**The Supreme Court says that**

**Prayer is acceptable at town council meetings**

***"The Supreme Court said that prayers that open town council meetings do not violate the Constitution even if they routinely stress Christianity. The court said in 5-4 decision that the content of the prayers is not significant as long as officials make a good-faith effort at inclusion."***

**So how do these judges figure that Christians make a good faith effort at inclusion when their ancient holy scriptures make quite clear that anyone who does not accept their offer of inclusion ... deserves eternal torture?**

***"The ruling was a victory for the town of Greece, N.Y., outside of Rochester."***

**Correction, it was only a victory for the Ghost Worshipers of Greece, NY, outside of Rochester.**

***"In 1983, the court upheld an opening prayer in the Nebraska legislature and said that prayer is part of the nation's fabric, not a violation of the First Amendment."***

**If something can be upheld simply because it is part of the nation's fabric ... then slavery is good to go.**

**So much for that argument.**

***"Monday's ruling was consistent with the earlier one."***

**Consistency is only a good thing, when what is being upheld, was a good thing to begin with.**

**For example: google the Dred Scott decision of 1857 which denied citizenship to African-Americans. The Supreme Court wisely chose not to be consistent in that case.**

***"Justice Anthony Kennedy, writing for the majority, said the prayers are ceremonial and in keeping with the nation's traditions."***

**The problem is that the prayers are ceremonial, and in keeping, only with the nation's *Christian* traditions. That argument ignores the other 25% of Americans.**

***"The inclusion of a brief, ceremonial prayer as part of a larger exercise in civic recognition suggests that its purpose and effect are to acknowledge religious leaders and the institutions they represent, rather than to exclude or coerce nonbelievers," Kennedy said.***

**Why is it necessary to acknowledge religious leaders and institutions at meetings where officials are supposed to be working for the people who elected them?**

***"Justice Elena Kagan, in a dissent for the court's four liberal justices, said the case differs significantly from the 1983 decision because "Greece's town meetings involve participation by ordinary citizens, and the invocations given - directly to those citizens - were predominantly sectarian in content."***

**It sounds like Kennedy kinda left that part out, huh?**

***"A federal appeals court in New York ruled that Greece violated the Constitution by opening nearly every meeting over an 11-year span with prayers that stressed Christianity. From 1999 through 2007, and again from January 2009 through June 2010, every meeting was opened with a Christian-oriented invocation."***

**See previous comment.**

***"In 2008, after residents Susan Galloway and Linda Stephens complained, four of 12 meetings were opened by non-Christians, including a Jewish layman, a Wiccan priestess and the chairman of the local Baha'i congregation. A town employee each month selected clerics or lay people by using a local published guide of churches. The guide did not include non-Christian denominations, however. The appeals court found that religious institutions in the town of just under 100,000 people are primarily Christian, and even Galloway and Stephens testified they knew of no non-Christian places of worship there.***

***The two residents filed suit and a trial court ruled in the town's favor, finding that the town did not intentionally exclude non-Christians. It also said that the content of the prayer was not an issue because there was no desire to proselytize or demean other faiths."***

**Christianity, itself, demeans other faiths when it teaches that anyone who refuses to submit, deserves eternal torture.**

***"But a three-judge panel of the 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals said that even with the high court's 1983 ruling, the practice of having one Christian prayer after another amounted to the town's endorsement of Christianity.***

***Kennedy, however, said judges should not be involved in evaluating the content of prayer because it could lead to legislatures requiring "chaplains to redact the religious content from their message in order to make it acceptable for the public sphere."***

**Solution: don't waste taxpayer's time with this crap. You can pray to your imaginary friends anytime you want, anywhere you want - but quit trying to impose your delusions on rational people.**

***He added, "Government may not mandate a civic religion that stifles any but the most generic reference to the sacred any more than it may prescribe a religious orthodoxy."***

***Kennedy himself was the author an opinion in 1992 that held that a Christian prayer delivered at a high school graduation did violate the Constitution."***

**See, Kennedy *can* get one right when he really tries.**

***"The justice said Monday there are differences between the two situations, including the age of the audience"***

**WTF?**

**(I told you the "reasons" were going to be desperate)**

***"and the fact that attendees at the council meeting may step out of the room if they do not like the prayer."***

**Why should they have to step outside? Why can't Ghost Worshipers pray to themselves?**

**This problem would be solved in a hurry if Muslims started demanding equal time. It would be amazing how fast, Christians would become "reasonable" and sudden defenders of the Constitution.**

**Probably the most amazing part of this whole fiasco is how the conservative judges can ignore their own scriptures; scriptures in which Jesus made it very clear that they were NOT to pray in public. Jesus even called them hypocrites for doing so.**

**Was that mentioned anywhere in Kennedy's opinion?**