naked Minister I () PASTOR | ()



cartoons by david hayward

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dedication

To Lisa, Joshua, Jesse and Casile. Fellow pilgrims. I love you.

acknowledgements

I want to thank my **family** who has put up with me for so long talking about doing this but never getting around to it. But their voice, along with the following voices, became my cloud of witnesses pushing me onward.

I want to thank all the **fans** of nakedpastor. It is for you that this book has finally come to life. It is a pleasure to serve you.

I want to thank the **church**, especially Rothesay Vineyard. It was in your midst where I learned how to be.

Thanks to my friend **Jon Hallewell** who succeeded me as pastor of my last church. He helped me to conceive the idea for this book and get it out of my mind and onto paper.

Finally, I want to thank **Tash McGill** who designed this book. We met in Haiti, where I became acquainted with her designing skills. I'm thankful that because of technology we could work together even though she's on the other side of the world. Thanks Tash! You're amazing.

about the author

David Hayward graduated from Central Bible College in Springfield, MO., with his B.A. in Bible and Theology. He then graduated with his Masters of Theological Studies from Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary in Boston.

He completed another Masters, this time of Ministry and Religion at Presbyterian College, McGill University, Montreal, Canada. He was ordained into the ministry of the Presbyterian Church in Canada in 1988. He has been the pastor of several churches, including the Vineyard, for over 25 years.

David met Lisa, the love of his life, in college. They married in 1980 and have three children, Joshua, Jesse and Casile. They live near Saint John, New Brunswick, Canada.

He is an artist working mainly with watercolor and ink on paper. He also works with woodcuts, stone sculpture and other media. His gallery can be found here: *www.haywardart.etsy.com* You can purchase prints of his cartoons in his online cartoon gallery: *www.nakedpastor.etsy.com*.

Many of the original cartoons within this book are also available for purchase. Please contact David if you are interested: *haywardart@gmail.com*

Check out the blog that started all this: *nakedpastor. com.* From there you can connect with him through other social networking media.

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introduction

I started blogging in 2005. I began with "churchpundit". I liked the name, but it didn't convey what I wanted my blog to be about. I eventually came up with "nakedpastor". After some auctioning, I aquired the domain name. It hasn't been an easy name to bear. I often have to explain what it means. It's just about a pastor baring his soul. Nothing else.

Because of the name, many people can't access the site where they would like. It is filtered out of work places, schools, colleges, public libraries, and other such venues. It is also blocked by most personal accountability software at home. I've almost changed the name to circumvent this traffic problem, but nakedpastor has grown into its own brand. So I've decided to stick with it. Besides... I like it!

Early in the life of nakedpastor I tried cartooning. I am an artist, but I mainly do landscapes in watercolor. I eventually came upon a style that was uniquely mine. The humor cuts across many lines and boundaries, pleasing some and offending others. But by the way my cartoons circulate around the web, I concluded that they are striking a chord with enough people that it warrants a collection. These are what I consider my 101 best black and white cartoons. If you follow nakedpastor you will recognize 91 of them. There are 10 exclusive to this book that won't be seen on the blog. I have a collection of my best color cartoons coming out shortly.

Some fans will notice that certain themes have been omitted from this collection, such as my rants against church vision and mission statements, cartoons addressing the gay issue, as well as most of my cartoons dealing with money, the holidays, and my R-rated ones. They'll be coming along soon.

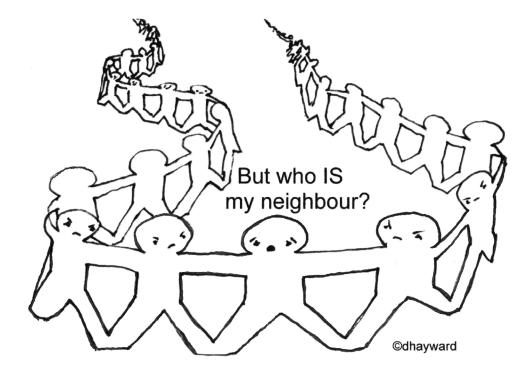
So, open the pages and enjoy. I hope they speak to you in meaningful ways. I have kept my commentary to a minimum, trusting that the cartoons will speak for themselves, as they should.

David Hayward, August 2010.



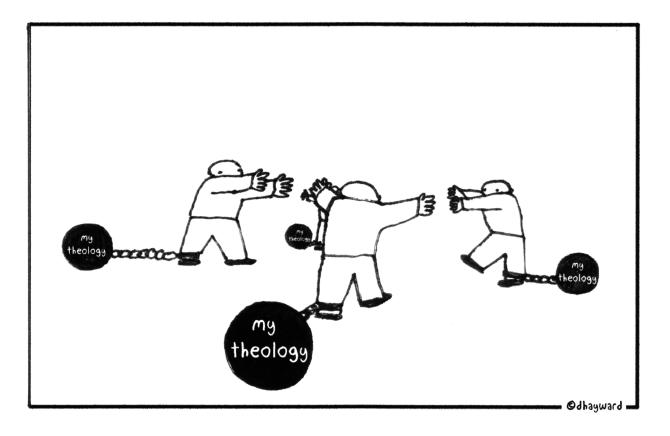


I've received many emails from people "caught" reading the nakedpastor blog and having to explain that it wasn't porn.



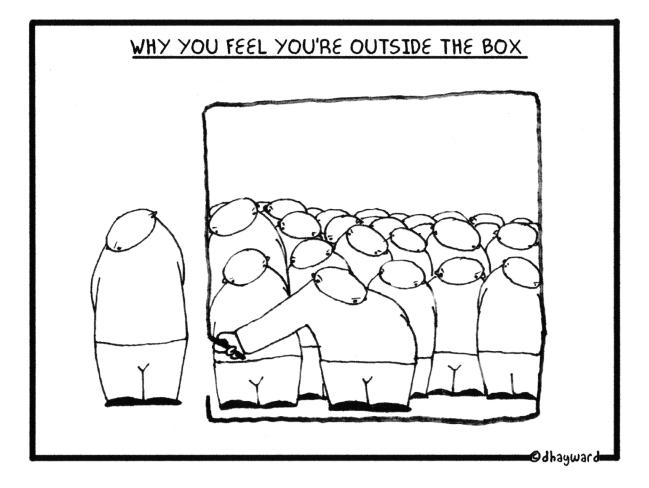
Some people just don't get the connections.





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I know a lot of people who've experienced this. A line is drawn and they find themselves on the other side.

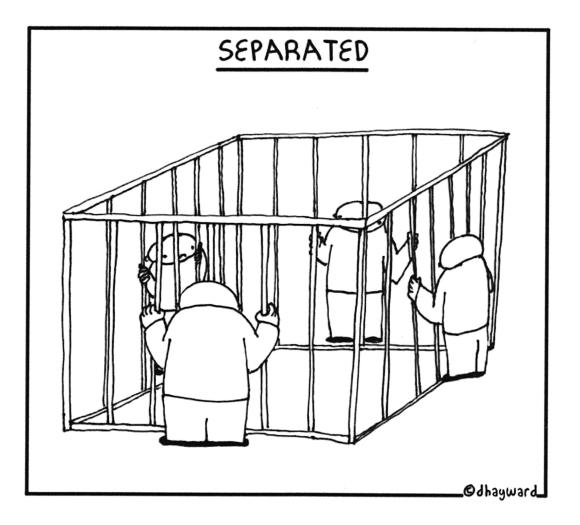


TOO MANY FIRST STONES



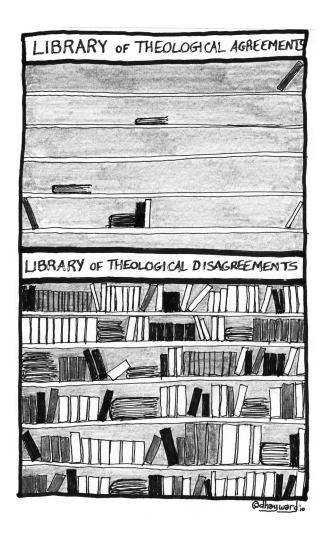
Odhayward,

René Girard, in his important book I See Satan Fall Like Lightning, writes, "the first stone is decisive because it is the most difficult to throw? Because it is the only one without a model." Someone here decided to throw the first stone. Once it was thrown, the rest followed.

