

RELIGION AS LIGHT AND DARKNESS



In the time of Bahá'u'lláh people used to obey kings and queens and religious leaders. If these leaders had listened to Bahá'u'lláh, we would have had peace in the world a long time ago.

Many of the religious leaders told the people not to listen to Bahá'u'lláh. Thousands of years ago other religious leaders had also told people not to obey a new Messengers of God when He came. Because of this, in the beginning, very few people believed in the Messengers of God, such as Jesus, or

Muhammad. Sometimes this was because the old religious leaders were jealous, and sometimes it was just because they just did not want to hear anything new. They also thought they knew better than anyone else, even God. Their wrong ideas made people very confused.

Because of this, many people did not know what to believe, and this caused fighting and a great deal of unhappiness. There were a few good and fair religious leaders, but it was the others who caused so much trouble.

Not only did some of the religious leaders fight among themselves, but whole countries went to war, thinking that they alone were right and everyone else was wrong. People began to think that it was religion which caused all the unhappiness and fighting, but the troubles were really caused by people who were prejudiced and had turned away from the teachings of God. In all the Holy Books, God tells us to love one another and never to hate anyone.

Bahá'u'lláh said that when people turn away from God, it is time for a new Revelation, which is like medicine to make the world well again.

Questions:

- a) How could we have had peace in the world one hundred years ago?
- b) Why did some of the religious leaders not obey Bahá'u'lláh?
- c) Why did people think that religion causes war?
- d) Who really caused the wars?
- e) Instead of fighting, what does God tell us to do?
- f) When the world is sick, what is the medicine that will make it well again?