

Sermon Series: Why Christianity?
Message: What Makes Christianity Unique
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Introduction

Worldview:

A philosophical view on everything that exists and matters to _____.

What is the best way to _____ on planet earth?

_____ play a central role in decision making.¹

Our world view dictates

a) _____ we do what we do b) _____ we do c) _____ we do it

In 2015, the human population on planet earth was

_____ ²

A Look at Major Religious Worldview's

Buddhism

Siddhārtha Gautama (Buddha) lived in the 5th Century. He came from a privileged family and when grew up and came into contact with the world he concluded that life was full of _____.

There were three possible solutions:

a) Self Mortification b) _____ c) Self Indulgence ³

¹ https://www.ted.com/speakers/antonio_damasio

² <http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2017/04/05/christians-remain-worlds-largest-religious-group-but-they-are-declining-in-europe/>

³ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_Buddhism

Suffering exists because people are not satisfied with life. The way to stop suffering is to stop wanting what you don't have. To help you do this, follow the _____ composed of right: understanding, thought, speech, action, livelihood, effort, concentration, and mindfulness.⁴

Analysis: Buddhism teaches people to decrease suffering by performing _____ during multiple lifetimes until you cease to exist.

Hinduism

Hinduism is not an _____ religion. It has no single, systematic approach to teaching its value system, but is a collection of different beliefs.

Hindus worship many gods and goddesses in addition to _____, who is believed to be the supreme God, a force present in all things.

Hindus believe that there are _____ ways to salvation.

The soul reincarnates, evolving through many births until all karmas (_____) have been resolved, and _____, liberation from the cycle of rebirth, is attained.⁵

Analysis: Hinduism is a buffet of beliefs, with salvation ultimately based on your _____.

⁴ <http://www.chakrarettreat.com/tenants-of-buddhism/>

⁵ <https://www.himalayanacademy.com/readlearn/basics/nine-beliefs>

Non Religious

_____ : someone who does not believe in God/gods

_____ : someone who believes that ultimate reality (eg... God) is unknown and probably unknowable

_____ : someone who does not identify with any religion

Analysis: People who claim to be non religious do not look for ultimate answers in _____ beings.

Islam ⁶

A man named _____ received a revelation from God in AD 622.

Mohammed had human _____.

The five pillars of Islam are:

- Prayer - 5 formal prayers a day
- Declaration of faith- only God is worthy of worship, Muhammad is His prophet.
- Fasting - for 1 month each year from sunrise to sunset
- Charity - wealth is God's blessing and it is our responsibility to help others with it

⁶ <https://www.islamreligion.com/articles/10256/core-values-of-islam/>

- _____ - once in a life time trip to sacred sites in Mecca (in Saudi Arabia)

God's love is a _____, it is not intrinsic to His character.

On Judgement Day, eternal life is based on your _____ deeds weighing more than your _____ deeds.

Analysis: Muslims are fiercely loyal to one God, and rely on _____ to determine your eternal destiny.

Christianity

Humans were created _____ by God, but chose to disobey Him.

Jesus came to save us from the consequences of _____.

Jesus is the Son of _____.

Motivated by _____, God empowers Christians to keep the 10 Commandments as an outward expression of their devotion to Him.

Christians are saved by God's _____, not their _____.