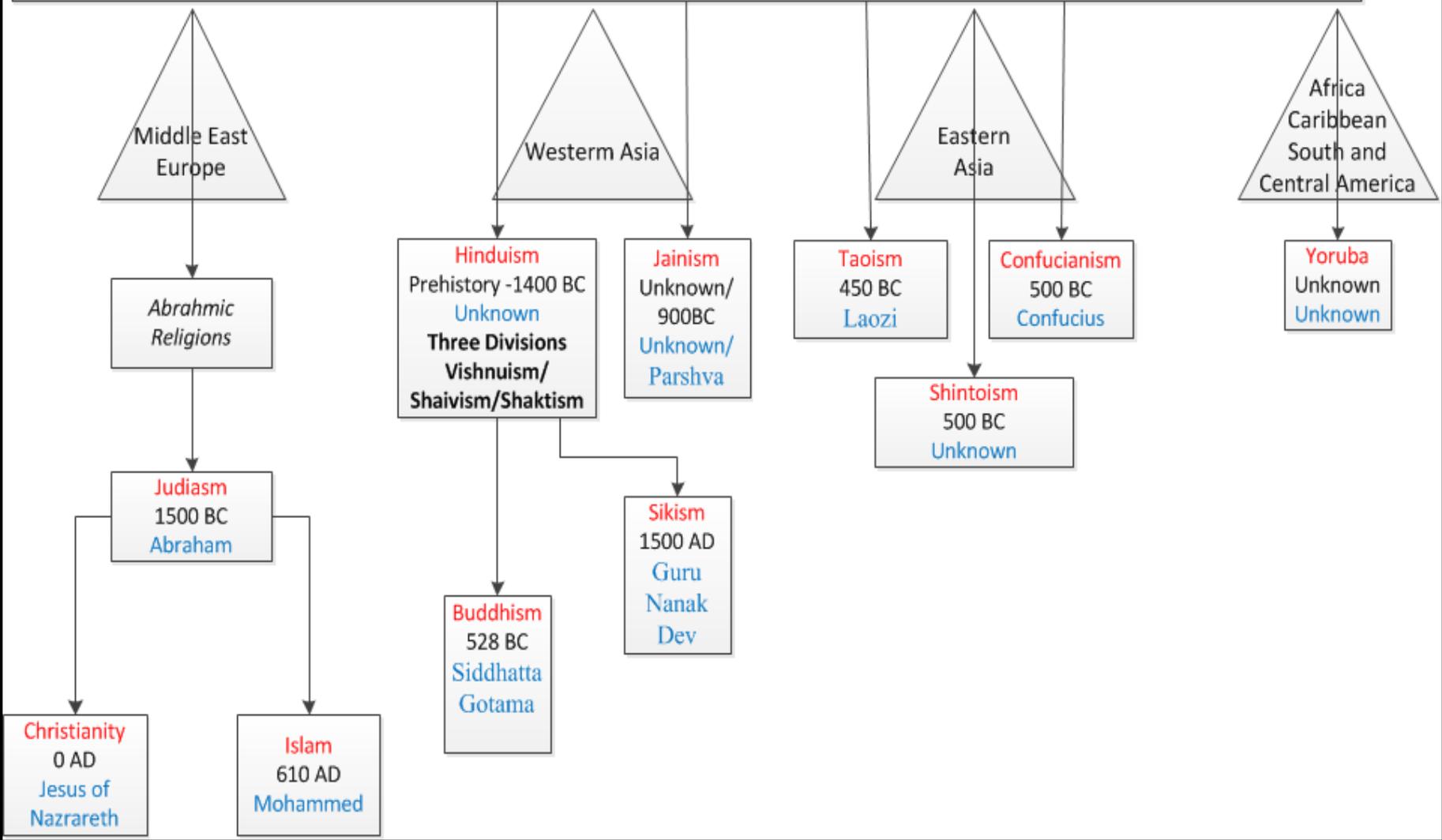


RELIGION 101

*A Cultural Literacy Module
Presented by
Peace on the Street*

Overview: World Religions

Animism



Animism

- ▣ The term **animism** applies to the belief that within all creatures and all objects there exists a soul or personality. It is thus a spiritual belief, and many scholars have offered the idea that animism was the first spiritual concept of humankind, and that it underlies all further religious thought.
- ▣ Animism is comprised of three fundamental forms.
 - The first - sometimes called animatism - is belief that objects both natural and manufactured have spirits (trees, the sea, weapons, jewelry), and even volition.
 - Second is belief in spirits that are not firmly connected to anything physical, i.e. ghosts, or even spirits of events such as thunder, wind, or dawn.
 - Third is belief in and worship of the souls of people and animals, both the living and the dead, as in ancestor worship.

