Subject: Janet Jackson
Posted by Manualblock on Tue, 20 Sep 2005 11:53:37 GMT
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Gee; A woman shows her breast on TV and there are endless hours of congressional hearings full of self-righteous asswipes ranting on and on like it was a criminal conspiricy.Katrina wipes out a city and kills hundreds and...Whaaat? I can't hear you. All of a sudden congress is deaf. No accountability here, no sir!

Subject: Re: Janet Jackson
Posted by Bill Martinelli on Tue, 20 Sep 2005 15:05:58 GMT
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seems like you need the correct amount of media play, spin, /public interes? Whos knows, right... Some things are important to a mass of people and some things are only important one or a handfull of persons. Maybe if Janet whiped out here tit or Britney flashed her brown eye in a flood zone, the public interest could change?Whats up with all the missing sex offendors? I just saw a thing on tv last night. Why not just tattoo sex offender on their forehead and mark them for life. nevermind the GPS tracking device.

Subject: Re: Janet Jackson
Posted by Manualblock on Tue, 20 Sep 2005 17:16:33 GMT
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There is no chip that can be implanted. They established that on the news last night. When you think of a human shaped thing that can be a sex offender(I don't mean a 25 yr old sleeping with a 17 yr old who told him she was 22 and looked 28) you really have to question what human rights means.When I saw that guy in Florida bawling his eyes out for his daughter I almost burned my copy of the Constitution. Cruel and Unusual be damned.I say we use both.

Subject: Re: Janet Jackson
Posted by Bill Martinelli on Tue, 20 Sep 2005 18:22:05 GMT
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yeah for sure. I say fry them. There is clearly no place in society for some types. The accused in FL was repeat too.

Subject: Re: Janet Jackson
Posted by cheetah on Thu, 22 Sep 2005 12:11:54 GMT
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I usually don't find myself in agreement with you guys. Our political leanings are 180 degrees apart. But on this topic, I couldn't agree more.I don't believe in capital punishment for deterence sake. Although it does gaurentee that the person punished thus, will never be able to kill again.No. My stance on capitol punishment is that in not condemming the murderer; when said murder is committed with forthought, malice and cruelty; we send a subtle message to the victim's survivors that the scumbag's life is more prescious to us than the victim's life.I'm not an eye for an eye type. But in the case of the type of henious acts you guys are talking about, the taking of one life really does demand the taking of another.There is no other way to see justice done.Joe

Subject: Re: Janet Jackson
Posted by Manualblock on Sat, 24 Sep 2005 15:34:38 GMT
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You have a good point; I don't see any problem with vengeance or retribution when it is warranted. Where people get confused is in the cracks, some people really don't deserve to continue living on earth; they made that descision and now should face the consequences. The problem lies in dealing with all of the religous issues; as a christian you cannot support war or the death penalty without being a hypocrit. Remove that proscription and it all becomes easy; abuse a child and you die; thats all there is too it.Put the punishment for crimes agianst humans above the severity of the punishment for crimes against property and it is amazing how simple the laws become.

Subject: Re: Janet Jackson
Posted by Damir on Sat, 24 Sep 2005 17:09:32 GMT
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"Put the punishment for crimes against humans above severity of the punishment for crimes against property and it is amazing how simple the laws become."The laws become even simpler if you have luck to live in one of those countries (majority, I think) where humen dignity, lives and property are not respected at all. Or they are respected selectively.

Subject: Re: Janet Jackson
Posted by Manualblock on Sat, 24 Sep 2005 17:46:34 GMT
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Thats why the vote's accountability must be held to the most rigorous standard. Each and every voter must have his vote counted; not appointed as we had in 2000.Why are people lucky to live in a society of an elected administration?People fought and died for that right. Thats why we fight a stupid police action in Iraq; draining the treasury and leaving the citizens vulnerable to huge natural disasters while the National Guard is farting around in some oil producing cabal; because the votes were not accurately counted the first time.So in a nutshell demand your vote is counted; it's the only reason to fight. If all the votes are counted then no one can complain when they get the wrong incompetent guy to lead them or if they suffer from inappropriate laws or legal enforcement.

Subject: Re: Janet Jackson
Posted by Damir on Sat, 24 Sep 2005 21:11:10 GMT
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Some researches of public opinion in "transition" countries showed that citizens mostly don`t believe in goverment, elections & votes, and don`t have a good opinion about politics & politicians, state, economics, future, etc. Who knows why, hehe...

Subject: Re: Janet Jackson
Posted by Manualblock on Sat, 24 Sep 2005 22:18:07 GMT
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Have you been reading stuff on this forum? I think they did those surveys here.

