**World Religions Comparisons**

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| **Religion/Sect/Belief System** | **Origins & History** | **Adherents Worldwide**  **(approx0** | **God(s) and Universe** | **Human Situations and Life’s Purpose** | **Afterlife** | **Practices** | **Texts** |
| Christianity  http://www.religionfacts.com/christianity/images/symbols/thumbs/cross-50.gif | Founded by Jesus Christ in c. 30 AD, Israel. | 2 billion | One God who is a Trinity of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit | All have sinned and are thereby separated from God. Salvation is through faith in Christ and, for some, sacraments and good works. | Eternal heaven or hell (or temporary purgatory). | Eternal heaven or hell (or temporary purgatory). | The Bible  ([Old Testament](http://www.religionfacts.com/christianity/texts/OT.htm) and [New Testament](http://www.religionfacts.com/christianity/the_new_testament/index.htm)) |
| Islam  http://www.religionfacts.com/islam/images/symbols/crescent-50.gif | Muhammad, 622 AD, Saudi Arabia | 1.3 billion (Sunni: 940 million) | One God (Allah in Arabic) | Humans must submit (Islam) to the will of God to gain Paradise after death. - | Paradise or Hell. | Five Pillars: Faith, Prayer, Alms, Pilgrimage, and Fasting. Mosque services on Fridays. Ablutions before prayer. No alcohol or pork. Holidays related to the pilgrimage and fast of Ramadan. | Qur'an (Scripture); Hadith (tradition) |
| Judaism  http://www.religionfacts.com/judaism/images/stardavid-sm.jpg | The religion of the Hebrews (c. 1300 BC), especially after the destruction of the Second Temple in 70 AD. | 14 million | One God, Yahweh (YHVH). | Obey God's commandments, live ethically. Focus is more on this life than the next. | Not historically emphasized. Beliefs vary from no afterlife to shadowy existence to the World to Come (similar to heaven). | Circumcision at birth, bar/bat mitzvah at adulthood. Synagogue services on Saturdays. No pork or other non-kosher foods. Holidays related to historical events. - | Torah or Talmud |