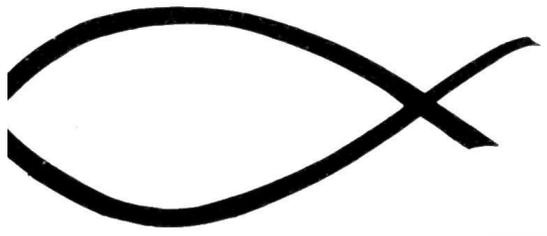


World Religions

Unit 3



Christianity



Judaism



Buddhism



Hinduism



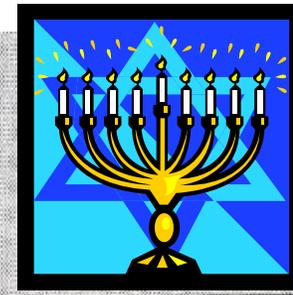
Islam



Sikhism



WHAT IS RELIGION?



A set of beliefs about the meaning of life, the nature of the universe, and the existence of the supernatural (including God or a Supreme Being).

A set of customs and practices that relate to the worship of God (or several gods) and a set of rules for the conduct of a good life.

An organization, such as a church or other place of worship, which oversees the conduct of religious practices.

Most religions designate some special places as sacred or holy.



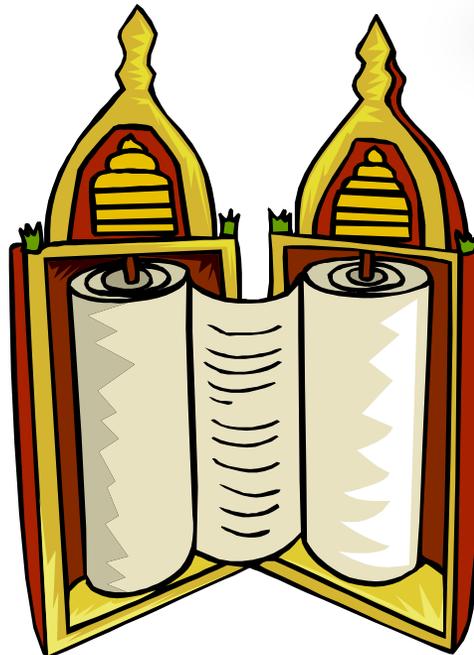
Religion

- Is a set of beliefs about life, the universe and a supernatural power. It also includes forms and locations of worship

Monotheism

- **Belief in one god**

- Christianity
- Islam
- Judaism



Polytheism

- Belief in multiple gods
 - Hinduism
 - Greek Mythology



Major World Religions

- Christianity
- Judaism
- Islam
- Buddhism
- Hinduism

Judaism



Judaism

- The first monotheistic religion, which was founded by Abraham and whose followers are called Jews



KEY FEATURES OF JUDAISM

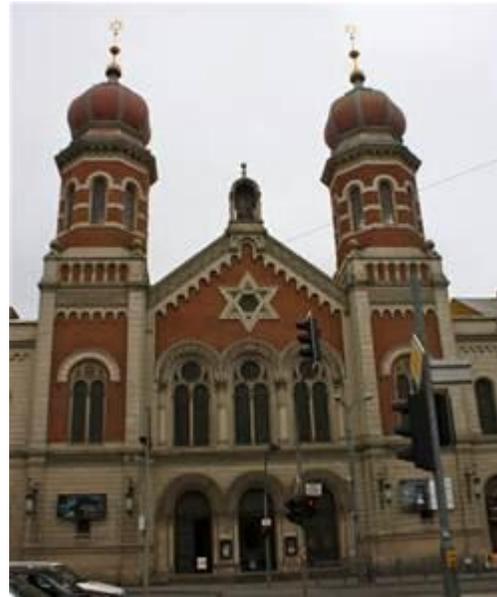
Monotheism. Other ancient peoples were **animists** (*believing each object had its own spirit*), or **polytheists** (*believing in many gods*). In contrast, the Hebrews were **monotheists** (*believing in only one God*).

Ten Commandments. The Jewish religion emphasizes the importance of living justly and following God's commandments. These ten simple laws forbade believing in false gods, stealing, murder, adultery, and other forms of immoral behavior.

Old Testament. The history of the ancient Hebrews and their relationship with God is told in the first books of the **Bible**, known as the **Old Testament**. Jews refer to the first five books of the Old Testament as the **Torah**.

