

The Definition of Religion

The purpose of this document is to remind people of an historical definition of religion.

My purpose of Power or Faith Measurement is all about definitions. I build business models that are like monthly dictionaries that define a business. In the beginning of Genesis we see that the definition of success is getting our offering accepted. In other words, to be successful our business must be what God has told us to do. People wonder why [my website](#) presents my business in a religious context. They say I would do better if I had two separate websites, separating my business from my religion. Last week when reading about [Charles Grafton in the Church Calendar](#), I discovered an historical definition of religion that explains why Power and Faith are presented together on my website. There are no deeds but God's deeds, and I want to be successful.

An Historical Definition of Religion

In his book *Christian and Catholic*¹, Charles Grafton defines religion: “Let me begin with a very rudimentary inquiry,—What is your definition of Religion? There have been many given. The one I suggest as a working hypothesis is this,—A personal union of an intelligent and spiritual nature with a personal God. It is somewhat of a large definition, and it involves these three factors: God, man, and the union between them.”

God Communicates with Religious People

Like Charles Grafton, I like that definition. Religious people talk to God and he talks back. Most of the time his mode of communication is more personal than an external voice. He changes our heart. Nothing speaks louder than a change of heart. Religious people continuously share their hearts with God, the good and the bad. God or the refining fire of the Holy Spirit changes those hearts and they are then commanded to beg for what he has put on their heart until they receive the gift of belief. So, religious people know their offering will be accepted because their work is God's word and deed.

Summary: Religion and Business Defined

With this definition in mind, the concept of combining business and religion is presented on the first page of the Bible. The definition of success is getting your offering accepted by God. In other words, to be successful your business must be what God has given you to do. Religious people communicate with God. Because only God's business counts, my website presents my business in a religious context. God does his business through religious people. There are no deeds but God's deeds, and with my business I want to help business people be successful.

¹ Charles Chapman Grafton, *The Cathedral Edition: The Works of The Rt. Rev. Charles C. Grafton, S.T.D., LL.D., Second Bishop of Fond du Lac (WCCG)*, ed. B. Talbot Rogers, I, *Christian and Catholic*. New York, London, Bombay, Calcutta, Madras: Longmans, Green and Co., 1914, 1.