

Religions of 2025 America

Chester ARP Fall 2025

Scientology

- A Few Introductory Remarks
 - Scientology is the most litigious religion in America. It has been involved in more lawsuits than any other religion.
 - Is Scientology a religion? Or a Psychological Technology?
 - Law Book, Worldview, Ethics, Spiritual Release.

Scientology

- Its founder is L. Ron Hubbard.
 - March 13, 1911 — January 24, 1986 (strokes)
 - He was raised in a military home and served in the Navy during WW2.
 - He married his first wife, Margaret “Polly” Grubb in 1933.
 - He authored hundreds of science fiction short stories and novels from 1934 to 1940.

Scientology

- Its founder is L. Ron Hubbard.
 - He sought treatment from psychiatrists around Washington, D.C., before the war and then in GA after.
 - He married his second wife, Sara Northrup, in 1946 while still married to Polly.
 - He married his third wife, Mary Sue, in 1952.
 - Sara claimed he had been diagnosed with paranoid schizophrenia in the late 1940s.

Scientology

- Its founder is L. Ron Hubbard.
 - “Writing for a penny a word is ridiculous. If a man really wanted to make a million dollars, the best way to do it would be to start his own religion” (1949).
 - He did in 1953, two years after he finished his seminal work, *Dianetics*.

Scientology

- Its founder is L. Ron Hubbard.
 - Hubbard spent most of his adult life in isolation from society.
 - He served as the “commodore” of Sea Organization, a private, quasi-paramilitary Scientologist fleet during the 1960s-70s.
 - He fled to the West Coast in 1979 after his plot to take over Clearwater was discovered, and the FBI investigated him and Scientology for conspiracy against the US Government.

Scientology

- Its founder is L. Ron Hubbard.
- Hubbard's and Scientology's conspiracy and espionage case included:
 - Covert agents infiltrated Government Offices.
 - Wiretap and theft from the IRS and DOJ.
 - Targeted threats against his critics

Scientology

- Its founder is L. Ron Hubbard.
 - Hubbard's personal and religious life was wild.
 - He met his second wife while married to his first. She was the girlfriend of Hubbard's friend, Jack Parsons. Parsons was a follower of the Satanist Occult, and Hubbard collaborated with him to develop the "babalon working" meant to summon the goddess Babalon.
 - Hubbard and Sara stole Parsons's life savings.

Scientology

- Important Texts (Revelation)
 - Dianetics — The principal text of Scientology that outlines the core concepts of the psychological technology — reactive mind, engrams, and the process to achieve Clear.
 - The Bridge to Total Freedom — The structured path that incorporates Dianetics and Scientology materials to help one achieve heightened spiritual awareness.

Scientology

- Important Texts (Revelation)
 - Scientology Scriptures — All of L. Ron Hubbard's writings and correspondence.

Scientology

- God
 - Scientologists believe in a concept of God, though they do not define it.
 - Hubbard stressed the importance of belief in a Supreme Being, but he never identified the being.

Scientology

- Men and Women
 - Humans are made up of three parts: the body, the mind, and the thetan.
 - The body is the physical part of a human.
 - The mind consists of experiences, memories, perceptions, etc.
 - The thetan is a person's soul, which is immortal, fundamentally good, all-knowing, and powerful.

Scientology

- Men and Women
 - Over countless lifetimes, the thetan has become “aberrated” — burdened by painful memories, false ideas, and spiritual entanglements that limit awareness and ability.
 - This leaves a person out of balance in each of the 8 dynamics of life.

Scientology

- The Dynamics of Life
 - First Dynamic — The Self
 - Second Dynamic — Creativity
 - Third Dynamic — Group Survival
 - Fourth Dynamic — Mankind

Scientology

- The Dynamics of Life
 - Fifth Dynamic — Life Forms
 - Sixth Dynamic — The Physical Universe
 - Seventh Dynamic — Spirit
 - Eighth Dynamic — Infinity or Supreme Being

Scientology

- The Dynamics of Life
 - According to Scientology, each dynamic is part of life's total expression, and true spiritual advancement means recognizing and harmonizing all eight.
 - Adherents' goal is to progress spiritually as they become aware of and act in balance across all dynamics rather than focusing only on themselves.

Scientology

- **Progressing in Awareness and Action**
 - **In Everyday Life**
 - **Self — Eat Well, Be Honest**
 - **Creativity — Strong Marriage, raise children**
 - **Group — Be a part of teams and be loyal**
 - **Mankind — Work for Common Good**

Scientology

- Progressing in Awareness and Action
 - In Everyday Life
 - Life — Respect and care for environment
 - Physical Universe — Understand science and maintain order
 - Spirit — Improve Self-awareness
 - Infinity — Explore your knowledge of the ultimate

Scientology

- Auditing
 - Dianetic Counseling Sessions are meant to assist the adherent in clearing the “reactive mind” of the negative ideas stored in it.
 - It’s a process defined by Hubbard’s *Dianetics*. It’s also secretive.
 - The process enables them to interconnect all dynamics and become aware of their true identity.

Scientology

- Ethics
 - Rational formulas that are meant to assist the adherents in evaluating their behaviors and correcting their actions that harm survival.
 - The ethical process and actions are said to improve survival methodically.

Scientology

- Can you achieve full awareness?
 - Yes, but it's rare.
 - The goal is to operate at the Original Thetan level, free from the limitations of the physical universe. This means to operate outside of the body and grow in understanding the Spirit and infinity.
 - This leads to freedom from reincarnation.
 - L. Ron Hubbard achieved it (apparently).