

***Religion:
Servant vs. Substitute***

Religion is the
servant of faith,
not its substitute.

When religion is the
substitute for faith,
and not its servant,
it becomes idolatry.

As servant,
religion leads people
to God;
as substitute,
religion draws them
to itself.

When worshippers
approach religion
as servant,
they go through it
to the transcendent.
If they come to religion
as substitute,
they become stuck
in the temporal.

When we see religion
as serving,
it is fulfilling its
mission.
Where religion
is being served,
it is becoming
a substitute.

All the saints
considered themselves
servants of God,
not His substitutes.

Likewise,
all church ministry--
papal to parochial--
does not substitute
for the Lord,
but is at His
service.

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