What The Hell Is Going On Here?

In his short essays for the Vinegarettes of our times, LSF “Flounder” Bill Van Druten figures out just what the religious tricksters are up to. And then he lets the rabbits out of their hats for us.

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I do love spring when the sounds of nature vie with the buzz and whir of lawn care equipment. The natural sounds where I live include a rapid hammering from the telephone pole. It is a pecker. These dinosaur remnants are not the brightest birds in the flock. Likely you have heard their machine gun-like rattle as they smash their very own heads into dry, dead trees and power poles in an attempt to remind us of World Wars 1 and 2.

Now why did one of the creator gods do this? Their beaks attach to their thigh bone and the thigh bone attaches . . . . no, sorry, their skull. And inside the skull is whatever brains they have. It might be fun for a while but, as many a pugilist found, they don’t think so good after a few days.

What a way to make a living! You try it, hammer your face into a tree for a day, then try to fly home. Then those birds try to read the label on their aspirin bottles, which they can’t so they just swallow the entire contents and the bottle too.

Their nest mate asks, as she vacuums the nest, “How was your day at the office?” You reply, “Frankly Scarlet (she has a bright red crest), somehow I can’t remember.” Then she brings an ice pack and bourbon with soda. You fall out of the nest and are eaten by an aardvark.

So you ask why I’m bothering you with botany and what has that to do with religions. It should have been obvious to you but I’ll explain.

If you bang your head with holy books and spend your time praying, your thinking gear will get all mushy and you won’t realize that whichever was the creator god on this job, it was just joking. Then you will be even more vulnerable to sexual education for your little boys and girls from priests. You will keep sending your cash to the spooks, rabbits, imams and the morons. So perhaps you should have been a woodpecker after all.

Now here’s a photo of me doing something worthwhile. Me (the one on the right), and two of my buddies were counter picketing (the need never ends), for Planned Parenthood against the woodpecker-brained followers of those spooks, rabbits, imams and late-in-the-day morons.
I heard all about it last week on TV. A scrubbed-up, suit and tied man informed us all that a great rupture will occur soon, even any moment now. All of the people who voted for this man’s god will whoosh off the earth in a twinkling (possibly some sort of space craft). The rest of us will be miserable over it and sad to see them gone, he said. Maybe, but I’m not so sure about that part.

People like him are called evangelicals and other names. You can usually identify them by their cherubic smile and clean fingernails (they don’t do any useful work). The smile is to show the rest of us how wonderful it feels to be an idiot. This one on TV was certain of the big plan but muddy about details. He didn’t know if people will be whooshed in their clothes or butt naked. Or if they can finish the dinner dishes or pull the car over to the side of the freeway. Do they take along their false teeth or various plastic implants? He couldn’t say but in any case he hoped it would be soon because he wanted to be whooshed. I guess things are not going so well for him here.

I say let them go; how many morons do we really need? But here is the big problem! They plan to kidnap all children under twelve! That is not just their own poor children but atheist children and your catholic and Jewish and islammy children too. Parental consent is not required for this job. This is a grand conspiracy to commit abduction and not just across some dinky state line.

I was pretty upset when I heard this but I thought it over and now I don’t think we need to worry. The rupture business is an old trick and a big flop. It has already been tried by other religious leaders like Mr. Koresch at Waco, Texas and Mr. Jim Jones, the kool-aid poisoner and some Heavens Gate folks. I prefer the last group; they left the children out of it and just offed themselves.

Heck, my grandfather had a rupture. But he never harmed any children; he just walked crooked.
Youtube Atheist links
You may have to download the newsletter PDF in order to click on the links below and have them take you to the indicated website.

