**World Religions and Belief Systems Review – AP World History**

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| *Numbers under religion are chapter numbers to consult for further reading* | **Judaism**1 | **Christianity**4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 17, 19, 22  | **Islam**6, 7, 8, 21, 26 | **Hinduism**3 | **Buddhism**3, 5 | **Confucianism**2, 5 | **Daoism/****Taoism**2, 5 | **Zoroastrianism**4 | **American Religions**11 | **Shintoism**5 |
| **Deities:****Monotheism or Polytheism?** | MonotheismYahweh | MonotheismJesus of Nazareth, the Trinity, Holy Spirit, Emmanuel | MonotheisticAllah | PolytheisticShiva (Destroyer) Vishnu (Preserver) Brahma (Creator) Lakshmi (Money) | Nontheistic, although syncretism adds afterlife | Nontheistic, Father/Emperor figure fulfills role | Animistic, Chinese mythology | Monotheistic | Polytheistic (Meso/South) - Quetzalcoatl, Huitzilopochtli, Tlaloc, Animistic N. Am. | Animistic, Polytheistic |
| **Foundations/Where it Began** | Semitic peoples of the Levant (Jews), 1200 BCE | Semitic peoples of the Levant; breakaway from Judaism, 30 CE | Arabian peninsula, Bedouins, c. 600s C.E., 610 (Revelation) | Aryan migrants into Indus River Valley, 1500 BCE | Siddhartha Gautama, 500s BCE, Indus River Valley & spreads | Kung Fuzi, 500s BCE (not a religion until Han Dynasty) | Laozi500s BCE | Zoroaster, c. 2000 BCE, popularized until 500s BCE | Olmecs 1000 BCE, Maya 600 CE, Teotihuacan 800 CE, Toltecs 1000 CE, Aztecs/Inca 1300 CE | Formally established 700 CE (formed 1000 BCE) |
| **Hierarchy/ Leadership** | Rabbis, Moses, Abraham | Pope, Bishop, Priest, Cardinals, nuns, monks, saints, pastors, Patriarch | Mohammed, Abu Bakr, Ali, Caliph, Imams, Umma, Ulama | Brahmans/ Brahmins, Gurus | Buddha (Enlightened One), monks  | Confucius, Men in power/ patriarchy, shi class (scholar-gentry) | Decentralized, holy man |  | Priestly class, very powerful | Emperor |
| **Sacred/Important Texts** | Torah/ Old Testament | Bible/ New Testament | Qu’ran, Hadiths, Shah-Nama | The Vedas, Upanishads, Mahabharata, Ramayana | Buddhavacanas(Buddha’s canonized works) | Analects, Five Classics | Dao De Ching/ Tao Te Ching |  | Popol Vuh | Kojiki |
| **Promoters and Spread** | Diaspora after 70 CE Roman destruction of Jerusalem | Missionaries (Jesuits), Constantine, Disciples/ Apostles | Umayyads/ Abbasids, Sufis, Muslim Scholars, Jihad, trade (Asian Sea Network), al-Ghazali | Mira Bai (Bhaktic Cults), Kabir (syncretism w/ Islam) | Ashoka, Bodhisattvas, Empress Wu | Han Wu Ti | Appealing to peasants | Influence on Judaism, Christianity | Topiltzin |  |
| **Persecutors** | Romans, Egyptians, Pogroms, Eur. Christians (deicide), Anti-Semitics, Ferdinand & Isabella (Reconquista) | Romans (Nero), Tokugawa Ieyasu, Wars of Religion, Louis XIV | Ferdinand & Isabella (Reconquista), Crusades, Charles Martel, Mongols | Hindus vs. Muslims, Delhi Sultanate, Mughals, British Raj | Wuzong | Qin Shi Huangdi (promoted Legalism) |  |  | Spanish (New Spain) |  |
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| **Variations** | Orthodoxy, Christianity/ Islam builds on it | Catholicism, Protestantism, Eastern/ Russian Orthodox, Coptic, Nestorians, Ethopians | Sunni, Shi’a, Sufism, Sikhs, Orthodox | Din-i-ilahi, Bhaktic Cults | Mahayana, Therevada, Zen, Pure Land | Neo-Confucianism (Tang-Song), foot binding |  |  | Regional variations |  |
| **Major Tenets** | One, all-powerful creator God, first to tie morality to religion, Conservative adherence to Torah, 10 Commandments, Passover, Chosen People/ Zionism, Hanukah | Salvation (faith alone for Prots), Jesus son of God, Crucifixion, Sacrament (Eucharist, Baptism), Missionary/ Proselytizing | Five Pillars (Conf. of Faith, Hajj, Ramadan, Zakat, Prayer to Mecca), Shari’a, Hadith, Salvation, Proselytizing | Dharma (Life Path), Karma (Law of Moral Consequences), Brahma is alive in world today, Reincarnation, Caste System  | Four Noble Truths and Eightfold Path (follow these to achieve Nirvana – cessation of suffering), Enlightenment; personal religion, Mahayana adds salvation | Patriarchy, Etiquette/ Honor, Ancestor Veneration, Obedience, Education | Find the Dao (life path), mysticism, yin & yang | Emperor is god, obedience to state | Human sacrifice, not attached to morality, please nature gods | Ancestor Veneration, nature is divine (spirits) |
| **Who does it appeal to?** | Ethnic Group of Jews (Semitic Peoples) | Everyone is welcome, poor, polytheistic (non-moral) | Everyone is welcome, polytheistic (non-moral), avoid jizya/ merchants  | Upper castes, anyone supporting reincarnation | Lower classes (India), pacifists, personal enlightenment | Men, Emperor, Government Leaders, Intellectuals (Shi Class) | Poor/ Peasants, anyone drawn to mysticism | Persians | Government leaders | Japanese |
| **Art and Architecture** | Solomon’s Temple/ Second Temple, Dome of Rock, Synagogues, Ark of Covenant | Cathedrals (stained glass, Gothic), St. Peter’s Basilica, Vatican, Renaissance/ Baroque, Mosaics, Hagia Sophia, Icons, Sistine Chapel, monasteries | Mosque (Hagia Sophia, Blue), Mecca/ Ka’ba, Calligraphy, Arabesque, Taj Majal, Sofala | Hindu Temples, Angor Wat, silk tapestries | Stupas, monasteries, Zen gardens, carvings of Buddha (giant stone), | Confucian temples, restrained art/ architecture, simplicity & nature, silk paintings | Daoist temples, not much infrastructure | Temples, gov’t built | Incan holy sites – huacas, Machu Piccu, Avenue of the Dead, Temple of the Sun, Mounds, Nazca Lines, Totems | Shinto Temples, ancestor shrines |

Note: Chapter 5 is great for comparative of religions

Helpful Terms:

Mandate of Heaven – heaven backs a dynasty in China but if things go wrong, mandate has been withdrawn

Deism – belief that God exists but is not actively involved in human affairs; the “great clockmaker in the sky”

Syncretism – Religious changes based on changing society (introduction of a new religion), blending of 2 religions

Animism – seeing God in aspects of nature; animism believers propitiate (gain the favor of) gods to control/explain nature

Shamanism – a holy guide helps one reach higher states of consciousness contact the afterworld, explain the world

Scholasticism – using reason and inference to resolve theological contradictions; most associated with St. Thomas Aquinas

Persecution – systematic mistreatment of an individual or group by another group for religious reasons

Proselytizing – promoting a religion, missionary work, conversion