

Questions for Symbol & Analogy seminar, 3/2/76

1. The study of religion focuses upon the concept of "limit" in language, conceptualization and experience--and, as such, this study deals with the broad realities of all human experience, for members of any religion or viewpoint. However, the Christian Gospel seems to demand that all interpretation of reality be referred to one virtually unconditioned event (i.e., Jesus of Nazareth), and not to ontological or metaphysical structures. If this is at least somewhat true, can it be said that theology is a referral of our attention precisely to that which is not understandable or explicable in any epistemological or even rational system or methodology? (i.e., to the Cross?)

2. This question asks for criteria for authentic conversion: In what sense is conversion--intellectual, moral or religious--verifiable? what are the conditions for fulfilling an authentic conversion? is conversion itself open to some kind of analysis or judgment as to what conversion entails? In the face of the experience of transcendence, how does one verify the correctness of conversion?

3/8/76

We discussed these questions last week. We had no discussion group this past week + so have no questions for tomorrow's class.

as for class presentations: we finished Fred Olsen's presentation on Tracy: "Religious Language in the NT." We did not begin the reports scheduled for 3/2.

D. A. H.

And welcome back. I hope your trip + lectures went well.