
DON'T LEAVE YOUR RELIGION

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PILGRIM 1: Eruch, what did Baba say to the, to the followers of the different religions that hear about him?

ERUCH: Don't leave your religion. Be where you are posted. [crosstalk-interpreter] Continue, continue, continue to be what you are but live the life according to what your religion tells you to do. How many are there you see? Baba says that Zoroaster said that to live truly, speak truly, act truly. How many are there? You call yourself Zoroastrian. Christianity says love thy neighbor as you love—how many Christians are there who do this? In Buddhism the compassion is there, brotherhood amongst Muslims is there, how many are there who live like brothers? They fight among themselves. So that's what it is. So religion, be in the religion, don't try to leave your religion is what Baba said. Religion is a sort of a framework that has been created in which you keep your, it keeps the shape of your soul, you see. But it is not the soul. It's a means to keep your soul bright.

PILGRIM 2: To keep the soul?

ERUCH: Bright. Provided...huh?

PILGRIM 2: Sorry I'm translating

ERUCH: No, but what I'm saying is that provided you follow the religion.

PILGRIM 2: [inaudible] It keeps you ground to your religion.

ERUCH: Yeah. The religion, the true religion based on the preceptors but then with the passage of time, everything gets washed away.

BILLY: You know but in this connection it is sometimes a little hard to know about the established religions. What our attitudes should be. Elizabeth and I have had a difference of opinion about the upbringing of our child Gideon because I feel you know Baba is enough and

ERUCH: So you want Baba to be another religion

BILLY: No, no. That he doesn't, that we don't need any of those formal religions, but Elizabeth feels that a child should have formal religious training. And so, even though I have never been a practicing Jew, Gideon is being brought up as a Jew, and he's going to Hebrew school and the temple and so on.

ELIZABETH: You see I'm Catholic and Billy doesn't like Catholics.

BILLY: No. Now every time you say that I correct you, now come on.

ELIZABETH: He doesn't like Catholicism.

ERUCH: No but what's wrong with anything? Why one likes and one dislikes? All that, what have we to do with all this? Take it, draw the honey. What Catholicism stands for, how it all started. The roots are there in the life of the Lord Jesus Christ. That's what we have to go to. We are not to go to the whatever it is you see on the Sabbath, we must observe the Sabbath or we must do this or well we should attend the mass or this or that but because of the, we have been brought up there. Be in the congregation, but while you are there attending the mass also remember what it is all. What does it stand for, why is it all, how it has deteriorated? Become aware of that and it's alright. Be in the community but be not of it. Be in the world but be not of it. It's like that.

ELIZABETH: Do you think that it's fine for Gideon to go to Hebrew school and go to the temple and learn about Judaism and [inaudible]?

ERUCH: Why not? It will be a good thing for him to know so that when he grows old, then he'll be able to tell the Jews what Baba stands for.

BILLY: On the other hand—

[interpreter talking]

ERUCH: And then, on the other hand, well Elizabeth will tutor him in Christianity and then when he grows old then he'll have that knowledge also, and he'll be telling the Christians as to what Baba stands for and what the truth is. What knowledge is there in that.

PILGRIM 3: He might choose neither.

ERUCH: When he grows older then he'll drop both. Yes. But that doesn't mould him in something—that's fine.

BILLY: [laughing] I just don't see the necessity of

ERUCH: You don't see the...

BILLY: I don't see the necessity, I mean, so does he have to learn Hebrew?

ERUCH: No no, he doesn't have to learn Hebrew but at least the tenets. Whatever it is, the outline of it and all that sort of thing. That's how it should be.

BILLY: Yeah but see, but that we can teach him in the home.

ERUCH: So then you can do that. Let him know that he's brought up just as—Well I say that I was born a Zoroastrian. What will he have to say? I was born as what?

BILLY: He will, I imagine, if it keeps up this way, he'll say he was born a Jew I suppose.

ERUCH: So then what harm is there, you don't like that?

PILGRIM 3: Well, he loves Baba—it doesn't really matter too much.

ERUCH: Yeah, on the contrary he'll be a shining example to all the Jews, if he loves Baba.

BILLY: I'm saying why saddle him with it?

ELIZABETH: It's just the Rabbi loves him. The Rabbi thinks he's wonderful.

ERUCH: But I don't want to meddle with your personal lives and all that.

ELIZABETH: As long as you agree with me
Eruch [inaudible][general laughter]

BILLY: Yeah there's no problem as long as
you agree with her.