

## Barbers Don't Exist!

A man went to a barbershop for a haircut and to have his beard trimmed. As the barber worked, they talked about various subjects. They eventually touched on the subject of God.

The barber said, "I don't believe that God exists."

"Why do you say that?" asked the customer.

"You just have to go out in the street to realize that God doesn't exist. Tell me, if God exists, would there be so many sick people? Would there be abandoned children? If God existed, there would be neither suffering nor pain. I can't imagine a loving God who would allow all these things."

The customer thought for a moment, but didn't want to start an argument.

When the customer left the barbershop, he saw a man in the streets with long, stringy dirty hair and an untrimmed beard. He looked dirty and unkempt. The customer turned back and reentered the barbershop.

He said to the barber, "You know what I've discovered? Barbers do not exist."

"How can you say that?" asked the surprised barber. "I am here, and I am a barber. I just worked on you!"

"No", the customer exclaimed. "Barbers don't exist because if they did, there would be no people with dirty long hair and untrimmed beards like the man outside."

"Ah, but barbers do exist! What happens is that people do not come to me."

"Exactly!" affirmed the customer. "That's the point! God, too, does exist! What happens is that people don't go to Him and do not look for Him."<sup>1</sup>

Evil exists because people fail to seek God to allow Him to work on their hearts.

Are you looking for God? Have you allowed Him to change you?

God, who made the world and everything in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands.<sup>25</sup> Nor is He worshiped with men's hands, as though He needed anything, since He gives to all life, breath, and all things.<sup>26</sup> And He has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined their preappointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings,<sup>27</sup> so that they should seek the Lord, in the hope that they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us;<sup>28</sup> for in Him we live and move and have our being, as also some of your own poets have said, 'For we are also His offspring.'<sup>29</sup> Therefore, since we are the offspring of God, we ought not to think that the Divine Nature is like gold or silver or stone, something shaped by art and man's devising.<sup>30</sup> Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent,<sup>31</sup> because He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead." – **Acts 17:24-31**

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<sup>1</sup> "Does God Exist?", January/February 2007 (Volume 34, Number 1), page 14.