

## FANATICS

He was one of those religious fanatics. You know the kind - too heavenly minded to be any earthly use. He was one of that type that always embarrasses you by interrupting the decision-making at a meeting and saying, "Let's pray about it!" In fact he would say he prayed all the time, as if that were possible, always saying "The Lord told me to do such-and-such" — as if he were so much more spiritual than the rest of us. And critical! He never seemed to be satisfied with anything. When he wasn't criticising other Christians about their morality, he was pressuring them to give more to charity, or accusing them of emotionalism: a fine one to talk when he openly admitted being involved in that pentecostal tongues stuff.

And the noise he made about his religion was frankly distasteful. Some people just get on with being quietly spiritual, but not him! He was always on about his faith — if you made the mistake of asking him to give a talk, he'd go on all night given half a chance — and then you wouldn't understand half of what he said. It wouldn't have been so bad if it didn't put non-Christians off. More than once he went on so much that he turned off quite a receptive crowd, and they ended up telling him to stop babbling on. He even made some of them think he was mad - now as far as I'm concerned, that's not Christianity.



What makes people like that tick? I see you know the type - every church is lumbered with a few of them. This one was called Paul — Paul of Tarsus\*\*\*

JCC