Judaism

- The Jewish god's name is "Adonai"
- Jewish people cannot
- eat Pork.
- Worship is done in a Synagogue



Judaism

- Followers of Judaism believe Moses is God's prophet.
- The Torah is the book of Judaism



Jewish Holidays

- Rosh Hashanah

- The **Jewish New Year**



- Yom Kippur

- The Day of Atonement, a **day for fasting** and reflecting on one's sins. It is the **holiest day in the Jewish Year**.
- Hanukkah – **Festival of Lights**

Jewish Holidays Cont.



• Hanukkah

- The annual Jewish festival celebrated on eight successive days beginning on the 25th day of Kislev, the third month of the Jewish calendar, corresponding, approximately, to December in the Gregorian calendar. It is also known as the Festival of Lights, Feast of Dedication, and Feast of the Maccabees, Hanukkah commemorates the rededication of the Temple of Jerusalem by Judas Maccabee in 165 BC after the Temple had been profaned by Antiochus IV Epiphanes, king of Syria and overlord of Palestine.

Quick Facts - Judaism (Monotheistic)

- Origin: Palestine
- God: One all- powerful god
- Holy books: The Torah
- Basic Beliefs: The Ten Commandments, the Torah as the word of God, and God's plan for proper living.
- Prophets: Abraham and Moses
- Holidays: Passover, Shavuot, Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, and Hanukkah

CHRISTIANITY



Christianity (Monotheistic)

- Palestine 30 C.E.
- Has one God with three aspects(Father, Son, and Holy Spirit)
- The bible is a form of holy book.
- Basic beliefs include the teachings of Jesus in the New Testament and the Ten Commandments
- Prophets: Jesus Christ
- Holiday: Christmas (birth of JC), Easter(death and resurrection of Jesus)

Christianity

- ▶ In Christianity monotheistic (One God)
 - The Christian God has 3 parts
- ▶ Typically, Christians practice, or worship their religion in a church
- ▶ Christians believe Jesus died on a Cross.
- ▶ The Bible is the book of the
- ▶ Christian faith.



MAJOR BELIEFS OF CHRISTIANITY

Role of Jesus. Christians believe Jesus was the son of God, and sacrificed himself to save humankind from punishment for their sins. Christians believe that after his death, Jesus was resurrected and rose to Heaven.

Christian Conduct. Christians believe they will be saved and will go to Heaven after death if they have faith in Christ as their savior and treat others with love and respect. Christians believe in the Golden Rule — “do unto others as you would have them do unto you.”

The Christian Bible. The sacred book of Christianity consists of the **Old Testament** (*the Jewish Bible*) and the **New Testament**, which describes the life of Christ and the works of the Apostles.

ISLAM



Followers of Islam

- ▶ Islam is the name of the religion.
 - Muslim is a FOLLOWER of Islam.
- ▶ Muslims cannot eat pork.
- ▶ Monotheistic religion
 - God's name is Allah



Followers of Islam

- ▶ Muslims worship in Mosques.
- ▶ Muslims believe Muhammad is God's prophet.
- ▶ Qu'ran is the book of Islam
- ▶ The 5 pillars of Faith are the most important practices for Muslims.



FIVE PILLARS OF FAITH

Confession of Faith

Muslims must affirm: "There is no God but Allah and Mohammed is his prophet."

Prayer

Muslims must pray five times a day, while facing east towards the city of Mecca.

Charity

Muslims must give money to the poor and pay taxes to the mosque.

Fasting

During the month of Ramadan, Muslims cannot eat or drink during daylight hours.

Pilgrimage

If physically able, a Muslim must make a pilgrimage (*religious trip*) to Mecca.

Islam

- A religion that teaches that there is one god and that Muhammad is his prophet



Islamic Holidays

- Eid al-Adha

- The 'Celebration of Sacrifice' which commemorates the Prophet Abraham's willingness to sacrifice his son Ishmael at God's command, reminding Muslims that their purpose in life is to be of service to Allah (God). It is celebrated on the 10th day of 12th month of the Islamic calendar



- Ramadan

- The ninth month of the Islamic year. During this time Muslims fast from sunrise to sunset. Only the very young or sick or those on a journey are allowed to eat or drink during this time.
- The *Eid al-Fitr*, the Feast of the Breaking of the Fast, ends Ramadan and lasts for several days



Worship is done in a Mosque



Islam (Monotheistic)

- Arabia 622 C.E.
- One all-powerful God, Allah
- The Qur'an is the holy book of Muslims
- Basic Beliefs: The word of God as revealed to Muhammad and the Five Pillars of Faith
- Prophets: Muhammad, Abraham, Moses, and Jesus
- Holidays: Ramadan (fasting month) and the time of hajj

HINDUISM



Hinduism (Polytheistic)

- Originated in India
- The nature of God is a divine power that takes on many different forms. Major ones are Brahma, Vishnu, and Shiva
- Holy books include Veda and Upanishads
- Basic beliefs are the Vedic Traditions which is life, death, and rebirth (reincarnation)
- Has no known prophets, just advice from gurus
- Major celebrations include Mahashivaratri, Holi, and Divali

Hinduism

- The name of people who follow Hinduism is Hindus. They believe that there are many gods. Each of these gods, however is a manifestation of one Supreme Being.

