

You are welcome to discuss anything here with me further by

PREVIEW: What is written on the Liberty Bell? (Do you agree with the idea? Where is it from?)¹

MY OPENING TOPIC² is the contrast between religion and science— not *as institutions*, but rather: religious and non-religious **worldviews: their influence, nature, and relative TRUTH.**

This TOPIC necessarily includes “ethical questions.” ethical theory *must compare & evaluate* biblical vs. secular ethics.

The question behind the opening topic may be best expressed as “Does God Exist? Is God real?”

“Proving God’s existence” is not a reasonable goal, but mainly because of difficulty in defining not God, but rather “proof” and “exist.”

This idea has political implications (but *partisan politics as such* is excluded here, since God does not belong to any political party, the interpretation and the interpretation and application of Bible ideas are so complex as to allow opposite conclusions on any partisan issue, including same-sex marriage, welfare state, etc., hence the different positions taken by various religious groups, such as Orthodox vs. non-Orthodox Judaism.)

Religion vs. Science: history of the conflict.

round 1: “new” science: 1, old-time religion: 0.	ascendant secularism banishes religion from public square. ³
Galileo to Pope: “and yet it moves.”	At its peak, medieval Islam debated whether things fall because of invisible forces or because Allah decides each time, and chose the latter.

THE CASE AGAINST RELIGION: (IN ROUND 2, I WILL “DEFEAT” ALL THESE IDEAS.)⁴

“Science says that God doesn’t exist: It’s obvious!”

There’s no proof of God’s existence, therefore (by Occam’s razor), God doesn’t exist. God’s existence is “meaningless,” just like “murder is evil.” [Bertrand Russell.]⁵

“Scientific method starts from observations, proceeds to laws, and from there to theories in rigorous order, justifying each step by rigorous experimentation.”

“Biblical ethics are outdated & evil.”

“Religious people can be self-righteous!” [They sure can!]

[The Bible’s Prophets criticize them for this! Of course others can be self-righteous, too.⁶]

“We should follow our heart (feelings), not some old book!”

“God commands Jewish ethnic rule in Israel & genocide.”

“God discriminates between religions. (Can’t we all just get along?)”

“Most wars and murders are caused by religion. *Humans are just naked apes.*”

“Religion is the opiate of the masses.” *Biblical ethics justify slavery & “divine right of kings.”*

“Society should be ruled by wise & moral Philosopher kings.” [Plato]

“Human society should strive for & social justice & radical equality.”

“People are born good. Poverty & racial & class discrimination cause crime.”

“We should recognize the wisdom of children, and the rights of animals.”

“Humans are ruled by sexual & other physical needs: It’s obvious.

Kosher laws are just pre-medical prescriptions for health.”

“naturalistic ethics”: *Human ethics exists by virtue of societal evolution & consensus.”*

“That doesn’t mean that they’re evil: It’s just the fact of why they do what they do. Besides, Free Will is illusion: We’re just material creatures; our decisions are made by our hormones. People are gonna do what they’re gonna do.”

“Human society should be completely secular. Only then can we be truly free.”

“The US Constitution should be up-dated to modern values, shaking off its Sexism, Xenophobia, Homophobia, Racism, Bigotry We should have a positive constitution, with rights for people, not just restrictions on government!”⁷

My critique: The secular progression is: Galileo > Newton > Darwin > Marx > Lenin > Stalin > Mao, Hitler.

Some secularists will argue that this progression is possible but not inevitable, which would be true ...if humans were “angels.” *Since humans are not angels, evils will naturally arise...and secularism provides no reason to oppose it. (Similarly, there would be world peace if everyone were a pacifist...but only until*

¹ CONFESSION: My generation wanted to dismantle the Judeo-Christian basis of American society, with largely negative results. Relevance? The second largest group is now the “nones” (people who “affiliate” proudly with negation of religion, and rely most on their own heart as their moral guide). (Males & females are identical & interchangeable.)

² Please don’t hesitate to question anything here, including my qualifications: It is not arrogant of you to do so. (It would be arrogant of me not to take any such questions seriously.) My qualifications derive from study, research, & publications in Chomskyan & post-Chomskyan “cognitive psychology/ linguistics, which includes big doses of mathematical linguistics & modern scientific method. An earlier version of this paper was given at a ChaBaD conference on science & Torah, and published in *Be’Or haTorah*.

