. *(Andrew Sullivan, in The Conservative Soul)***

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**God is like Coke . . . the real thing. God is like Pan Am . . . makes the going great. God is like General Motors . . . lights your path. God is like Bayer Aspirin . . . works wonders. God is like Hallmark Cards . . . cares enough to send the very best. God is like VO5 Hair Spray . . . holds through all kinds of weather. God is like Dial Soap . . . Aren't you glad you know God? Don't you wish everyone did? God is like Sears . . . has everything. God is like Alka-Seltzer . . . Try Him, you'll like Him. God is like Scotch Tape . . . You can't see God, but you know God is there! *(Terry O'Brien, in S.C.U.C.A. Regional Reporter)***

**One time, when they were children, Lowell and Rickert Fillmore played with a little boy who said that he was lost. When they went home that evening they told their parents about him. Mrs. Fillmore sent their father out to find him. Soon Mr. Fillmore returned with him, and he was a little Negro boy. He was very dirty, and his clothes were in rags, so Mrs. Fillmore took off his clothes and burned them, replacing them with some of Rick’s and Lowell’s. She heated some water on the kitchen stove and gave him a bath in the tin tub that served the family. While she was bathing him, she talked to him and tried to give him some Unity ideas about God. “God is everywhere,” she told him. “God is in this very room.” At that moment, Mr. Fillmore came through the room and went upstairs. The little boy’s mouth fell open. “Is that God?” he asked. *(James Dillet Freeman, in The Story of Unity, p. 145)***

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**It does me no injury for my neighbor to say there are 20 gods, or no god. It neither picks my pocket nor breaks my leg. *(Thomas Jefferson)***

**It was good that God kept the truths of life from the young as they were starting out or else they’d have no heart to start at all. *(Cormac McCarthy)***

**God must have wanted everyone to have a kitten . . . because he keeps making so many of them! *(Tom Wilson, in Ziggy comic strip)***

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**To know God is the beginning of wisdom, because God is the source of wisdom. The nearer we live to the source the more we receive of that which comes from the source. The mind that is not consciously living with God may have intellect and mental capacity, but the wisdom that knows can come only to that mind that is walking with God every moment of conscious existence. *(Christian D. Larson)***

**After the knowledge of, and obedience to, the will of God, the next aim must be to know something of His attributes of wisdom, power, and goodness as evidenced by His handiwork. *(James Prescott Joule, scientist)***

**Lola: “Level with me, Reverend. What is life really all about?” Reverend: “Only God knows the answer to that one, Lola.” Lola: “Do you think he’s keeping quiet so the rest of us won’t panic?” *(Steve Dickenson & Todd Clark, in Lola comic strip)***

**Nobody knows what God will do next – (perhaps not even God). *(Ashleigh Brilliant, in Pot Shots)***

**I am not sure that God always knows who are his great men; he is so very careless of what happens to them while they live. *(Mary Hunter Austin, American novelist and playwright)***

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**If you drop a slice of bread with jelly on it, it always lands jelly-side down. It’s God’s way of telling you that you shouldn’t snack between meals. *(Bits & Pieces)***

**As you know, we are no longer allowed to say “One nation under God,” And today God said, “Hey, with all the sex, violence and greed in the news, I’m taking my name off the project anyway. You’re on your own!” *(Jay Leno, 2002)***

**To make lightning less scary, we told our granddaughter that it was God taking pictures. We’d thought a recent storm had ended when a bolt came out of the blue. Brooklyn, 5, figured, “God must have been changing film.” *(Joy Haygarth, in Country Woman magazine)***

**Grandpa: “I know it’s silly. Still, it’s flattering to know that my grandson sees me as somehow godlike. Can I give you a hand with dinner, Dear?” Grandma: “Sure. How about changing this water into diet root beer?” *(Brian Crane, in Pickles comic strip)***

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**God must love the common man. He made so many of them*. (Abraham Lincoln)***

**I cannot conceive how a man could look up into the heavens and say there is no God. *(Abraham Lincoln)***

**At a White House dinner, a churchman offered a benediction and closed with the pious affirmation: "The Lord is on our side." When President Lincoln did not respond to this sentiment, someone asked him, "Don't you believe, Mr. President, that the Lord is always on the side of the right?" "I am not concerned about that," was Lincoln's answer, "for we know that the Lord is always on the side of the right. My concern is that I and this nation should be on the Lord's side." *(The Wit & Wisdom of Abraham Lincoln, edited by Alex Ayres, p. 86)***

