American Journal of Humanities and Social Sciences Research (AJHSSR)

e-ISSN: 2378-703X

Volume-3, Issue-6, pp-56-62

www.ajhssr.com

Research Paper

Open Access

The Development of Religion through Man's Will: A Critical Analysis

Patrick Neil M. Santiago

ABSTRACT: Life is not worth living when absurd beliefs confined individuals from illusions to a total deception. Most people today become victims of a religious organization. This paper investigates the origin and development of religion, etymological meaning, the latter's purpose of the identity of God, its relic and products and the transition into a new intervention to deal on the present state of man's absurdity. The current intervention of religious organization is found distorted and deformed from the original context. Hence, the investigation falls on the conclusion that the present belief on religion is confined in individuals from an illusion that led them to become victims of an invented guild or congregation, which is found absurd. Ignorance then is a choice, but the will of a predator is always a threat to deceive and confuse others.

KEYWORDS: absurdity, confession, convalescent, creed, philosophy, religion, will.

I. INTRODUCTION

In many acquaintances of life, regardless of creed, values and orientation, religion is one of the most controversial and sensitive issues to talk about. Whether one accepts or refutes, the fact remains that it is one of the extreme absurdities that exist. To make it clear, it is not the concept of religion that is absurd but the will of man's desire that is expressed through religion. Indeed, it is necessary to invoke each to a careful examination of religious thoughts, doctrines and roots although Christianity, for example, is rational it needs an in-depth evaluation to fortify one's faith. Purposive inquiry and critical evaluation of religion are deemed significant because contingency may presumably prevent the way to reach God's rationality.

Out of man's existence is his profound question about the reason of his occurrence. He searches for his meaning in various aspects of life where he takes into account which belief or principle gives the most cogent interpretation of life. Such meanings are inevitably found in religion. It is on this ground where he based much of his development as a person and as a member of one community. The personal growth he has to acquire is a product brought by various aspects such as state, region, culture, group and own interpretations. This personal development brought by religion may neither deceive nor enlighten him but giving him a distinct identity in a society where he belongs to as a predator or prey. In this regard, some issues should be investigated and concepts that must be clarified, such as: What is religion? How is it originated and developed? What is the purpose of God's identity, the role of Church and Bible? How different religions evolve? How does religion occur to be absurd in the present condition?

A. Eastern Philosophy

In the eastern side of the world, China is regarded as one of the oldest civilizations that has rich culture and traditions. Of the numerous and highly renowned individuals in the history of China, two significant figures can be said to be popular, namely: Confucius and Lao Tzu. Buddhism was introduced in China that appeared to be the greatest element to influence religion, philosophy, art and literature [1].

As Fung Yu-Lan discussed, Confucius (551- 479 BCE) is transfigured as "The First Teacher". The name Confucius is the Latinized version of Master K'ung or K'ung Tzu. The term Tzu is a polite suffix that is used to names to mean Master. K'ung is his family name and Ch'iu is his personal name[1]. He was the very first person who had taught a huge number of students in Chinese history. As he traveled in different states, he accompanied those students. Thus, he was recognized as China's unique private teacher. Moreover, some of his disciples compiled the collection of his sayings, which is known as the $Lun\ Y\ddot{u}$ or $Confucian\ Analects\ [1]$. Confucianism is heavily legalistic and rule-oriented ethical system [2].

After his death, Confucius was considered as *the teacher*, superior to all others [1]. But in second century BCE, he was elevated and recognized as a king [1]. Thus, without an actual crown nor government, he ruled the whole empire. Accordingly, his followers of that time believed that he was appointed by Heaven to begin a new dynasty. Later in the first century BCE, Confucius regarded to be a living god among men- a divine being who knew that after his time, there would someday come the Han dynasty (206 BCE-220 AD), and who would

therefore set forth a political ideal which would be complete enough for the men of Han to be realized [1]. Hence, in the middle of Han dynasty, Confucianism could rightly be called a religion [1].

Confucius did not claim to find a new religion as his early followers never revered him as anything, but he was regarded as their Foremost Teacher [2]. His teaching was simply a system of ethics and religious culture and faith that was already existing during that time which he accepted and encouraged his followers to worship the Supreme deity whom they called T'ien, ruler of the universe [2]. Later, Confucianism developed religions with priests, temples and ceremonies [2].