³ It is a pervasive hidden assumption of all, nowadays, that religion can and should just “shut up” about politics. A traditional view is that religion can and must express itself politically...which of course atheists and secularists have been doing all along, to the extent that we now have an “**atheocracy**, in which atheism is a dominant, sometimes “totalitarian” force in society. Religion is political: Just ask MLK and the Abolitionists: As obvious as the evil of slavery is to us, it wasn’t obvious to earlier generations, any more than “Zero” was known to the ancient Greeks.

⁴ **My “revelation”** came from spending a year in the USSR, an “atheocracy.” The secular 20th Century provides a parallel example on the macro level. While still an atheist, I also learned that Bertrand Russell learned the non-conformity that defined him from a biblical verse. “Don’t follow a multitude to do evil.”

⁵ To logical positivists like Russell, these are disguised statements of personal preference.

⁶ E.g. PETA or the PC Police. In NY City, mayor Bloomberg is all but outlawing large soft drinks and baby formula. In an “**atheocracy**,” health is often given as a justification for totalitarian imposition of private standards on a whole society.

⁷ (e.g. to a job) and living wage) (like Russia’s Constitution of 1936).

the inevitable moment in which any individual decided not to be a pacifist, at which point no one could oppose him)

DEFINING JUDAISM.⁸

Torah⁹ = way of life (Tao of Life)”

Creation” is part of the worldview of Judaism, but often interpreted non-literally, e.g. 6 days of Creation are “days of the Holy One,” not 24-hour days (since the Sun hadn’t been created!).

Moral behavior is more important to God than beliefs. (But no-one tries to follow Torah rules literally: no one believes we should sacrifice animals, or “kill Canaanites” (much less disobedient children).

(Jews disagree with each other. “Israel” means “fights with God” [See Dan Senor, *Start-up Nation*])

Pleas for unity are usually a trick to get others to agree. (See Lakoff’s Mommy/Daddy models in *Moral Politics*.)

In a *democracy*, **we’re supposed to disagree...even disagreeably!**

NB: Demonization is a regular part of democracy. But when A demonizes B, A MAY be the real demon (Jews know this from experience).¹⁰

Labeling “hate-speech” (e.g. Bible) may be an Orwellian tactic to limit free speech.

“Democracy” is Greek, but was practiced as a Judeo-Christian concept. Churches were the local democratic institution.

Science is a way to understand God. God is our Creator & Parent.

repentance but only...

distinctive ideas of Judaism (vs. other “isms”):

individual responsibility; (vs. Marxist “class, race, sex” and victimology as explaining bad behavior)

the importance of distinctions: murder vs. killing, kosher vs. non-kosher (e.g. sex).

God is Redeemer, not Messiah. (A SECRET: The messiah is the Angel of Death: Utopianism is destructive.)

We should be ruled by God, not kings or priests.

Holiness is the prime ethical goal; tiquin olam bemalkhut Shadayy¹¹

“Blessed be God who separates”: night/day, holy/secular, killing/murder, kosher/non-kosher.

Repentance requires sincere apology...and restitution! *We don’t forgive “unconditionally.”*

Torah invented progress [See Cahill, *Gifts of the Jews*]

“perfection of the world in the Kingdom of God.” “Love truth & hate evil!”

Holiness is “Big H,” health is the “small h.”¹²

Justice is for all, poor & rich alike.

The Land of Israel belongs to People of Israel.¹³

(But) do not oppress the stranger for you were strangers in the Land of Egypt.

(NB: While returning to their ancient homeland, Jews never stole land from Palestinians, nor launched aggression to acquire land.

Even now it is the Palestinians, not Israel, that reject the two state solution. Israel is the only ME country in which Arabs choose their own head of state by democratic elections; elsewhere the rule is “one man, one vote, one time” (one election installs a permanent despotism).

Humans must interpret Torah. Anthropomorphisms are metaphors. *This is especially characteristic of Qabalah, which features the 10 sfirot & “religious atheism” [see writings of Rav Kook]Qabalah is the basis of ultra-Orthodox Judaism.*

ROUND 2: DEFENDING GOD (& COUNTRY(-S). Many don’t know who we fought for independence

...or why. I call this “sleepwalking”: Many Jews sleepwalk through Judaism: They study French or

Spanish or Swahili with energy, but don’t know that Hebrew words actually have meanings. “*Motzi?*...does that mean “bread?”

