

## The Comedian and the Preacher

A good comedian is a gifted actor who makes you laugh until you cry; you listen to him telling silly jokes, and watch him make fun of himself and of others; he helps you relax, get into a good mood, and forget what is on your mind. Soon after you leave the theatre, you resume regular life with renewed energy and enthusiasm. From time to time, however, the comedian's image comes back to remind you of some of his funny acts and silly jokes and make you smile. Yes, you smile for seconds and then resume normal life; you know that nothing comedians say or do are supposed to be taken seriously.

A good preacher is also a gifted actor and able communicator; he or she speaks with passion and makes you cry as you listen to him; he manipulates you and leads you to believe in what he says and makes you do things that are supposed to help you get rid of what is bothering you and be a good religious person. So going to see a preacher is an acknowledgement of having psychological problems you are unable to deal with without help. Soon after you leave the preacher, however, you are more likely to feel sorry for yourself, and resume regular life with a touch of sadness and despair. Nevertheless, as you grow up and become mature, you discover how naïve you were to believe in slogans and silly things that can help no one; as a result, you laugh at yourself with sadness.

Therefore, a good comedian makes you laugh at him and at his jokes and acts and feel good; a good preacher in contrast, makes you cry and feel sorry for yourself and often guilty, but eventually you discover that you were naïve to go to see him, and laugh at yourself.

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