Lao Tzu (circa 640- 524 BCE) transfigured as the legendary founder of Taoism. His name literary means the "Old Master" and regarded to be a senior contemporary of Confucius. When Confucius was told that he was impressed by Lao Tzu's influence on people, Confucius visited him to ask for advice on ceremonial etiquette. Later, when Confucius returned to his disciples, he spoke:

"Of birds I know that they have wings to fly with, of fish that they fin to swim with, of wild beast that they have feet to run with. For feet, there are traps, for fins nets, for wings arrow. But who knows how dragons surmount wind and cloud into heaven? This day I have seen Lao Tzu and he is a dragon" [2].

Lao Tzu gave a profound certainty on the beliefs of simplicity and noninterference [2]. Thus, he was more concerned with a solution on how to preserve life and avoid harm and danger in the human world [1]. He was conscious of the risks that were inherent in dogma. He did not intend to set a record on his spoken belief but rather on intuitive

Etymologically, the name Taoism comes from the Chinese word Tao, meaning "path" or "way". Tao philosophy is based on intuitive respect for the "natural way life works itself out" [2]. It is an outlined philosophy for sensible living. Taoism philosophy has three phases [1]. The development of Taoism is attributed by the earliest ideas of Yang Chu (unclear date) that was represented as the first. Lao Tzu described the second phase and the third part was represented by Chuang Tzu (circa 369- 286 BCE). It is said that the second phase has greater essence since *Lao Tzu's* ideas were more in-depth than the first and third phases. On the other hand, in the third phase of *Chuang Tzu's* ideas lie greater thoughts that were not included in the first and second phases [1]. Therefore, the development of early Taoism philosophy appears to be constituted among these three personas. Tao teaching is mystic and seems to be spiritual rather than being a practical reformer.

Buddhism occurs to be a philosophy that is an outgrowth of its predecessor, Hinduism. The founder of Buddhism is in the person of Prince Siddartha Gautama (530-480 BCE). He was called *Sakhyamuni*, which means the "Sakhya sage" [3]. The name *Buddha* means "The Enlightened One" in which Gautama took after his experience under the Bo tree, which also means "the tree of wisdom" [2]. The principle of Buddha was reacting against some aspects of Hinduism. Hinduism believes in the three principle of; *Sat* (self/soul), *Cit* (being) and *Ananda* (bliss). On the contrary, Buddhism is a sort of pessimist in its principle of; *Anatta* (no self/soul), *Anicca* (becoming) and *Dukkha* (suffering). Gautama Buddha exhorted "Four Noble Truths" namely; *Dukkha* (everything is suffering), *Dukkhasamudaya* (there is an origin to suffering), *Dukkhanirodha* (there is an end to suffering), *Dukkhanirodhagaminipratipat* (the path leads away from suffering to *Nirvana* is by "Eight Fold Path") [3]. Hence, Buddhism accordingly remained just another sect of Hinduism, but eventually, an Emperor named *Asoka Maurya* was converted to Buddhism by the monk *Nigrodha*[3]. In the third century BCE, Buddhism was declared as a religion of their state [2]. *Asoka* instructed the *Bhikkus* (monks) to send religious missionaries to different places to preach and spread Buddha teaching [3].

In the first century AD, Buddhism was introduced to China, a religion in which its origins came from India [1]. Consequently, upon the revival of Taoist philosophy-*Neo Taoism*, Buddhism did much to inspire the institutional organization of religious guild [1]. The Yin-Yang elements of Confucianism were then purged to be mingled with Taoism to form a new eclecticism that known as Taoist religion [1]. Taoism counterbalances Confucianism. Consequently, Confucius was demoted from that form of divinity and Lao Tzu was transfigured as the founder of a religion in which ultimately an imitation of the said Buddhism with developed temples, priesthood and a liturgy [1]. Hence, the early Taoist philosophy was seen as totally evolved and fully organized religion far from its original context.

Taoism grew as an indigenous faith substituted to Buddhism and borrowed certain elements from its foreign rival. The development of Taoism religion was stimulated through the sentiments of people brought by the resentment of a successful invasion of China by its foreign religion of Buddhism [1].

