***Good Faith: Beliefs Have Consequences***

by

**Roger R. Adams**

**Table of Contents**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Heading** | **Page** |
| CHAPTER 1: RELIGIONS, PASSING OR FAILING? | 1 |
|  |  |
| CHAPTER 2. A BRIEF HISTORY OF REASON AND FAITH | 7 |
| 2.1. The Era of Faith Over Reason | 8 |
| 2.2. The Nature of Science | 9 |
| 2.3. The Nature of Religions | 18 |
| 2.4. Belief and Truth | 22 |
| 2.5. Social, Economic, and Political Dynamics | 26 |
| 2.6. The Era of Contests of Ideas | 29 |
|  |  |
| CHAPTER 3. WHY IS THE UNIVERSE HERE, AND WHY DO THINGS HAPPEN AS THEY DO? | 41 |
| 3.1. Physics and Chemistry. | 42 |
| 3.2. Biology. | 49 |
| 3.3. Humanity’s Relation to the Natural World. | 54 |
| 3.4. The Challenge of Materialism. | 58 |
| 3.5. Reasons for Events. | 63 |
| The Problem of Evil | 64 |
| Divine Action and Natural Laws | 67 |
| 3.6. Alternative Understandings of God | 71 |
| 3.7. Relating to God. | 79 |
| 3.8. Good Faith. | 82 |
|  |  |
| CHAPTER 4. WHO AM I? | 84 |
| 4.1. Consciousness | 86 |
| 4.2. Free Will | 96 |
| 4.3. Motivation | 115 |
| 4.4. Social Structures and Communities | 129 |
| 4.5. Religious Perspectives  | 139 |
| Endowed by Our Creator | 139 |
| Imperfectability, Punishment, and Forgiveness | 141 |
| 4.6. Religions and Communities | 150 |
| Exclusivism | 153 |
| Pluralism | 157 |
| 4.7. Good Faith. | 161 |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  |  |
| **Heading** | **Page** |
| CHAPTER 5. HOW SHOULD I ACT? | 163 |
| 5.1. Naturalistic Fallacy | 164 |
| 5.2. Abstract Analysis: Game Theory and Economics | 165 |
| 5.3. Moral Nature: Models of Social Relations  | 177 |
| 5.4. Moral Nature: Development of Moral Reasoning | 183 |
| 5.5. Moral Nature: Moral Intuition and Moral Grammar | 187 |
| 5.6. Moral Nature: Competition vs. Cooperation  | 191 |
| 5.7. Moral Nature: Moral Emotions | 193 |
| 5.8. Is to Ought? | 197 |
| 5.9. Philosophy’s Perspectives | 203 |
| 5.10. Religious Views of Morality | 219 |
| 5.11. Good Faith. | 227 |
|  |  |
| CHAPTER 6. DEATH, IS THAT ALL THERE IS? | 229 |
| 6.1. Scientific Explanations and Materialist Opinions | 229 |
| 6.2. Religious Perspectives | 231 |
| 6.3. Development of Faith | 238 |
| 6.4. Strong Faith | 241 |
| 6.4. Good Faith. | 243 |
|  |  |
| CHAPTER 7. GOOD FAITH RELIGIONS | 245 |
| 7.1. Compatibility with Science | 245 |
| 7.2. Caring for Non-Human Life | 247 |
| 7.3. Help in Dealing with Misfortune and Evil | 248 |
| 7.4. Moral Norms  | 250 |
| 7.5. Effects on Society  | 253 |
| 7.6. Meaning and Purpose in Life Despite Death  | 254 |
| 7.7. Communities of Faith | 255 |
| 7.8. Who Says? | 256 |
| 7.9. We’re All in This Together | 264 |