Karma: a person's actions determine what will happen after his or her death.



Hinduism

- Reincarnation
 - Means that after death a person's soul is reborn into a different body



- A person is born into a Caste according to the previous life they led
- The Sacred book is called Veda or Books of Knowledge
 - Contains writings on prayers, hymns, religious rituals, and philosophy (beliefs).

Hinduism

- Monkeys, Snakes, cows, and others are sacred.
- Major Holidays
 - Holi and Diwali



Gods. Hindus believe that there are many gods and goddesses. Each of these gods, however, is a manifestation (*form*) of one Supreme Being.

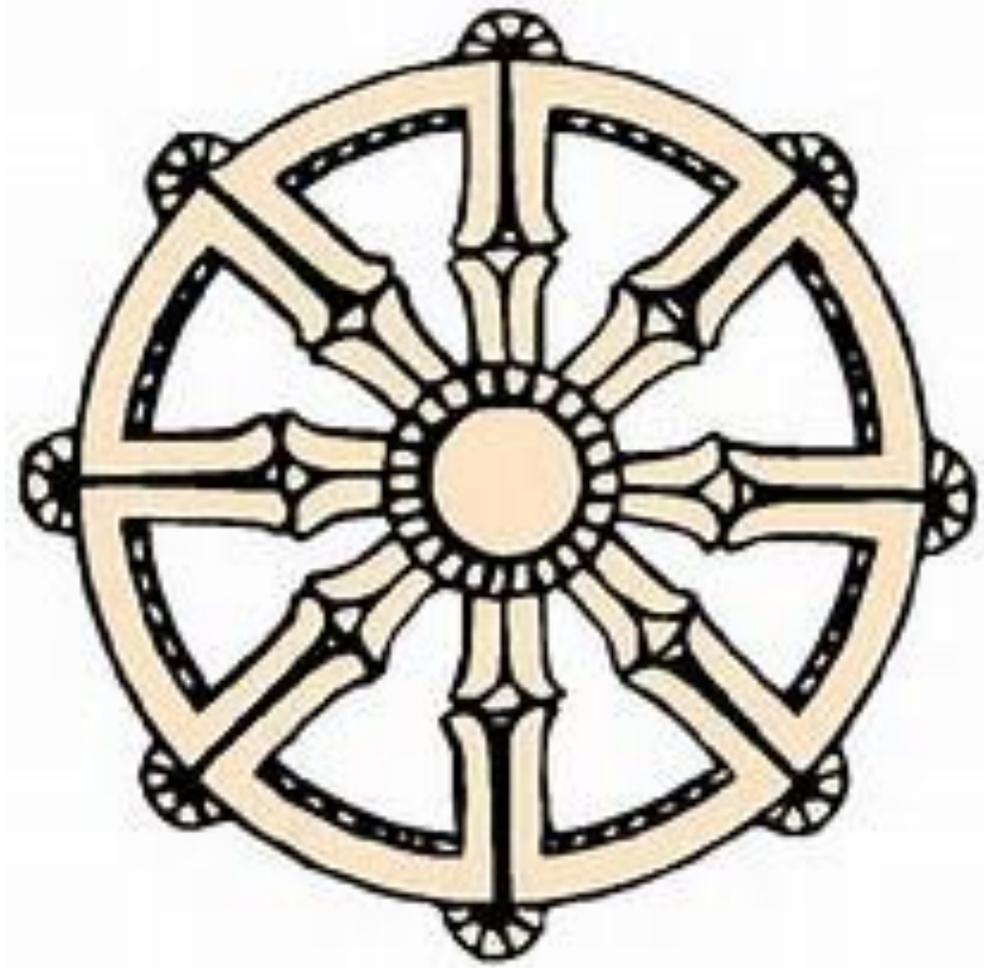
Reincarnation. Hindus believe that at death, a person's soul is reborn as another living thing. This creates an endless cycle of rebirth for each soul.

MAJOR BELIEFS OF HINDUISM

Karma. *Karma* refers to a person's behavior in life, which Hindus believe determines that person's form in the next life. People who live a good life will be reborn in a higher caste. Those who do not are reborn in a lower caste.

Sacred Objects. Hindus believe the Ganges River is sacred and has the power to wash away sin and evil. The cow is also considered sacred. As a result, religious Hindus do not eat beef.