There is a theory stating that Gautama Buddha was nothing more than a disciple of Lao Tzu. This theory found its inspiration from the biography of Lao Tzu in the *Shih Chi* or *Historical Records* wherein it is said that Lao Tzu, later in his life, disappeared and nobody knew where he went [1]. Most Taoist ardently believed that when Lao Tzu went to the West, he reached India where he had taught Buddha and other Indians that had a total of twenty-nine disciples [1]. In the long run, the implication of Buddha's teaching is suspected to be possible because Buddhism is regarded similar to Philosophical Taoism, particularly to Chuang Tzu's Philosophy [1].

Confucianism, Taoism and Buddhism are some of the prevalent religions of the Far East side of the world. These giant philosophies were the most significant events in Chinese history that served as major factors in the

development of civilization which is still seen influential until now. Here, the general context of this argument is to evoke that religion at first started as a philosophy and grew and formed as a binding instrument to reunite people as one.

B. Western Beliefs

Across the Western world, Christianity was founded by Jesus Christ as He inspired people by his teachings, miracles, virtues and most importantly, His resurrection. People believed that Jesus is the son of God, the Anointed One who would come and redeem people from their sins. So how was Jesus proclaimed as God? As the journal of the Society of St. Paul discussed, the disciples of Jesus narrated their story before and after the resurrection. In the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians, it expressed that the first assembly of witnesses were the ones who had seen the resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ [4]. The scriptures revealed that Jesus died for everyone's sins. According to the gospel, He died, buried, and raised from the dead on the third day. He appeared to Kephas, and then to the twelve disciples. He also appeared to more than five hundred followers. He was also seen by James and some of His apostles and was heard and appeared to Paul according to the scriptures in 1 Cor 15:3-8 [4].

His appearance, more than five hundred disciples and other followers revered Him as God [4]. They were all astonished that the man whom they had been with for three years in the valleys and plains of Palestine was a God. His disciples gave no serious understanding when Jesus said that He would rise from the dead on the third day, so when Jesus died, all of His disciples hid fearfully because of intense persecution to Jesus' followers. Threatened by dreadful oppression, they all ended up hopeless and appalling. Nonetheless, after His resurrection and ascension, His followers, particularly Paul, not to mention his endeavor who continued to found and establish Christianity. Believers grew innumerably despite the ensuring oppression and death in the hands of the pagan Romans and other religious leaders of this epoch. During this time, the ruling empress, Queen Elena wondered about the groups of people who had gone astray and vanished every night. Historians proclaimed that these people hid under the catacombs for religious practices. Until Queen Elena realized the significance of Christianity to capture the heart of people in her regime, she declared its official continuity and not to conceal their beliefs. She decided to convert from pagan to Christianity with her son Constantine who eventually became emperor of Rome and declared that Catholic on 313 AD as the universal religion.

Even though it is assumed that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, others believe that Christianity is deemed the same with Taoism and Confucianism. Jesus shared His philosophy, teachings, miracles, virtues and even sacrificed His life for the salvation of humanity, which hundreds of people, including His followers, witnessed His resurrection. Unfortunately, it has also been used as an instrument to proliferate politics. Catholicism, in particular, is a religion that builds a holistic empire and political gratification during Roman times. Such an empire succeeded through its tactical deception by using religion as a fishing net to conquer other races.

II. METHODOLOGY

This study used a critical analysis of the development of religion through man's will. According to [5] "critical analysis is subjective writing because it expresses the writer's opinion or evaluation of a text which was broken down and study the parts".

III. CRITICAL ANALYSIS AND EVALUATION

A. Origin of the Terminology

Etymologically, the word *religion* comes from the Latin word "*religare*" which means *to bind*. Similarly, "*re*" is a prefix that is used to indicate *again* and "*legio*" is a Greek term that means *to unite*. Therefore, when such lexicons are combined, religion is a concept of combination that is synonymous to "re-unite" or "to bind". Its concept evokes a union that is a man-made organization. Religion is built and formed as a simple and unified understanding of common faith, custom and belief; a unity that is practiced and shared by every member, a tradition that is passed on from generation to generation that is continuously forged by the will of man. We cannot end such a story and conclude without looking back to its origin.