Subject: Re: Janet Jackson
Posted by Thermionic on Mon, 26 Sep 2005 02:54:17 GMT
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"The problem lies in dealing with all of the religous issues; as a christian you cannot support war or the death penalty without being a hypocrit."Not true. God HIMSELF instituted the death penalty for mankind when he spoke to Noah in Genesis chapter 9, when he said, "Whoso sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed, for in the image of God made he man."Thermionic

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Subject: Re: Janet Jackson

Posted by Damir on Mon, 26 Sep 2005 11:23:08 GMT
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The Old Testament is full of "bloody" stories, someone counted about 250 mentioning "destroying of enemies". It is a little problematic to use some citations from the whole - The Holy Bible is a "jurney" of God`s People from the "eye for an eye" of the Old Times/Testament to "love your enemies" of the New Testament.

Subject: Re: Janet Jackson
Posted by Manualblock on Mon, 26 Sep 2005 14:16:23 GMT
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Hey; this is good stuff. So the whole Christian Soldier thing is literal?

Subject: Re: Janet Jackson
Posted by Bob Brines on Mon, 26 Sep 2005 14:41:59 GMT
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The problem with fundamentalist, creationists, et al, is that they are forced by philosophy to buy off on the Old Testament word for word regardless of how contradictory it is to Christ's teachings. The irony of the issue is that the Bible itself is evolutionary, with the Old Testament being a compilation of three different sources with widely varying political agendas.Bob

Subject: Re: Janet Jackson
Posted by Manualblock on Mon, 26 Sep 2005 16:55:36 GMT
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I'm not a religous guy but I read the Bible for the language thats in it. I read it was written by Christian Monks in the 13th Century.Once read a book called,"How The Irish Saved Civilisation." Claims there were remnants of the Holy Roman Empire left in the far reaches of Ireland during the Dark Ages. And they kept the book alive for some time.I like Eccliesiasteses and Revelations.

Subject: Re: Janet Jackson
Posted by Thermionic on Tue, 27 Sep 2005 03:37:07 GMT

"The Holy Bible is a "jurney" of God`s People from the "eye for an eye" of the Old Times/Testament to "love your enemies" of the New Testament."Yes, and no. God has not ever changed, from before that time until now. The difference is, there is now a different dispensation in effect for God's people. When te death penalty was set in order, it was the dispensation of human government, followed by the dispensation of the levitical Law of Moses, followed by the dispensation of grace. Capital punishment was never abolished throughout these dispensations.The "Christian soldier" thing in the context of violence is a farce. Throughout the ages, it's been used by entities taking up the moniker of "Christian," to impose their silly "religion." You cannot impose it on anyone, it is strictly voluntary. You cannot "convert to it." You cannot become one by calling yourself one or by believeing you are. Calling yourself a Christian or going to church doesn't make you one any more than standing in your garage and calling yourself a car makes you a car. You must be born again to become a Christian. And the Christian soldier's battle is a spiritual one, not against flesh and blood.Christianity is not a religion, although many religions that are called such are indeed practiced. Christianity is a REAL, supernatural, life-changing experience with the living God. Religion is what man does in vain to reach a holy God, which is impossible to do because of man's sin. OTOH, salvation is what God has done to reach man, which DOES work, because sin is eliminated. Religion is something a man adds TO his ways, but salvation will separate a man FROM his ways.The Bible was written by many pens, but by one author, the Holy Ghost, as he gave the inspiration. There are no contradictions anywhere, on the contrary it compliments itself from beginning to end. The teachings of Christ do not contradict the Old Testament in any manner. The Law was given because of transgressors, so that sin could be defined, but it could not forgive sin or make you righteous. It was so complex, no one could keep it.Jesus came not to destroy the Law, but to fulfill it as only he could, so it's true righteousness could be fulfilled in those who accepted him. Not by the obedience of the letter of the Law, as man cannot not fulfill it's righteousness in his sinful, iniquitous state, but through repentance and accepting the sacrifice of Christ that paid the debt of sin.With your sins forgiven through repentance and accepting Jesus into your heart, your spirit (which was dead because of sin) is made alive through the blood, and the eyes of the spiritual understanding and consciousness of the spiritual realm are opened. With sin and iniquity out of the way, fellowship with God is attained, just as with Adam and Eve in the garden. You are given a different spirit, the Spirit of Christ, and his righteousness is fulfilled in you. The Old Testament Law could not take away sin, it only told what sin was. Christ's sacrifice is the only thing that could take away sin. Because a born again child of God has his Spirit, the commandment is stricter than the Law. As long as one who has been born again stays in close communion with God, and yields to the Spirit instead of his flesh, he will not sin, indeed cannot sin, because there is no longer any iniquity in him. Because a real, true blue, Holy Ghost-filled believer no longer has the fallen, sinful Adamitic nature, Jesus made some changes to the commandments. Whereas under the Law it was permitted to hate your neighbor, while under grace it is sin. Under the Law, adultery was punishable by death, but lusting was not a transgression. Under grace, merely looking on a woman to lust is equal with the very act of adultery. Under the Law, drunkenness was permitted. Under grace, it is listed right beside cold blooded murder on the list of the sins of the flesh.I used to believe it was nothing but religion and a crutch for weak-minded people, and that the Bible was a farce and full of contradictions. That is, until one night 12 years ago when I was sick of how I was feeling inside. I knew there must be a better way. I wasn't at all what most would call a "bad person," but I did harbor a good bit of bitterness and discontent inside, and although I didn't hurt anybody, I still had a bad temper. From drinking a few beers on the weekend, I started getting pretty lit on Saturdays,

