

An Introduction to the Philosophy of Religion

Presented by Fr. Joseph J. Godfrey, S.J., Ph.D.

Audio CD Set

Through philosophy and religion, humanity seeks answers to its greatest questions. Now, you are invited to explore philosophy and religion with Fr. Joseph J. Godfrey.

In the second century, the theologian Tertullian asked, “What has Athens to do with Jerusalem?” As you will see, the history and methods of philosophy are deeply intertwined with those of religion. Learning about the philosophy of religion will help you understand your own Christian faith as never before.

In these insightful lectures, you will join a leading expert in exploring ideas that have captured the imaginations of scholars and the everyday believers alike. Along the way, you’ll explore the insights of Thomistic philosophy, continental philosophy, and analytic philosophy.

With fresh understanding, you’ll explore familiar topics like the idea of God as Creator, arguments for God’s existence, the concept of evil, miracles, and “design” arguments. You will consider knowing, believing, opining, and having faith in relation to reason. In particular, you will focus on Catholic concerns, such as faith and reason, as well as characteristic ways of speaking about God. You will examine Catholic thought about religion in relation to atheism and postmodernism.

Ultimately, religion is a matter of hope. As French philosopher Maurice Blondel said, “Authentic philosophy is the holiness of reason.” These lectures seek to reaffirm your faith by leading you to understand the reason behind religion.

About Your Presenter

Fr. Joseph Godfrey is Professor of Philosophy at Saint Joseph’s University in Philadelphia, where he holds the Joseph S. Hogan S.J. Chair in Philosophy. At Saint Joseph’s, he has taught courses on the philosophy of religion, ethics, and logic, as well as the history of Greek and of medieval philosophy. A Jesuit priest, he has taught at Santa Clara University, Marquette University, Loyola University Chicago, and the Jesuit Scholasticate in Ho Chi Minh City. He has lectured internationally at such institutions as Georgetown University, Stony Brook University, La Salle University, Australian Catholic University, the United Faculty of Theology in Melbourne, and Heythrop College in London.

Fr. Godfrey holds a doctorate from the University of Toronto. He is the author of *A Philosophy of Human Hope [Studies in Philosophy and Religion]* (Martinus Nijhoff, 1987) and *Trust of People, Words, and God: A Route for Philosophy of Religion* (University of Notre Dame Press, 2012). He has also written articles on Gabriel Marcel and on Josef Pieper, as well as entries for the 2012-2013 Supplement to the New Catholic Encyclopedia and for the Encyclopedia of Ethics (2001).

Topic Titles

- Introduction: Philosophy and Religion
- Knowing, Believing, Opining, and Evidence
- God: The Idea
- God: From Idea to Conclusion
- God: Explaining a Fact by Cause
- God: Explaining Order or Pattern
- Miracles
- Experience, Perhaps Religious
- Evil and Human Responsibility
- Evil and Divine Responsibility
- Faith and Faith-ing
- Faith, Reason, and Catholic Concerns
- Language, Meaning, and Analogy
- Some Isms: Atheisms, Humanisms, Postmodernisms
- Hope