



Religion's Failure and God's Way

Definition of religion:

Religion is man's attempt to live harmoniously with the power(s)

He believes: _____

4 Responses to Religion Today:

1. All religions are basically saying the same things; all lead to God.
2. The religious landscape is so confusing. How could God allow such confusion? Therefore He doesn't exist.
3. Whatever ever works best for you is good enough.
4. My religion is right and all others are wrong.

The Warning Of The Apostle Paul

17 If you are a Jew, you are relying on God's law for your special relationship with him. ... 20...For you are certain that in God's law you have complete knowledge and truth.
Romans 2:17 & 20

" Are Jews better then others? No not at all, (as it relates to religion) for we have already shown that all people, whether Jews or Gentiles, are under the power of sin.
Romans 3:9

4 Major Religious Views in the World Today

Hinduism:

Began: _____.

Leader: _____.

God is: _____.

Scriptures: _____.

*The word "Veda" means wisdom or knowledge
Rig-Veda, Sama-Veda, Yajur-Veda, Anthara-Veda*

Consist of:

*Mantras,
Brahmanas,
Upanishads*

2 Epic Tales: *The Ramayana & the Mahabharatha*

Most sacred Book is within the *Mahabharatha*:

The _____.

- Salvation:
1. *The way of works-Karma yoga.*
 2. *The way of knowledge-Jnana yoga.*
 3. *The way of devotion-Bahkti yoga.*
 4. *The way of meditation-Raja yoga.*

Who is Jesus? _____.

Who is the Holy Spirit? _____.

Other Beliefs: *Hare-Krisna, Guru's, Yoga, New Age,
Transcendental Meditation*

Buddhism:(Traditional-Therevada)

Began: _____.

Leader: _____.

God is: _____.

Scriptures: _____ *“Tripitaka”*

(Three Baskets)-Discipline, Teaching, Meta-Physical

Salvation: By _____.

4 Noble Truths:

1. *Suffering Exists*
2. *Suffering Caused By Desires*
3. *End Suffering Eliminate Desires,*
4. *End All Pain By 8 Fold Path*

8 Fold Path:

1. *Right Views*
2. *Right Resolve*
3. *Right Speech*
4. *Right Behavior*
5. *Right Occupation*
6. *Right Effort*
7. *Right Contemplation*
8. *Right Meditation*

Who is Jesus? _____.

Who is the Holy Spirit? _____.

Other Beliefs: *Zen, Shoshu, Tibetean, Nichiren*

Judaism:

Began: _____.

Leader: _____.

God is: _____.

Scriptures: *Tanakh- Christian’s Old testament.*

Torah-Law and the First five books (Pentateuch)

Talmud-An Old testament commentary

Salvation: By _____.

Who is Jesus? _____.

Who is the Holy Spirit? _____.

Jewish Festivals: Passover, Shabout-10 Commandments, Rosh Hashanah-New Year, Yom Kippur-Day of Atonement, Sukkoth-The Harvest and Hanukkah-Victory Over Antichous

3 Branches: Orthodox, Conservative, Reformed

Islam:

Began: _____.

Leader: _____.

God is: _____.

Scriptures: _____.

Islam’s 5 Articles of Faith:

1. *There is only one true god and his name is Allah.*
2. *Angels existence is fundamental to faith.*
3. *Scripture is Koran, Moses Law, Psalms by David, Jesus Gospel. (The last 3 are all corrupted in the Bible)*
4. *There are many prophets but Muhammad is the last and greatest.*
5. *The Last Days- There will be resurrection and judgement.*

Islam’s 5 Pillars of Faith:

1. *There is no god but Allah and Muhammad is his prophet.*
2. *Prayer 5 times every day facing Mecca.*
3. *Almsgiving to the poor. 1/40 of your income.*
4. *Fasting during the month of Ramadan. between Sunrise and Sunset.*
5. *One pilgrimage to Mecca in lifetime.*
6. _____?

Who is Jesus? _____.

Who is the Holy Spirit? _____.

Salvation: _____.

3 Branches: *Sunni (majority) Shiite (radicals) Sufis (Mystics)*

Who is Man?

Hindus-*Man is caught in an illusory and wearisome universe. Karma brings suffering, man must reincarnate over countless lifetimes to progress to salvation by one of 3 ways.*

Buddhists-*Man doesn’t sin but rather is ignorant. He must lose his desires by the 8 Fold Path, he re-incarnates until his spirit enters into total God Consciousness.*

Judaism: *Man is a sinner but can improve his moral condition by obeying law of Moses and by seeking repentance.*

Islam: *man is fallible and needs guidance from Koran to fulfill 5 Articles and 5 Pillars. Without Islam man is lost and condemned.*

5 Common Denominators of Religious People:

1. They rely on _____ (Rom. 2:25-29)
2. They think they have _____ (Rom. 2:17)
3. They maintained some defined _____ (Rom. 2:20)
4. They have a _____ toward others. (Rom. 3:9)
5. They don’t always _____ (Rom. 2:21-23)

God’s Way, the Non-Religious Way

“Then they asked him, “What must we do to do the works God requires?” Jesus answered, “The work of God is this: to believe in the one He has sent.” John 6:28,29

God saved you by His grace when you believed. And you can’t take credit for this; it is a gift from God. Salvation is not a reward for the good we have done, so none of us can boast about it. Ephesians 2:8,9

And I no longer count on my own goodness or my ability to obey God’s law, but I trust Christ to save me. For God’s way of making us right with himself depends on faith. Philippians 3:9

“But the tax collector stood at a distance and dared not even lift his eyes to heaven as he prayed. Instead he beat his chest in sorrow, saying, ‘O God, be merciful to me, for I am a sinner.’ Luke 18:13

“We deserve to die for our evil deeds, but this man hasn’t done anything wrong.” And then he said, “Jesus remember me when you come into your kingdom.” And Jesus replied, “I assure you, today you will be with me in paradise.” Luke 23:41-43