and then went to drinking some during the week a night or two. I was feeling more empty and discontent on the inside all the time. I knelt at my bedside at home one night, with a repentant heart, and asked Jesus to save me. I didn't even know what I was really asking, and didn't know a single Bible verse. But, I had a sincere heart, and someone met me in that bedroom and I began to weep and cry, and I felt the weight of what seemed like hundreds of pounds lifted from my back and shoulders, and a warm feeling of peace and love I'd never felt before flooded my body. Since that night 12 years ago, I've never drank another drop, and had no desire to do so. I have no malice, guile, or bitterness in my heart at all anymore. I also had one of the filthiest mouths of anyone I've ever known, and I've not said a single word of profanity since that day. The cusser moved out when Jesus moved in. The two cannot exist together.My temper was gone. Now, I practically do not get angry AT ALL, and when I do it is very slow to come and very mild; never even raising my voice above a normal speaking tone even at the worst.If Christ moves in, there will be a huge change in your life immediately. The things you once loved, you will hate, and the things you once hated, you'll love. I used to HATE church, and would go maybe once a year on Easter to make someone else happy. Well, teh Lord called me to preach and I've since been the assistant pastor of a church and spent about 7 years evangelizing. I never attend church less than 3 times a week, and am usually looking forward to the next service by the time the one I'm in is over! I've spent two weeks at a time in church every night several times.I've seen countless people saved and delivered instantly, completely, and permanently from alcoholism, drug addiction, you name it. I myself have been completely healed of everything from an ingrown toenail to extreme, uncontrollable, undiagnosed chronic high blood pressure. I've seen others instantly healed from cancer, diabetes (some of them on their death beds!), problems with the heart, back, stomach, legs, ears, eyes, everything, and even seen deformed hands and fingers and broken bones healed instantly. Babies, kids, teens, young adults, middle age, elderly. I've seen a 12 year old girl that had never walked without braces on her legs take them off and run around. I've seen people come up out of wheelchairs shouting and dancing. Yes, this thing is VERY REAL. You don't see it much because of all the hypocrisy, worldliness, and sin in most of the "church world" today, but that doesn't affect God one iota. What God will do for whosoever will has not changed and will not. Until you meet Jesus, you do not really know what love, peace, or joy are in any sense of the words. He is the Prince of Peace, God is love, and as the Bible describes born-again salvation: "Joy unspeakable, and full of glory." Indeed, there are no words to express it..... Jesus. To know him, is to love him. And to know his love for YOU.Thermionic

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Subject: Re: Janet Jackson
Posted by Manualblock on Tue, 27 Sep 2005 20:32:33 GMT
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Satan; get thee behind me!A few beers during the week and Saturday night did this to you; man what kind of beer was that you say? I am sorry; obviously this is important to you and I respect that.The old city of Jerusalem lay directly on the first leg of the Silk Road of ages past. All that fervor is the result of the mix of Bhuddist and Jewish faiths.

