## **Greg Nance, Signal Mountain Church of Christ**

First we must narrow our scope. Strictly speaking, "religion" is the human effort to reunite with the divine and it assumes a brokenness that needs repair. There are thousands of religions, creating many of the problems in our world. Instead of ridding the world of religion, we need to unite under one. Jesus Christ claimed to be the only way to the Father (i.e. divine). If every human submitted to the Lordship (full authority) of Jesus Christ and worked together practicing the moral ethics and graciousness He commanded, we would respect one another and the creation around us. Christianity has a built in toleration for weakness but not for rebellion. It allows a wide range of human creative developments, but not if those contradict the prime directives: love God first, love others second. Study of "climate change" would fit under respect for God's creation. "Wars, terrorism, racial issues, etc." would fit under obedience to the prime directives. The answer is simple, not easy. We tend to love complexity so that we can hide our rebellious motives under them. Life without religion leads to loss of the meaning of humanity itself. That is a worst-case scenario.