



49.Science & Religion

Science and religion are two windows that people look through, trying to understand why we are here. The two windows give different views, but they look out at the same universe. Both views are one-sided, neither is complete. But both are worthy of respect.

Trouble arises when either science or religion claims universal jurisdiction, when either religious dogma or scientific formula claims infallibility. Religious creationists and scientific materialists are equally dogmatic and insensitive. Through their arrogance, they bring both science and religion into disgrace. And the media exaggerate their numbers and importance. Media people should tell the public that the great majority of religious people belong to moderate denominations that treat science with respect, and the great majority of scientists treat religion the same way-so long as religion does not claim jurisdiction over scientific questions or science over religious issues.

The great question for our time is this: How do we make sure that the continuing scientific revolution brings benefits to everybody rather than widening the gap between rich and poor? To lift poor countries-and poor people in rich countries-up from poverty, to give them a chance for a decent life, technology alone is not enough.

Technology must be guided and driven by ethics if it is to do more than provide new toys for the rich. Science and religion should work together to abolish the gross inequities that prevail in the modern world.

Comprehension

1. When does trouble develop between science and religion?
2. What is the responsibility of the media in this matter?
3. What is the fundamental question for today?
4. Which do we need more-technological or theological development?





Your opinion

1. Do you believe in God?
2. What religion do you have?
3. What do you think is the difference between religious people and atheists (other than their belief in God)?
4. What benefits do you think religion gives us?
5. Do you think religious people are happier than the non religious?
6. Do you think religion is for our current life or for our next one?
7. What would happen if science advanced without any guidance?

