

Religion

On the surface, it would seem as if organized religion would be a “good thing” for Human Civilization. As an Alien, objectively observing from the “outside”, it is obvious that your religions are counter-productive at best, and *absolutely* evil at their worst. One of your Earthling writers, Karl Marx, wrote, “Religion is the opiate of the masses.” Indeed it is. Religions were organized and perpetuated by *leaders*--men in power-- to control and placate the common people. Not that Humans did not wonder on their own about the origin of the Universe and the possibility of a God, or Gods that created the world. But to organize these thoughts into a doctrine with rules, codes, etc. was the province of a manipulative few.

Your religious leaders might argue that without religion there would be no morality--- without a God, people would have no reason to behave. This is simply not true. Humans would know that without civil rules and regulations any society would break down. There does not have to be a Master Being (Beings) to ensure that people do no wrong. The modern day country of China is a good example. Communism is a “Godless” political movement. Religion is tolerated, but not emphasized in that country. Yet the crime rate (per capita) in China is much lower than most “God-Fearing” countries such as the United States. As a general rule, the people of China are very polite, ethical, and moral compared to the people of many so-called religious countries. Indeed, strong belief in a God evidently does not keep your Catholic Priests from molesting young boys.

Without a doubt, Humans will never achieve peace and well-being as long as the corruption of organized religion exists. Just look at some of these historical facts:

- You shall annihilate them--The Hittites, and the Amorites, the Canaanites and the Perizzites, the Hivites and the Jebusites--just as the Lord your God has commanded." (So that the "abhorrent" religions of nearby peoples did not rub off on Israelites.) Book of Deuteronomy

- The Crusades in the 11th thru 13th centuries was a series of military campaigns that had Christians fighting against Muslims. The ideals and duties of religion were used as tools to legitimize warfare. Religion essentially gave the armies an excuse for their conquests under the guise of "Christianization", but their holy conquests turned out to be a long, violent series of raids for territorial expansion, trade and world-wide dominance, in the name of God.
- The latter half of the sixteenth century and the beginning of the seventeenth century brought about one of the most passionate and calamitous series of wars that Europe had ever experienced. The growing division between Christian churches in Europe would lead to a series of armed conflicts for over a century. Protestants and Catholics would shed each other's blood in prodigious amounts in national wars and in civil wars.

Indeed, for much of your Human history the vast majority of your Wars have been fought in the name of Religion. Murder, rape, pillaging, genocide---all in the name of God. These "religious" atrocities are not a remnant of your past—they are still occurring in the present. Consider these events:

- The violence in Northern Ireland between Catholics and Protestants. (3,600 killings and assassinations over 30 years)
- In 1994 over 500,000 people were slaughtered in Rwanda over religious and cultural differences.
- The Middle East conflict between Jews and Muslims has been raging for centuries and continues today.
- Assoc. Press—161 reportedly killed in religious violence in Duma, Indonesia as Muslims attacked a Christian settlement.
- Assoc. Press—412 slaughtered in Algeria by Islamic militants on Jan. 4, 1998
- Uganda:..... Christian rebels of the Lord's Resistance Army are conducting a civil war in the north of Uganda. Their goal is a Christian theocracy whose laws are based on the Ten Commandments. They abduct, enslave and/or raped about 2,000 children a year.
- East Timor:..... A Roman Catholic country. About 20% of the population died by murder, starvation or disease after they were forcibly annexed by

Indonesia (mainly Muslim). After voting for independence, many Christians were exterminated or exiled by the Indonesian army and army-funded militias in a carefully planned program of genocide and religious cleansing.

- 2009 Associated Press news item from Kirkuk, Iraq (One of the world's oldest Christian homelands): "Innocent people (who have no relation with politics and never harmed anyone) were killed in their homes today just because they were Christians." Chaldean Archbishop Louis Sako . Iraq's Christians, who numbered about 1 million in the early 1980's, are now estimated at about half that as families flee warfare and extremist attacks that target their churches and homes.

These are just a few examples in a long list of deadly confrontations between Religious groups that have plagued Humanity since the beginning of your history, and continue unabated today. Religion breeds intolerance and divisiveness among Humans-- which inevitably leads to violence and wars.

Most of your scientists and leaders in secret (behind closed doors) realize that all your religions are wrong. There is no God. They know that. Just as they hide Alien sightings and encounters from the public, they also hide the truth about religion. With the exception of Communism—which admits these truths---the rest of your world's governments are afraid that civilization would run amok without the "threat" of a God and organized religion. I am not advocating Communism, as it is a failed political movement. For that matter, all of your political systems are doomed to fail sooner or later. Until Humans finally become enlightened enough to understand that there needs to be one world government—one without the ethnic and religious strife—you will never be approached openly by Aliens. At this point, your race is just too violent and stupid.

Stop the Madness!!!!