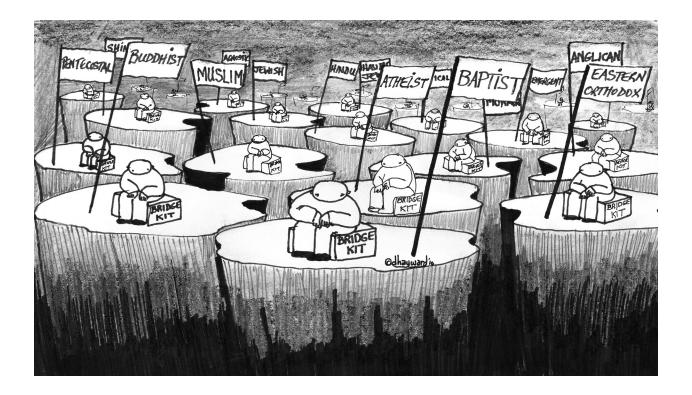


Sometimes reconciliation and unity is just a walk around the corner. Those things which separate us are illusions. They feel and look and behave real, but they can all be circumvented.





I had to put at least some books on the shelves for the library of theological agreements. But I might've been generous.



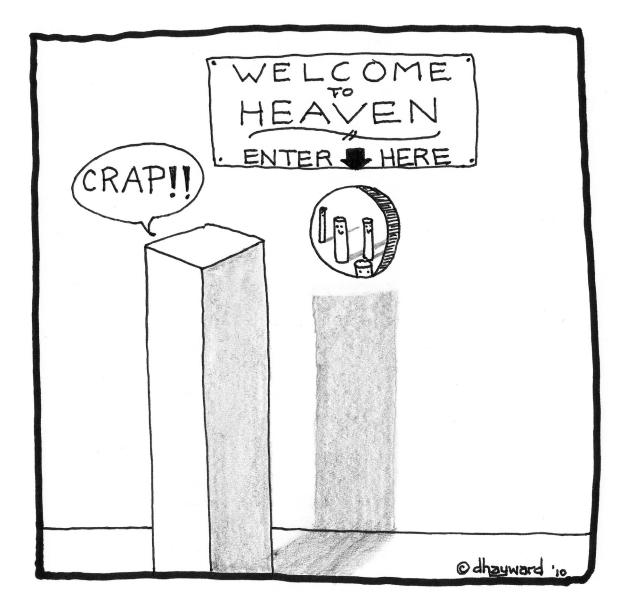
We are all sitting on the means to repair relationships. We all have the means for reconciliation. Unity is a reality that can be made manifest.



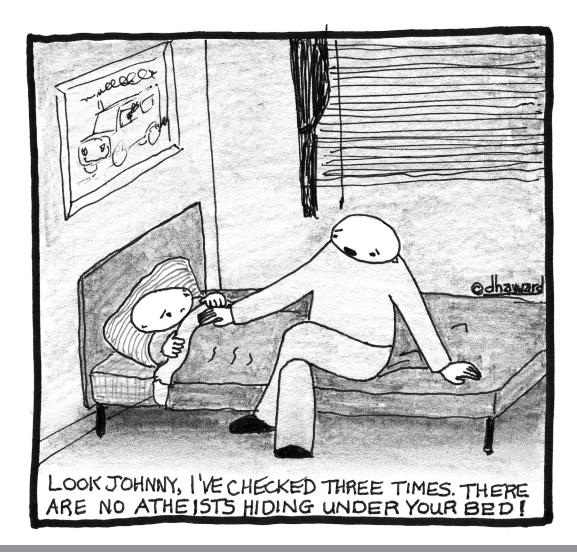


I've been a part of fellowships that required we only fellowship with people of like faith so that we wouldn't be contaminated with heresy or sin. I wonder how far we'd be willing to carry that.



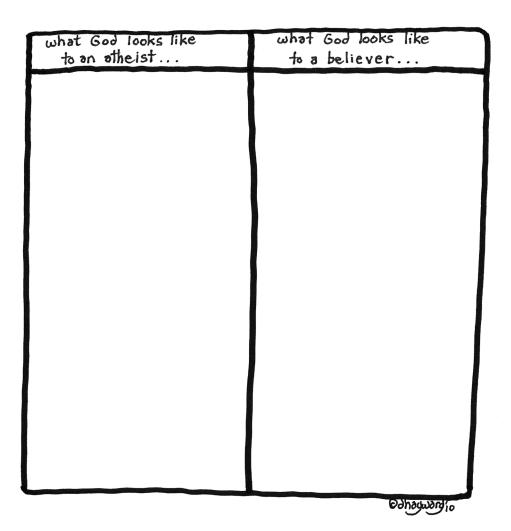






The way some people talk about atheists, you'd think they were all monsters. Not all.





Funny, but when this first started making its way across the web, people said they were having trouble downloading the image. Then they realized there wasn't one. Perfect!

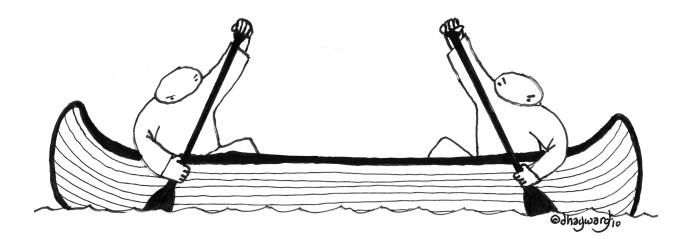




Isn't it interesting that in a world where everyone has an opinion of God and everyone has something to say about it, God simply chose to be known as "I Am"? Period.

