

Apologetics | Week 8

World Religions

I. Categories of Religions

(1) **Abrahamic Religions** (Christianity, Judaism, and Islam)

(2) **Eastern Religions** (Hinduism, Buddhism)

II. Islam

“Islam” means “_____ to God”, and followers are “Muslims”

Facts

There are more than _____ Muslims globally, largely in the Middle East, Indonesia, Pakistan, Bangladesh and India.

Beliefs

God is called “_____”

People are capable of sin, but _____ capable of pleasing God perfectly.

“Salvation” is _____. The pleasure of Allah achieved by religious observance.

Agreements, Disagreements

- Is the Bible God’s Word?
- What is the purpose of God’s revelation?
- Did Jesus really die on the cross?
- What about the Trinity?

Questions

III. Hinduism

Facts

Hinduism does not offer the same insistence on being the _____ as other religions do and there is no eternally dominant or “correct” form of Hinduism.

Beliefs

There is no single Hindu idea of God. There is Brahman: “The _____,” the impersonal, all-embracing spirit, many lesser deities.

Hinduism is _____, because behind the Hindu practice is the belief all souls are eternal and accountable for their own actions.

_____ is the debt of one’s bad actions for which one must atone.

Agreements, Disagreements

- Does History matter?
- What is God like?
- What are the consequences of our actions?
- How does one become a Hindu or Christian?
- Who is Jesus?

Questions

Key opening: *grace*

IV. Buddhism (POLYTHEISTIC)

Facts

There are about _____ Buddhists worldwide.

Beliefs

Buddhism has no omnipotent, _____ who exists apart from this or any other universe.

Buddhism teaches “Four Noble Truths”

1. To live is to _____
2. Suffering is caused by _____
3. One can eliminate suffering by eliminating desire (to accept)
4. Desire is eliminated by following the eight-fold _____¹

¹ 1) right view, 2) the right intention, 3) the right speech, 4) the right action, 5) the right livelihood, 6) the right effort, 7) the right mindfulness, 8) the right concentration – Meditation.

Agreements, Disagreements

- Who is Jesus?
- What is the Problem of Man?
- Who really is God?

Questions

Key opening: *suffering, permanence*

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World Religions

V. Categories of Religions

(1) **Abrahamic Religions** (Christianity, Judaism, and Islam)

(2) **Eastern Religions** (Hinduism, Buddhism)

VI. Islam

“Islam” means “submission to God”, and followers are “Muslims”

Facts

There are more than 1 billion Muslims globally, largely in the Middle East, Indonesia, Pakistan, Bangladesh and India.

Beliefs

God is called “Allah”

People are capable of sin, but also innately capable of pleasing God perfectly.

“Salvation” is work based. The pleasure of Allah achieved by religious observance.

Agreements, Disagreements

- Is the Bible God’s Word?
- What is the purpose of God’s revelation?
- Did Jesus really die on the cross?
- What about the Trinity?

Questions

VII. Hinduism

Facts

Hinduism does not offer the same insistence on being the truth as other religions do and there is no eternally dominant or “correct” form of Hinduism.

Beliefs

There is no single Hindu idea of God. There is Brahman: “The Force”, the impersonal, all-embracing spirit, many lesser deities.

Hinduism is work based, because behind the Hindu practice is the belief all souls are eternal and accountable for their own actions.

Karma is the debt of one’s bad actions for which one must atone.

Agreements, Disagreements

- Does History matter?
- What is God like?
- What are the consequences of our actions?
- How does one become a Hindu or Christian?
- Who is Jesus?

Questions

Key opening: *grace*

VIII. Buddhism (POLYTHEISTIC)

Facts

There are about 500 million Buddhists worldwide.

Beliefs

Buddhism has no omnipotent, creator who exists apart from this or any other universe.

Buddhism teaches “Four Noble Truths”

5. To live is to suffer
6. Suffering is caused by desire
7. One can eliminate suffering by eliminating desire (to accept)
8. Desire is eliminated by following the eight-fold path²

² 1) right view, 2) the right intention, 3) the right speech, 4) the right action, 5) the right livelihood, 6) the right effort, 7) the right mindfulness, 8) the right concentration – Meditation.

Agreements, Disagreements

- Who is Jesus?
- What is the Problem of Man?
- Who really is God?

Questions

Key opening: *suffering, permanence*