

C o n t e n t s

Preface ix

SECTION 1 What Is Religion? The Search of the Classic Tradition 1

- Reading 1 The Opiate of the People—Karl Marx 2
 Part 1 Contribution to the Critique of Hegel's Philosophy of
 Right—Karl Marx 3
 Part 2 Theses on Feuerbach—Karl Marx 5
Reading 2 Religion as Neurosis—Sigmund Freud 9
Reading 3 Religion as Society's Self-Worship—Emile Durkheim 20
Reading 4 The Function of Funerals—Bronislaw Malinowski 27
Reading 5 A Reply to Marx—Max Weber 32
Reading 6 Religion as a Search for Meaning—Talcott Parsons 40
Reading 7 Religion as a Cultural System—Clifford Geertz 46
Reading 8 The "Holy"—Rudolph Otto 68

SECTION 2 The Lure of the Sacred 81

- Reading 9 Sacred Time—Mircea Eliade 82
Reading 10 Sacred Place—Mircea Eliade 94

SECTION 3 Religious Experiences 107

- Reading 11 The Nature of Mysticism—Philip H. Ennis and E. C.
 Happold 108
 Part 1 Ecstasy and Everyday Life—Philip H. Ennis 109
 Part 2 The Nature of Mystical Experience—E. C. Happold 118
Reading 12 A Way of Knowing—William James 122
Reading 13 Only the Facts: Survey Research on Ecstasy—
 Andrew M. Greeley 140

SECTION 4 Folk Religion 161

- Reading 14 The Persistence of Folk Religion—Gustav Mensching 162
 Part 1 Folk and Universal Religion—Gustav Mensching 163
 Part 2 The Masses, Folk Belief and Universal Religion—
 Gustav Mensching 171
- Reading 15 Madonnas That Maim—Michael Carroll 176
- Reading 16 The Madonna of Italian Harlem—Robert Orsi 185
 Part 1 The Days and Nights of the Festa—Robert Orsi 186
 Part 2 The Theology of the Streets—Robert Orsi 193

SECTION 5 Secularization: The Decline of Religion 199

- Reading 17 Religion Isn't What It Used to Be—Bryan Wilson and
 Thomas Luckmann 200
 Part 1 Religion in Secular Society—Bryan Wilson 201
 Part 2 The Decline of Church-Oriented Religion—
 Thomas Luckmann 209
- Reading 18 The Social Forms of Religion—Thomas Luckmann 217
- Reading 19 An Argument About Secularization—
 Thomas Luckmann and Andrew M. Greeley 231
- Reading 20 Continuity in American Religion—
 Andrew M. Greeley 249
- Reading 21 The Good Old Days—Andrew M. Greeley 256

SECTION 6 Church Institutions 277

- Reading 22 Church and Sect—Ernest Troeltsch 278
- Reading 23 Cult Formation—William Bainbridge
 and Rodney Stark 289

SECTION 7 Women and Religion 305

- Reading 24 Women as Sacred—Mircea Eliade 306
- Reading 25 God as Mother in the Hebrew Scriptures—
 Mayer Gruber 319
- Reading 26 The Womanliness of God and the Survival of Mary—

SECTION 8 American Religion 337

Reading 27 American Denominationalism: The Statistics—
Andrew M. Greeley 339

Part 1 Data on American Denominations—
Andrew M. Greeley 340

Part 2 Membership of Denominations
in the Last Hundred Years—Andrew M. Greeley 346

Reading 28 Civil Religion—Robert Bellah 348

Reading 29 A Religion of Revivals—Edward A. Tiryakian 366

Reading 30 Religious Changers—Wade Clark Roof and
William McKinney 383

Reading 31 Protestants—Nancy T. Ammerman and
Jeffrey K. Hadden 414

Part 1 North American Protestant Fundamentalism—
Nancy T. Ammerman 416

Part 2 Conservative Christians, Televangelism, and Politics:
Taking Stock a Decade After the Founding
of the Moral Majority—Jeffrey K. Hadden 425

Reading 32 Catholics—Andrew M. Greeley 433

Reading 33 Jews—Jacob Neusner and Bernard Lazerwitz 442

Part 1 Judaism in Contemporary America—Jacob Neusner 443

Part 2 The American Jewish Community at the End of the
Twentieth Century—Bernard Lazerwitz 452

Reading 34 African Americans—Larry L. Hunt and
Janet G. Hunt 467

Acknowledgments 481