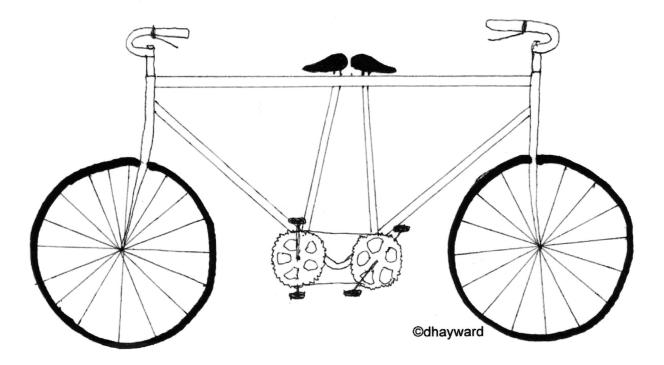


THE ECUMENICAL CANOE TRIP

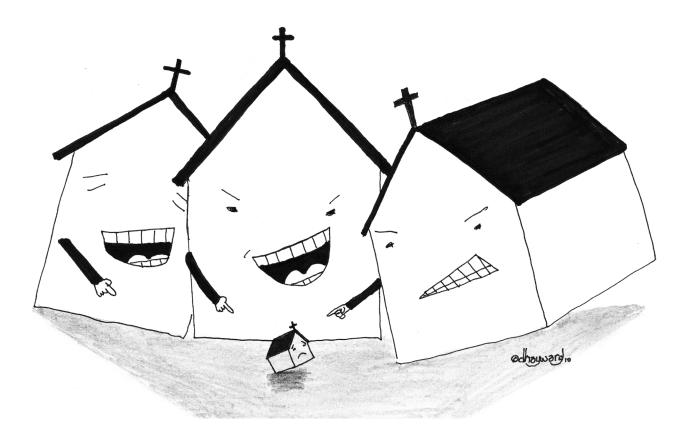




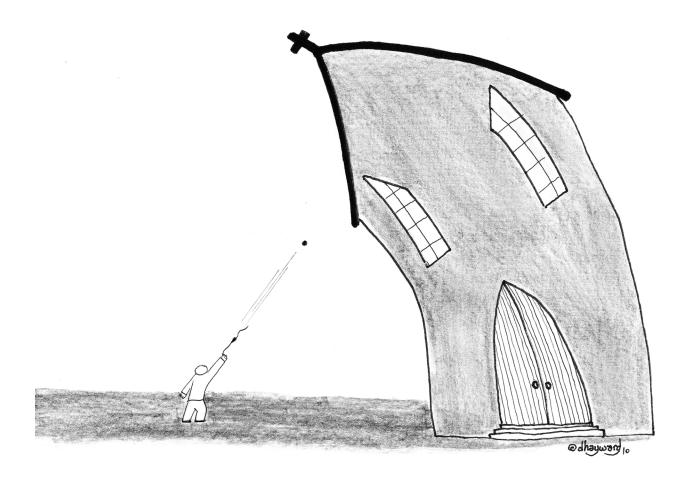
The Ecumenical Bike







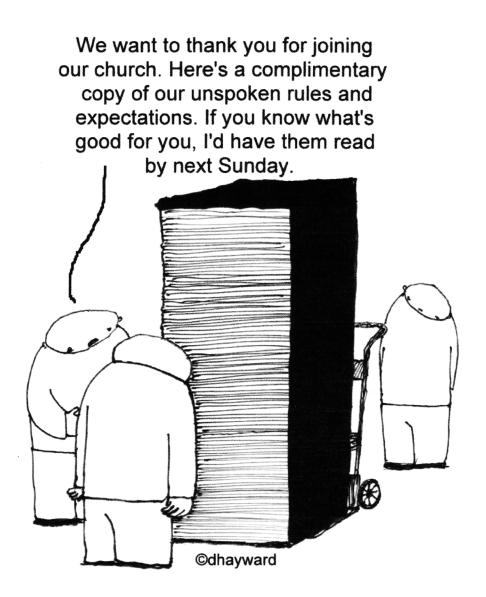












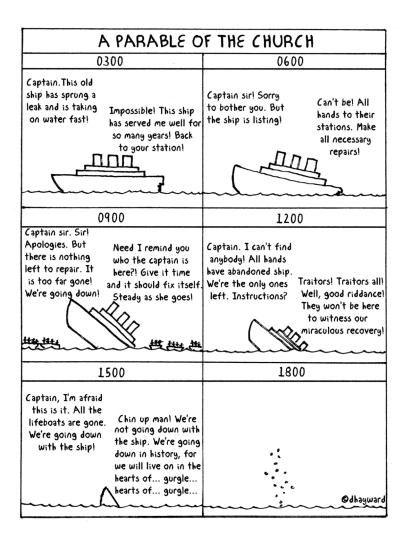


Now THIS is my kind of church!



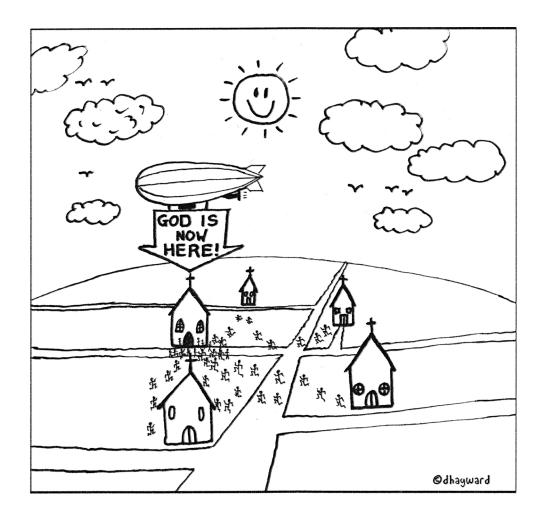






When I posted this cartoon on my blog, someone asked if the numbers were military hours (as I intended), or if they were the years. It surprised me how both could work.





I live in a small city. If something exciting is happening at one church, there's a transfer of people. Word gets around. So do people.





I couldn't believe the reaction this cartoon provoked on my blog. It started a rather heated dialog about Muslims attacking the church. What?

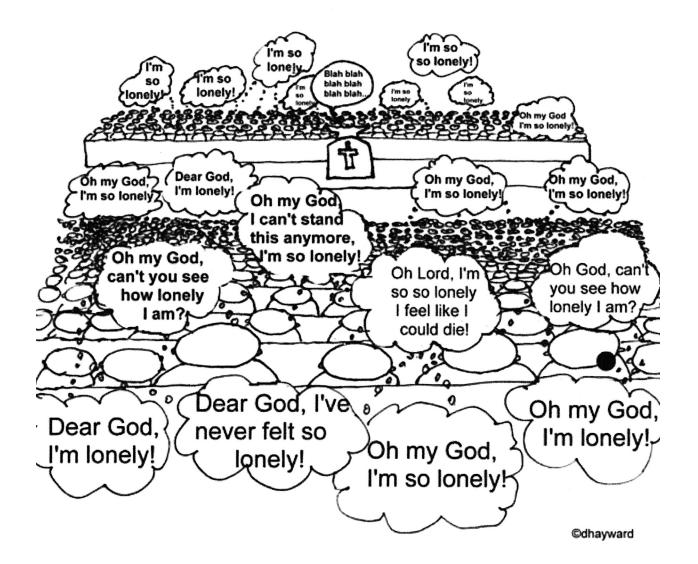






Annie Dillard, in her book, Teaching a Stone to Talk, writes, "On the whole, I do not find Christians, outside of the catacombs, sufficiently sensible of conditions. Does anyone have the foggiest idea what sort of power we so blithely invoke? Or, as I suspect, does no one believe a word of it? The churches are children playing on the floor with their chemistry sets, mixing up a batch of TNT to kill a Sunday morning. It is madness to wear ladies' straw hats and velvet hats to church; we should all be wearing crash helmets. Ushers should issue life preservers and signal flares; they should lash us to our pews. For the sleeping god may wake someday and take offense, or the waking god may draw us out to where we can never return."