The principle of religion involves the relationship of man to God [6]. Religion's philosophy, thoughts and ideas such as the religions mentioned above are an intervention of man to this physical to gratify his spiritual needs. It is with the participation of a man with his creator that bridges the gaps. These gaps are the space between man and God that may set limits or unify them together. The point being emphasized here is that we should not just confine or fetter the context of religion to the existing casual methods, rituals and structures found in the mainstream popularity of religion. There are no concrete criteria that descry the essence of a religion. Moreover, there is no violation to assume for a guild like religion as long as it binds humanity together in a single belief, useful purpose, sound philosophy and extramundane relation in which most people consider it as a way of life. As mentioned, religion is a man-made organization to reunite or to bind humanity together. Nevertheless, any religion must be observed as a form of a human organization that exercises not just holiness or divine context but the real and practical application to humanity.

B. Three Jewels: God, Church and Bible

By and large, religion is another world that tries to connect man to the One who created him; it is a way of life; he gives more understanding and implication to life, an ideology that possesses autonomy and an answer for his life's quest. It is merely a tradition that sticks the essence of the people as re-united individuals with one faith and source of belief. This is the profound definition of unity, the state of a being unified together as a group or family with a single objective. Its drawback, however, creates confusion for many individuals driven by specific desires.

In Christianity, for instance, the source of Catholicism was a tradition from Christ himself. Out of this creed existed blast of reformations and doctrines of different kinds. One of which is the revolt initiated by the German priest Martin Luther (1483-1546). He caused many divisions of Christian beliefs convincing others to separate from their faith and embrace the assumed discontentment of the spiritual and moral fiber of humanity. Concerning the problems of Christianity, there are enormous collectanea of futile ideas to dispute, discover and disrupt to allow everyone to weigh and choose the faith and standard of life to live by. However, it is contending statement to say that there are three most complex ideas to be resolved in every religion. These fundamental problems, the *Three Jewels of Christianity* (the identity of God, the Church and the Bible) have been causing catastrophic, chaotic and critical futility to the human state. The explosion of misinterpretation has taken its place to many forms of religious groups controlling and manipulating everyone to behave according to their sworn faith.

Resolving the issue of the identity of God, most people seek certain character of the divine being although man only possesses a minimal capacity to achieve a much-desired understanding of God's divinity and sovereignty. Due to the limited reason of man, he still insists on deepening his meaning and power to overcome his limitations. But contentment is a reality that can never be achieved. According to John Catoir, man has four world views: Monist (all is one), Polytheistic (many gods), Monotheistic (one God), and Atheistic (no God) [2]. Through these views, the objective of man concerning God is to establish a more dominant and concrete faith in supreme beings. The man simply intends to the distinct or separate idea to classify people that also create an identity of God.

The separation of substance between *matter*, physical substance and *spiritual*, the metaphysical substance evolves between man and nature, and the concept of man and God also brings confusion. To establish God's identity, purposive and significant logic must be achieved. Analyzing those four world views based on the views of the rationalists and empiricists, it will all evolve into a single idea that man is the summation of God. Confusion is only felt because of the substance that is triggered by modern times. Science reveals present quantum mechanics intensively deepens plans that give us a hint to understand nature, particularly the discovery of the atom and this discovery. In this physical world, everyone needs to classify things as they are and how they exist to identify and understand their pragmatic purpose quickly. For example, if one fails to sort apples from pears, this will create confusion. However, to some extent, by pursuing classification to avoid confusion, sometimes confuses knowledge.

It is necessary to explain the context of the substance. In physical science, for instance, the concept of solid, liquid, gas, and plasma is classified distinctively, but it is looking at the small-scale of quantum mechanics. It is eminent to say that both concepts are seen as the same because all of these are composed of a single component. What made them different in the natural-scale of the eye is the distance of molecules of those substances. Hence, the most interesting question is: What is the relation between physical and metaphysical substance? Or where do people derive substance? From the simple argument of the English prelate and philosopher George Berkeley, he espoused that matter was just a meaningless term[7] and concluded that if substance did not exist, their qualities would be real and spiritual beings would be done the same [7]. The quantum theory provided certain pieces of evidence for people to understand that matter and spiritual being are the same just like the relationship between solid and gas. Analogously, it is merely to put in that physical substance deals on qualities and metaphysical substance is its essence. Hence, in addressing the issue on "Trinity", one should not feel confused about the clear distinction of the Father, from the Son and the Holy Spirit. The separation between man and God should be bridged as this flows into singleness. Like Jesus, who transformed himself as a human to bridge the physical and metaphysical world, to bring humanity to eternal life and reconcile the broken line of man and God. God's deity is the whole substance of His sovereign being the Supreme. So, to refute other religious strategies that exaggeratedly stress the term God, their ways of worship are all redundant and absurd because their aim is only centered on their humanistic nature placing the concept of divinity into more personal satisfaction rather than magnifying the prime essence of the Supreme Being.

