



The Case For Religion

By Keith Ward

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In this, the paperback edition of the influential bestseller, Keith Ward dismantles the attacks on religion by scientists, sociologists, and psychologists, who claim that religion is nothing more than a host of naïve superstitions and delusions. Examining the work of thinkers from Sigmund Freud to Emile Durkheim, Ward offers an alternative view, demonstrating religion's key contribution to the human condition and its crucial relevance to the world today.

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Author, scholar and former Oxford don Ward uses his broad knowledge to make the argument for religion as a necessary and reasonable exercise for humans who are aware of the transcendent. He examines what major figures in other disciplines—anthropology, sociology and psychology—have historically said about why humans practice religion. He then briskly sketches the world's major religions and reviews the effect of the European enlightenment on religion, showing how it gave rise to historical and critical thinking and the valuing of experience as a means of knowing. Religion is too persistent, pervasive, positive and profound to be merely foolish, he suggests, but to fail to acknowledge the possibilities it contains for destruction is "a failure of spiritual perception of the first order." Ward is prodigiously well read, moving easily from Sumerian creation accounts to German philosophy to contemporary English philosopher John Hick. He is understandably better at the history of Western ideas than of developments within non-Western traditions, but is always aware that religion is historically a universal practice and now a global reality. In today's "increasingly self-aware global community of communities," the Anglican priest concludes, a coexistence of diverse faith traditions can provide religious leadership toward "human flourishing." Ward's previous book (*God: A Guide for the Perplexed*) was chattier and more accessible. By comparison, this book is not for the casual reader, but is ideal for serious students of religion who aren't afraid of philosophy.

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Review

"All those who know Keith Ward's work will be eager to read his book on such an urgent issue in our time: the ongoing importance of religions despite their failings." -- *Professor Dr Hans Küng - University of Tübingen*

"Brilliant, highly readable, and genuinely illuminating. This is a book both for the religious and for those who regard themselves as non-religious, and each will find fascinating surprises in it." -- *John Hick - University of Birmingham, author of 'Philosophy of Religion'*

"Keith Ward brings his comprehensive mind and his penetrating pen to the crisis faced by all traditional religious forms" -- *John Shelby Spong - author of 'Christianity for a new world.'*

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Keith Ward is Professor of Divinity, Gresham College, London and Regius Professor of Divinity, Emeritus, of the University of Oxford. He is author of the best-selling */God: A Guide for the Perplexed/*, also published by Oneworld. -- *A.N. Wilson, Spectator*

About the Author

Keith Ward is Professor of Divinity, Gresham College, London and Regius Professor of Divinity, Emeritus, of the University of Oxford. He is author of the best-selling */God: A Guide for the Perplexed/*, also published

by Oneworld.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Paul Kline:

The experience that you get from The Case For Religion is a more deep you searching the information that hide in the words the more you get enthusiastic about reading it. It doesn't mean that this book is hard to recognise but The Case For Religion giving you thrill feeling of reading. The author conveys their point in particular way that can be understood through anyone who read it because the author of this e-book is well-known enough. This book also makes your personal vocabulary increase well. That makes it easy to understand then can go along with you, both in printed or e-book style are available. We suggest you for having that The Case For Religion instantly.

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Wayne Gaddis:

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Lee Wing:

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