

A SERMON WRITTEN BY GOD

For Today's Couple To Be Read by Bishop Carroll at Their Sacred Ceremony

To The Children of the Earth,

I consider myself a patient person. Look at the Grand Canyon. It took Me millions of years to get it right. And what about Creation itself? Nothing was slower than designing that whole Darwinian evolution thing to ever take place at all, cell by cell and gene by gene. I have even been patient through all your fantasies, fashions, civilizations, wars, schemes, and the countless ways you take Me for granted, until you get yourselves into a big mess over and over again. Since My Son's Resurrection, I want to let you know that some things really upset me. First, your religious rivalries are driving Me crazy. Enough already! Let's get one thing straight: These are your religions, not Mine. I am the Whole Enchilada; I am beyond all of them. Every one of your religions claims there's only one of Me, which is true by the way.

But in the very next breath, each religion claims it's My favorite one. And each one claims its bible, was written personally by Me, and that all the other bibles are only man-made. How do I even begin to put a stop to such nonsense? Now pay attention: I am both your Father and Mother. I don't play favorites among My Children. Also, I hate to break it to you, but I don't write. My longhand is awful, and I've always been more of a "doer" anyway. So all your books, including the Bibles, were written by very special, talented, and inspired men and women. They were remarkable people, but they also made mistakes here and there, in their understanding in what they wrote. I made sure of that, so that you would never trust the written word more, than you would ever trust your own Heart. You see, every human being to me, even a bum on the street is worth more than any of all the Holy Books in the world. That's just the kind of person I am. My Spirit, is not an historical thing, it's alive past, present, and future all at the same time, and as close to you as your next

breath. Whether you believe it or not, I'm making all things new continuously. Holy Books, Religious Traditions, and Rites are sacred and powerful, but not more so than the LEAST of any of You. They were meant to guide you in the proper direction, not to keep you fighting with each other, and certainly not to keep you from trusting your own personal connection with Me. Which brings Me to My next point about all this nonsense, you act like I need you and your religions to defend me, winning souls for My sake. Don't do Me any favors. I can stand on my own quite well, I have done so for billions of years. So, I don't need you to defend Me, and I certainly don't need worship, prayers, or constant credit. Don't get me wrong, these are nice things, but spend more time being good to each other instead of praying to Me all the time. Another thing, stop all the money, and political stuff. Don't drag My name into all your dramas. For example, I swear to Me, I never threatened any certain Pastors, Priests, Bishops, Rabbis, etc. I never told Pat Robertson or anyone for that matter

to run for President of the United States, and I've never ever had a conversation with Jim Bakker, Jerry Falwell, or Jimmy Swaggart! Of course, come Judgment Day, I certainly intend on doing so. The point is, I want you to stop thinking of religion as some sort of loyalty pledge to Me. The true purpose of your religions is so that you can become more aware of Me, not the other way around. Believe Me, I know you better than you know yourselves. I know what's in each of your hearts, and I love you with no strings attached. Lighten up, and enjoy Me. That's what the spirituality of all religions is supposed to do. What you seem to forget is how Mysterious I Am. You look at the petty little differences in your scriptures and say, "Well, if this is the Truth, then that can't be!" But instead of trying to figure out My mysterious ways, which by the way you never will do, why not open your hearts to the simple common threads that bind you in all your lives and in all your religions? Differences are "that great gift" that I gave all of you to unite all of you as sort of a

Sacred spice rack, to “season and make more appealing”, that great Supper of fellowship that life is, which by the way, my Son tried to leave with you in His memory for all of you to enjoy each other. You know what I'm talking about here. Just love and respect everybody. Be kind and supportive, especially when life gets scary and confusing. Take courage, and be of good cheer, for I am always with you. Learn how to be quiet, so you can hear My still, small voice -- I don't like to shout. Leave the world a better place by living your life with dignity and gracefulness, for you are, My unique child. Hold back nothing from life. Take chances and take risks, isn't that what a “faith-life” is all about? The parts of you which are your fantasy world and attendant dramas will surely die, and the part of you that reflects Me . . . will never die. So don't worry, be happy (I stole that last line from Bobby McFerrin). This is simple stuff people. Why do you keep making it so complicated? You're always looking for a reason or an excuse to be upset. And I'm very tired of being

your main excuse. Do you think I care whether you call me Yahweh, Lord, Jehovah, Allah, Father, Mother, Universal Intelligence, etc. Do you think I care which of My chosen prophets you feel closest to, Jesus, Mary, Buddha, Krishna, Mohammed or any of the others? The answer is no, because you gave me the names you all call me by. I don't have a name. I don't need one. I know who I am. I always have. Call me what you want, if only you would all go about My business of loving one another, as I love you. Why do you keep neglecting something so simple? I'm not telling you to abandon your religions. Enjoy them, honor them, and learn from them, just as you should enjoy, honor, and learn from your parents, family and friends. All religions have a special place in My heart. Don't combine all the Great Traditions of all religions into one big mess. Think of all the computer programming that would take! Each religion is unique for a reason. Each has a unique style, so that people can find the best path for themselves to Me.

You may ask, “ who are the chosen people”? They are the ones who live in the same place . . . My Heart. They all get along. Also, the clergy needs to stop judging people and creating divisions out of the “gift of differences” I put in each religion, so that people could learn from each other, have something to talk about, and not get bored about Me. Children of Earth . . . the World has grown too small for your pervasive religious bigotry and confusion. The whole planet is connected by air travel, the internet, satellite dishes, cell phones, fax machines. Time to get with the program here! Commit yourselves to figuring out how to feed your hungry, clothe your naked, protect your abused, and shelter your poor. And just as importantly, make your own everyday life a shining example of kindness, humor, and respect for all. I've given you all the resources you need, if you would only abandon your fear of each other and begin living, loving, and laughing together. Finally, I just wanted to grab your attention here because I hate to see you all so unhappy.

I gave you free will, so what can I do now, other than to try to influence you through reason, persuasion, and a little old-fashioned guilt and manipulation? After all, I am the original Jewish Mother. I just want you all to be happy. So I sit in the calm peaceful dark as I really am with you always.

Your One and Only true God . . . signed GOD

P.S. – While I have your attention here, I do not understand the unprovoked bloodshed in Iraq. I don't understand any war . . . I don't understand capital punishment . . . I don't understand abortion . . . I don't support any violence to any of my Creation. It's time now, and has been for while, for women's ordinations. I love my gay children, imprisoned children, sick children, old children, and even my pagan children. By the way, Elvis and John Kennedy really did die. So stop lying about and seeing them working at a 7-11 in Selma, Alabama. My all-time favorite stage productions are Jesus Christ Superstar, Godspell, Pippin, and Cats. You can be fairly certain that one of My special sons,

Pope John Paul the 1st, elected Pope only for 33 days, did die under very suspicious circumstances back 1978... and those involved will pay dearly. “Ya just can’t get much past Me, never have, never will”. Now, on with the ceremony, and Don’t forget at the reception, to toast Me, for the beautiful planet that I gave you all and to share it with each other.

DON’T MAKE ME COME DOWN THERE!

Best Regards . . . God

Sermon by Bishop Carroll on the occasion of uniting two loving hearts.