

# To Discern Between Genuine And Demonic Clergy And Scholars

## Genuine Clergy And Scholars

**Earning a Living:** On their own, at ordinary employment: as “blue collar” (Sts. Paul, Benedict, Gandhi); as Military Chaplains or helpful academicians or researchers (Tillich, Pasteur); from family inheritance (Sts. Jerome and Paula); from begging, building and inspiring (Sts. Francis and Clare, who made ecclesial garments).

**Core Interest:** That which is truly ultimate and that which helps persons aspire to, focus on & experience that which is truly ultimate.

**Core Activities:** Study, reflection, public expression of learning (promulgation).

**Presence in Community:** Unobtrusive, encouraging, monitory, graceful, self-effacing, of good character, hard-minded & soft-hearted; expansive, encompassing.

**Effects in Community:** Stabilizing but also awakening, prophetic, creative (including revolutionary) but also educative. Never disruptive.

**Scripture Reading and Teaching Method:** Correlation, taking the language of scripture symbolically and showing how those realities to which the symbols point, and in which they participate, answer questions arising from the human condition and an individual life. Basic attitude and activity: dialectical (conversational) and participatory.

**Deservedness:** Respect, attention and rumination on the meaning of their words and actions.

## Demonic Clergy And Scholars

**Earning a Living:** Do not earn a living: live off “religious” or “charitable” donations of time, money and energy from followers, parishioners, pilgrims, foundations, political action committees, corporations, appearances, endorsements, etc.

**Core Interest:** Demanding, achieving, maintaining and expanding financial, social and/or political “position in the community.” Silencing those who do or could threaten that “position.” Mockery, hooliganism.

**Core Activities:** Self-promotion, calculation, disruption of public. Demonic clergy and scholars act as hooligans and foster hooliganism.

**Presence in Community:** Armed with armed bodyguards, either actually or as an aura of threat or menace; paranoid, gathering fearful, poor, uneducated, dependent followers; contractive, puritanical.

**Effects in Community:** Inciting displays of disquiet, dissatisfaction and destruction.

**Scripture Reading And Teaching Method:** Literalism, taking the language of scripture literally, extracting phrases out of context and compelling literalistic obedience to those phrases by groups and individuals. No interest in that which concerns man ultimately. Basic attitude and activity: confrontational and hegemonistic.

**Deservedness:** Investigation for fraud, rape, theft, murder, extortion, etc.; if having armed bodyguards or commanding combat forces, treatment as combatants.

That is genuine which insists upon nothing.

That is demonic which insists upon ultimacy.

# To Discern Between Genuine And Demonic Religions

## Genuine Religion

**Purpose:** To foster the modes of earning peace and distributing justice so that all manner of cultural, religious and moral activities thrive and expand by *building out* (economics), flowering like perennials.

**Faith:** Reliance on or resting in God. Faith is a gift from God, not an achievement by man. Where God is concerned, man has no standing, no claims . . . besides belonging to Him by nature, yet now estranged.

**Presence in Community:** Quiet, embracing, uplifting, reliable, trustworthy, prophetic, inspiring, self-effacing, unarmed, beautiful and beautifying. Spontaneous laughter, sweet song and graceful dance.

**Effects in Community:** Support of local, regional and national identities and entities, including national armed forces capable of prompt deployment to destroy those who attack the nation. Universal, free education and medical care but not income. Restraint on debilitating impulses such as gluttony, egoism, etc.

**Scripture Reading and Teaching Method:** Correlation, taking the language of scripture symbolically and showing how those realities to which the symbols point, and in which they participate, answer questions arising from the universal human condition and an individual life. Basic attitude and activity: dialectical (conversational) and participatory.

**Signs of Authenticity:** Self-authenticating because others see in their own experience of them that they are health-bearing and therefore induce expansions of love, peace, culture, morality and prosperity.

**Religion is man's response to a revelation, a Self-expression or Self-manifestation, of God. Revelation is a saving event, a restoration-protection, for all who participate in it, either by anticipation or by direct experience, because it reunites, restores to one, that which has come apart. The religions are systems of expression — thoughts, words & acts — which preserve the symbols and participate in the powers of man's responses to history-guiding Self-revelations of God.**

## Demonic Religion

**Purpose:** To dominate the financial, social and political life of a group, including from local inhabitants to every inhabitant of the globe, but without caring for them or fostering their happiness and welfare.

**Faith:** Acceptance of dogmatic phrases and/or emotional submission to wishes and laws manufactured by demonic clergy from their ego-driven literalistic reading of books, such as Koran, Torah, Bible, Veda.

**Presence in Community:** Noisy, fanatical, polluting, contentious, demanding, assertive, violent, ugly, disruptive, defacing, armed, domineering, swaggering. Grim/menacing or jubilant/triumphant.

**Effects in Community:** Opposition to local, regional & national identities and entities, including armed forces, in favor of discrete, non-inclusive groups bearing arms and organized by personal, family/tribal, commercial and/or caste loyalties. (No genuine religion or loyalty supports radical independence of either groups or individuals.)

**Scripture Reading And Teaching Method:** Literalism, taking the language of scripture literally, extracting phrases out of context and compelling literalistic obedience to those phrases by groups and individuals. No interest in that which concerns man ultimately. Basic attitude and activity: confrontational and hegemonistic.

**Signs of Authenticity:** Not self-authenticating because not participating in a revelation of God. Adherents must be coerced by emotional, financial, racial, political, etc., threats and propaganda.

**There is one religion, Love; one caste, Humanity; one language, Heart; one God, Omnipresent.**