"All that fervor is the result of the mix of Bhuddist and Jewish faiths.""All that fervor" is the direct result of what he did for me, and what I feel in my soul, even now as I type this reply. If you could just feel what I feel, know what I know, know WHO I know, have what I have, you'd be as fervent as I am! Tonight was church, and I jumped, I ran, I raised my hands, I cried, I SHOUTED for joy in the presence of the Lord! And to think I was an ultra-introvert before.... It was Jesus Christ, Buddha didn't have a thing to do with it. Buddha's dead and rotten in the ground. Jesus OTOH is alive and well, and makes his abode inside me and many others. Dead men don't deliver, set free, make new, give joy and peace, and you don't feel their presence. I've even seen the VISIBLE glory of the Lord come down like a mist in the church house, like it did at Solomon's temple in the Old Testament. A lot of the old timers often tell of 50 years ago, when they saw it very often, and every single service was filled with deliverance, healing, and great manifestations of the power of God. The churches today no longer believe what they did 50 years ago, and certainly don't live what they lived 50 years ago, and that's why you don't see it, don't hear of it, and why most of the church world today is regarded as nothing but "your religion of choice." The born-again salvation, the new and abundant life, and freedom from sin are no longer taught very much. But, it's still just as real today as then, still just as real as when the 120 in the upper room were baptized with the Holy Ghost after Christ's ascension, just as real as when Paul, Philip, and Peter worked miracles, healed the sick, raised the dead, and cast out demons. For anyone who'll believe and pay the price in humbling themself and seeking God's face with a whole heart, witholding nothing, God still does what he did back then. God today doesn't move in the old-time way of the early/mid 1900's campmeetings and revivals, because people don't believe or live the old-time way! But the real power is still there.My mind comes to an old friend of mine, who ended up a youth evangelist. He was a longtime heroin addict, who was contemplating suicide one day while sitting in the park. He looked up and said, "God, if you're real, show yourself and save me." He had just shot up a lot of smack, and he said the INSTANT those words left his mouth, he was stone cold sober..... He broke down, and repented and got saved right there. He never had a single withdrawl symptom, no, not one..... REAL salvation power, not a religion!My best friend before I got saved was one of the worst alcoholics I've ever known, and was doing a lot of speed as well. He was in his early '20s, and his parents were divorcing after 25 years of marriage. He ended up with the family home, which was filled with all the family memories. He turned to more and more drink and drugs to drown his sorrows, and just went deeper into depression.We had went to trade school together, and had worked together for about 2 years. He played drums in a very popular local country band, I played guitar in a local rock band, and we'd jam together just for fun, me and him. I knew him more than well enough to know he was really hurting badly, and was falling into deep depression and anger. Well, he came into work one Monday morning, and was a COMPLETELY different person than he was when he left work Friday evening. I was flabbergasted. Everybody there was! We were all talking about what happened to this fellow, and what could have done it. I mean IT BLEW PEOPLE'S MINDS. Well, he said he got saved the day before, after a friend of his who had recently gotten saved told him what the answer to his problems were.That's when I realized this thing HAD to be real. I got saved at home that Wednesday night.... 6 co-workers got saved soon afterward by our witness. One was a really bad druggie, who was completely, instantly delivered. They were all blown away by the instantaneous night and day change in me, just like we all had been by my friend. There was no denying what had happened! My friend and I ended up going to the same church together. We had quit our bands, and were the regular drummer and lead

guitarist in that church for years. He's now a preacher as well. Weekend before last, I saw a bandmate from that old rock band in a local store. I hadn't seen him in a long time, but I knew the second I laid eyes on him what had happened. Sure enough, had gotten saved a few weeks before. The look of life in the eyes, the lifting up of the countenance, the glow of salvation..... to someone who is saved, it's instantly recognizable, as is the kindred spirit of Christ that you can feel so clearly. He was a heavy partier with a very bad, rude, negative attitude, one of the foulest mouths in existence, and smoked 2 packs of cigarettes a day. The cigarettes were gone with no craving or withdrawl, the foul mouth was gone, he was clean and sober with no desire for a drink or drugs, his spirit was meek and gentle, and I've certainly never seen him so happy and bubbling over with joy. That's what the blood of Christ can do for anyone, whether the vilest and lowest, or the best moral "good" person.My pastor was the town drunk, and had a reputation as the baddest dude around. He was well known as a brutal fighter, and could and would whip anybody who challenged him. He was raised by alcoholic parents who had him and his siblings drinking and smoking before their teens. By his late teens, he was totally bound by nicotine, alcohol, and drugs and had been in a lot of trouble. He wanted loose, but couldn't get help. He went to all the religious churches in town, and they all signed him up on the roll, took him along on their functions, and had him sing in the choir. Every church in town baptized him. He went under the water dry and bound, and came up wet and bound. But one day, he found a church that still lived and believed the old-time gospel the other churches had abandoned years before. Do a Google for "Azusa Street Revival" and you can read what I'm talking about!He went with a friend of his on a joke, to see what all these crazy people were doing down there. He said he could hear them having church 2 blocks away with all the windows closed. But he could also FEEL something far away as well.....He sat down on the back pew, and something got hold of him. He ran to the altar, and in 5 minutes was delivered. In the 42 years since the moment he got up from that altar, he has never used tobacco, drank a drop, done drugs, or said a single curse word again. I've known him for 10 years, and he's one of the greatest men of God I've ever met. He and his wife, I myself, and my wife just started a new church together 4 months ago. 17 sinners have prayed in the altars so far, and we've seen several healings. Like my pastor, I tried religion myself for awhile in my teens, and abandoned it after I found there was nothing real about it. But in salvation, I found what I was looking for, something real. There's nothing on this Earth that compares to a real experience with God through Jesus Christ his son. I've been lost and I've been saved, and believe me, saved is better.You see Manualblock, I wasn't just an average Joe Schmoe with a little drinking problem. I didn't tell you the whole story. My mother had left my father (a career criminal) when I was an infant. I never knew her, and my dad got sent back to the pen soon afterwards. I was raised by my abusive grandfather, who would mercilessly beat me and verbally abuse me. My friends were terrified of my grandpa, and wouldn't come over. I never had a mother or father, no family, no nothing. All my family was drunks and dopers, and never talked to each other. My grandpa died when I was barely 16, leaving me and my elderly grandma alone.I had so much hurt and pain in me you can't imagine, and the alcohol and drugs were the way of dealing with it. But I finally got help one day, and it wasn't from a shrink or his mind-altering drugs, and it wasn't from a religious "crutch." It didn't cost me a penny, and I didn't have to wait to see the results, either. And it's just as real and as good today (actually better) than it was then. Thermionic

