

UNDERSTANDING THE NATURE OF RELIGION

Lesson 1

Understanding Religion Understanding Religion

Paul Michael Hedges



Understanding Religion Understanding Religion:

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comprehensive survey of the study of religion worldwide from ancient indigenous traditions to today s religious nationalism This is an excellent book that is a good comprehensive overview of the history of religions and the ways of studying religion within Religious Studies it really brings religions to life for the reader Gavin Flood Professor of Hindu Studies and Comparative Religion Oxford University The authors provide a clear first rate introduction to the study of religions origins leading scholars and their theories and beliefs This is by far the best introductory volume I am aware of both in terms of substance clarity and insights John L Esposito Distinguished University Professor Georgetown University and Past President of the American Academy of Religion The Religion Toolkit Understanding Religion in the World Today is a clear and comprehensive introduction to the academic study of religions providing readers an introduction to the history and theories of Religious Studies a survey of global religious traditions and an overview of religion in the public sphere today Discusses theory and methodology in religion including the disciplines of anthropology psychology philosophy biblical studies and

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standard religion textbook **Understanding Religion** S. A. Grave, 2004-12 This book seeks to further an understanding of religion from the inside so to speak that is from the point of view of someone who is committed to a religion It aims both at increasing this understanding in readers who already have it and where it is absent at bringing it about without presupposing any religious commitment at all Identifying the fundamental characteristic of religion as a transcendental concern that is belief in divinity or in existence beyond death the author argues that this concern above all makes religion unlike anything else in human life Material for the book s themes is drawn from five great world religions Buddhism Christianity Hinduism Islam and Judaism Besides considering the transcendental concerns that make religion unique the book discusses the varieties of religious experience and the ways in which religion deals with the existence of evil and human suffering

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