

God Reappears in Iceland - Using signs in Tribal Messiahship

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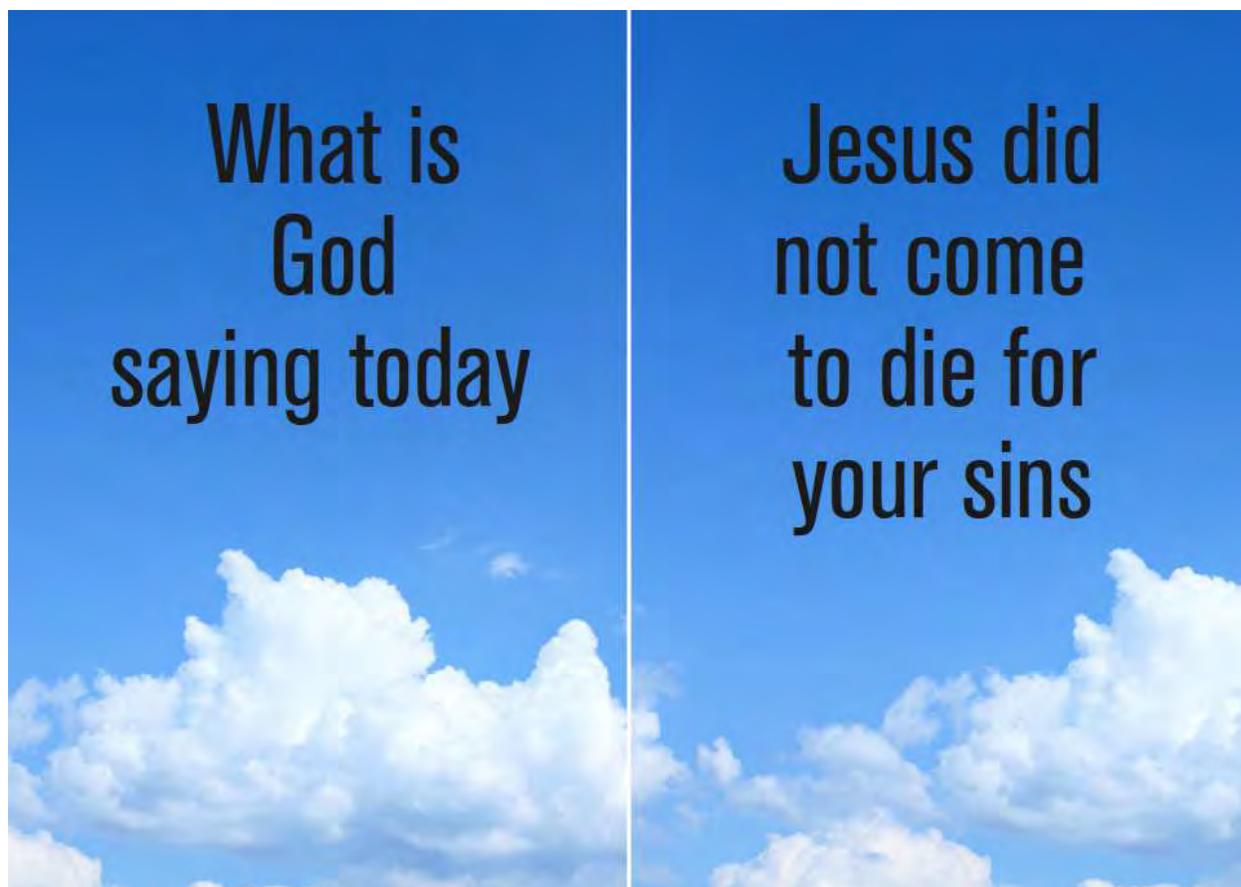
In this outreach story, Paul Michael Herman from Iceland recounts his experience creating and using signs with thought-provoking questions and statements to inspire strangers to strike up conversations on faith, Jesus and God.

There are many people I have reached out to about True Parents' vision through the years, some I continue to meet with and bring to local programs, but these people haven't joined the movement. In my history of witnessing, I have told people many good things about our movement. These were nice conversations but, as far as I can tell, it did not make much of an impression on them and they just

disappeared into the nameless crowds.

This time, I wanted to sharpen my hook, so I thought a sign asking, "What is God saying today?" might do it. I got the inspiration to make a sign after seeing the Jehovah's Witnesses with their signs in the downtown area of Reykjavik in Iceland. I am always looking for opportunities to witness and when I saw people stopping to talk at their display, I thought I should try something like that myself. Although this is Iceland, the temperature in the summer is warm enough, so why not?

Then, before I began praying a couple of weeks ago the words "Jesus did not come to die for our sins," entered my mind. My decision was to use both statements, figuring the second one would, for the most part, gain the attention of Christians; the first one could be for anybody.



Two weekends ago was the first time I went out using this method. I will be going out on every weekend that I have the opportunity to do so, during the warmer weather. On both occasions, believers stopped and spoke, some of them in considerable depth. When people stop and say, "That's not true. Jesus did die for our sins," I say, "No, he came to establish the Kingdom of Heaven and go on from there." When people ask about, "What is God saying today?" I say, "The long awaited Second Coming of Christ has already taken place," and go on from there. I think this can be a hit for street witnessing.

The way I received the message about Jesus, was, I believe, clearly God's doing. Another manifestation of God's work was the way I was led to a relatively close, free parking space area, I had no idea about. Parking there kept me from having to pay anything for parking during the Saturday I went out. The in-depth conversations that ensued at the sign is also an indication of how God was working.