

ABOUT RELIGION

1. Religion is a living connection with God or a collection of the truth, which defines a connection of a man with God.
(**latine – religare –means- to bind**)
2. Religion is a universal phenomenon. The Signs of giving honour to God we find in the oldest human cultures. Ethnology assures us, that also the most primitive people have some religious idea. (for example: About God the Creator and the life of souls after death).
3. The only perfect religion is a monotheistic religion (receiving the existence only One God) and revealed through God in the supernatural way (by brokerage of holy men in the Old Testament and by JESUS CHRIST in the New Testament)
4. A Natural Religion or an innate religion is a product of the human mind (Nature speaks about God's existence). Some philosophers confessed a very sublime natural religions in ancient times.
Natural Religions are imperfect and they profess *polytheism* (belief in more than one god).
5. A Religion belongs to most important needs of a believing person (individual and family). Religion enlightens a human mind (gives an answer to the questions on which a mind alone does not give complete explanations), strengthens a human will and a heart in the difficulties of life and motivates a man to sincere fulfillment of our obligations and life-duties in the hope of eternal reward.
6. The religious truths are very practical truths. It is not enough to know it, but we ought to practise it in our life.

EXISTENCE OF GOD

General attentions.

- a) Recognition can be proximate, indirect and through faith
- b) Proximate vision of God, 'face to face' will be possible just in heaven.
- c) Recognition of God through faith is possible, because God in a marvellous way revealed Himself to a man. Recognition of God through faith we called a supernatural recognition.
- d) An indirect recognition of God is possible, because God showed a power of His existence creating the material universe and all beings and living creatures. A man has a mind, he can think and reason, why observing the world and himself can understand that the Creator exists.
A rule of causality speaks 'nothing comes to be without reason'

Mindful proofs of the existence of God.

1. Proofs from *observations of the cosmos*. We called them cosmological (cosmos- world).
2. Proofs from *observations of the spiritual life* of a man we call psychological. (gr. Psyche- soul).

COSMOLOGICAL PROOFS OF THE EXISTENCE OF GOD.

a) A proof of existence of a matter and of movement.

A matter and movement does not exist from themselves (anything exists on earth must have reason, and a movement must have its spring of power).

This means that upon a matter and a movement must exist the reason which created the parts of a matter and formalized them gives them movement. This first reason of existence of a matter and movement in the cosmos - is Almighty God.

Attention:

a) Against eternity of a matter testifies her variation and connected with her lack of active energy (the law of Entropy – Rudolf Clausius). If the world is eternal so today there not ought to be on earth active energy (capable of doing work and to bring about the phenomenon in nature), because already long ago this would has disappear and the earth would be similar to the volcanic country without movement and life.

b) A proof from existence of life on earth.

From matter herself anything living can be born (to be self-born does not exist). On the earth exist living creatures: like flora, vegetation and humanity. Someone must have created them. This Creator we call God.

c) A proof of purposefulness.

A suitable order if it exists somewhere demands for clarification reasonable cause. In an organic as an inorganic nature reigns beautiful order. Over the nature reasonable Being must exist. This is the Almighty and all-powerful God.

PSYCHOLOGICAL PROOFS

a) **Moral proofs** (from the existence of a natural, moral laws. All people understand that some basic moral law obligates us. There are unchangeable and not dependent from human will or looking for (for example: **'honor your father and your mother'...****'Do not do others, that is not pleasant to you';** **'do good and avoid evil'**)

In guarding of these laws conscience recommends us rather to accept death than to depart from a rule.

These universal laws written out in human hearts and in conscience can come only from this extraordinary Being, who has authority over all people and over human nature. This Being is only God - Creator of a man. He is also The Giver of the natural, moral laws.

b) **A historical proof** (from universal conviction).

Universal conviction exists, that over the universe is God. This universal conviction does not depend on our senses, which often succumb to illusions, or not our feelings, which often are changeable and evil, but our universal convictions are supported on a reasonable observation of the nature and spiritual life of a man. The same universal conviction of humanity is based

not on a reason of individuality but on reasons of whole humanity and all people cannot be wrong.

- c) **A proof from desire of happiness.** Everyone has an inborn desire for happiness. An inborn desire must be satisfied. Earthly riches cannot satisfy this human wide desire. On the earth we see a lot of unhappy people. This is why we think there must exist this kind of Goodness, An Infinite Goodness, which desires to satisfy our longing for happiness.

THE SPRINGS OF DISBELIEF

- a) We ought to distinguish a practical atheism from a theoretical atheism. *A practical atheist* lives like there is not God. *A theoretical atheist* tries even to indicate, that God does not exist.

- b) Fundamental reasons of depravation of faith we ought to look for in a man.

c) **Why do people not believe in God?**

- not seen
- Big Bang Theory
- To many religions
- don't know – knowledge
- don't care
- never read
- don't have experience of faith
- it is easier not to believe
- unexpected tragedies – where was God?
- sufferings
- because of science

d) **Why do people believe in God?**

- faith upbringing
- faith -family foundations
- scriptures – mysteries
- from books, movies, personal experiences
- want to believe, eternal life
- God reveals Himself
- we need Him

- e) If we don't want to lose our faith, we ought to recognize, to esteem, to live according to our faith. We ought to guide a clean and pious life, pray for grace of a strong faith and refrain from all, that is against our holy faith.