

by Jenny Rae
Armstrong



MEMO TO THE KING OF THE UNIVERSE

To: kingoftheuniverse@heaven.org
From: the_teachers_of_the_law@jerusalem.com
Subj: Urgent message requiring your attention.
PLEASE REPLY IMMEDIATELY!

It has come to our attention that you have been sending questionable and downright dangerous messages to our people. After your last message, we feel this issue must be addressed. John the Baptist we could overlook—he was strange, and his rants could be attributed to insanity. But the Carpenter—the Carpenter was taking things too far. We are beginning to think you have no regard for the Law of Moses. We know that you sent the Carpenter—there's no use denying that. We did our utmost to convince

We did our utmost to convince people that he was not associated with you, to salvage what little is left of your good name here in Jerusalem,

but he was raising people from the dead, for heaven's sake! Then after we got rid of him, you raised him from the dead!

specifications you gave our ancestors do seem a bit outmoded in some rare situations, the law is the law.

Besides, following principles is risky. Better to cling to written rules than be blown hither and thither by a living, active Spirit impossible to ensnare in pen and ink.

2. They undermine the foundations of our society.

Jesus and his band of vagabonds was enough—men, women and children abandoning productive lives to follow him around like a herd of storm-blown sheep, bleating for their shepherd. His disciples have taken it a step further. Let's just say that Jesus dining with sinners seems tame when you consider his followers are WORSHIPPING alongside UNCIRCUMCISED GENTILES!

That traitor Saul even had the

The damage is already beginning to show—Jews and Gentiles are dining at the same table, masters are treating their slaves like brothers, women are being educated and even entrusted with messages from you.

23:2-3. But he himself showed little regard for the way of life you laid out for us—healing on the Sabbath, allowing capital offenses to go unpunished, even touching the unclean.

Jesus and his disciples claim to be following the spirit, or guiding principles, of the law. But you did not give us principles. You gave us the law. And even if the exact

audacity to write that as far as you are concerned, there is NO difference between Jew and Gentile, man and woman, slave and free!

The damage is already beginning to show—Jews and Gentiles are dining at the same table, masters are treating their slaves like brothers, women are being educated and even entrusted with

messages from you. Why, a woman cannot even stand up and give testimony in court, and yet you thought it was a good idea to send a woman to Jesus' disciples to testify to his resurrection. Just how do you expect women to remain silent when you give them messages to deliver?

If this is allowed to continue, it will be the end of society as we know it. Racial distinctions will be dismissed as unimportant, slaves will demand their freedom and women will clamor to be afforded the same rights as men.

We sure don't want that to happen!

3. They are selling possessions and holding everything in common.

Perhaps no one has clued you into this, God, but socialism is a failed experiment.

What could possibly motivate people to do anything worthwhile when you offer everything they need for abundant life free of charge? People are not motivated by love, they are motivated by money. Regrettable, but true.

In any case, don't expect us to sell our possessions and dole the money out to pathetic losers looking for a hand-out. We won't go throwing our precious time and money after hopeless causes.

We could go on, but the Sabbath is approaching, and we need to make our preparations. Given the seriousness of the charges against you and your followers, and the fact that you are not content to sit in submission under our teachings, we are left with no option but to ask you to leave our fellowship. You may scoff and wonder how a religion can run without God himself, but we have been carrying on just fine without you thus far, and we will continue to do so. □

Jenny Rae Armstrong is a freelance writer and musician, a 3rd-generation ministry kid who escaped with her faith more or less intact. Jenny and her husband, Aaron, live with their four little boys in Northern Wisconsin and own Deep Water Music (www.deepwatermusic.net).