

The religious right cannot understand why young people are deserting the faith in droves. Perhaps a quick, 10 question quiz will clear things up for them.

Q.1 The completely absurd theory that all 7,000,000,000 human beings on the planet are simultaneously being supervised 24 hours a day, every day of their lives by an immortal, all-powerful invisible being who “loves them” but will torture them forever if he doesn’t like what he sees, comes from the field of:

- (a) Bad science fiction;
- (b) Children’s fairy tales;
- (c) Hallucinogenic psychology; or
- (d) Christianity

Q. 2 What is the only thing capable of making 40% of the country utterly ignorant and stupid enough to think the entire Universe began less than 10,000 years ago with one man, one woman and a talking snake:

- (a) a horrid mental disease
- (b) a failed education system
- (c) a successful ISIS plot to undermine the future of the country; or
- (d) Christianity

Q. 3 Please complete the following sentence. It is not uncommon in many parts of the World for a young man to strap a suicide vest to himself and blow himself up and members of a rival:
_____.

- (i) corporation
- (ii) university
- (iii) research institute; or
- (iv) church?

Q. 4 It is only acceptable as an adult to believe childish Bronze Age mythology like talking snakes, the Red Sea splitting, water turning into wine by magic, food falling from the sky, a man living in a whale's belly, a talking donkey, superhuman strength, a man rising from the dead and angels, ghosts, gods and demons in:

- (a) a psychiatric hospital
- (b) children's literature
- (c) a drug abuse recovery facility; or
- (d) Christianity

Q.5 I have convinced myself that gay sex is a choice and not genetic, but then have no explanation as to why only gay people have homosexual urges. I am being obstinate and closed minded due to my:

- (a) heterosexuality
- (b) genetics
- (c) nationality; or
- (d) religion.

Q6. I honestly believe that, when I think silent thoughts like, "please god, help me pass my exam tomorrow," some invisible being is reading my mind and will intervene and alter what would otherwise be the course of history in small ways to help me. I am:

- (a) a delusional schizophrenic;
- (b) a naive child, too young to know that is silly
- (c) an ignorant farmer from Sudan who never had the benefit of even a fifth grade education; or
- (d) your average Christian who believes that prayers are answered

Q7. Millions and millions of Catholics believe that bread and wine turns into the actual flesh and blood of a dead Jew from 2,000 years ago because:

- (a) there are obvious visible changes in the condiments after the Catholic priest does his hocus pocus;
- (b) tests have confirmed a divine presence in the bread and wine;
- (c) now and then their god shows up and confirms this story; or
- (d) their religious convictions tell them to blindly accept this absurd nonsense.

Q.8 The only discipline known to often cause people to kill others they have never met and/or to

commit suicide in its furtherance is:

- (a) Architecture;
- (b) Philosophy;
- (c) Archaeology; or
- (d) Religion

Q.9 What is it that most differentiates physics, chemistry, economics and all other intellectual disciplines from Christianity and other religions?

- (a) Religion tells people not only what they should believe, but what they MUST believe under threat of “burning in hell” or some other form of divine retribution, whereas science, economics, medicine etc. has no “sacred cows” in terms of doctrine and go where the evidence leads them;
- (b) Religion can make a statement, such as “God is comprised of God the Father, Jesus and the Holy Spirit”, and be totally immune from experimentation and challenge, whereas science can only make factual assertions when supported by considerable evidence;
- (c) Science and the scientific method is universal and consistent all over the World whereas all religion is regional and a person’s religion, no matter how deeply held, is clearly nothing more than a matter of upbringing;
- (d) Religion takes facts and principles developed hundreds or thousands of years ago, presents them as universal truths, and is therefore stuck defending them, often against considerable evidence and/or societal evolution to the contrary, whereas all intellectual disciplines are open and welcoming of change, modification and development; or
- (d) All of the above.

Q.10 If I am found wandering the streets flagellating myself, wading into a filthy river, mutilating my child’s genitals or kneeling down in a church believing that a being is somehow reading my inner thoughts and prayers, I am likely driven by:

- (a) a deep psychiatric issue;
- (b) an irrational fear or phobia;
- (c) a severe mental degeneration caused by years of drug abuse; or
- (d) my religious belief.