

What is Religion and Its Role in Society?

5 pages | 1121 words

Religion is a special form of awareness of the surrounding world, which is based on the belief in the existence of one (or more) of the gods. It includes a set of moral and ethical conduct, which are usually reflected in the sacred texts. Religions emerged in the form of different beliefs, that appeared almost simultaneously with the emergence of mankind. Despite lacking a clear organization like modern religions, it has always played a prominent role in different societies.[1] Even though, we usually see religion as the belief in one or more gods, this is not always the case. In Buddhism, for example, there are no deities. However, like other religions, Buddhism strongly asserts the existence of a spiritual reality, which is separated from everyday life of the material world. Consequently, perhaps, those who, by their own assurances, believe in the existence of the spiritual world should be called religious people. However, this is not necessarily true: religion, at least partially, can be institutionalized gathering in the shadow of their communities of those who join similar or common beliefs. However, the presence of the community is only one side of religion. Among others lay faith – personal beliefs and feelings of reverence and veneration; the cult – rites and church premises, collective prayer, and so on, norms – moral rules and prohibitions, as well as notions of sin and holiness. However, this does not make religion an ideology. Like religion, ideology – such as Nazism or communism – require their followers' absolute loyalty and direct follow of dogma, but do not need gods or special spirituality. Religion is not magic either. Magic fans believe, that certain rituals produce the desired changes in the material world without interfering with what is happening on the part of a deity. Religious people, on the contrary, pray about something, believing that only God is able to help put their prayers into reality. Religion can also be viewed as a cultural phenomenon, characteristic of various human societies with their system of values and fundamental myths. Some religions, such as Christianity or Islam, affirm their universality, and insist on their own exceptionalism and its special position in the world. Nevertheless, even Christianity and Islam can be seen as a product of historical development under certain conditions. People throughout the ages have tried to answer the question about the essence of religion. Theologians, base the definition on the value of the word "religion," that in Latin means "connection." It is about the relationship between God and man. One of the Orthodox dogmatic teachings asserted that religion is a "contract or union between God and man." [2] But, to agree with this explanation of religion is impossible, as it is impossible to agree with the simplistic interpretation of the fact, that religion is a fraud and a charlatan. Marxism suggests a scientific definition of religion. Exploring the laws of development of human society, the classics of Marxism-Leninism revealed the social essence of religion. We have convincingly shown that religion is, for example, politics, law, morality, science, art is a form of social consciousness.[3] Each of the forms of social...

What Is Religion Essay

JS Bruner



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Introduction to the Science of Religion ... With Two Essays on False Analogies, and the Philosophy of Mythology Friedrich Max Müller, 1873 **Essays on Religion, Science, and Society** Herman Bavinck, John Bolt, 2008-06

The Body of Writing

An Erotics of Contemporary American Fiction examines four postmodern texts whose authors play with the material conventions of the book Joseph McElroy's *Plus* 1977 Carole Maso's *AVA* 1993 Theresa Hak Kyung Cha's *DICTEE* 1982 and Steve Tomasula's *VAS* 2003 By demonstrating how each of these works calls for an affirmative engagement with literature Flore Chevaillier explores a centrally important issue in the criticism of contemporary fiction Critics have claimed that experimental literature in its disruption of conventional story telling and language uses resists literary and social customs While this account is accurate it stresses what experimental texts respond to more than what they offer This book proposes a counter view to this emphasis on the strictly privative character of innovative fictions by examining experimental works positive ideas and affects as well as readers engagement in the formal pleasure of experimentations with image print sound page orthography and syntax Elaborating an erotics of recent innovative literature implies that we engage in the formal pleasure of its experimentations with signifying techniques and with the materiality of their medium Such engagement provokes a fusion of the reader's senses and the textual material which invites a redefinition of corporeality as a kind of textual practice

Producing the Sacred Robert Wuthnow, 1994 What is public religion How does it manifest the sacred Wuthnow states that cultural expressions religious or otherwise do not simply happen but are produced He considers the major organizational forms that produce public religion shows how they shape public religion's messages and reveals the implicit and unintended ways in which the sacred is expressed in modern society

