

## *God vs. Religion*

God is good;  
religion should be  
good,  
but is sometimes  
bad.

God is the pure  
gold of divinity;  
religion is an alloy  
with human clay.

God will always be  
Who He is;  
religion will be  
what we make it.

Religion is to  
lead us to God;  
when it gets in the way,  
it is bad.  
When people substitute  
religion for God,  
it is bad.

Prophets are sent  
to reform bad religion  
by restoring it  
to the mind of God.

Participating in religion  
is no guarantee for  
partaking of God.

The scribes and Pharisees  
were religious;  
but some neglected God.

In the Church  
the divine element  
makes us the  
spotless bride of Christ;  
the human component  
forces us constantly  
to seek purification.

However,  
faults in the Church  
are no excuse  
for giving up on God.  
For, you can leave the Church,  
but the quest for God remains.

Too often people  
turn from God,  
because they have been  
turned off by religion.

You cannot find God, however,  
apart from religion;  
for even the solitary seeker  
of the divine  
is on a religious journey.

People who profess  
to abandon religion  
are often exchanging  
one for another.

God is transcendent;  
good religion shows Him  
as immanent.

God is untouchable;  
good religion makes Him  
available.

God is invisible;  
good religion gives us  
a glimpse.

It's easy to access  
religion;  
it's harder to find  
God.

© *Msgr. Walter Niebrzydowski*  
August 9, 1998  
[Fr-Walter@nyc.rr.com](mailto:Fr-Walter@nyc.rr.com)  
[www.fatherwaltersparish.org](http://www.fatherwaltersparish.org)