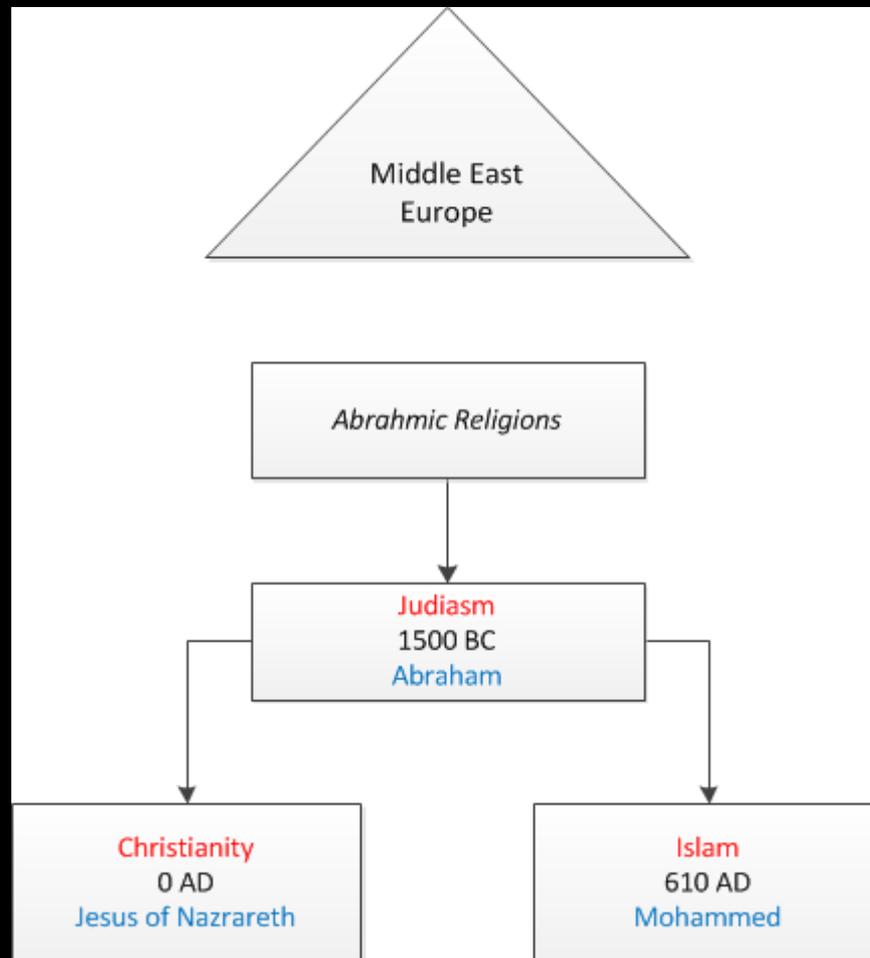
Animism - Examples

- ▣ Examples
 - Santeria
 - Native America Religions
 - Bon (Tibet)
 - Many African and Siberian Religions
- ▣ Leaders
 - Shamans
 - Santero (a)
 - Priests
 - Medicine Men
 - Healers

Animism - Activities

- ▣ Communicate with spirits, entities, etc
 - Make them happy
 - ▣ Do ceremonies for them
 - ▣ Give them gifts
 - ▣ Pray to them
- ▣ Get them to do things for you/others
 - Experience their presence
 - Healing
 - Divination
 - Effect others: curses / blessings /love

