

Religion as Baseball

- * Calvinists believe the game is fixed.
- * Lutherans believe they can't win, but trust the Scorekeeper.
- * Natives circle the bases.
- * Hindus go around the bases many, many times before reaching home.
- * Yogi Berra says, "It ain't over till it's over."
- * Materialists think the diamond is forever.
- * Anglicans gave the Catholics a reign check.
- * Quakers won't swing.
- * Orthodox Christians always have a no-hitter. - They turn the other cheek.
- * Unitarians can catch anything.
- * Amish walk a lot.
- * Pagans sacrifice.
- * Jehovah's Witnesses are thrown out often.
- * Televangelists get caught stealing.
- * Episcopalians pass the plate.
- * Evangelicals make effective pitches.
- * Fundamentalists balk.
- * Mormon teams sign on all their relatives.
- * Baha'is think everyone should play.
- * Communists are out in left field.
- * Buddhists don't believe anyone is keeping score.
- * Taoists think the rules are restrictive.
- * When Catholics steal a base, they have to go to confession after the game.
- * The Lions couldn't touch Daniel leaving the Jews up one.
- * Adventists have a seventh-inning stretch.
- * Atheists refuse to have an Umpire.
- * Sabeans are stuck on first base.
- * Baptists want to play hardball.
- * Premillennialists expect the game to be called soon on account of eternal darkness.
- * Catholics make a shortstop in purgatory before sliding into home.
- * The Pope claims never to have committed an error.
- * One player refused to shave (Sikh) and he was fined.
- * The Sufi base umpire was relieved because he was deep in thought and missed a call.
- * Jews in general are waiting for wholesale tickets.
- * Law & Order crowd believes "three strikes and you're in."

"No religion is an island:
there is no monopoly on holiness.
We are companions of all who revere
Him.

We rejoice when His name is praised.
No religion is an island:
we share the kinship of humanity,
the capacity for compassion.

The hand of God is extended to all who
seek Him.

He is near to all who call upon Him in
truth.

God's spirit rests upon all, Jew or
Gentile,

man or woman, in consonance with
their deeds.

The creation of one Adam promotes
peace.

No one can claim: my ancestry is
nobler than yours.

There is no monopoly on holiness:
there is no truth without humility.

We are diverse in our devotion and
commitment.

We must unite in working now for the
kingship of God.

He is near to all who call on Him in
truth.

There can be disagreement without
disrespect.

Let us help one another overcome
hardness of heart,
opening minds to the challenges of
faith.

Should we hope for each other's failure?
Or should we pray for each other's
welfare?

Let mutual concern replace remnants of
mutual contempt

as we share the precarious position of
being human.

Have we not all one Father? Are we
not all His children?

Let us not be guided by ignorance or
disdain.

Let lives of holiness illumine all our
paths.

The hand of God is extended to all
who seek Him.

Let our deeds reflect that we share the
image of God.

Let those who revere the Lord speak to
one another,
leading everyone to acknowledge the
splendor of God."

Dr. Abraham Joshua Heschel

No Religion Is an Island in his essay
"Poland and the United States."

Subject: Pesky squirrels

- > There were three country churches in a small Texas town: the
- >>> Presbyterian church, the Methodist church and the Catholic church.
- >>>
- >>> Each church was overrun with pesky squirrels. One day, the
- >>> Presbyterian Church called a meeting to decide what to do about the
- >>> squirrels. After much prayer and consideration they determined that
- >>> the squirrels were predestined to be there and they shouldn't
- > interfere
- >>> with God's divine will.
- >>>
- >>> The Methodist group got together and decided that they were not in a
- >>> position to harm any of God's creations. So, they humanely trapped
- > the
- >>> squirrels and set them free a few miles outside of town. Three days
- >>> later, the squirrels were back.
- >>>
- >>> It was only the Catholics who were able to come up with the best and
- >>> most effective solution. They baptized the squirrels and registered
- >>> them as members of the church. Now they only see them on Christmas
- > and
- >>> Easter.

A rabbi is sitting on an airplane next to a Korean guy. After they have been flying together in silence for a while, the rabbi leans over and says, "You know, I've never forgiven you Chinese for what you did at Pearl Harbor."

"Based on what we know of (Eric) Rudolph so far, and admittedly it's fragmentary, there seems to be a fairly high likelihood that he can legitimately be called a Christian terrorist."

The Korean looks shocked and replies, "What the hell are you talking about?!?!? It was the Japanese the bombed Pearl Harbor, not the Chinese. And besides, I'm not Chinese or Japanese, I'm Korean!"

MICHAEL BARKUN, a professor of political science at Syracuse University who has been a consultant to the FBI on Christian extremist groups, in the *Washington Post*.

The rabbi says, "Korean, Japanese, Chinese, what's the difference?"

A little while later, the Korean man says, "You know, I've never forgiven you Jews for sinking the Titanic." The rabbi looks confused and mad and says, "What are you talking about? The Jews didn't have anything to do with that! An iceberg sank the Titanic!"

The Korean guy replies, "Iceberg, Goldberg, Greenberg, what's the difference?"

