

If God Exists, then What the Hell is going on?

✘ My own, modest opinion is that there is not enough evidence available, pro or con, to determine whether there is a God – at least in the biblical sense. And there probably never will be enough evidence.

We can only study the matter by indirection, sort of like looking at an eclipse of the sun as reflected on a cardboard screen.

If there is a God, or at any rate a benign one, then why did He let Colorado have its guts torn out by flooding this month?

One possible answer is that God was so busy forgiving Yom Kippur worshippers their sins that He got hopelessly diverted and failed to watch the weather forecasts. But this implies that God is not a multi-tasker, and any sensible person, whether he believes in God or not, will tell you that if there were a God, with all the powers one normally attributes to a god, He would be capable of doing more than one thing at a time.

To keep this post timely, I should add that any number of non-believers probably are wondering today why God, if He existed, would allow the massacre of more than a dozen innocents at the Navy yard in Washington. If you read the comments of liberal bloggers, you find that God may have been outmaneuvered by the National Rifle Association, and also by that old bugaboo, the Republican majority in the House of Representatives.

It now develops that the dead shooting suspect used to contend that he heard voices in his head. Is that really so unusual? Come on, fess up, don't you sometimes hear voices in your heads too? I sometimes hear my late father admonishing me about this or that, or a hostile high-school history teacher

telling me that I don't know what I am talking about. However, these are always reprises of comments I have already heard in the distant past. It is called memory.

Anyway, if the suspect heard voices, telling him to kill his ex-colleagues at the yard, this undoubtedly was the work of the NRA, which is well-funded enough to afford the most advanced mind-manipulation technology. NRA told him to kill a lot of people, although we don't know yet whether it specifically named the prospective victims. Maybe Wayne Lapierre will enlighten us, when he is inevitably raked over the coals by MSM interviewers this Sunday. Or maybe Boehner knows, and we can pry it out of him over cocktails.

The details of mass shootings or other types of mass killings tend to unfold in stages over long periods of time on the cable news channels. At first we were given information that seemed to suggest that a gang of government-hating white nuts from rural Montana, clad in military fatigues, had carried out the massacre. That is always the hope of the liberal community when these things happen. "At last, we can pin it on the Great Right Hope!"

But much of the time the shooter turns out to be from some other, quite different demographic. There was still hope for the liberals when the news came through that the killer was from Fort Worth. Aha, a Bush voter! Then came the inconvenient fact that the shooter was a black man, previously a contractor for the Navy, who evidently bore specific grudges.

With the news out that the killer was black, the MSM had to shift into another gear. Now, with little hope of pinning this on the Tea Party, they began to conclude that the killings must be society's fault. That's always the case when blacks commit crimes, right? Remember when the mother of one of the bored killers in Oklahoma, who took the life of an Australian jogger, told the networks that this could all have been averted if the town had a better recreational program for its

youths?

The networks have two photos of the killer, one showing him with a long, narrow face like John Kerry, the other showing him with a cherubic moon face, like Chris Dorner. I don't know where the networks got these photos, but perhaps he was featured in a before-and-after ad sequence for Weight Watchers.

But I may be digressing here. You can believe in God, and perhaps believe that He allowed the Colorado floods to happen because He was angry at Colorado. If you read your Bible regularly, you know that God is not averse to a little vengeance now and then. He is not always, if ever, trying to prevent bad things from happening. He is not necessarily entirely benign.

The question then becomes, What did He have against Colorado? Too many Starbucks in Denver and Colorado Springs?

The question is difficult to answer, because there are multiple, unrelated reasons that seem plausible.

He may have sent the floods – and let's remember that He has a history of using such a weapon – because Colorado approved gay marriage. This is entirely consistent with His mindset, as we all know.

On the other hand, He may simply have disapproved of the legalization of pot. What better way to ruin the crops than massive flooding?

Then again, the flooding may stem from the fact that Colorado voters recalled two anti-gun legislators in a special election. That would probably be the first choice among liberal bloggers. But do you really think that God is a gun-grabber? Then why did He let guns proliferate to the extent they have in the United States? Every sign suggests that God likes guns.

Albert Einstein was a hero of mine, and I like his take on God. He was not a religious Jew, but he slung around the term "God" pretty often for a hardcore physicist. He didn't seem to have in mind the guy with the flowing beard on the Sistine ceiling, or the immense humanoids who kept demanding sacrifices of goats and lambs from the ancient Greeks (and must have run their cholesterol counts way up in the process).

To Einstein, God was the universe itself, with all its mysteries. It may have been the product of random chance, or it may have been the product of intelligent design, not even Einstein knew, but he chose to call it God. He was able, better than anyone else, to chip away at the mysteries, but the job is far from finished, and it may never be.