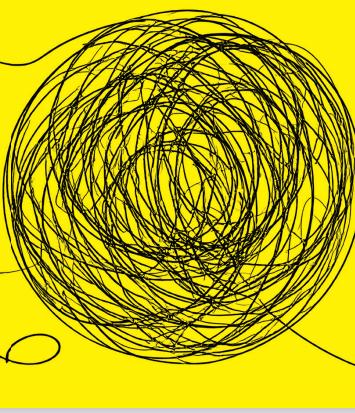


# I DON'T UNDERSTAND



- ✓ So much that I see happening all around the U.S. and the whole world.
- ✓ Why there is so much suffering, murder, injustice in Iran. Why the killing, unanswered?
- ✓ How people can be so evil as Khamenei and the other mullahs of Iran seem to be. How can they be so murderous?



- ✓ Why Gazans are so full of hatred, and why they support the terrorists (if they truly do)
- ✓ Why there is so little response to what the Iranian regime is doing to its own people
- ✓ Why President Trump threatens Iran if they "start" to shoot their people, but then doesn't DO anything after thousands have been killed!
- ✓ Why Israel and the Jews are special in God's sight, and yet they were chosen by God to bring His light into the world, and especially the Light of Jesus Christ, who Himself was a Jew.
- ✓ Why the world hates Israel and the Jews so intensely
- ✓ Why God is allowing the Left free reign to murder babies and mutilate bodies and practice perverted sex,



thus polluting the whole culture. (I do suspect the answer is that it is God's judgment on the U.S.)

- ✓ Why God doesn't take out "leaders" like Gavin Newsom and Chuck Schumer, who lie and mislead and forge paths of death and destruction.
- ✓ Why Satan seems to have been

given a free hand to sow discord, hatred, murder all over, not to mention devastating natural disasters, like earthquakes, fires, tsunamis, and more.

- ✓ Why Christians in Nigeria, Sudan, and other nations are being slaughtered by militant Islamists -- beheaded, burnt alive, mutilated -- seemingly without consequence.

✓ Why people in Syria are murdered just because they are members of a different religion or sect -- Kurds, Alawites, Druze, Christians, Yazidi.

✓ Why so many people are either indifferent to God or filled with self-indulgence, covetousness, greed, or just exist, like clueless nothings. When did we lose focus on Him?

- ✓ How there are so many bodies filling the earth, each with a soul, each accountable to God, whether or not they realize it. How's that going to work, anyway? The

road is narrow that leads to life and those that find it are few. Does that mean that most of the millions filling the streets and countrysides will end up in the lake of fire?

✓ What about all of the "good" people in the pews today? Yeah, I know, that's up to You... But really, where does God draw the line? What are the minimum requirements to be accepted into God's Kingdom?

✓ I don't understand the Old Testament and the stories that are hard to believe.

✓ I don't understand me, my own reactions to stuff, and how possibly God could let me into His kingdom. How are people who recognize their own sin supposed to live with themselves?

✓ Why are we allowed such a comfortable life in the face of so many who suffer? Why am I allowed to go home to a reclining chair, a warm, soft bed, and plenty of food in the refrigerator, while others live in small huts with mud floors and live close to starvation?

Yeah, I know we're not built to understand God's ways when we are in our mortal bodies. I have to keep reminding myself of that. But sometimes it's hard to take, to watch breath-taking evil

reign supreme, while justice is delayed until some other time, until that Great and Terrible Day.

In the Old Testament book of Ecclesiastes (one of my favorites), King Solomon asks questions not unlike my list above. Some excerpts from chapter 3, then chapter 12:

"I also noticed that under the sun there is evil in the courtroom. Yes, even the courts of law are corrupt! 17 I said to myself, "In due season God will judge everyone, both good and bad, for all their deeds." I also thought about the human condition--how God proves to people that they are like animals.

For people and animals share the same fate--both breathe and both must die. So people have no real advantage over the animals. How meaningless. Both go to the same place--they came from dust and they return to dust. For who can prove that the human spirit goes up and the spirit of animals goes down into the earth? So I saw that there is nothing better for people than to be happy in their work. That is our lot in life. And no one can bring us back to see what happens after we die...

"Everything is meaningless," says the Teacher, "completely meaningless." Keep this in mind: The Teacher was considered wise, and he taught the people everything he knew. He listened carefully to many proverbs, studying and classifying them. The Teacher sought to find just the right words to express truths clearly. The words of the wise are like cattle prods--painful but helpful. Their collected sayings are like a nail-studded stick with which a shepherd drives the sheep. But, my child, let me give you some further advice:



Be careful, for writing books is endless, and much study wears you out. That's the whole story. Here now is my final conclusion: Fear God and obey his commands, for this is everyone's duty. God will judge us for everything we do, including every secret thing, whether good or bad."

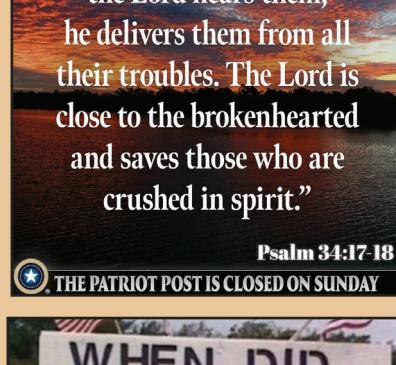
For more encouragement, Paul tells us: "Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain." (1 Corinthians 15:58)

In the end, that's what's left for us to do. To hang in there. To keep God's enemy from derailing our faith and trust in Him. To be patient. And to wait.

Just wait. You'll see (someday).

Linda Gammel

## On The Lighter Side of Serious Stuff . . . from the Web



Psalm 34:17-18

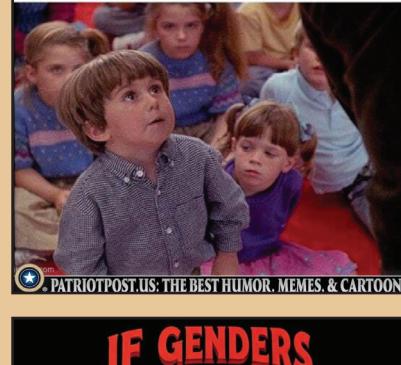
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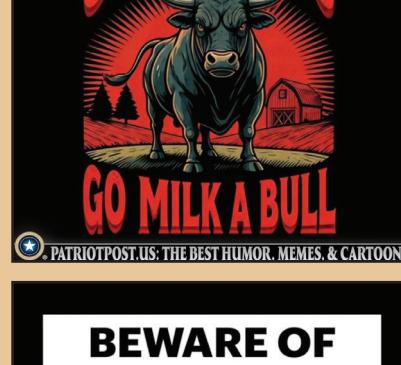
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