

13 : Whether or not God exists (cont.)

*Whether or not God exists
is entirely up to you.*

*God cannot forsake you;
only you can forsake God.
For without you God is nothing
where you are.*

*Do not wait for miracles, then,
but put yourself to redeeming the world.
Do not wait for God's grace to descend upon you,
but give your grace to others.
Love life, all life,
putting your own neither first
nor last.*

Do not drop what is precious in your hands.

*Tell your children that they matter to you,
that they matter to others,
that they matter to every living thing
that feels their touch.*

*Teach them how they have a sacred and ancient mission
to turn sun and rain into seed and flower,
to turn foe into friend
and harm into harmlessness.*

*Tell them to seek and spread knowledge,
to delight in new complexity,
and to make or find order in that complexity
without reducing it.*

*Teach them to forebear small injuries
and not to seek revenge.*

*Teach them to prefer injustice over death,
and justice over injustice,
but goodness “for no reason”
above justice,
and above all.*

*Teach them that God is not the oldest and strongest force
in the universe,
but the youngest and weakest one,
not a storm but a breeze,
not expended in might but persistent in direction,
not anywhere on a throne but everywhere in choice.*

*Send them to read all things about God,
that they may hear God’s praises in every land
and love “him.”*

*But bid them remember this:
that in the end
God is the good they do;
God is in their hands too.*