

The Heresy of Indifferentism

DEFINITION: [Religious] Indifferentism is the perverse opinion that it is possible to obtain eternal salvation by the profession of any kind of religion, as long as “morality” is maintained.

This is the *great error* of our age! It preaches that all religions are sufficient, more or less good and praiseworthy, and that God has given every individual a wide freedom to embrace and adopt, without danger to his salvation, whatever sect, religion or opinion that appeals to him on the basis of his private judgment.

It hides behind the mask of foregoing what divides us in order to share in what unites us; thus, it leads to naturalism and atheism. Its end is the destruction of all religion via rebellion against God.

Common and popular ways of expressing this heresy today are:

- ▶ You will go to Heaven as long as you are a ‘good’ person.
- ▶ Most people go to Heaven. In the end, everyone goes to Heaven. Hell is empty.
- ▶ All religions lead to God (salvation); they are just different paths.
- ▶ We all believe in the same God.
- ▶ Dogma is not all that important.
- ▶ Focus on what unites us, not on doctrines that separate us.
- ▶ Your truth is good for you, mine is good for me. Let’s just all “coexist.”
- ▶ The Catholic Church is the ‘best’ way or the ‘fullness’ of truth.

PAPAL TEACHING (just a few citations, there are *many* more!)

Leo XII.....	1823-1829	.....	<i>Ubi Primum</i> #12	.....	1824
Pius VIII	1829-1830	.....	<i>Traditi Humilitati</i> #4	.....	1829
Gregory XVI.....	1831-1846	.....	<i>Mirari Vos</i> #13-14	.....	1832
Bl. Pius IX	1846-1878	.....	<i>Syllabus Errorum</i> #15-18	.....	1864
Leo XIII.....	1878-1903	.....	<i>Humanum Genus</i> #16	.....	1884
St. Pius X	1903-1914	.....	<i>On the Sillon</i> #36-40	.....	1910
Benedict XV	1914-1922	.....	<i>Spiritus Paraclitus</i> #38	.....	1920
Pius XI	1922-1939	.....	<i>Mortalium Animos</i> #2,9,15	....	1928
Pius XII	1939-1958	.....	<i>Humani Generis</i> #27	.....	1950

Nine consecutive popes, spanning 135 years, taught against the heresy of indifferentism. Such a strong opposition against any error is unprecedented. Yet, it is not just the modern popes who teach against this heresy, but Christ Himself, the Apostles, Church Fathers, Doctors, Councils, and many saints.

Why Is This Teaching So *Hard* for Catholics Today to Accept?

- ➔ It runs contrary to ‘the spirit of the world.’
- ➔ Our ‘modern’ society abhors absolutes, preferring subjectivism and individualism.
- ➔ We are aware of a multiplicity of world religions.
- ➔ Church leaders are failing to proclaim it (bishops, priests, theologians, teachers...).
- ➔ Much is being said by prelates that implies otherwise.
- ➔ Concupiscence - we always want it ‘our way,’ without any corresponding consequences.
- ➔ Human Respect - we prefer looking good before others over proclaiming Truth.
- ➔ Personal Feelings - we desire Heaven for our friends and family.
- ➔ Pride - we want to determine (know) that which is “good” and “evil”.
- ➔ Idolatry - we want God to conform to our values (the primordial temptation).
- ➔ We lack Catholic Faith (entire, firm, steadfast, living, and supernatural).

Logical Consequences of Indifferentism:

- ⇒ Denial of the dogma of Original Sin.
- ⇒ Denial of the necessity of Baptism for salvation.
- ⇒ Denial of the necessity of Sanctifying Grace for salvation.
- ⇒ Denial of the Holy Eucharist as necessary for salvation.
- ⇒ There is no need for Divine Revelation.
- ⇒ There is no need for Faith in order to be saved.
- ⇒ There is no need to evangelize, convert, or seek continual conversion and holiness.
- ⇒ There is nothing supernatural about the Church (she’s just ‘another’ car dealer).
- ⇒ Jesus is no longer needed for salvation, because one saves himself just by being ‘good.’
- ⇒ There is no need for Truth; error and truth are in effect equivalent.
- ⇒ The human being, with his science and reason, is self-sufficient regarding salvation.
- ⇒ Salvation is limited to ‘morality,’ to being kind, tolerant, and respectful of others.
- ⇒ There really is no need to even be ‘moral’ because my religion may be amoral.
- ⇒ You become the absolute judge for yourself, because you *know* what the good is.

Given these logical consequences, it is clear why the popes taught that indifferentism leads to naturalism and atheism, and is the destruction of true religion via rebellion against God!