

58. Belief In God (3:38)

If I didn't believe in God, I'd be the stupidest guy in the world. The good Lord has saved my butt so many times that if I didn't believe in him I would just be the dumbest guy that he ever produced.

I just believed in God. I believed in God. There is a super being - he has made me and he's put me on this Earth and he put me here for a reason. And the reason was I think to deal with people. I was told the right things to do and the bad. If you don't do this, you are liable to go to hell. You know what I mean.

That sort of thing - I took it seriously. Why not do the right thing instead of the wrong thing? The right thing made my dad happy; made my mom happy. My brothers and sisters liked me as a brother. I was not an ornery little young brat heckling them. I just didn't do that. I just kind of had this feeling that He was sitting on my shoulder and anything I did was what He wanted me to do. What should I do? What's the proper thing to do? He's telling me what to do. I never prayed to him - hardly ever. I didn't ask for anything. He told me what to do. I should be the guy He put here. He told me what to do and if I did something that was not quite right, I knew it right off the bat. Stop doing that Les!

It was the way my dad and mom taught me. Dad was not a really religious guy - a formal religion. I think he was a religious guy just like me. We believed in the super-being all right. He just told me what to do. I just felt like I was guided. Your parents didn't go to church or did they? They did go to church. I think they went to make sure that the kids went. I think they felt that all our kids should be exposed to religion. Almost everybody went to church. You put on your best clothes and you went to church. I went to church. I went to Sunday school you know. The best thing we had we wore to church. That was a given in our family and that came from ancestors.

Mama was always a church believer, okay? She believed in the formal religion. I'm not formal - never was formal. She joined this church here. I didn't join it. God-fearing people. In other words - if you didn't do good, you might go to hell - type thing. And that's not a bad thing to preach. If you don't do well for other people, then you might go to hell you know. If we could get people to be afraid - that they believed there was no sense in taking chances. I might go to the wrong place. By just being the right kind of person, then we might change society!

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