TOLSTOY AND HIS SEARCH FOR THE MEANING OF LIFE AND RELIGION

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as well. Life and religion were closely intertwined for him, as the one explained the other.

One essential aspect of his explanation of life and religion was his laying the emphasis on human reasoning to clarify the matter concerning them. His explanation of life and religion was rational. He scrupulously discarded what was superstitious, mystical, or beyond rational comprehension. Yet, he did not agree with the purely rational conclusions as well which were devoid of the true conception of life. He denounced modern science and philosophy for that. It was his very peculiarity that if he disapproved of any irrational explanation of life and religion, he disapproved of any rational conclusion if it was not pre-directed by the true understanding of life.

One may not agree with Tolstoy's understanding of life and religion, but one who is interested in life and its meaning cannot disregard him. He is among the most curious explorers in this field. No explorer has been able to discover the whole truth so far, and Tolstoy is no exception to that. But how much truth has he been able to discover, is for every individual to discover for himself.