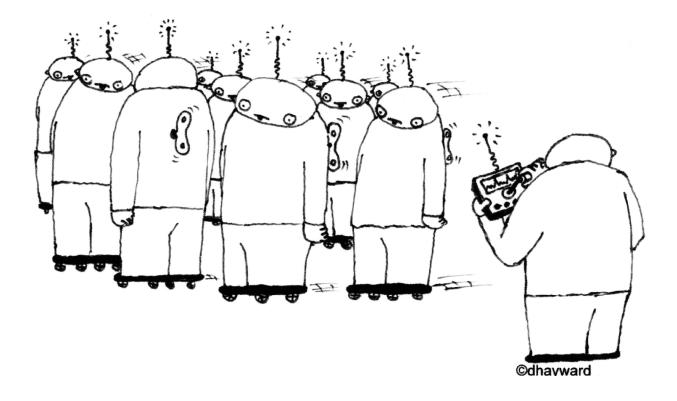






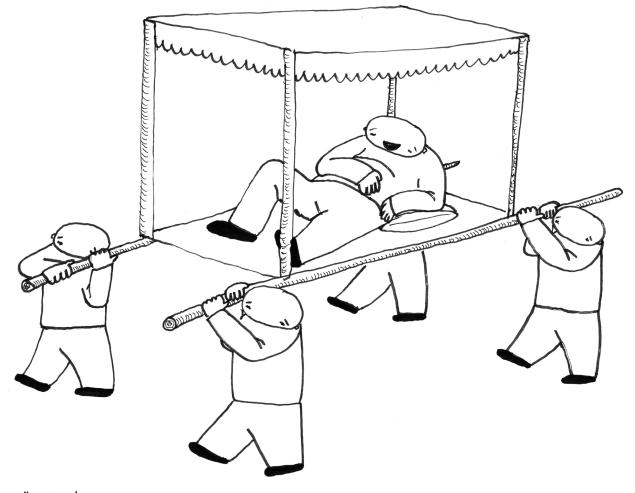


The Pastor's Dream



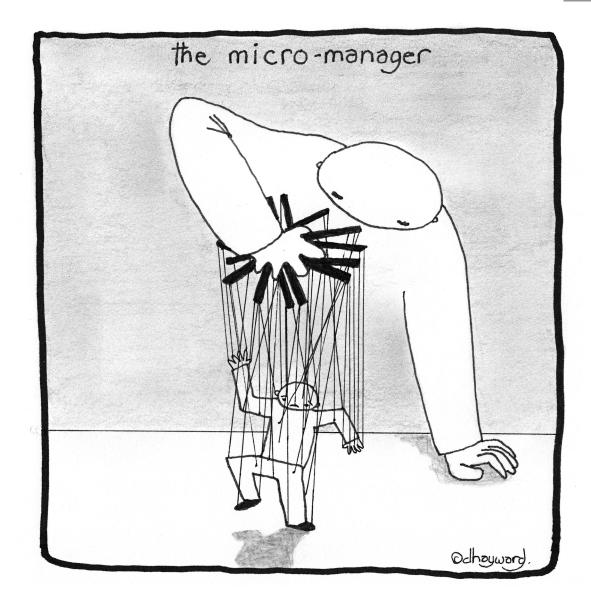


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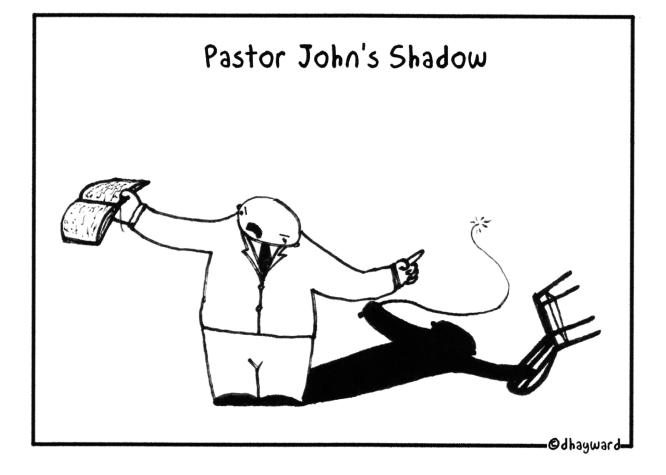


"Just remember guys: you are doing this for God, not for me!"













No one ever says that they want to completely control you. However, if you aren't too damaged, you definitely know when the powers of control, coercion and manipulation are at work. It's like saying, "I didn't shoot you. My gun did!"





I've been in this posture. Actually, both. Ugly and inadmissible.





The temptation for leaders to feel entitled is sometimes impossible to resist.





Gag orders. Have you ever been in a situation where you are invited to speak your mind, but you know when you do you're going to get in trouble?







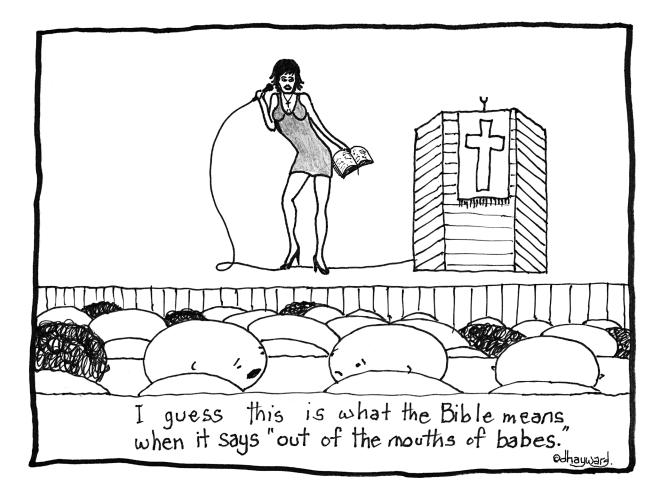






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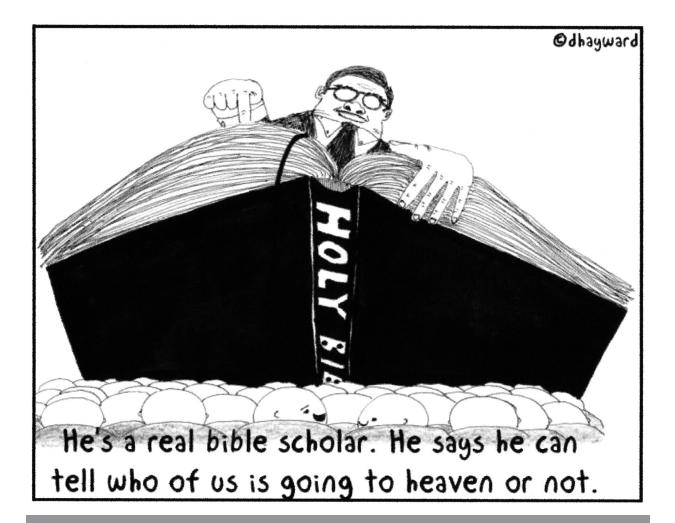
Some people have no idea the damage they've caused and the devastation they've personally and indirectly delivered to people.



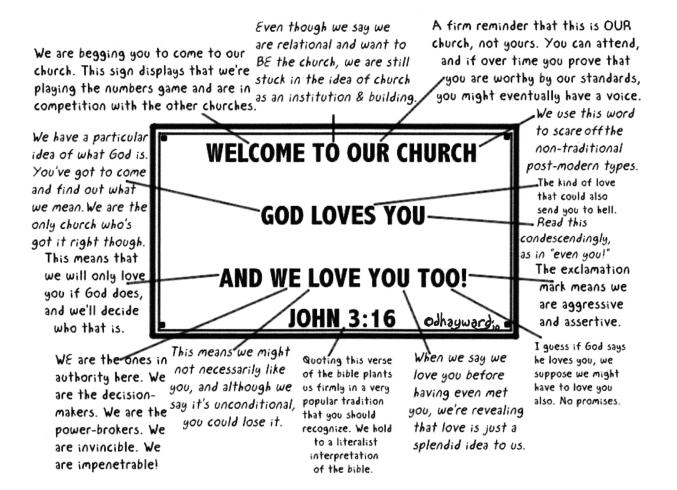


I've actually seen this. In real life. Honest.





If we believe the bible is a magical book of spiritual formulas, then the decipherers have all the power.



I had been reading a lot of the deconstructionists. I especially appreciate Derrida. So I thought I would have a little bit of fun deconstructing a church sign. A friend of mine, later in the day, sent me a copy of an article from a newspaper where someone had deconstructed the obituary of Derrida. Beautiful!