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Subject: Wow...
Posted by Damir on Wed, 28 Sep 2005 10:22:39 GMT

Amen, brother Thermionic!Damir

Subject: Re: Janet Jackson
Posted by Manualblock on Wed, 28 Sep 2005 10:44:32 GMT

Now why do I think your pulling my leg? You are doing a darn good job of it; if it wasn't my nature to believe half of what I see and none of what I hear I would almost be convinced; you are that good.Flip Wilson has nothing on you brother; Hallelujah!

Subject: Re: Wow...
Posted by Thermionic on Wed, 28 Sep 2005 14:59:51 GMT

"Now why do I think your pulling my leg? You are doing a darn good job of it; if it wasn't my nature to believe half of what I see and none of what I hear I would almost be convinced; you are that good."LOL! Yeah, I know some of the things sound pretty wild and hard to believe. But, I assure you they're most definitely 100% true, down to the letter. I could literally write a book full of just what I'VE seen and experienced alone. I'm NOT "that good," I'm just telling about the one who is..... I mentioned my blood pressure earlier. It was 255/165 at it's highest, and maybe 185/100 after the first year of treatment by drugs. Even if I missed ONE 12-hour dose of a certain one of my meds, it would skyrocket. I'd been under the care of my personal family doctor for years. He's been practicing medicine for 25 years, has been the chief of staff of a large hospital, and a resident at a research and teaching hospital, and is the best and most caring doctor I've ever known. After several tests, he was clueless as to what was causing it. He referred me to one of the best internal medicine specialists in the state, who was equally clueless after a long battery of tests. Then, she referred me to a heart specialist. More tests, still clueless.I was taking 7 prescription meds a day. I had to take 2 pills of two of them 12 hours apart, and 4 pills of another, for a total of 12 pills a day. I suffered more from the side FX of all the meds than I did the extremely high blood pressure. I'd have near blackout spells, got dizzy a lot, and had zero energy (UNREAL fatigue), just like the side FX warnings on the meds said. The docs told me I'd just have to adjust to it, because this is what the rest of my life was gonna be.One of the meds caused vascular damage in my legs, and they would swell horribly. My ankles would sometimes reach 14" in diameter. Quite painfully, I might add. But without that particular med, my BP would go through the ceiling, from the already very high point it was at.In service the third week of June this year, two weeks after we had our first service in the new church, the Lord's healing hand touched me. I knew it the very second it happened. I checked my pressure when I got home, and it was moderately high. Hmmmmm..... I'd been healed enough times before to know what had happened, but began to think maybe I was wrong. So, I took my meds.The next day the Lord

