



Key Notes

I'm My Own Grandpa!

Old-timers among us may remember a silly, country song first performed in 1948 entitled "I'm My Own Grandpa." The song tells the story of a man who, through an unlikely (but legal) combination of marriages, becomes stepfather to his stepmother - which made him (if you drop the "step") his own grandfather. The lyrics are complicated, but the chorus sums up the incongruity of it all by twanging:

I'm my own grandpa! I'm my own grandpa!
It sounds funny, I know, but it really is so!
Oh, I'm my own grandpa!

I have to admit, I love this kind of humor. It makes me laugh. But let me share something that is even more ridiculous. I'm talking about the man who worships himself and achieves the distinction of becoming his own god. I offer my own rendition of what the song might say.

Many, many years ago when I was twenty-three
I sought the meaning of existence and true deity
My search led me places that I never thought I'd go,
But listen now to what I've found; I want the world to know.

I'm my deity! For I created me!
It sounds funny, even odd, that I can be my god,
Oh, I'm the god of me!

Scholars and philosophers may doubt my sanity
How I can be created by the god I know as me
But logic never stopped me when I worshiped god before
Cause I am lifting praise to me, the one that I adore.

Lest you think my levity out of place, I learned it from the prophet Isaiah! Listen to the biting satire as he pokes fun at the sheer irrationality of the idolatry in his day. If preaching the truth won't waken those who are spiritually dead, perhaps making fun of them will!

Pretty stupid, wouldn't you say? Don't they have eyes in their heads? Are their brains working at all? Doesn't it occur to them to say, "Half of this tree I used for firewood: I baked bread, roasted meat, and enjoyed a good meal. And now I've used the rest to make an abominable no-god. Here I am praying to a stick of wood!" This lover of emptiness, of nothing, is so out of touch with reality, so far gone, that he can't even look at what he's doing, can't even look at the no-god stick of wood in his hand and say, "This is crazy."

(Isaiah 44:18-20. The Message)

Let God be true, and every man a liar! (Romans 3:4)

Pastor Stan