

What devastation does this unconscious assumption work! In every community there will always be men and women formed by nature to think critically when they think at all, to act as radical reformers when they act with any force, and who, when they feel God, can only feel Him as the great Innovator breaking away the shackles of past mistakes and present tyrannies. It is only the living death of indifference and inactivity that can keep this large part of the religious world patiently conformable to what is.

The priest
versus
the reformer.

My whole quarrel with you is that such ministry as yours will either weed out half humanity from the church or leave them in a living death within it.

If you lived in a city, the tyrannies of the *bourgeois* class would seem to you so unlovely that you would be keen upon some vague form of socialism, but would still desire to graft upon it an old religion. But in the country the remains of the feudal order are still lovely in your eyes.