

[http://onfaith.washingtonpost.com/onfaith/panelists/willis\\_e\\_elliott/2007/09/yoyo\\_said\\_rev\\_willis\\_thanks.html](http://onfaith.washingtonpost.com/onfaith/panelists/willis_e_elliott/2007/09/yoyo_said_rev_willis_thanks.html)

## My response to yoyo

*ON FAITH - WASHINGTON POST - WILLIS ELLIOTT*

yoyo said:

Rev Willis

Thanks for responding to my comment.  
You seem to agree that the supernatural  
and the imagination are the same thing.  
The Rev John Bryson Chane, on another thread, says  
"God lives within each of us...not outside of us",  
which says it again...God is a creature of our imaginations,  
and exists where Harry Potter exists.  
Like Voltaire said, gods are our invention.  
That I truly believe.

YOYO:

Your conclusion is excessive. No, I do not agree that "the supernatural and the imagination are the same thing." The former is accessible only by use of the latter. Indeed, we Christians teach that God gave us the latter so we could access the former. Of course we can imagine things unreal: we can & should fantasize (e.g., Harry Potter). And, like all other human powers, imagination is vulnerable to disease: delusion (Richard Dawkins' favorite word for religion) is the pathology of imagination> But we cannot eat without opening our mouths; & we cannot take in spiritual realities without opening our imagination; & "faith" is that opening. In the same metaphor, as you probably know, Christopher Hitchens claims that when we open our mouths & eat religion, we're poisoning ourselves.

I'll tell you two secrets:

Dawkins is delusional & Hitchens has been poisoning himself.

BY WILLIS E. ELLIOTT | SEPTEMBER 15, 2007; 5:40 PM ET

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