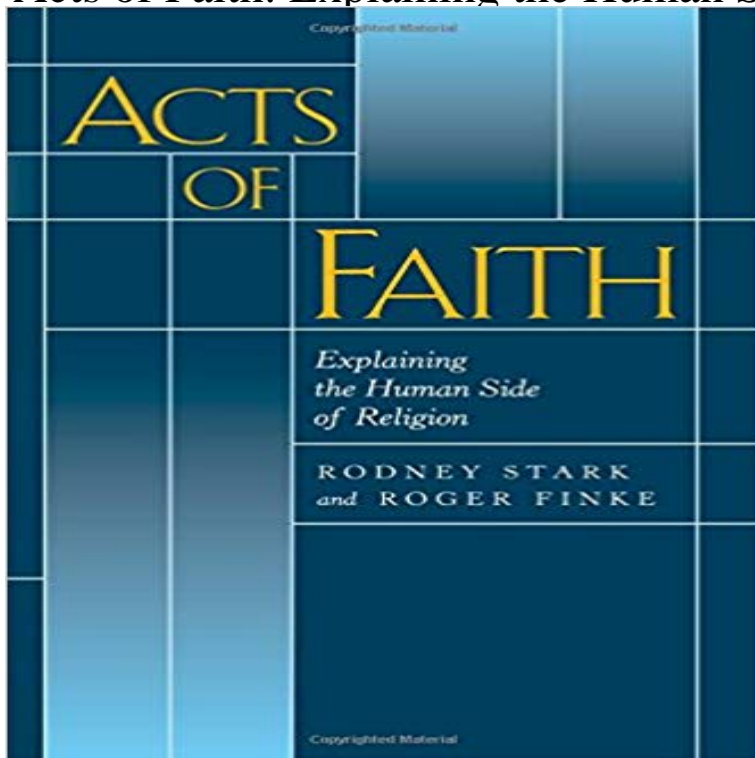


# Acts of Faith: Explaining the Human Side of Religion



Finally, social scientists have begun to attempt to understand religious behavior rather than to discredit it as irrational, ignorant, or foolish and Rodney Stark and Roger Finke have played a major role in this new approach. Acknowledging that science cannot assess the supernatural side of religion (and therefore should not claim to do so), Stark and Finke analyze the observable, human side of faith. In clear and engaging prose, the authors combine explicit theorizing with animated discussions as they move from considering the religiousness of individuals to the dynamics of religious groups and then to the religious workings of entire societies as religious groups contend for support. The result is a comprehensive new paradigm for the social-scientific study of religion.

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Read the full-text online edition of Acts of Faith: Explaining the Human Side of Religion (2000). Rodney Stark is Professor of Sociology and Comparative Religion at the University of Washington. Among his many books are *The Rise of Christianity* (1996), *The Future of Religion: Secularization, Revival, and Cult Formation* (California, 1985), and, with Roger Finke, *The Churching*. On Oct 1, 2003 William H. Swatos (and others) published: Acts of Faith: Explaining the Human Side of Religion. Amazon.com. Acts of Faith: Explaining the Human Side of Religion. Amazon.com. Rodney Stark, Roger Finke. On Sep 1, 2001 J. P. Bartkowski published: Acts of Faith: Explaining the Human Side of Religion. By Rodney Stark and Roger Finke. University of California Press, 2000. ISBN: 9780520222021. Kostenloser Versand für alle Bücher mit Versand und Zahlungsmittel. Acts of Faith: Explaining the Human Side of Religion. Review Symposium on Rodney Stark and Roger Finke's profile, publications, research topics, and more. Buy Acts of Faith: Explaining the Human Side of Religion by Rodney Stark (ISBN: 9780520222021) from Amazon's Book Store. Everyday low prices and free shipping on orders over \$25. Acts of Faith is the single big book in the sociology of religion in the past decade, a monumental effort that both demolishes old theories and creates brilliant new ones. In the Judeo-Christian religious tradition, the story of David felling Goliath celebrates the triumph of the faithful underdog over the haughty, heathen giant. *Social Forces* 80.1 (2001) 377-379. Acts of Faith: Explaining the Human Side of Religion. By Rodney Stark and Roger Finke. University of California Press, 2000. 343 pp. Cloth, \$48.00 paper. Finally, social scientists have begun to attempt to understand religious behavior rather than to discredit it as irrational, ignorant, or foolish and Rodney Stark