

This Sunday: Recollection University of Notre Dame ...followed by conference at
Day -- beginning with Mass Religious Bulletin 9:30 by Fr. Charles Harris.
in Howard Chapel at 8 a.m., April 22, 1955 Subject: The Mass. Drop In!

"One Religion Is As Good As Another"

Last August, you read of the great gathering of many religious leaders in the city of Evanston, Illinois, bent on an effort at unity of some sort. Of course, no unity of doctrine was arrived at. Nor did any one denomination look askance at another, or maintain that its belief, or interpretation of the Bible, was superior to another.

The general rating manifested was this: "One religion is as good as another. We are worshipping God, each in his own way -- and that's good enough for us, and for God. Therefore, let us all be tolerant of each denominational belief and practice."

Unless you are on the alert, you'll find it easy to go along with the same line of apathy -- it saves you the glory and the trouble of thinking. It saves you from what might be an unpleasant argument with a non-Catholic girl friend. But you won't salvage any logic in sluffing off religion in this manner. Unconsciously, on the other hand, you are telling the world that you subscribe to the same declaration -- one religion is as good as another.

Is It True

The late Professor Meikeljohn (a non-Catholic) of Wisconsin, on one occasion, observed that:

"...Protestantism has no genuine belief in its own doctrines, and means the disintegration of belief, of all theological belief...

"I think that is seen in the Protestant doctrine of toleration. When one man says to another: 'You may believe what you like, and I will believe what I like,' you can be pretty sure that neither one of them is going to believe anything. They are both going to like something and that is all. If a man says: 'I believe this, and you believe that; and I may have my reasons and you may have yours, but my reasons do not convince you,' what he is saying is that he has no reasons at all."

All denominations enjoy religious liberty -- not religious Truth. You can, if you are not careful, confuse the two. From contradictory teachings come two sad results: doubt and chaos -- as manifested by the Evanston gathering.

Cold Turkey

What you believe is either true or false. Is not truth better than falsehood? To admit that all contradictory beliefs are equally good is like saying that many different answers to a math problem are all as good as the correct answer.

Remember that God is Truth, subsistent Truth -- and it's really an insult to Him to say that He is equally honored by true or false worship. Indeed, He has the right to be worshipped and honored in the way He wants and knows to be True.

For example -- if Christ is really and truly present in the Host, it must make a difference whether you believe He is, or is not, present there. If He is not present, then the Mass, the Benediction, and our genuflections are all idolatrous -- something forbidden by the First Commandment.

You have the blessing and protection of an Infallible Teacher Who is a continuation of Christ Himself, whom Christ promised to keep from teaching any error. You alone have authority behind your belief -- Infallible Authority.

Tonight at 6:45, in Sacred Heart Church -- Novena to the Sorrowful Mother.