

istians. "I like your Christ. I do not like your Christians.
Your Christians are so unlike your Christ." - Gandhi

2. Christians have believed these are the last days for the last 2000 years! In Matthew 24, when Jesus describes the "end times," he was talking about his own times. Matthew 24:34 - "Verily I say unto you, This generation shall not pass, till all these things be fulfilled." Since then, with every major war or natural disaster, there have been those crying "repent for the end is near!" on street corners. I don't fear terrorists nearly as much as I fear having someone like George Bush start a global thermonuclear war out of some brain-damaged belief that Jesus will come and float him to Heaven.

3. What you say is indisputable is in fact easily disputed. The plot uncovered and thwarted in England (by the use of standard police work) demonstrates two things: terrorism is best prevented with good intelligence work, and obliterating Iraq (or Iran, or Syria, etc) does nothing to prevent such groups from planning their attacks. Every time an innocent Iraqi dies in our foolish, ethnocentric quest to "spread democracy" (i.e., make the world safe for American business), we risk inspiring angry desperate civilians to join the ranks of the terrorists. Put yourself in their place - isn't that what Jesus would do? Matthew 5:44 - "But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you."

4. Anyone who plans the murder of innocent civilians to further their cause deserves the tortures of the damned, and this includes terrorists and heads of state. Evil people are evil people - it's got nothing to do with "right" or "left," as a cursory survey of human history will show. We should fight authoritarianism at either end of the spectrum, and right now it has crept into our own government at the "right" end. It can't happen here? The firmly fixed belief that it can't happen here is exactly what is allowing it to happen here.

5. I don't have a fifth point . . . I just think 5 is a nicer number than 4.

PEACE and LOVE,

Sarah