**My great concern is not whether God is on our side, my great concern is to be on God’s side. *(Abraham Lincoln)***

**I have had so many evidences of His direction, so many instances when I have been controlled by some other power than my own will, that I cannot doubt that this power comes from above. I frequently see my way clear to a decision when I am conscious that I have not sufficient facts upon which to found it. I am satisfied that when the Almighty wants me to do, or not to do, a particular thing, He finds a way of letting me know it. I am a full believer that God knows what He wants men to do, that which pleases Him. It is never well with the man who heeds it not. I talk to God. My mind seems relieved when I do, and a way is suggested. I should be the veriest shallow and self-conceited blockhead, in my discharge of the duties of this place, if I should hope to get along without the wisdom that comes from God and not from man. *(Abraham Lincoln)***

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**Dennis: “Are you guys sure God is listening to me?” Mom: “Of course he is, Dear!” Dennis: “But it’s hard to talk to someone you can’t see!” Dad: “Step aside and watch the master at work. You talk to people on the telephone and you can’t see them, right?” Dennis: “Uh-huh.” Dad: “Well, talking to God is just like that! Clear it up for you, Sport?” Dennis: “Not really. Don’t people on the phone talk back?” Mom: “We’re waiting . . . Master.” *(Hank Ketcham, in Dennis the Menace comic strip)***

**Nelson: “Gramma, what does God look like?” Grandma: “What do you think he looks like?” Nelson: “I don’t know. Probably old and wise, like Grampa. Only without the pop-tart crumbs in his mustache.” *(Brian Crane, in Pickles comic strip)***

**God looks at the clean hands, not the full ones. *(Publilius Syrus)***

**Husband: “Whew! I had a tough day! There was a huge box of cream-filled donuts in the conference room, and by the time my meetings were over, I’d eaten six of them! Oh, I weighed myself, and I lost three pounds.” Wife: “That settles it. God is a man.” *(Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott, in Baby Blues comic strip)***

**What really matters is not whether I believe in God but whether God believes in me. *(Ashleigh Brilliant, in Pot Shots)***

**You can’t find God – you have to let God find you. *(Thomas Merton)***

**Good art is nothing but a replica of the perfection of God and a reflection of His art. *(Michelangelo)***

**Billy says to his Mom: “But if it’s wrong to have midnight treats, why did God put lights in the fridge?” *(Bil Keane, in The Family Circus comic strip)***

**We’re concerned with how things turn out; God seems more concerned with how we turn out. *(Philip Yancey, in The Question That Never Goes Away)***

**A construction crew was building a new road through a rural area, knocking down trees as it progressed. A superintendent noticed that one tree had a nest of birds who couldn’t yet fly and he marked the tree so that it would not be cut down. Several weeks later the superintendent came back to the tree. He got into a bucket truck and was lifted up so that he could peer into the nest. The fledglings were gone. They had obviously learned to fly. The superintendent ordered the tree cut down. As the tree crashed to the ground, the nest fell clear and some of the material that the birds had gathered to make the nest was scattered about. Part of it was a scrap torn from a Sunday school pamphlet. On the scrap of paper were the words: “He careth for you.” *(Bits & Pieces)***

**In a speech at Sarah Lawrence College, actor Paul Newman told a story about his Hole in the Wall Gang Camp for children with catastrophic diseases: A counselor was talking about God with an eight-year-old boy. The boy said he wasn't very conversant with God, but he did know a little about physics. It fascinated him that, in the expanding universe, whatever force you exert in one direction is precisely what comes back from another. The counselor said he was glad that the camp was different than the rest of the universe because he got back a good deal more than he put into it. The kid wrestled with that one awhile and said, “Well, maybe that's God.” *(Reader's Digest)***

**The most beautiful system of sun, planets and comets could only proceed from the counsel and dominion of an intelligent and powerful being. *(Sir Isaac Newton)***

**God is so nice, I almost wish there were more than one. *(Ashleigh Brilliant, in Pot-Shots)***

**A pastor read: “God is dead” – Nietzsche. The graffiti underneath read: “Nietzsche is dead” – God*. (Tidbits)***

**Admiring the sunset, I pointed out to our 4-year-old all the colors God uses to paint the sky. “Yes,” Clay agreed. “And He doesn’t have to stay in the lines.” *(Clarisse Blair, in Country Woman magazine)***