Judaism is not “multi-cultural,” but it defends the moral potential of ethnicities and nations (as well as individual).

The Liberty Bell “proclaims “liberty throughout the land.”

It is a quote from the Five Books of Moses, whose main theme is Freedom.

THE “AMERICAN TRINITY”: 1: E PLURIBUS UNUM (NOT MULTICULTUALISM),

2: FREEDOM (NOT EQUALITY vs. FRANCE), 3: IN GOD WE TRUST.

“ISRAEL is the historic homeland of the Jews, restored by UN declaration.

Israel is the only country with this double legitimacy! Peace & prosperity in the ME depends only one thing: Muslims accepting the existence of Israel!

⁸ What causes anti-Semitism? Judaism gave Western Civilization the concept of God, and we have never been forgiven for it. (Cf. “If God lived in the world, people would break his windows” (Yiddish proverb).

⁹ Often mistranslated as “Law,” Torah actually means “teaching.” It stands for “the Teaching of Moses.” It is primarily a moral doctrine.

¹⁰ We ought to be able to debate issues vigorously without any calling anyone who disagrees with you a “hater.”

¹¹ **“Perfection of the world in the Kingdom of God.”**

¹² Circumcision, an aptly placed reminder to “be holy,” also prevents AIDS.

¹³ Israel is the only country in the world validated both by history and world law (UN decision).

PERSONAL VALUES DETERMINE SUCCESS IN LIFE. [Daniel Lapin, *Thou Shall Prosper*]

Success in life is guaranteed by 3 strategies: finish HS, get married, have children after marriage.

Victimology forbidden! “Life-cultures” (Judaism) vs. “death-cultures” (Jihadism).

US elites live in segregated communities, practicing traditional Judeo-Christian values but preaching radical values. [Charles Murray, *Coming Apart*]¹⁴

CHRISTIANITY...¹⁵

conforms in most ways to Jewish principles, as a “legitimate monotheism.” It departs in some ways:

	Christianity, like Judaism, “de-paganizes” pagan holidays, e.g, Halloween (cf. Purim).
The Five Books of Moses are called “Torah,” which means “Teaching” (not “Law”).	Christianity simplifies Torah, in some cases excessively,
It contains not 10 but 613 commandments, primarily aimed at Jews: “I am God who brought you out of Israel.”	“Vicarious atonement” and “salvation by faith alone” are alien to Judaism. <i>Unconditional forgiveness</i> ” is alien to Judaism.
Non-Jews are therefore not expected to be kosher, or to observe the Sabbath on Saturday.	Repentance requires <i>restoration</i> of anything taken.
“Eat and be satisfied” and “Be fruitful & multiply & fill the Earth” are main commandments. Sex is specially recommended for the Sabbath. Wealth is not regarded with inherent suspicion.	Christianity tends to asceticism: “hair-shirts” and denial of sexual impulses. (“Money is the root of all evil” is a common <i>misquote</i> of Jesus’ actual words.
Charity (<i>tzdaqa</i>) is not out of the “goodness of your heart,” but a religious duty <i>zeddeq</i> , justice). Money that you give away is seen as permanently yours, as opposed to transitory wealth.	Charity is regarded as a duty of the <i>heart</i> . Little focus on “teaching how to fish,” or consideration for the self-respect of the poor. (In Judaism, RamBam’s 8 degrees of charity praising anonymous giving is often studied.)
The Torah is for successful living: “The are my commandments, that you shall <i>live</i> by them.”	Afterlife and “End Times” are not focused on in Judaism. Judaism has only “purgatory,” not “Hell” (Hebrew <i>Géhinom</i>). The traditional belief is that punishment lasts for no more than a year.
FAJPOV, non-Jews are judged by their behavior throughout life. Torah implies a higher standard for Jews	The traditional view is that the Messiah (a human, not divine figure) will come and return Jews to Israel, and create world peace.
Jewish women are not required to participate in the fixed daily prayers (whether because of family duties or because they don’t need them).	Many modern Jews have a less literal view of Afterlife and end-times.

¹⁴ “You should preach what you practice!” [Dennis Prager]

¹⁵ This handout is formulated “FAJPOV”: **F**rom **a** **J**ewish **P**oint **o**f **V**iew.”

