



God and Science: an unnecessary conflict

Science is not a belief system but a language with which we understand Reality.

Religion is a belief system which humankind has developed to interpret Reality.

Conflict is avoidable only if one group decides not to interfere in the views of the other.

This can only be done on a one-on-one basis.



The one-on-one approach

“Members of the Mineral Society will not attack the religious views of the Unitary Church* if that Church agrees not to attack Science.”*

AND

The Church shall practice it's belief system in:

An individual's home

A designated place of worship

AND

The Church will not engage in politics to further its belief system.

* substitute the Group and Church of your choice



Problems with Science Groups

There can be NO compromise at the fundamental level.

An interfering God does not exist.
The soul does not exist



Problems with Religious Groups

There can be NO compromise at the fundamental level.

An interfering God exists
A soul exists in all human beings

It will be difficult NOT to allow religious principals to influence the way a religious person votes, and therefore how do we get Religious Groups to agree to the total separation of Church and State?



Control of the Religious Group

A strong set of rules that separate Church and State, resulting in the development of ethical rules built around what Religion is NOT.

What is the punishment for breaking those ethical rules?
This punishment must be enforceable.

What is the punishment for breaking the laws that separate Church from State?
This punishment must be enforceable and severe.



Control of the Science Group

The development of ethical rules built
around what Science is NOT

What is the punishment for breaking those ethical rules?

This punishment must be enforceable.



What can we expect with this approach?

There will be NO compromise at the fundamental level.

Religion will become a life-style rather than a political force.

Science will continue to be the way in which we describe the Universe.

Science will develop methods of handling the underlying cause of the imminent global crisis embedded in over-breeding

i.e. population numbers, population density, and resource allocation.



WHAT SCIENCE IS NOT

Not based on a belief system

Not a method based on intuition, authority or revelation

Not a process that can solve all problems: because it is restricted to our natural Universe

Not a process that can ignore rules: because it follows logic and rational thinking

Not a process that seeks the truth but rather accepts facts by failing to reject what appears to be true

Not provable i.e. the conclusions of science must be potentially falsifiable and, therefore, reject supernaturalism [Popper]

Not a method to derive absolute facts

Not a matter of opinion or anecdotal evidence

Not a killer of religion



WHAT RELIGION IS NOT

The apophatic philosophy for God

“God is far beyond human understanding and experience that the only hope we have of getting close to the nature of God is to list all his negative features. And therefore we cannot say that God exists, because existence is a human notion and as such it may not apply to God”. Vlatko Vedral, 2010: 194

Not a rational system
Not an explanation of reality



CONCLUSION

COMPROMISE is **not** possible because of the nature of human beings.

CONFLICT is **avoidable** if we rely on the principles of law and ethical behavior.