**If you want to know what God thinks of money, just look at the people he gave it to. *(Dorothy Parker)***

**Higgs discovery sparks new era in physics: Physicists at the CERN lab in Geneva have spotted the Higgs boson, the “God particle” that explains the existence of mass and holds together the Standard Model, the theory that forms the foundation of modern physics. Researchers have searched for the Higgs for 48 years, ever since British physicist Peter Higgs and colleagues predicted its existence. “For physicists, this is the equivalent of Columbus discovering America,” University of Liverpool physicist Themis Bowcock tells Bloomberg.com. The Higgs is evidence that an invisible energy field – activated shortly after the Big Bang, 13.7 billion years ago – permeates the universe. Without the Higgs field, all particles would have no mass – like the photons that create light – and would zip chaotically through a universe that would have no atoms, no stars, no planets, and no life. But the Higgs field acts like an invisible sea of cosmic molasses, slowing down certain types of particles, including the quarks and electrons that make up atoms, making them react to each other in ways described in the laws of physics. “This boson is a very profound thing,” says CERN spokesman, Joe Incandela. “It’s a key to the structure of the universe.” Physicists sought the Higgs by smashing protons together at nearly the speed of light in CERN’s Large Hadron Collider. Researchers sifted through the debris from more than 1,000 trillion collisions looking for evidence of a decaying Higgs. The data pointed to the existence of the particle almost exactly where the Standard Model predicted it would be found, at about 126 billion electron volts. But the findings contained “just enough differences” with theory to keep some questions unresolved, says California Institute of Technology physicist Sean Carroll. Some physicists hope the new particle turns out to be an unexpected variation of the Higgs – or multiple Higgs particles. A more complex Higgs, physicists say, might provide clues about another grand mystery: why 96 percent of the universe appears to be invisible “dark matter” and “dark energy.” *(The Week magazine, July 20, 2012)***

**The bigger the hair, the closer to God. *(Dolly Parton)***

**What I know beyond a shadow of a doubt is that God is with me. I know that he’s always been with me. It is evident in everything I have endured – and the fact that I made it through with some sanity. *(Tyler Perry, acclaimed actor and director who survived an abusive childhood)***

**Bad week for: Humility, after a Kentucky man won a three-year court battle to personalize his license plate with the phrase "IM GOD." A federal judge ruled that Ben Hart, an atheist, had a First Amendment right to say what he wanted on his vanity plate. *(The Week magazine, November 29, 2019)***

**Animals inspired artist Pablo Picasso to offer this challenging view of the Almighty Creator: “God is really only another artist. He invented the giraffe, the elephant, and the cat. He has no real style. He just goes on trying other things.” *(Bob Fenster, in They Did What!?, p. 146)***

**He was a wise man who invented God. *(Plato)***

**A young woman brought her fiancee home to meet her parents. After dinner her father asked the young man into his study for a chat: “So, what are your plans?” he began. “I'm a theology scholar,” the young man replied. “Admirable,” the father said, “but what will you do to provide a nice home for my daughter?” “I will study and God will provide,” he explained. “And how will you afford to raise children?” “God will provide.” The men left the study and the mother asked her husband, “How'd it go?” “He has no money or employment plans,” the father said. “But on the other hand, he thinks I'm God.” *(Caleb Chiu, in Reader's Digest)***

**Sometimes when I’m faced with an atheist, I am tempted to invite him to the greatest gourmet dinner that one could ever serve, and when we have finished eating that magnificent dinner, to ask him if he believes there’s a cook. *(Ronald Reagan, in Speaking My Mind)***

**After years of waiting, patient as the mountains, apparently, for a TV show or film to use a real phone number instead of that bogus “555" prefix, hundreds of movie-going fans plucked seven digits from the dialogue of “Bruce Almighty” and went on a crack-call rampage this weekend. And yes, we're going to give the number to you, 776-2323. Go have a blast. The 776 number flashes on Jim Carrey's pager in the film, in which an ordinary guy fills in for God (Morgan Freeman), who tosses over the keys to his omnipotence. A spokeswoman for Universal Studios, which produced the film, said the 776-2323 number was picked because it doesn't exist in Buffalo, N.Y., the movie's setting. *(Owen S. Good, in Rocky Mountain News, May 28, 2003)***