Judaism teaches:	Christianity teaches
'Love your neighbor as yourself.'	"love your enemy."
Judaism teaches us to "hate evil."	Non-resistance to evil" is a Buddhist principle, adopted by some Christians and others.
Islam is also a legitimate Monotheism, but is infected with anti-Jewish beliefs and practices, which hurt Muslims as well as others.	Judaism regards the variety of world religions as a blessing, even accepting non-monotheistic religions as being capable of providing Godly teachings.
The "Pharisees" were the early rabbis, and the authors of the Talmud. (<i>Pirqé Avot</i> "sayings of the fathers" is a short selection of their most important sayings, which is included in the traditional Jewish Prayerbook.	Jesus was a Pharisee! He criticized them...just as they criticized each other! Christianity is based on the "Pauline" faction of Pharisaic Judaism. The Protestant Reformation was an attempt to undo the "Catholicization" of Christianity, Not surprisingly, Martin Luther and other early Protestants were called "Judaizers," This is was part of the founding of America, in defiance of Europe, which was Catholic/Anglican, etc.
Religious Jews don't regard the New Testament as divinely inspired in the same sense as the Torah, but that doesn't mean that it doesn't contain good ideas, much less that it is evil.	Note that Satan is not an "anti-God" in Judaism, nor a fallen or rebellious angel. To the Orthodox, Satan is God's "prosecuting attorney." In the Hebrew Bible, refers to various kinds of opponents.
Commandments are proof of God's love, e.g. the sabbath, the, "Be fruitful." Humans are seen as capable of both good and evil, but capable of choosing goodness on their own.	Commandments are seen as showing human inadequacy to be good, need for "vicarious atonement."
Humans are tasked with "perfecting the world," completing God's creation.	Humans are seen as predestined to moral failure, inherently evil (by "Original Sin").
Judaism regards non-Jews as equally able to achieve salvation.	Orthodox Christianity claims that non-Christians are condemned to eternal punishment.

TOWARDS A "NEW THEOLOGY."

ETHICS MUST BE "SUPER-NATURAL." [Moore: *Principia Ethica*] Ethics must restrict the heart.¹⁶

All issues of truth presuppose God (as Woody Allen & Dostoyevsky agree: "Without God, all is permitted.")

Who else says that ethics must be supernatural? Bertrand Russell: You can't get "should be" from "is."

Ethics cannot be proved scientifically, but religion is provably good for your health.

Utilitarian ethical theory (greatest good for greatest number) doesn't work:

greatest good for what population?	What are the "goods"?
just a nation? just humans? That's "speciesism!" So animals deserve equal rights? Insects, too?	Whys is education better than drugs? Because of their long-range benefit? Who decides?

Scientific method: Theories are elaborate cognitive structures, checked by the "predictions that they generate: they are *not* discovered or *proved* by mechanical observations.

Theories are challenged by "apparent counter-examples." [Karl Popper] (string theory, chaos theory)

Do atoms exist? "Realists" believe that they are real, although not physical; "nominalists" believe that they are just metaphors, not real in any sense. (But note: there's no empirical difference between the two positions!)

Similarly: "God's truth" vs. "hocus-pocus" understanding of science:

electrons have no reality at all, electrons are really just mathematical formulas that just *happen* to fit reality.

In science as in ethics, "truth" must be assumed to exist before it can be discovered.

Jastrow: scientists long rejected Big Bang theory because it reminded them of Genesis.

¹⁶ "Who is a hero? The one who conquers his own inclination. [Talmud]

Einstein envisaged a TOE, I envisage a TUOT,¹⁷

to include what science cannot cover (Huston Smith)

1. ethics: ethics *cannot be* subjective or personal or relative
2. (but it *must be* situational .e.g. killing vs. murder is a situational, contextual difference; similarly eating dead vs. live animals.) Ethical theory and human society must assume Free Will.¹⁸
3. Otherwise there can be no personal responsibility, laws, or social order.
4. e.g. if murder/genocide is wrong, it can't be wrong for some cultures/people and not others.
5. The meaning of life (including the purpose of science) is not “relative, personal, subjective.”
6. **TUOT = science PLUS religion!, i.e. the true TUOT = TRUE science + TRUE religion.** Children and animals shouldn't vote, and adult humans shouldn't act like children...or animals.
- 7.

some Hebrew verses.