As Christianity spreads, church is the concept that remains relic of the imparted heritage from the western civilization. How far do we know about the concept of church? Everyone has misconceptions on this idea and this misconception has brought confusion to many beliefs and concepts on religion. Church is not just a place or establishment area but rather a world that binds physical and spiritual being. It is analogous to a house. The term "house" is defined as the physical substance of the matter. Denotatively, it is composed of roof, wall, floor, door, window, ceiling, and the likes, while the term "home" is the metaphysical concept that defines the spiritual

essence of the house where beings live together. This conceptual understanding is tantamount to churches or temples. Its metaphysical concept evokes the sacred gathering of people driven by a certain purpose and belief. The burrowing issue about Church versus Bible has been given much attention in many forms of social contexts. As the journal of society of St. Paul explained, Catholic Church in defense to the critics indicates the challenging question, "Is the Bible the only source of salvation?[4]" In the foregoing condition, individuals in the community or sects just depend their faith on the bible itself, believing to Luther's battle cry: Bible Alone, Faith Alone and Grace Alone. Until today the existing sentiment evolves and separates many individuals to different assumptions and confusions from time and again. However, given this argument, the Bible alone is not entirely biblical. It has not fully elucidated there that it is the only source of faith [4]. People today just read and interpret on their own and sometimes solely rely on their limited and opinionated leaders. Their preaching is so inclined to their weaknesses and limited knowledge which may not sufficiently give an utmost understanding of what exactly the mind of God has been revealing to humankind. Reading the bible is not just as literal as it is. The expert scholars or the church authorities must have profound approach in dealing with the precepts and principles of the Bible. For instance, in building a house, there is still a difference between an architect and a carpenter. One designs the blueprint and one develops and executes the design. The rotting misinterpretation among the sprouting and mushrooming churches still dominates and continues to intoxicate many minds.

The followers of Martin Luther remain the same today. Lutherans continuously evolve and turn away from his teachings. His follower also made a revolt, emancipating from his principle. These existing groups do not just oppose the so-called traditions but carried a universal will. The new groups who condemned the Catholic Church as evil [4] are an example of a bad conscience. Their knowledge is at the service of will that engaged in the satisfaction of its desires. Religions must preach the good virtue of morality and should not be used as a vehicle for the selfish ambition of man that results in massive confusion of his kind. Sects or other new religious groups are indebted to the precursors who deserved homage. Criticisms and blasphemous actions only worsen the path to achieving a virtue. From the basic justification of society of St. Paul which states that the church authority is responsible for the term "Trinity". This word is not found biblical, as this lexicon is only made by church authorities [4]. However, how this word can be fully understood is through hearing God's word. Hence, this is the way to learn from it.

Bible's language is rooted in the Greek lexical term, which means "a library" [4]. The Pope and the Bishops used it to examine books by books. Into its version, as stipulated in the journal of St. Paul Society, Luther's most important contribution was the translation of Bible into German language. However, it was also found out that he removed the seven books from the Old Testament, namely: the books of Sirach, Judith, Baruch, Tobit, and the two books of Maccabees and even the letter of James in the New Testament just because he did not like their declaration [4].

Ignorance on the identity of God, church and bible makes others to become underdog, making the will of the wise predators to create a world, conquer it and deceive people to become a master of their own will. From the beginning, systems of many religions have started to change lives, transform others, and to some extent, confuse and destruct the blind majority. The ethics remain not to condemn other religion as others have no distinct rights given by God to judge others. It is believed that the concept of religion originated from the primitive world that influenced the entire perspectives of man. Indeed, religion is an invented system or concept to overcome the sufferings and anxiousness of the so-called death. What everyone must understand now is the fair weigh of religion, its teachings and principle that give imperative impacts to the one who is part of that system. By doing this, one avoids the excessive opportunities of absurdity.