**I don’t know if God exists, but it would be better for His reputation if He didn’t. *(Jules Renard)***

**Captain Eddie Rickenbacker, the famous World War II pilot, crashed into the Pacific after leading a special mission. He and his crew were lost at sea for twenty-one days. He wrote of his experience: “In the beginning many of the men were atheists or agnostics, but at the end of the terrible ordeal each, in his own way, discovered God. Each man found God in the vast empty loneliness of the ocean. Each man found salvation and strength in prayer, and a community of feeling developed which created a liveliness of human fellowship and worship, and a sense of gentle peace.” *(Richard & Mary-Alice Jafolla, in The Quest, p. 31)***

**I love God, and when you get to know Him, you find He’s a Livin” Doll. *(Jane Russell, actress)***

**God is a circle whose center is everywhere and whose circumference is nowhere. *(St. Augustine)***

**What is God? Who is like to God in greatness? Nations before God are a drop of water; the universe as a grain of sand; the whole human race as nothing. *(St. Ignatius Loyola)***

**A baby is God’s opinion that life should go on. *(Carl Sandburg)***

**Grandma: “Do you think God has a sense of humor?” Grandpa: “I think it's pretty obvious that he does. Why else would He make it so that the more hair I lose off the top of my head, the more grows in my nose?” *(Brian Crane, in Pickles comic strip)***

**The television evangelist says: “Have you found God yet?” Lola: “I didn't know She was missing.” *(Steve Dickenson & Todd Clark, in Lola comic strip)***

**A 4th of July orator was trying to talk without notes. He said that we all ought to be grateful to the “One from Whom our rights and liberties descended.” He paused, reached into his pocket, pulled out his notes, and added “Almighty God.” *(Bishop Fulton J. Sheen, in Catholic Digest)***

**You wanted a sign? You might have a hard time avoiding reminders of the Almighty on the highways these days. Billboards bearing “messages from God” have appeared in 40 states since last year. The arch one-liners were commissioned anonymously and conceived by Charlie Robb, former creative director for the Smith Agency in Fort Lauderdale. Although some have criticized the signs as being too flippant, Robb said, “There's no downside to what we're selling here.” Some sample messages, each signed simply “God”: “Let's meet at my house Sunday before the game.” “Loved the wedding. Invite me to the marriage.” “Will the road you're on get you to my place?” “That 'love thy neighbor' thing--I meant it.” “Do you have any idea where you're going?” “Need a marriage counselor? I'm available.” “Follow me.” “Keep using my name in vain, I'll make rush hour longer.” “I don't question your existence.” “What part of 'thou shalt not' didn't you understand?” “I love you . . . I love you . . . I love you.” “We need to talk.” “Don't make me come down there.” *(Tom Kuntz, in New York Times)***

**In his newsletter, Parables, Etc., Michael Hodgin tells the story of a little girl traveling with her family in a sleeper car back in the days when everyone traveled by train if they had to go long distances. The sleeping cars generally had a narrow aisle with even narrower beds stacked two high on either side. They were made private by curtains. That night the little girl was put in an upper bunk. She was told that Mommy and Daddy were right below her, and she was not to get scared because God would look after her. As everyone began to doze off, the little girl called out, “Mommy, are you there?” “Yes, dear,” replied the mother. A few minutes later, the little girl called out again, “Daddy, are you there?” and Daddy said, “Yes, dear, I’m here too.” Things got quiet for a few minutes, then the little girl started again. “Mommy, are you there?” And this time she also asked if her brother and sister were there. After everybody answered, “Yes!” it quieted down. But the questions were repeated again a few minutes later, and then again. At last another passenger lost his patience, and in a deep voice said, “We’re all here! Your father, your mother, your brother, and your sister. Now go to sleep!” Silence ruled for about thirty seconds. Then the little girl was heard to whisper, “Mommy, was that God?” *(Bits & Pieces)***

**The Spanish exclamation Ole!, commonly heard at bullfights and flamenco dances, comes from Allah, meaning “praise be to God.” *(Harry Bright & Jakob Anser, in That’s A Fact, Jack!, p. 43)***

**After church one Sunday, I noticed my five-year-old son Dennis writing intently. “Dad,” he said, “how do you spell ‘God’?” Pleased that he must have been paying attention in church, I told him. And then he asked, “How do you spell ‘Zilla’?” *(William Schueneman, in Reader’s Digest)***