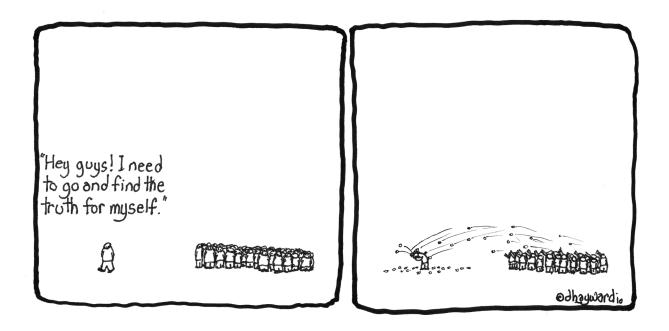




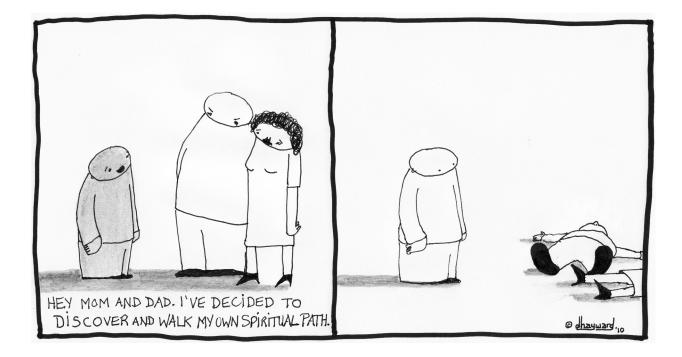


When I drew this cartoon I was thinking of Henri Nouwen, the Wounded Healer himself, in the tradition of Jesus. Many others noted the connection too.

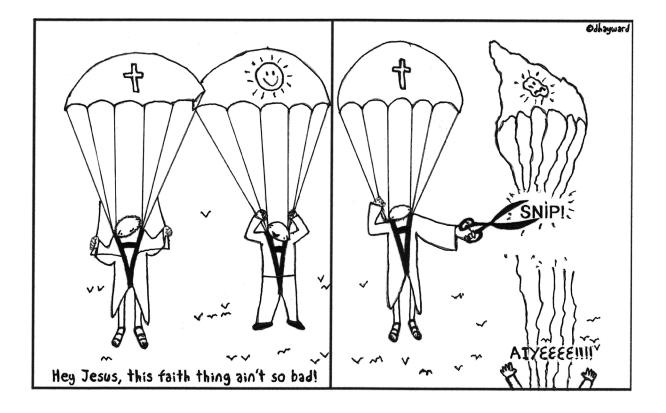




The great American essayist Wendell Berry wrote of America in Citizenship Papers, "An inescapable requirement of true patriotism, love for one's land, is a vigilant distrust of any determinative power, elected or unelected, that may preside over it." The same applies to the church. But it's a risky endeavor, as this guy found out.







There's always further to go when it comes to faith.

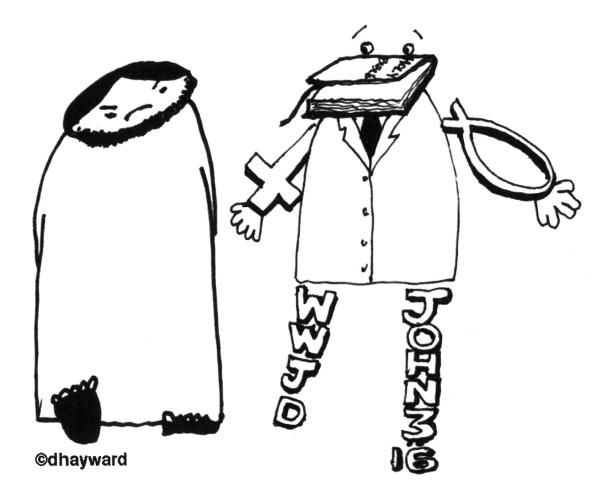


Could you please come back in a couple of hours? I'm busy trying to get to know you better.

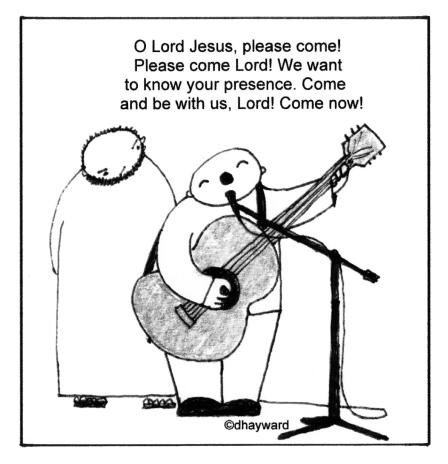


Lisa has frequently pointed out to me that it is when I'm trying to be more spiritual that I actually become less so. Catch-22.





The entire makeup of this guy's spirituality is a collection of popular clichés. Jesus is not happy.



This is one part of contemporary worship that I find really annoying: there is so much bad theology in it. Again, Jesus is not happy.





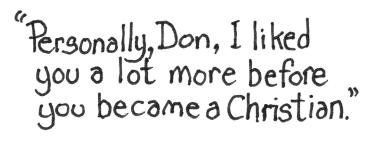
I used to have a very negative opinion of drugs. But someone I love very much got very sick with anxiety, panic and depression. He got to the point where he was even bedridden. One day out of desperation he called the first psychiatrist in the yellow pages, made an appointment for that afternoon, and went and saw him. He had a session with the psychiatrist, completed a questionnaire that helped diagnose his problem, and was prescribed some drugs. The next day he woke up himself again, completely fine. It was like a miracle. My opinion about drugs changed.

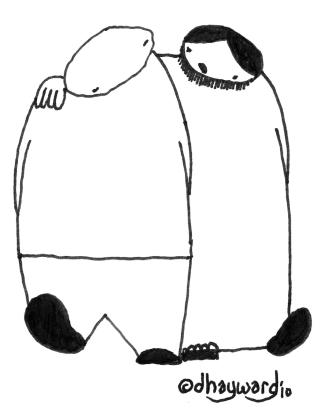






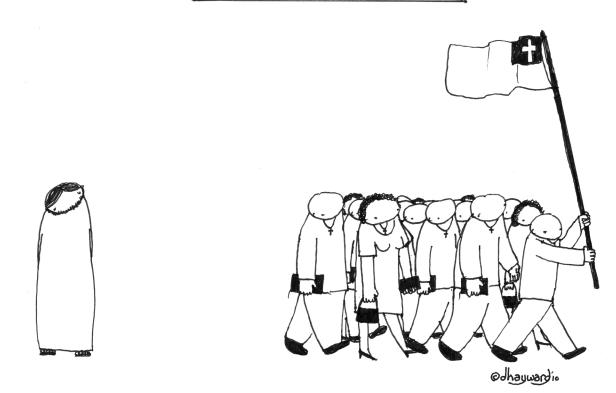
Sometimes your bible and Jesus have nothing in common.







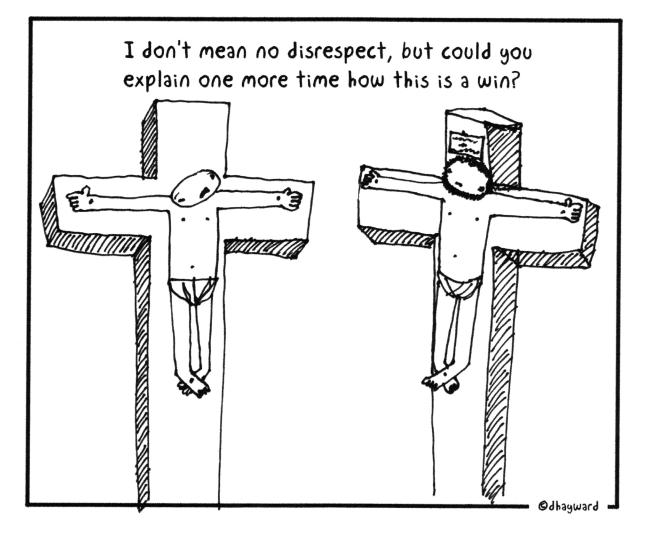
The Real Left Behind

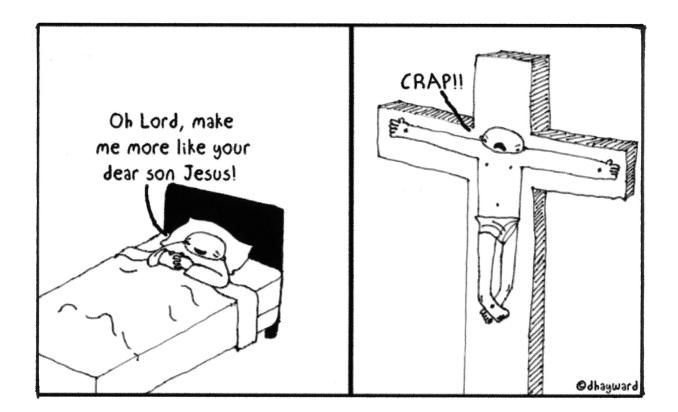


Didn't this cartoon just have to be drawn? The whole Left Behind phenomenon, in my opinion, has little to do with the Jesus of the gospels.