C. Transition and Innovation

The concept of religion in this present time has changed its "definition" into more political concepts driven by money and power. As observed from the examples above, a philosophy eventually became a religion and now an institution which possesses autonomy. The worse effect is now evidently seen that religion has been an instrument for manipulating people through political control. Religion can be threatening and very dangerous substance once its capacity is abused and mismanaged. Lao Tzu expounded this philosophy as he was conscious of the dangers that are inherent in dogma. What is frightening is the substance which is the phantom brought by the savage mind of man in his perception in the form of religion using a masque of good will to hide the maleficent conduct.

Similarly, the German philosopher Karl Marx (1818-1883) bounces religion as he asserts that "religion is the sigh of the oppressed creature, the heart of a heartless world and the soul of soulless condition" [8]. It is the *opiate of the people* [8]. Religious institution stipulated people today in the beliefs for the salvation of the human soul. Through this condition, people created religious antidote to cure their anxious state and endless sufferings in this physical world. The book of Hagopian discussed that anarchists expended more time denouncing about religion. Anarchism is both ideology and political movement that involves the majority of the poets, religious and philosophical sects [9]. Anarchism exercises no-rule or no-government.

Moreover, religion is a form of idealism and spiritualism that contradict the worldly views of modern science on the factual and empirical occurrence of phenomena [9]. Hence, the absurd misinterpretation on religion leads to a more chaotic state of this world. The phantom is now frightening and continuously tormenting individuals taking away their prerogatives in the community.

The fact remains the same; human knowledge cannot be extended far beyond its limitation. Religious leaders are exaggerating their perspectives, interpretation and claiming themselves as sacred holy beings in the cloth of filthy icons. Nietzsche stated that such leaders hide their filth and lust in the darkest box of pretentions and pessimism [10]. This gave unending criticisms, growing faction of people, expanding their confusions that lead to blatant deception of people and blasphemous gesture against God. These pessimistic strategies lure the prey to an ensuring trap. The continuous rise of new leaders in certain community led by their own ambition to live by their own way as masters of their own desires and not as followers of the true God they wrongly serve. From Nietzsche, this notion is reflected as factors in the hidden intentions of their will to build a new alliance and expansion of members. They fetter every member and imprison them in their luscious will.

Religions today compromise more to confession rather than extramundane relationship. A revelation that is often expressed through their sentiment by telling other people something that made them embarrassed or spoken statements saying that they have done something wrong or committed a crime in the past. Thus, it becomes more self-centered. While religions affirm faith and works, others rely on traditional doctrine. Carl Gustav Jung (1875-1961), a renowned Swiss psychiatrist differentiates religion from creed. He describes creed in which it gives expression to a certain collective belief, while the religion expresses a subjective relationship to certain metaphysical and extramundane factors [6]. He emphasized that creed is a confession of faith intended chiefly for the world at large and is thus an intramundane affair, while the meaning and purpose of religion lies between the relationship of humanity and God. For instance, Christianity, Judaism and Islam lead to the path of salvation while Buddhism shows the way to liberation [6]. Hence, religion evolves on the approach it lives and the path it leads to its followers.

A transition from the previous religion into the invented guild is usually an impulse of human to develop a new religion. This pictured a scenario of the way for a convalescent to enter into the state of forgetfulness and utilize this substance as a strong instrument to capture the heart of individual and their belief. This intention has become more productive by justifying their sentiment and frustration to deceive others and be a predator to conquer their prey.

The claim of a human being concerning the existence of God is just an assumption through one's faith but extending beyond the construction of the minds. There is no proof for the presence of the Supreme Divinity, but faith might assure it mysteriously. The point here is that one should not exaggerate the justification of his/her belief and learn to accept his limitations. Besides, religion is not an assurance to salvation as it cannot save one from the pit of Hades. It may only serve as a tool, a path, and a foundation towards life. What man should secure in an intimate relationship to his Creator rather than intricate religion where the ends are but destructions.