An Essay on Faith, Reason, and Human Nature Nicolas G. Merten, 2000 Discusses questions such as what is knowledge what qualifies as knowledge and what does not what does it mean to say I know I understand what is truth and what is certainty When can we affirm and be certain that I know this or that this or that is a universal truth I can rely upon and I know that it so because I have a method and at least one criterion to determine that this or that is indeed a universal truth Furthermore how do knowledge and understanding compare with belief Are there evidences so compelling that in certain cases propositions of the form I know that X are indeed expressions of knowledge and in other cases merely expressions of opinions and or beliefs Can the words belief understanding and knowledge be used interchangeably And by the way what role does reason play in our endeavours to seek knowledge And what role does human nature play in that endeavour

Essays on some of the peculiarities of the Christian religion ... Third edition, revised and enlarged Richard Whately, 1831 *Essays on Some of the Peculiarities of the Christian Religion* Richard Whately, 1831

Interpreting Susan Sontag's Essays Mark Fulk, 2021-04-12 Interpreting Susan Sontag's *Essays* Radical Contemplative offers its readers a scholarly examination of her essays within the context of philosophy and aesthetic theory This study sets up a dialogue between her works and their philosophical counterparts in France and

Germany including the works of Hannah Arendt Jacques Derrida Roland Barthes and Walter Benjamin Artists and concepts discussed in relation to Sontag s essays include the works of Andy Warhol Pop Art French New Wave Cinema the music of John Cage and the cinematic art of Robert Bresson Leni Riefenstahl Ingmar Bergman and Jean Luc Godard Her aesthetic formalism is compared with Harold Bloom and this is the first volume to examine her late works and their position within the American events of 9 11 01 and the War on Terror ism *A Narrative of the Revival of Religion in New England* Jonathan Edwards,1829 *Essays and addresses, religious, literary and social*, ed. by J.C. Brooks Phillips Brooks (bp. of Massachusetts.),1894 **Essays and Addresses Religious, Literary and Social** Phillips Brooks,1894 Practices of Belief: Volume 2, Selected Essays Nicholas Wolterstorff,2010-02-11 This volume brings together Nicholas Wolterstorff s essays on epistemology written between 1983 and 2008 **On the Power, Wisdom and Goodness of God** Thomas Chalmers,2024-09-13 Reprint of the original first published in 1839 *Encyclopedia of the Essay* Tracy Chevalier,2012-10-12 This groundbreaking new source of international scope defines the essay as nonfictional prose texts of between one and 50 pages in length The more than 500 entries by 275 contributors include entries on nationalities various categories of essays such as generic such as sermons aphorisms individual major works notable writers and periodicals that created a market for essays and particularly famous or significant essays The preface details the historical development of the essay and the alphabetically arranged entries usually include biographical sketch nationality era selected writings list additional readings and anthologies **Olney Hymns** John Newton,1843 **On the Power, Wisdom and Goodness of God** Thomas Chalmers,1839 Essays of Schopenhauer Arthur Schopenhauer,2024-11-01 Welcome to the profound and introspective realm of Arthur Schopenhauer s Essays of Schopenhauer where philosophical inquiry meets eloquent prose This collection invites readers to explore the intricate tapestry of human existence examining themes of will suffering and the pursuit of happiness through the lens of one of philosophy s most influential thinkers In these essays Schopenhauer delves into the nature of human desire and the inevitable suffering that accompanies it He offers incisive commentary on topics ranging from aesthetics to ethics providing readers with a rich understanding of his philosophical framework Each essay serves as a gateway to understanding the complexities of life and the human condition The central theme of Essays of Schopenhauer revolves around the concept of the will to live which he posits as the driving force behind all human action Schopenhauer s exploration of this theme illuminates the often painful struggle of existence encouraging readers to confront the darker aspects of life with courage and insight The tone of the essays is contemplative and at times starkly pessimistic yet laced with moments of clarity that offer hope and wisdom Schopenhauer s masterful use of language and metaphor enriches the reading experience prompting deep reflection and encouraging readers to engage with their own beliefs and values Since its publication Essays of Schopenhauer has garnered critical acclaim for its thought provoking ideas and profound insights Schopenhauer s influence can be seen across various disciplines including psychology literature and the

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