Be careful what you pray for.





Oh my, the controversy this stirred up. Some people thought I was saying that Jesus left my life, as in he's no longer in existence. But that's not necessarily what it means. The Jesus I walked with 30 years ago is not the Jesus I walk with today. Just think of the problems that last sentence creates.





This is based upon 1 Peter 5:6, "Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time, casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you."











A snakehandler with sin in his life.



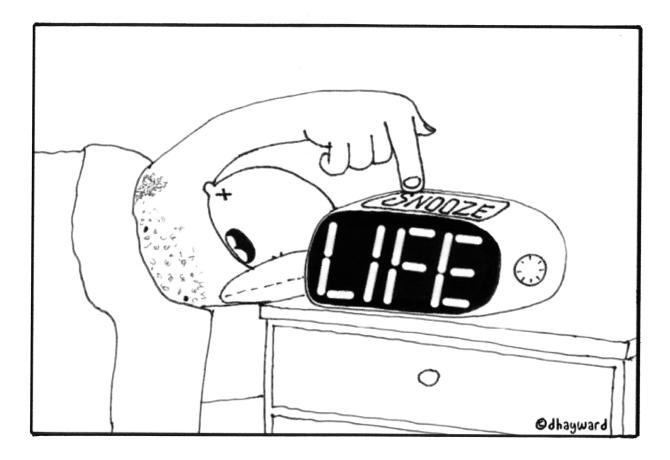
One day at breakfast while at a conference, I told this cartoon to a guy from the deep south and he laughed so hard he choked on his food.





Jesus says that evidence that God intimately and personally cares for us is that he sees the little sparrow fall. I always wondered, since I was a little kid, how that sparrow must have felt.

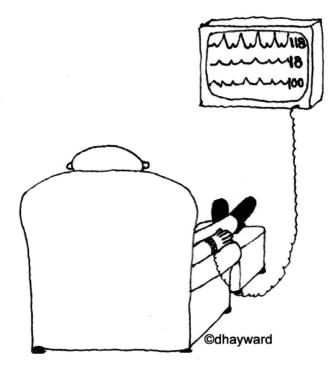




Many, many, many people are sleeping their way through life. Perpetual snooze.



Lazarus' favorite channel.



Just think of how much more vibrant life must have been for Lazarus! Every taste, every smell, every touch, even breath itself. It must have been exhilarating.



A victorious Christian with no sin or suffering in his life.	
front view	side view
	Ødhayward



Many treat the bible like it's magic. It ain't.





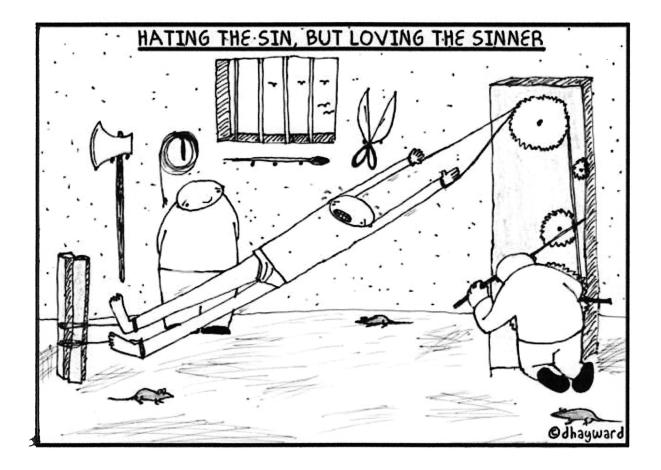
"I think it's time to claim by faith that this isn't happening!"





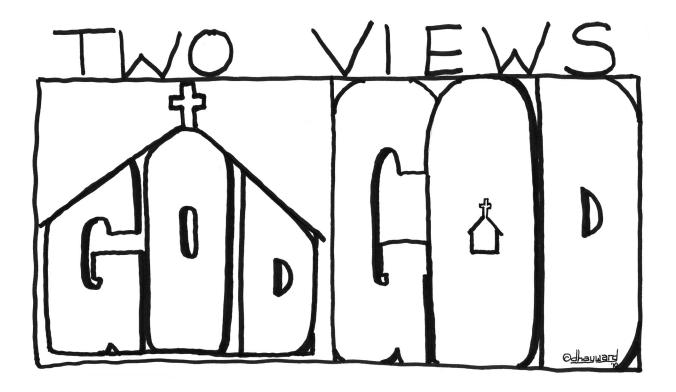


This is based on something a friend wrote in my farewell book the last church gave to me when I resigned. He wrote, "Thanks for teaching us that tithing is no longer the law. I love my sailboat!"



It takes a very fine spiritual surgeon to separate the sin from the sinner. During the Inquisition they were called Inquisitors... torturers... experts in this art. Yet separating the weeds from the wheat is something so many love to try their hand at.

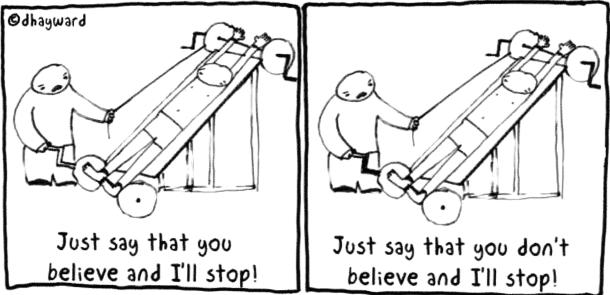




A good friend of mine suggested that I do another box around this cartoon and title that God too. I mean, we could go on and on.



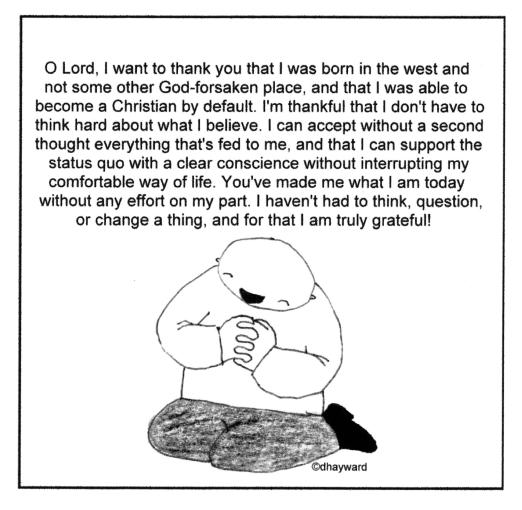
OPPOSITE SIDES OF THE SAME COIN



It was quite an experience for me to read Sam Harris' book, The End of Faith, in which he actually endorses torture. I realized then that fundamentalism knows no bounds and is not just confined to religion. Chris Hedges, in his book "I Don't Believe in Atheists" would agree. The problem isn't the religion, but the fundamentalist mindset.