The present condition on religion may have brought an absurd dispute on man's way to understand and adopt a particular belief. Is it a crusade, a virtue or a selfish will? Nevertheless, these are a compendium of knowledge and shreds of evidence to explore to understand the interaction between religion and politics.

IV. SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

This paper discussed the historical background of religion and how it was invented to lure people into a trap. Thus, it appears that it is the people who created the religion and not the belief that created people. Credible philosophers like Master K'ung, Lao Tzu and Prince Gautama expounded their ideas on these issues. Their followers revived their philosophy and transfigured them to be a divine or living god.

It was also found in this paper that the belief of masses in Christ was devised to capture the heart of his citizen to gain sympathy for political survival. Hence, the context of religion is explicitly affirmed to be a man-made organization that binds people and reunites them as one.

The purpose of understanding God's deity is seen to be pragmatic or instrumental. The man tried to understand the most profound things of God and His preeminence. This resulted in chaos, confusion and condemnation. This explicitly affirms the disorder about *substance* that causes dilemma. The physical substance-*matter* and metaphysical substance-*spiritual* appear nothing but of the same nature. Thus, the separation between man and God is found as mysterious and intangible.

Concerning the relic of the religious event brought by the past civilization, the church is seen as microsystem that binds humanity regardless of creed and race. Also, church authority is seen to be responsible for Bible occurrence. Apparently, the Bible is explicitly identified as the product of the church. Bible then is said to be under the authority of a church so why people base their faith on the physical aspects of a church and not on the Divine creator.

The original context of meaning and purpose of religion lies between the relations of humanity to God. This led to a religious institution to build a new organization or religion. The sentiments of the individual from their experiences in the past events are deeply exaggerated as distorted by the leader to form a mere resentment. This

simple strategy led to catch sympathy to poison the consciousness of many. This kind of approach caused other religions to propagate and flourish and continuously deceiving the minds of the great majority.

Finally, it is extrapolated from the above discussions that religions confined individuals to an illusion that lead them to become victims of a new invented guild-religious organization. Ignorance of faith and belief is increased to many and the thing that makes it absurd is the poisonous will of religious predators to deceive people and become evil like them.

V. ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The author expresses his most profound appreciation to his parents, Orestes L. Santiago and Cholita M. Santiago for their love and support to him. To his wife, Nenita and his daughters: Sophia and Athena who serve as inspiration, the lighting torch of perseverance to the author's dark and thick times.

The author also expresses his immeasurable appreciation to his colleagues, Dr. Ronaldo R. Larioque and Dr. Gener S. Subia for their substantial contribution, willingness in giving their time and effort, and for critiquing his work and offering insightful comments and suggestions.

REFERENCES

- [1] Yu-Lan, Fung. A Short History of Chinese Philosophy, ed. Derk Bodde, New York: The Free Press, 1948.
- [2] Catoir, John T., World Religion: Beliefs Behind Today's Headlines, Makati: St Paul Publication, 1993.
- [3] Co, Alfredo P., *Philosophy of the Compassionate Buddha: Under the Bo-Tree... On the Lotus Flower*, Philippines: UST Publishing House, 2003.
- [4] Know Your Faith: In Defense of the Catholic Truth, Makati: St. Paul, 2008.
- [5] CriticalAnalysis.<u>https://www2.southeastern.edu/Academics/Faculty/elejeune/critique.htm.</u>
- [6] Jung, Carl G., *The Undiscovered Self*, trans. from German by R.F.C. Hull, New York: A Division of Penguin Books USA Inc., 1957, 1958.
- [7] Berkeley, George. *Principle of Human Understanding and Three Dialogues*, ed. with an intro. and notes Howard Robinson, New York: Oxford University Press, 1996.
- [8] Marx, Karl. *Critique of Hegel's 'Philosophy of Right'*, ed. with an intro. and notes. Joseph O'Malley, New York: Cambridge University Press, 1970.
- [9] Hagopian, Mark N., Ideals and Ideologies of Modern Politics, New York: Longman Inc., 1985.
- [10] Nietzsche, Friedrich. *Thus Spoke Zarathustra*, trans. with an intro. by R. J. Hollingdale, England: Penguin Books Ltd., 1961, 1969.