

Not Your Typical Holy Man

Jesus wasn't, and neither was Paul Solomon

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You know one of the nicest things that ever happened to me was after I left seminary, considerably after I left seminary, I finally found out what was already in the stories of Jesus all along, and I wasn't told that when I was in seminary. I didn't find out for myself until many years later that Jesus was a very mischievous, naughty kind of person.

I mean, was it really necessary for Him to break the laws of the Sabbath? Or did He do it because He wanted to thumb His nose at the priests? He was mischievous. He wasn't your stereo type of a holy man. He didn't behave himself like a holy man. It's there, read the stories.

He was a guy who liked to be his own independent kind of a person, mischievous and free. And I think that's wonderful and I'm glad he broke some rules. I'm glad he wasn't stuffy. I'm glad he did some of the stuff that he did.

Whether I want to be a Christian or not, I probably should learn that in the traditions of all the religions in all the countries of the world, there are stories of the naughty God. They're in the yoga tradition. They're in the native American Indian tradition. They're in the Greek traditions, the Egyptian, the Hebrew, all of them except the Christian. And the Christians hid his. But then the Christian religion is only half a religion any how. I'm going to get in trouble now. This is the mischievous part of me coming out.

How can anyone worship a rabbi and hate Jews? Jesus was a rabbi who practiced Judaism all of his life. He was never a Christian. Isn't that interesting? Never worshipped in a church. Never called himself a Christian. Until the day he died, he worshipped as a Jew. How can you practice a different religion, reject his, and believe he's the Messiah? Isn't that fascinating?

If Judaism was so wonderful that he practiced it, maybe I ought to learn something about it. And maybe the only way to be a good Christian is to be a very good Jew. And maybe the only way to be a good Jew is to be as mischievous as Jesus was.

In any case, this humble carpenter from Nazareth left something to be desired when it came to humility. "I am the truth and I am God, and you better believe it, buddy." How humble is that?

Sounds to me that this guy was saying, "Take this humility and shove it."

I don't practice it. Am I in trouble yet?

Quotes audience: Just a little further, huh?

You know humility is the ability to recognize that God did a good job when he made you.

That's humility. God did a wonderful job when he made me and I appreciate it, and I appreciate it. Taking this wonderful instrument that God made and gave me and saying, "That's not so much." That's not humility. That's lack of appreciation.

God don't make no trash. And to believe that he does is insulting to him, and that's not worship.

You're going to have to appreciate yourself to be a good Christian or a good Jew. And when you do, you begin to support yourself and you begin to allow God to live and express through you. In whatever religion that is, that's good because it works because it makes you feel better, and it will make you treat other people better. And that's the essence of what religion is and what it's for, to improve your relationship with yourself, with your source and with others, to make it work, to be supportive to it, to support life, that's what it is, in all languages, in all religions, among all people. And when that's all it is, all the people are one, all the religions are one, all the Messiah's are one, and there are no walls and no wars.

This quote by Paul Solomon is from his workshop Talk To Yourself - On Purpose

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