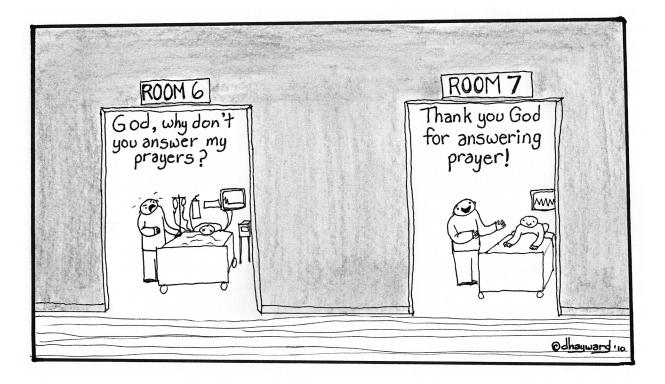






This one got stumbled-upon and went everywhere on the web. Fun to watch.

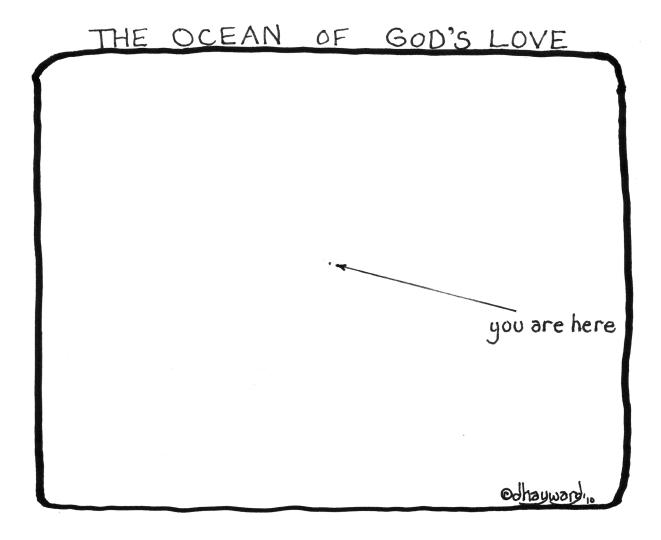




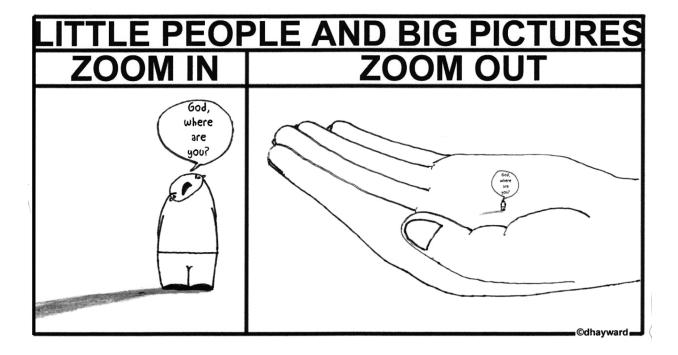
This cartoon was inspired by something that happened on Facebook. On one person's update, they were rejoicing that God always answers prayers and healed her son. Another person's update was grief-stricken because she had just lost hers.









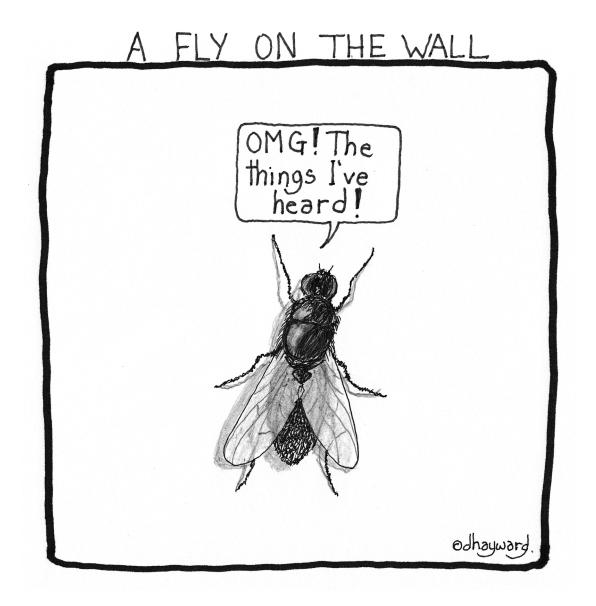


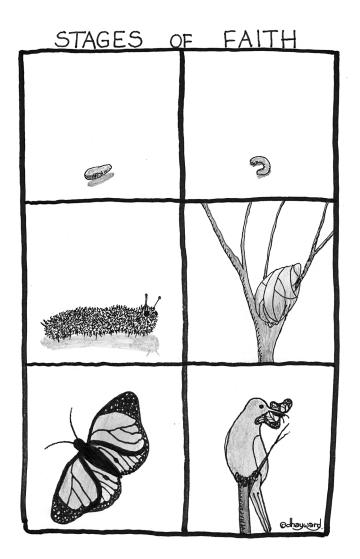
Sometimes it's all a matter of perspective.



I remember when I was a kid at Vacation Bible School, the teacher taught us about Jacob's ladder. She read the story. I asked the question, "But isn't the ladder for the angels to come down and go up? It's not for Jacob." I got in trouble for that.

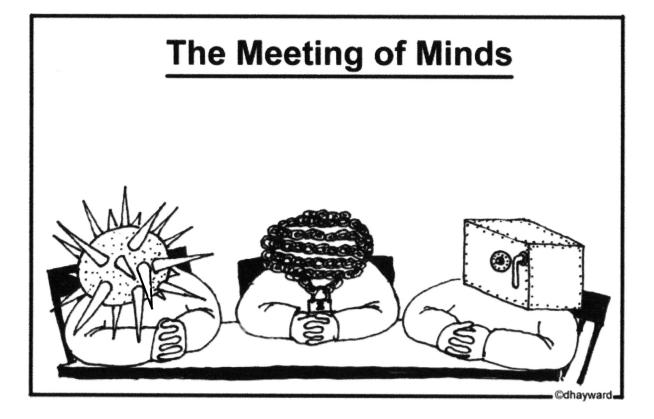






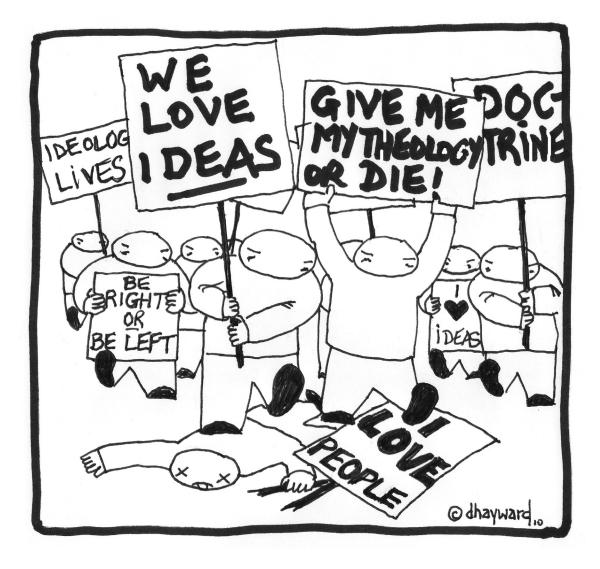
Egg. Larva. Caterpillar. Cocoon. Butterfly. Sacrifice.





Sometimes dialog seems impossible, mainly because the participants refuse to participate.