בְּרֵאשִׁית בָּרָא אֱלֹהִים אֶת הַשָּׁמַיִם וְאֶת הָאָרֶץ	1	In the beginning Created ☩God Ø the-skies and-Ø the-Earth
שְׁמַע יִשְׂרָאֵל יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ יְיָ אֶחָד	2	Hear (Oh) Israel, Yah (is) our-God, Yah (is) one.
בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם הַמוֹצֵיא לֶחֶם מִן הָאָרֶץ	3	Blessed (are) you, Yah, God-☩our King-of the-Universe who-brings-forth bread from the-Earth.
רַחֲמָנָא מַלְכָא דְעֵלְמָא. מָרָא דְהַיְיָ פִּיתָהּ	4	Blessed (is) the-Merciful-One, King of-the-Universe Lord of-this-bread.
רֵאשִׁית חֹכְמָה יְרֵאת יְיָ הוּא אֱלֹהֵי וְחַי גּוֹאֲלֵי	5	The-beginning-of Wisdom (is) ☩Fear-of God. 6 He (is) God-☩my and-lives redeemer-☩my.
וַיִּבְדֵּל אֱלֹהִים בֵּין הָאוֹר וּבֵין הַחֹשֶׁךְ	7	And-divided ☩God between-light and-between darkness
זָכָר וּנְקֵבָה בָּרָא אוֹתָם כִּפְדָּאת אֶת אֲבִיךָ וְאֶת אִמְךָ	8	Male and-female created-☩He them. 9 Honor Ø father-☩your and-Ø mother-☩your!
וְאָהַבְתָּ אֶת יְיָ אֱלֹהֶיךָ בְּכָל לִבְבְּךָ וְאָהַבְתָּ לְרֵעֶךָ כָּמוֹךָ	10	And-you-shall-love Yah God-☩your 11 And-you-shall-love neighbor-☩your as-you!
צֶדֶק צֶדֶק תִּרְדּוּף מִצִּיּוֹן תֵּצֵא תוֹרָה	12	Justice, justice shall-you-pursue! 13 From Zion comes-forth teaching.
יָמִים תַּעֲבֹד וְעָשִׂיתָ כָּל מְלָאכְתְּךָ שֵׁשֶׁת	14	Six days shall-you-work and-do all tasks-☩your.
לֹא תִהְיֶה אַחֲרֵי רִבִּים לְרַעוֹת	15	Not-you-shall-be after many to-do-evil.

NOTES: “Ø” translates the Hebrew preposition that often marks the object of a verb (something like Spanish “a” in *Veo a Juan* “I-see Ø Juan/John. ☩ indicates a word or phrase that must be moved left in the translation, to give English word-order. The Hebrew name of God (the “tetragrammaton”) is not pronounced. I give it here as “יְיָ” in Hebrew and “Yah” in English (as in “Haaleluyah”=“Praise you-all God!”). “יְיָ” is a substitute invented by printers. Orthodox and other Jews say “haShem” (“the-name”) in speech, and “Adonayy” in prayer; and they write it as הַיְיָ or הַיְיָ. The English word “Jehovah” is a mispronunciation of the tetragrammaton, combining the consonants of the tetragrammaton with the vowels of “Adonayy.”

“Magic Letters.”

Hebrew is usually thought to be a difficult language, beginning with its exotic alphabet. But this alphabet is actually the source of all alphabets, including Greek, Roman, English. What’s more, the letters have their own meanings. Just 15 “magic letters” allow you to “tweak” (triangulate) the meanings all 8000 words of the Hebrew Bible. For example, the letter כּ called *kaf*

¹⁷ (pronounced “toot”) the **“Theory of the Universe & Other Things.”** The TOE would describe 4-dimensional space, the TUOT adds a fifth, “moral dimension”: “A net is cast over all the living.” (Spiritual reality interacts with, but is more determinative and important than, physical reality.)

¹⁸ Human free will is denied in Islam, and compromised by notions of predestination and grace in Christianity, as well as denied by “scientific” determinism in materialist philosophy.

“spoon” looks like a scoop...and is the initial letter of all sorts of words for different kinds of containers (including jail), for verbs of inclusion and conquering, even the word “all.” (The 15 magic letters have 2 “main meanings” each, here given in small caps.) All 15 magic letters are summarized in just 4 “associations.” e/g/ B-RaSh-Pa-Z are “SSPREADERS,” meaning “split, stretch, spill, open, spray.”

