



The phrase appears in many places, with more or less similar variants: it is better to be a good person than to believe in a religion.

The phrase shows its complexity when compared to similar phrases that could be elaborated by your side. Here are some of them:

It's better to be a good person than to love your own country. It's better to be a good person than to have a certain identity card. It is better to be a good person than to vote left/right. It's better to be a good person than to have college degrees. It's better to be a good person than to know languages. It's better to be a good person than to think autonomously.

Each of those possibilities (and many more could be added) seem to be in the way of being a good person with some kind of thinking or some characteristic of people.

To be a good person with religion, or with generic political proposals, or with the greatest (or lesser) love of one's own country, is problematic.

Why? Because it would seem that the pursuit of kindness could put aside many other things when in fact it is compatible with those things, and in no few cases needs some of them.

Thus, an authentically religious man, who seeks the truth about God and how to relate to Him, would not only be a good person but would even work seriously for improvement in his personal and communal life.

Therefore, it is not correct to strike a good person by reaching other qualifications that are compatible with ethical life. What is not only correct, but also necessary is to analyze what activities and ways of thinking harm the kindness of people, and which promote and preserve it.