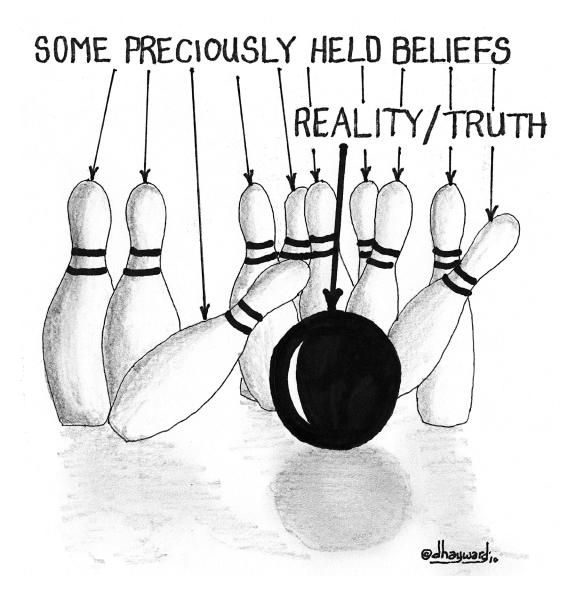








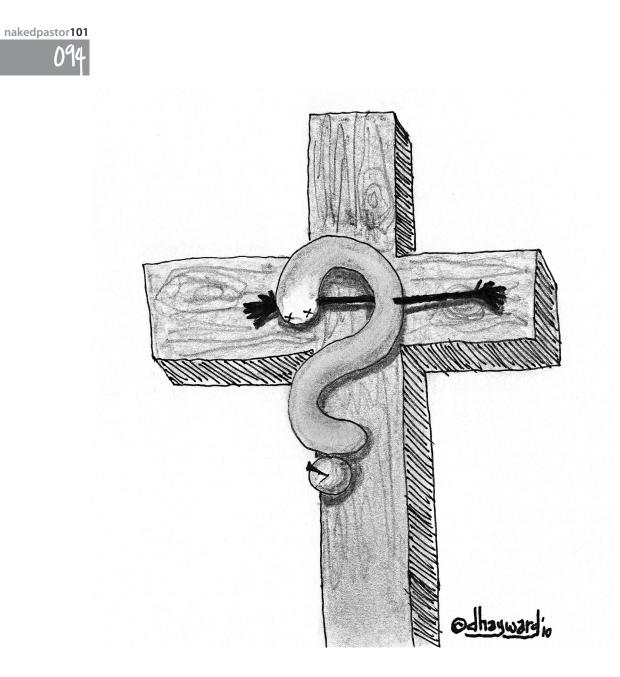




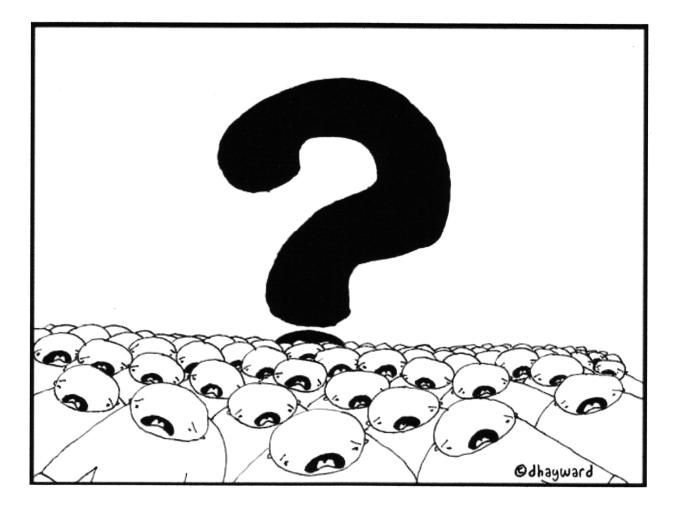






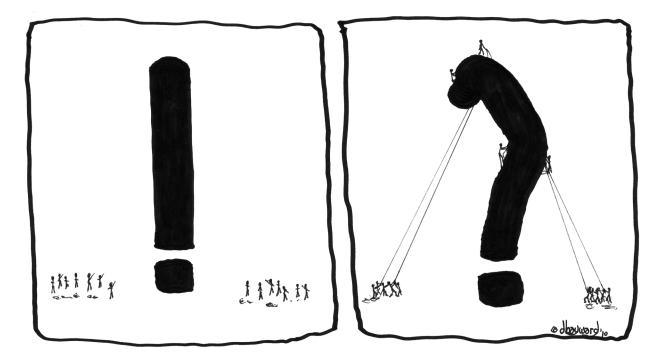




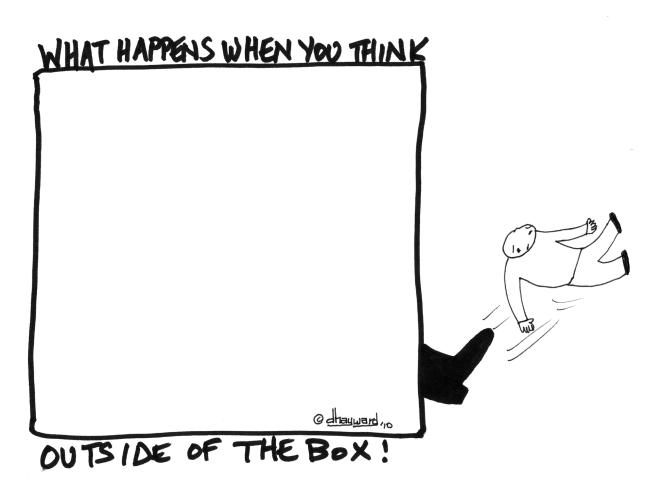


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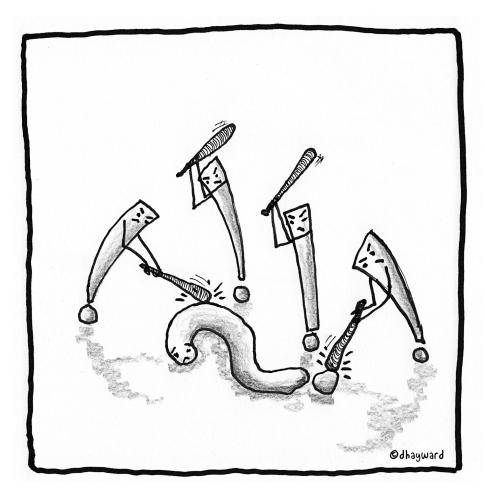






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HELD FOR QUESTIONING

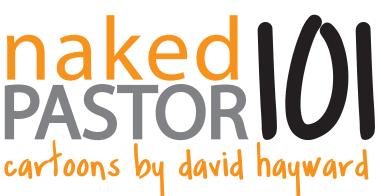












This collection of 101 cartoons have been selected from the work of David Hayward, the author and artist behind the website..

"nakedpastor has found a way of teaching, surprising, challenging, and confronting without using any (or many) words. What another creative communicator did with parables, David Hayward does with cartoons ... I'm a big fan." - Brian McLaren, www.brianmclaren.net

"Ever since I stumbled upon David's cartoons, I've been hooked. He exposes a way to get to to the core of the issues when it comes to matters of faith. In the process, his work appeals to both atheists and Christians. He's not afraid to criticize the problems within the Christian church, and he's not afraid to wear his emotions on his sleeve. It takes a strong person to find the flaws within himself and the church he loves so much, but that's why his readers keep coming back for more." - Hemant Mehta, www.friendlyatheist.com

"There are times when all the words in the world don't say it as well a rightly crafted image. David Hayward says more of the hopes of God, the struggles of the church and the possible path forward for us all in images than anyone could with words." **- Doug Pagitt, www.dougpagitt.com**

"David Hayward does what cartoonists do best - he makes you laugh, gets you on side, and then catches you unawares with a challenging thought that comes at you sideways. Unmissable." - Maggi Dawn, www.maggidawn.com

"David keeps on coming up with cartoons I wish I'd done myself. Very often very funny, always poignant and thought provoking. He draws in a few simple strokes of a pen what it would take an age to say in words. His work is raw, honest and intelligent." - Jon Birch, www.asbojesus.wordpress.com

"Humour. Pathos. The ugly and the beautiful. David's unique gift exposes the joy and the pain in a God-centered life." **- Bill Kinnon, www.kinnon.tv**

"Through nakedpastor's cartoons, I've been able join other broken buddies as we pray and play on the fringes of the faith. By deconstructing the mounds of Jesus junk, we can catch fleeting glimpses of God." - **Becky Garrison, www.beckygarrison.com**

www.nakedpastor.com

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