**Can you guess what state capital is sometimes used as a synonym for God? How about Providence, Rhode Island. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**Aidan Broylas was studying a map of the United States when something struck him as being quite amazing. After thoughtfully considering it, the 6-year-old said, “Mom, isn’t it great how God fit all these states together?” *(Maria Micklan, in The Lutheran Witness)***

**A little boy saying his prayers had his mind centered on the talk of his parents concerning our troubled times. Having prayed for everything, and everybody he could remember, the lad concluded: “And please, God take care of Yourself. If anything should happen to you, we’d all be sunk.” *(A Synoptic Study of the Teachings of Unity, p. 10)***

**After Grandpa had some teeth pulled, he spoke with a lisp. His granddaughter listened curiously as he read his usual Bible story to her the first night after his visit to the dentist. Hearing words like “saith” and “hath” and “doth,” she exclaimed, “God had his teeth out, too!” *(Leslie B. & Bernice Flynn, in Humorous Incidents and Quips)***

**God transcendent suggests God as above and beyond His creation. This idea of God as remote from the practical affairs of man or from man’s own experience is false. God (perfection) is not out of reach of His offspring nor something beyond or above them. Tennyson tells us that “closer is He than breathing, and nearing than hands and feet.” *(Charles Fillmore, in Keep A True Lent, p. 144)***

 **Lee Trevino likes to joke that when caught in a thunder-and-lightning storm a golfer should hold a one iron aloft. “Not even God,” he says, “can hit a one iron.” *(Quoted by Dave Anderson, in New York Times)***

**Good week for: Appeasing an apparently angry Deity, after the House of Representatives took time out from its work on the budget deficit, soaring unemployment, and other pressing problems to reaffirm, by a vote of 396-9, that the national motto is “In God We Trust.” *(The Week magazine, November 18, 2011)***

**The truth is, then: That God is Principle, Law, Being, Mind, Spirit, All-Good, omnipotent, omniscient, omnipresent, unchangeable, Creator, Father, Cause, and source of all that is*. (Charles Fillmore, in Christian Healing)***

**On June 14, 1954, U.S. President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed a bill into law that added the words "under God" to the Pledge of Allegiance. On this same day, Americans took part in the first nationwide civil defense test against an atomic attack. *(The Daily Chronicle)***

**God is a comedian playing to an audience that is afraid to laugh*. (Voltaire)***

**Every sunrise is a message from God, and every sunset . . . His signature. *(William Arthur Ward)***

**It will be worthy of a free, enlightened, and, at no distant period, a great nation, to give to mankind the magnanimous and too novel example of a people always guided by an exalted justice and benevolence*. (George Washington, farewell address as president, 1796)***

**The children were lined up in the cafeteria of a Catholic elementary school for lunch. At the head of the table was a large pile of apples. The man made a note and posted it on the apple tray: “Take only ONE. God is watching.” Moving further along the lunch line, at the other end of the table was a large pile of chocolate chip cookies. A child had written a note: “Take all you want. God is watching the apples.” *(The Saturday Evening Post)*
Spurgeon, the noted English pastor and writer, once noted a weather vane on the roof of a barn. That was nothing out of the ordinary in his country. What was unusual was the inscription written under it: “God is love.” “Just what do you mean by putting that text there?” Spurgeon asked the farmer. “Do you think God’s love is changeable like that?” “You don’t get it,” the farmer replied. “What I mean is, no matter which way the wind blows, God is still love.” *(A. P. Bailey, in Indianapolis Star)***

**The number of Web pages dealing with God and religion is booming, Religion, in fact, is now nearly as popular an Internet topic as sex: A search for "sex" on Google returns about 408 million hits; a search for "God" yields 396 million. *(The Washington Post, as it appeared in The Week magazine, March 30, 2007)***

**A Sunday school teacher asked her preschool class if they knew where God lived. One little girl stood up and quietly said, “He lives in Heaven.” “Is that correct, Johnny?” the teacher asked a little boy in the back row. “No, ma'am,” said the boy. “He lives in the bathroom at our house.” “The bathroom?” asked the teacher, incredulously. Explained the boy, “Every morning my dad stands outside the door and shouts, “My God, are you still in there?” *(Printed on a box of Celestial Seasonings Tea)***

**Without God, the world doesn’t make sense – but that doesn’t prove that there is a God. *(Ashleigh Brilliant, in Pot-Shots)***

**I believe in God, only I spell it Nature. (*Frank Lloyd Wright)***

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