

Joe Bob's Wisdom on Parade

By JOE BOB BRIGGS
Syndicated Columnist

Newsweek's been taking polls about God again. I hope He's getting sick of it, cause you know what? If 77 people say they believe there's a heaven, and 23 people say they don't, God's just liable to say, "OK, you guys that are so cocksure can go right now."

Newsweek also found out that 76 percent of Americans think they're going to heaven. It's a good thing my West Texas Baptist pastor, the Reverend T. Bailey Withers, wasn't around to see that, cause he would of been up in the pulpit saying those people don't have any chance at all. "Cause there's nothing more dangerous," he would say, "than a man that don't know how much evil's in him."

I've got a better way of figuring

out who oughta go to heaven. The next Newsweek poll oughta ask it like this:

1. Have you done everything you can do throughout your entire life to get into heaven?

Yes: 2 percent. (These people go straight to hell for lying.)

No: 98 percent. (These people still have a chance.)

2. Have you done everything you can do most of the time to get into heaven?

Yes: 45 percent. (They're not only lying to you, they're lying to themselves. Straight to hell.)

No: 55 percent. (These people are still hanging in there.)

3. Do you love your neighbor? Yes: 65 percent. (Straight to hell for lying.)

No: 2 percent. (Straight to hell for not caring.)

Sometimes: 33 percent. (OK, we'll

ask it again.)

4. Do you love your neighbor as yourself?

Yes: 40 percent. (Even worse. You go to hell first.)

No: 60 percent. (You've got a chance.)

5. Do you love your enemy?

Yes: 5 percent. (Liar, liar, pants on fire.)

No: 75 percent. (OK, maybe.)

No way, Jose! 20 percent. (Buy an asbestos suit.)

6. Do you love that one partic-

ular enemy that screwed up your whole life?

Yes: 1 percent. (Liar.)

"Yes, I forgive him": 89 percent. (Straight to hell, for being a self-righteous jerk trying to make people think you're a forgiving saint.)

Nope: 10 percent. (Still hope here.)

Do you see how honesty helps?

7. Right now, which one do you deserve, heaven or hell?

Heaven: 20 percent. (There are some schoolmarm types you just can't get through to.)

Hell: 80 percent. (Most people have enough theology to answer

this one right.)

8. Based on your future life, now that you know what's going on, which one do you deserve, heaven or hell?

Heaven: 99 percent.

Hell: 1 percent.

"Hallelujah!" the Reverend would say to that one percent.

Unfortunately, the Reverend Withers isn't around anymore and so people don't know this. Instead, they think "being nice" will get em there. Or, 94 percent of em do anyway. The rest of em are at a tent revival in West Texas where sinners are forced to read Newsweek magazine.

Upcoming Concerts

Dean E. Smith Center

Call the ticket office, 962-0176, for information.

R.E.M. at 8 p.m. on April 22. Tickets: \$17.50 (Sold Out.)

Wizard of Oz Live at 7:30 p.m. on April 13, 14; 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. on April 15, 2 p.m. on April 16. Tickets: \$9, \$10, \$11 (depending on seat.)

Greensboro Coliseum

Call the box office, 373-7474, for information.

Cinderella at 7:30 p.m. on April 16. Ticketron tickets: \$18.75.

Bobby Brown, LeVert and Karyn White at 7:30 p.m. on April 29. Ticketron tickets: \$17.75.

Memorial Auditorium, Raleigh

Call the box office, 755-6060, for information.

The Replacements at 8 p.m. on April 12. Tickets: \$13.50.

Charlotte Coliseum

Call the box office, 357-4738, for information. Tickets are available at all Ticketron outlets.

Sandi Patti at 7:30 p.m. on April 8. Tickets: \$12.50, \$11.50 and \$9.50.

Cinderella at 7:30 p.m. on April 19. Tickets: \$17.50.

Conway Twitty and George Jones at 8 p.m. on April 12. Tickets: \$16.50.

R.E.M. at 7:30 p.m. on April 23. Tickets: \$17.50.

Scope, Norfolk, Va.

Call the box office, (804) 441-2161, for information.

Bobby Brown, LeVert and Karyn White at 8 p.m. on April 23. Tickets: \$16.50.

The Boathouse, Norfolk, Va.

Call the box office, (804) 441-2161, for information.

The Replacements at 8 p.m. on April 10. Advance tickets: \$9.

David Crosby at 8 p.m. on April 11. Advance tickets: \$9.

Third World at 8 p.m. on April 12. Advance tickets: \$14.

Til Tuesday at 8 p.m. on April 14. Advance tickets: \$9.

Guadal Canal Diary at 9 p.m. on April 29. Advance tickets: \$9.

Compiled by Ellen Thornton, assistant Omnibus editor.

MICHAEL KEATON CHRISTOPHER LLOYD PETER BOYLE STEPHEN FURST

This morning they were playing ping-pong in the hospital rec room.
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This was never covered in group therapy.



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