Buddhism



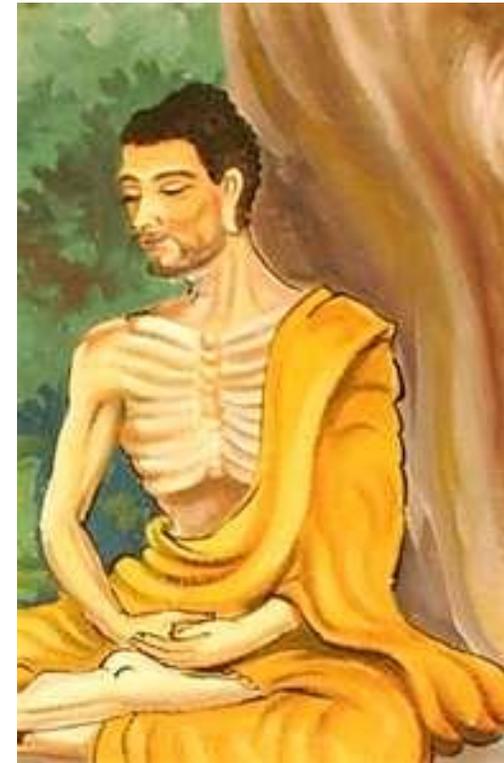
Buddhism

- India during 500 B.C.
- No powerful God but rather a “supernatural” or god-like beings
- Holy books include the Tripitaka
- Basic beliefs: The Teachings of Buddha, The Four Noble Truths, and the Eightfold Path
- Prophets: The Buddha Siddhartha Gautama
- Holidays: Wesak(life of Buddha) and Dhammachakka (Buddha’s 1st Sermon)



Buddhism

- Founded by Siddhartha Gautama.
 - He became the Buddha
 - “enlightened one.”
- Basic Philosophy:
 - Self-denial and meditation
 - Reincarnation
- Major Holidays
- Polytheistic means believes in many gods.

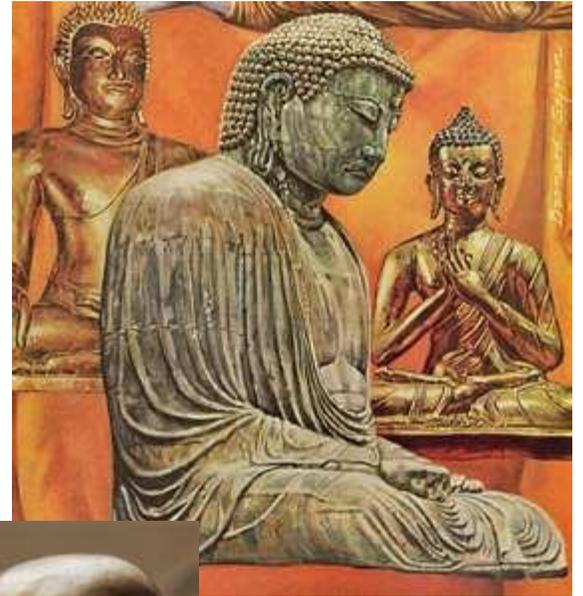


Buddhism's Four Noble Truths

- 1st-Life is suffering or unhappy and painful.
- 2nd-People want things they do not have and do not want what they have leading to unhappiness
- 3rd-When people get rid of self-centered desires, they become free from pain and reach enlightenment.
- 4th-The middle path is a life that is neither luxurious nor harsh.

Buddhism's Eightfold Path

- Guidelines of becoming “enlightened”
 - Right understanding
 - Right speech
 - Right conduct
 - Right job
 - Right effort
 - Right awareness
 - Right meditation
- ACHIEVE THESE WILL BRING...
 - NIRVANA- “A PERFECT HARMONY”



Basic Philosophy. Buddhism is based on a philosophy of self-denial and meditation. Buddhists also believe in reincarnation.

Gods and Holy Books. Buddhists do not believe in a single Supreme Being (*God*). They also do not have a primary holy book. Their basic beliefs are found in books called **Sutras**.

MAJOR BELIEFS OF BUDDHISM

Four Noble Truths. These truths explain life's meaning. They explain that pain and suffering is caused by human desires, such as the desire for material wealth and selfish pleasures. Only by giving up wrongful desires can a person find peace and harmony.

Eightfold Path. To give up selfish human desires, Buddhists believe one should follow this path: give up wealth, act in a worthy manner, speak truthfully, live righteously, respect all living things, and meditate.

Nirvana. By following the Eightfold Path, an individual can escape the soul's endless reincarnations and achieve **nirvana** — a state of eternal peace and bliss.