מ	ח	צ	ל	שש	שש	ר	ר	בב	בב
1: PULL, rule, king, mother	: TIE, love, live; 2: CUT, lack	jut, go/take out	1: LIFT, high, God, universe, heart	1" SPILL, abundance. fight, win	2: ARRANGE, peace & quiet, rule	1: STRETCH, run, wide, city, land	2: ENLIGHTEN, light, spirit, teach, see	1: SPLIT, separate, flee	2: BUILD, house, father, domestic ppl & actions

If you're curious, you can see the tetragrammaton on the logo of Yale university. In Colonial America knowledge of Hebrew was taught and even required for entrance at colleges, which were founded to train Protestant pastors. Commencement speeches were sometimes given in Hebrew, but there is no truth to the rumor that Hebrew was considered a candidate for the national language of the US: That was a British caricature, based on the reality that American Protestantism “put the Judeo” into the Judeo-Christian tradition. (Following Dennis Prager (many of whose ideas are reflected here), I regard the Biblical command “not to take God’s name in vain” refers to do the specially egregious sin of doing *evil in the name of God*, e.g. murdering “infidels.”

Incidentally, most English and Spanish names come from Hebrew, including *San Diego* < *Santiago* < *Sant’ Iago* < *H. yaaqov* “*Jacob/James*. Many other place names also reflect Hebrew origins, e.g. *Bethlehem* “house of Bread”; *Beth-El* “House-of-God.” For an introduction to Hebrew using “Key-“ or “magic” letters, you can obtain my “Magic Letters” from UniversityReaders.com. The Key-letter is the first letter of any Hebrew word, excluding prefixes and nonkey letters (mostly the silent letters). Some magic letters are given in outline above.

supplement: mini-“matrices.”

In a democracy, citizens are supposed to analyze issue responsibly. In my research in cognitive linguistics and language teaching, I have developed a template (the “mini-matrix”) for analyzing complex issues. It consists of two main columns, which, if applied to politics, might be labeled “pro” or “con” (for given issue, or for the different candidates)

dimensions	Obama	Romney
<i>plans</i>		
<i>record of success</i>		

. It’s not a “machine” to guarantee lack of bias, but it pins you down so you can eliminate your own biases more easily. For example, if your criteria are superficial (e.g. personality, personal wealth), it may embarrass you to see these features as irrelevant. If you find yourself judging one candidate as “more moral” than the other, the mini-matrix may nudge you to prove this claim objectively rather than relying on your own intuitions (“psychoanalytic fallacy”). My personal analysis and choice are irrelevant. Too often professors think that “critical thinking” means agreeing with the professor. Professors should teach how to think, not what to think. This “mini-matrix” is a contribution of this type. “Go forth and study” the issues, examining both sides carefully and critically. Remember the Bible quote that set Bertrand Russell on his path to non-conformity and atheism: “Don’t follow a multitude, to do evil...” The Hebrew original doesn’t mean “a mob.” It says “don’t follow many.” implying that any time you follow a large group *that very act* may be evil in itself. It doesn’t mean only not to follow a multitude that you already “plainly see” is doing evil. You have a duty to investigate on your own, to find out what the many think and why...and what others think and why. Obviously, believing stereotypes of one group about the other doesn’t satisfy the command¹⁹ to “go forth and study.” You must not limit yourself to *what one side says about both sides*. Instead you must study (diligently, empathetically, and critically) what both sides actually say, in their own words. (For example, compare Bush’s handling of his 9/11 with Obama’s handling of *his* 9/11 in Benghazi). (In a different area, you might compare/contrast adultery and abortion as moral and legal issues. Are they analogous? Why?) If you argue this out with others, you might find yourselves questioning each other’s assumptions. For 5-minute courses on religion & science, see **PragerUniversity.com**.

¹⁹ This command is given in the Talmud, in a story of a skeptic who go two rabbis, asking them to teach them the whole Torah “on one foot.” One rabbi drives him away with a stick, but Rabbi Hillel (about 50 years before Jesus) quoted Leviticus in his answer: “Love you neighbor as yourself. That is the whole Torah. The rest is commentary. *Now go forth and study.*”