spoke to me and said, "I healed you, why do you still want to take those?" So I immediately quit all the meds. I was supposed to check my pressure every day, twice a day, and if it ever spiked I was to get to the doctor immediately. Likewise, if what was causing it ever decided to just stop all at once, I could die from low BP due to all the high-powered meds if I didn't stop them immediately. But, I didn't check my pressure anyway for a few days after I quit them. When I finally did check it, it should have been around 250/150, maybe higher. It was 120 over 70. And I haven't had to buy any more of those meds that cost about $100 a month WITH insurance that pays for all but 25%.I got treatment from a "better doctor!" The Great Physician still makes house calls, and he doesn't charge for his services, they're already paid for. This is all real for sure. My pastor's name is Johnny Hopgood, the church's name is Victory Tabernacle, and it's located at 1084 Upper McGuire Loop on Crow Mountain in Russellville, AR. You can drive up and see it, get out of the car and walk up to it, reach out your hand and touch it, and open the door and walk in. You'll see my guitar amp and red Telecaster or black Strat sitting on the platform, behind and to the left of the pulpit. But, it's nothing but a building made with man's hands. It's who comes in when we begin to worship and glorify him that makes all the difference. And he'll be God to anyone, anywhere, not just at 1084 Upper McGuire Loop. He's just as good, just as sweet, just as real at home, in the car, in the grocery store, everywhere. He still manifests his power to those who believe and will allow him to. I've preached at and visited churches in several states, and found him to be real there as well. He's God in America, he's God in Australia, he's God in outer space, he's God at the bottom of the ocean. I've felt his presence while in an airplane at 32,000 ft. I've felt his presence while in a subterranian cavern. Yes, it does mean a lot to me, because I love him for what he did for me. Especially because he loved me first.Thermionic

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Subject: Re: Wow...
Posted by Manualblock on Wed, 28 Sep 2005 17:30:47 GMT
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You seem like a reasonable guy outside of expressing a little irrational exuberance; so let me ask one thing.Why is it that whenever someone feels the need to display his experience regarding religion it never sounds like this;" I had a few rough patches coming up and found some friends who helped me learn the party ways. I spent a few or a dozen or so years either drunk or stoned or hungover until it became my normal condition. I experienced every event in life under the influence and in trouble until finally I got sick of it and found a new way of living that has made me happy."Instead we get;" I was the most king-hell rabal-rousing sumbitch on Gods earth. I fought lions and choked buzzards. Drank me a river and smoked, shot, snorted and bonged every drug in the PDR. I was a rusted hulk of a wasted life on my knees in soul-pain when suddenly a voice reached to me down in the depths and softly lifted me up to face my deliverer; Jesus Christ. Since then I have preached the gospel of the Holy Ghost power up and down the southland to anyone who would listen. I have seen miracles of great moment done on a daily basis; I have seen the lame walk and the dumb speak....."Don't you guys ever think to tone it down a bit; why does the story always have to come from Cecil B. DeMille. Telling the real story maybe you would attract a more serious clientele? I believe people have religous conversions; but they sure ain't the exagerrated charicatures of bad guys they make themselves out to be. Take my word; the real bad guys stay bad.

Subject: Re: Wow...
Posted by colinhester on Wed, 28 Sep 2005 19:13:01 GMT
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Because the stories are inspirational, if not miraculous in the truest sence.....Colin

Subject: Re: Wow...
Posted by Manualblock on Thu, 29 Sep 2005 01:40:41 GMT
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Inspirational; or nonesensical? Inspiration should cause you to accomplish an objective; these are so obviously hyperbole you might as well listen to Snoop Dog. Not to mention they are so sanctimoniously impressed with themselves.And what exactly does "miraculous in the truest sense" mean anyway?How do you know it's true?

Subject: Re: Wow...
Posted by Thermionic on Thu, 29 Sep 2005 04:44:45 GMT
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"I believe people have religous conversions; but they sure ain't the exagerrated charicatures of bad guys they make themselves out to be. Take my word; the real bad guys stay bad."The apostle Paul was one of the greatest preachers the world has ever known, and he declared that "Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief." He went on to spell out in great detail how he persecuted the church, imprisoning and executing Christians. Sounds like a guy whose behavior was not exactly pleasing to God. He was a real bad guy, for sure, and even thought in his own mind he was doing the right thing. Why? He was full of man's religion, but he didn't have salvation.Read about Mary Magdelene in the New testament. She was one of Jesus' closest followers, that is, after he had cast seven demons out of her. A pretty bad chick.....An old preacher I know who was a full-time missionary to Central America for many years told me once about a man that came into a service he was preaching (here in the States). There was a woman who had gotten saved in that revival, who said her husband would be coming to church with her. She said he was an ex-hitman who had done time for murder. My friend said that when the man walked in, he had the hardest, coldest eyes he'd ever seen. But, the Lord was dealing with his heart.During the service, he went down to the altar to get saved, and my friend said he indeed prayed ALL the way through to what he really needed. He said just the *immediate* change was unreal. The man later testified about how he was a career criminal, and had killed several people. He was finally prosecuted for a count of murder, and did a lot of time. He got out, got married, and went back into small-time crime. He was doing drugs, and had been having an affair with his wife's 16 year old sister when he got saved.My friend said that the last he knew, long after that, the man was still saved and on fire for God. If he wasn't a "real bad guy," then I don't know what is.The blood of Christ is more than enough to set the worst of the worst free. Sin is sin in the eyes