**Atheist Experience**  https://www.facebook.com/atheistexperience/
**Street Epistemology**  https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCocP40a_UvRkUAPLD5ezLIQ
**Matt Dillahunty**  https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCry4eIS1_98ZxF00geP7xJw
**AronRa**  https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCAJfD4kJyukXekgSRZrjadw
**The Thinking Atheist**  https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCeYP27qLtfUMY1b1Cyy3WdQ
**CosmicSkeptic**  https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC7kIy8fZavEni8Gzl8NLjOQ
**DarkMatter 2525**  https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCLhtZqdkjshqg8TqwIjMdCQ
**Mister Deity**  https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCAOrE5EE4JH3CGwDQTsA2t_A
**Baud2Bits**  https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCAOrE5EE4JH3CGwDQTsA2t_A
**James Randi**  https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCAOrE5EE4JH3CGwDQTsA2t_A
**Theoretical Bullshit**  https://www.youtube.com/user/TheoreticalBullshit/videos
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iClejS8vWjo
**A little of everything**  https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC4YU4J4Pbc8RTvMGoPevWmQ
**Cristina Rad**  https://www.youtube.com/user/ZOMGitsCriss/videos
**BionicDance**  https://www.youtube.com/user/BionicDance/videos
**AntiCitizenX**  https://www.youtube.com/user/AntiCitizenX/videos
**Venaloid**  https://www.youtube.com/user/Venaloid/videos

Not Atheist but good thinking links

**The world of intelligence**  https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCAOrE5EE4JH3CGwDQTsA2t_A
**Potholer54**  https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCljE1ODdSF7LS9xx9eWq0GQ
The Freedom From Religion Foundation is strongly objecting to the Department of Homeland Security’s designation of the clergy as “essential” in securing critical infrastructure.

A recently issued guidance by the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (under DHS oversight) on critical infrastructure workers during the COVID response includes a new addition: “clergy for essential support.” This is unjustifiable and should be rescinded, FFRF demands.

Acting Secretary of Homeland Security Chad Wolf recently discussed this change in a radio interview with Tony Perkins of the Christian Nationalist Family Research Council, who then basically claimed credit for the addition of clergy to the essential category. In the same interview, Wolf explained the purpose of guidance on essential personnel. That description reveals precisely why clergy are not, in any sense, essential:

Our Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency or CISA, as you indicated, created what we call the Essential Critical Infrastructure Workers Guidance or list. And so this is a list of industries in our critical infrastructure sectors that need to go to work every day, need to keep the economy running, the supply chain full. And as governors put in place shelter-in-place procedures, we need to make sure that certain individuals can still come and go and to do their job so that the lights turn on, the water keeps running, there’s gas in the trucks to deliver the PPE, and the like.

“Clergy do none of those things,” FFRF Co-Presidents Dan Barker and Annie Laurie Gaylor write to Wolf. “Their role does not remotely touch on infrastructure, energy, transportation or medicine. The collapse of any of these could threaten the security or welfare of the United States, which is why maintaining infrastructure is a DHS issue. The collapse of the clergy or churches would in no genuine way impair this country.”

Version 3.0 of the guidance inadvertently illustrates this point by listing, immediately after clergy, as essential those “workers who maintain digital systems infrastructure supporting other critical government operations.” Recognizing this disconnect, Wolf in his interview with Perkins later attempted to justify the addition of clergy, claiming: “We did include clergy in there recognizing that they provide a supportive and essential service, particularly in a number of hospitals, funeral homes, and the like.”

Hospitals will function just fine without chaplains, who are often intrusive toward nonbelieving patients, the state/church watchdog responds partly tongue-in-cheek. More seriously, it points out that without clergy roaming the halls, there will be fewer people likely to spread the virus and more personal protective equipment for medical professionals.

And of central importance here, FFRF asserts, is that there’s no valid reason for declaring clergy essential, which suggests that this was a political, not a practical decision. Perkins was seeking unwarranted privilege for himself and fellow Christians — and it’s disappointing and constitutionally suspect that the DHS has caved to Perkins’ ridiculous demand.

The DHS and the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency are inappropriately privileging religious citizens and clergy, FFRF maintains. The Supreme Court has long recognized that the First Amendment “mandates governmental neutrality between religion and religion, and between religion and nonreligion.” FFRF is asking the Department of Homeland Security to reissue these important guidelines and remove clergy from the list of essential infrastructure personnel.