Lennon and Jesus: Secularization and the Transformation of Religion

1. Lennon’s famous “more popular than Jesus” statement was inflammatory, while making a legitimate point. Why was this statement so controversial and what did he mean when he said it? Explain
2. Define the process of secularization and why Lennon compared the Beatles to Christianity.
3. Define Religious experimentalism.
4. Explain Lennon’s feelings on the religious dimension of the “flower-power movement.
5. How did Lennon explain his *conception of God* on a French radio show? What was he implying?
6. Define Lennon’s interpretation of “born again.”
7. What are the religious implications of how The Beatles were named?
8. What was the most important message that Lennon wanted the Beatles to advance?
9. What is considered to be Lennon’s most forceful and ideological song?
10. What political ideology is *Imagine* linked to and how does it relate to Christian idealism?
11. What are *Religious Sensibilities* and *Unbelief and Alternative Ideas*? How are theyinterrelated in Lennon’s world?
12. Define the “expressive revolution.”
13. Define “peak experience.” How did Lennon achieve this?
14. What feature of secularization held special significance for Lennon’s art?
15. Define quasi-religion.
16. Define humanistic theism.
17. The author, Eyel Regev, contends that humanistic quasi-religion best illuminates the ideological construction of *Imagine.* Explain Regev’s argument.