of God, and it doesn't matter how deep someone is into ANYTHING. They are set free just as easily as the next. You can read in the New Testament where a man who was posessed with hundreds, if not thousands of demons, was instantly delivered of them all. He had lived in a cemetery, and ran around naked attacking people. But they found him sitting at Jesus' feet, clothed and in his right mind.But, it doesn't have to a be meth addicted, homosexual, axe-wielding serial child killer who was raised in Satanism. Good moral people need salvation as well. Most really good moral folks don't feel the need, because they think they're good enough. NO ONE is good enough. The apostle Paul put it very clearly: "All have sinned and come short of the glory of God." There is none righteous, no not one. All are born into sin. All need a savior. I know many goody-goody squarebritches types who were very good moral people, who were nevertheless lost. They thought they were OK. Some were even raised in church, and some were even preacher's kids. But, one day the Lord dealt with their heart and they got saved. I've heard many, many people say they used to THINK they were saved, that is, until they TRULY got saved. And, they're just as fervent as the redeemed heroin junkie now.God is no respecter of persons, he loves all alike, but he hates sin. Sin must be dealt with, and the blood of Christ is the only thing that can change you from the inside out and place you into a relationship with him. And even if you could somehow never sin again (which is impossible, sin is man's nature), every sin ever committed is still on your record. Jesus not only forgives sin, he gives you a new nature along with it. Not the "old nature" to sin, but a new nature with no desire to sin. One of my favorite scriptures: "If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature. Old things are passed away, behold, all things become new."Again, this ain't no "religious conversion." Religion has nothing to do with it. Religion is just a man-made activity without value. God's born-again salvation is a real, life changing, supernatural experience. Make no mistake, when it happens it'll be by far, a million times over, the most profound experience of your entire life.Anyone who is "sanctimoniously impressed with themself" doesn't know the God I know, I can guarantee you that. If they draw attention to themself and how good they are, rather than glorifying Christ and his works in them and/or others, then they don't have the goods. The Holy Ghost will only glorify Christ. If someone is glorifying fleshly mankind instead, they don't have the Holy Ghost. Very simple! From salvation to heaven, it requires humility. God will accept nothing less. Jesus said, "Except ye become as a little child, ye shall in no wise enter into the kingdom of God." The reason myself and others are so fervent about it, is that it's the best thing that ever happened to us, and the ongoing abundant life that comes with it is so real, so profound, so intense, so good, that you can't keep it to yourself. The prophet Jeremiah had tried to keep it to himself, and had even said he'd preach no more. But he couldn't hold it in and said, "It's like a fire shut up in my bones..." Peter and John were arrested, beaten, and told to never speak the gospel again, but they told the authorities that they couldn't keep from it. And, they went right back out and started preaching again. It bubbles over and you simply can't help it, it's so good! You see, this thing is not entirely all the way by faith. It *is* a faith walk, but there's a wonderful feeling inside that comes with it. You can't see it or touch it, but you can feel the very real presence and nearness of the Lord in your soul.I used to scoff at "holy rollers," make fun of it, and persecute Christians I went to school with. I've always believed in God, but did not believe there was any way to achieve fellowship or communicate with him, and certainly didn't believe anyone could be changed. I thought those people were weakminded and relying on religion for a crutch, and thought it was absolutely stupid that they were missing out on all the fun of girls and partying.I later found out that I was the one who was missing out. My life could have and would have been so much better if I'd listened to the witness of those Christians in school instead of scoffing at them. If I could go back and do it again, I'd have gotten saved as a child.Thermionic

