

RELIGION AND WAR — *necessary de-correlations* —

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Religion and war have been for a long time, which does not seem to be over yet, in direct relationship. Old soldiers went to battle animated by the thought that God is on their side, without forgetting to bring prayers and sacrifices in order to express their gratitude, and also to maintain the good relationship with God in the future. In tribal cultures (and here the Bible gives us many examples), when a side was losing a war, members of that tribe had to worship the gods worshipped by the victorious side.

The armed conflict in religious doctrines

Most religions refer in their writings to the armed conflict, war, justifying it explicitly and implicitly. Based on historical records, we will open our analysis by those religions which have been called "religions of the book"¹ Paradoxically, these *religions of the book* seem to prove - over time - a strong belligerent character. Therefore, we will identify the issues related to war in these three monotheistic religions: Judaism, Christianity, and the Islam.

It is true that Judaism and Christianity share not only the source, but also a common tradition, developing in a similar historical context in which the state of war was almost constant: "Who ever goes to war at his own expense? Who plants a vineyard and does not eat any of its grapes? Or who takes care of a flock and does not drink any of its milk?"(Corinthians, 9:7)

¹ The Abrahamic religions - Judaism, Christianity and the Islam - whose teachings are contained in the holy books: the Torah, the Bible, and the Koran.