Lord Summerisle: "Now, those children out there, they're jumpin g through the flames in the hope that the god of the fire will make them fruitful. Really, you can't blame them. After all, wh at girl would not prefer the child of a god to that of some acn e-scarred artisan?"

Sergeant Howie: "And you encourage them in this?"

Lord Summerisle: "Actively! It's most important to teach new ge neration born of Summerisle be made aware that here the old god s aren't dead."

Sergeant Howie: "And what of the true God? To whose glory churc hes and monasteries have been built on these islands for genera tions past? Now shall what of Him?"

Lord Summerisle: "Oh, He's dead. He can't complain. He had his chance and in modern parlance. Blew it."