Subject: Re: Wow...
Posted by Thermionic on Thu, 29 Sep 2005 05:20:13 GMT
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Manualblock, I was just thinking about something here, that I didn't really clarify the way I needed to. I'll at least try to, the best I can. I know I'm not the greatest writer that ever was! Another chief reason why the testimonies of those who have experienced the new birth seem so, let me see, "dramatic" perhaps, is that to them, the old life is now a whole lot worse than it is to someone who hasn't experienced it.The Bible puts it this way, that you are dead in trespasses and sins. That refers to the spirit of man. The body is alive, and doing the will of the fleshy desires. The body is the vehicle of sin. But when you are born again, the spiritual, inner man is made alive, and the Spirit of Christ abides within, along with it. Now, the tables are turned. The body's willfulness to sin is dead, and the inner man is alive.The spiritual eyes are opened, and fellowship and unity with God is achieved. You see sin for what it really is. There are many things that are sin that the natural man sees nothing wrong with. And even the things that most people who believe in God know he's not pleased with, they don't think too much about them most of the time. But AFTER you get saved, they will appear, well, as Paul put it, "exceeding sinful." You don't know what you were, until you're not it anymore. You don't know the weight of sin that you're carrying, until it's been lifted. When one gets saved, they see and know what a wicked thing sin really is, and that's why they are so adamantly testifying as to the wickedness of the "old" man. They now see it for what it is through the eyes of God, not as they formerly did in the eyes of a fleshly man.Likewise, to the unregenerate it seems like foolishness why someone would (or could) be so excited about something that seems so foolish and blah to them. The reason why is the same as before: They've experienced it! People go to ballgames and races, jump up and down and clap their hands, yell and scream themselves totally hoarse, and generally act like idiots. Well, the redeemed have something that's far better than any ballgame, and they have a reason to get excited over it. And do. There's an old hymn of the church that says, "I'm in a new world, old things are passed away. Behold, all things are new, ever since that happy day. Well he opened up my blinded eyes, and then I had a great surprise. I'm in a new world, since the Lord saved me."The person who penned those words described it about as accurately as I've ever heard it put. You are literally in a glorious, new world. As I said earlier, if you could feel what I feel.....Thermionic

Subject: Re: Wow...
Posted by Manualblock on Thu, 29 Sep 2005 12:06:51 GMT
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The concept of sins is a manifestation of personal self-loathing. What you are feeling is the sense of doing the right thing to please someone; be it your parents(even if they have passed on), or whoever and as a result you have to exaggerate the effects to give them enough meaning for you to validate the process.People are miserable because of underlying conflicts with the notion of being "good" and being accepted by the group. A good person recieves all the praise and rewards they didn't get in childhood.You can go for twenty years of 250$ an hour analysis or choose something simple like fundamentalism. It's all the same.BTW if I came off as harsh earlier please

forgive; upon re-reading it I see I owe that to you.Very entertaining posts my friend.

Subject: Re: Wow...
Posted by Damir on Thu, 29 Sep 2005 14:39:19 GMT
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Hey, many things in this world are not that simple that can be explained with just a little psychology. Nor the psychology is that simple - see Jung, for example."Inability to recognize sin is the most dangerous form of dulling imaginable, because it makes impossible for one to improve himself."Joseph Ratzinger

Subject: Re: Wow...
Posted by Manualblock on Thu, 29 Sep 2005 15:14:44 GMT
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"One's mans sin is another mans sacrifice",John RemsonI am not quoting Phsycology there Damir my friend; I am quoting me. Thats my belief based on observation of humans in the field.Stop drugs and start religion. No one wants to have to look in the mirror.Just get rid ofThe mind that thinks,"This is good,That is bad,"And without any special effort,Wherever we live is good to live in.

Subject: Re: Wow...
Posted by Thermionic on Thu, 29 Sep 2005 21:04:01 GMT
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To not believe it's real is your right as an individual. I respect that, and so does God. He won't make anyone accept his offer. Jesus Christ himself had thousands who wouldn't believe for every one that did during his earthly ministry, despite all the many miracles he worked right in front of all their eyes. Just as it is today. He presented reality, not religion, yet most preferred religion and still do.A family I know and am very close to had their son fall from the tree swing and break his arm several years back. He came running in the house screaming and crying. The splinter of bone had almost broken the skin; it was poking upward. Their neighbors (who were not Christians) were over visiting. They went hysterical, and naturally wanted to take him to the emergency room. The father of the family told them they weren't going anywhere until they'd prayed first. He, his wife, and his daughter laid hands on the little boy and prayed, and his arm popped back together with a loud snap right in front of the neighbors. Then, the little boy stopped crying, and said himself that it was healed. There was no more lump poking up, no swelling, no discoloration.The neighbors were still freaking out, saying that he needed to be taken to the hospital, that it was broken. They kept on and kept on, and finally they all went to the doctor. After viewing the X ray, the doctor said

"it looked as if there had been a hairline fracture there at one time, but he wasn't sure."To this day, those people still do not believe what they saw happen right before their very eyes. At first, they insisted it was still broken, because they'd both seen the bone poking up. Then, after the visit to the doc, they insisted it never was broken and their eyes had somehow deceived them (yes, two different sets of eyes saw something that wasn't there).They had both seen the lump poking up, they both heard the pop when it mended back together, and both saw the boy quit crying immediately.What they didn't (wouldn't) see was the one who put it back together.Signing off, Thermionic