Abrahamic Religions



Abrahamic Religions: Commonality

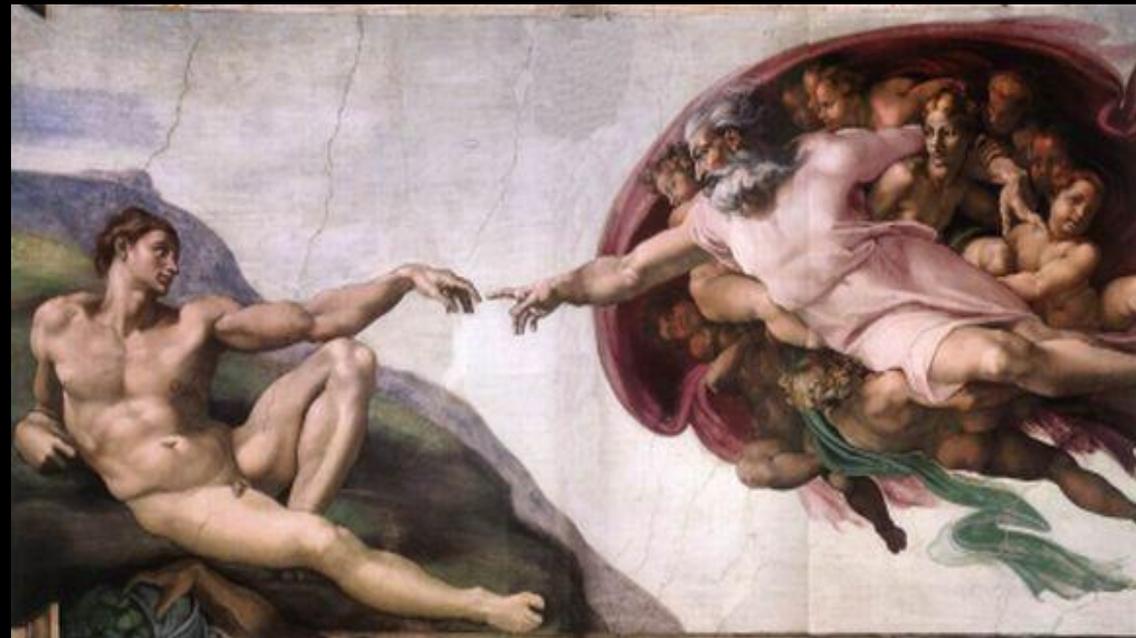
Same God: Yahweh (G_d) / Jehovah/ Allah



Abrahamic Religions: Commonality

Shared Scriptures

Same Creation Story



Old Testament



Abrahamic Religions: Commonality

Shared Sacred City: Jerusalem



Abrahamic Religions: Commonality

▣ Shared Theology

- Monotheistic - main concern is relationship with God
- Reject Reincarnation
- Reject Imminence of God – God exists and acts in time and space
- Chosen People:
 - ▣ In-group/Out-group boundary established by and important to God
 - Jews chosen by tribal membership / inheritance; blood-Chosen status cannot be lost – Circumcision marks being chosen
 - Christians and Muslims chosen by belief in shared theology. Chosen status can be lost by apostasy, schism or heresy – Baptism marks a person being chosen for Christian,

Judaism



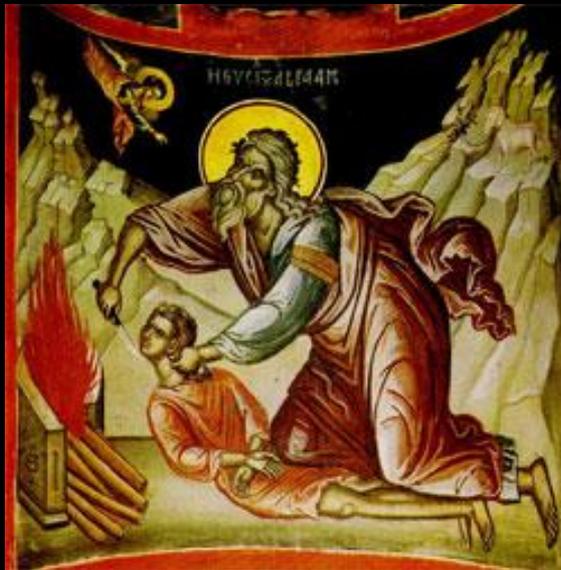
Important People

Abraham

The first Jew – 1700 BC

Moses

Delivers the Jews from Egypt



Judaism



Important People

David

The Most Famous King

Solomon

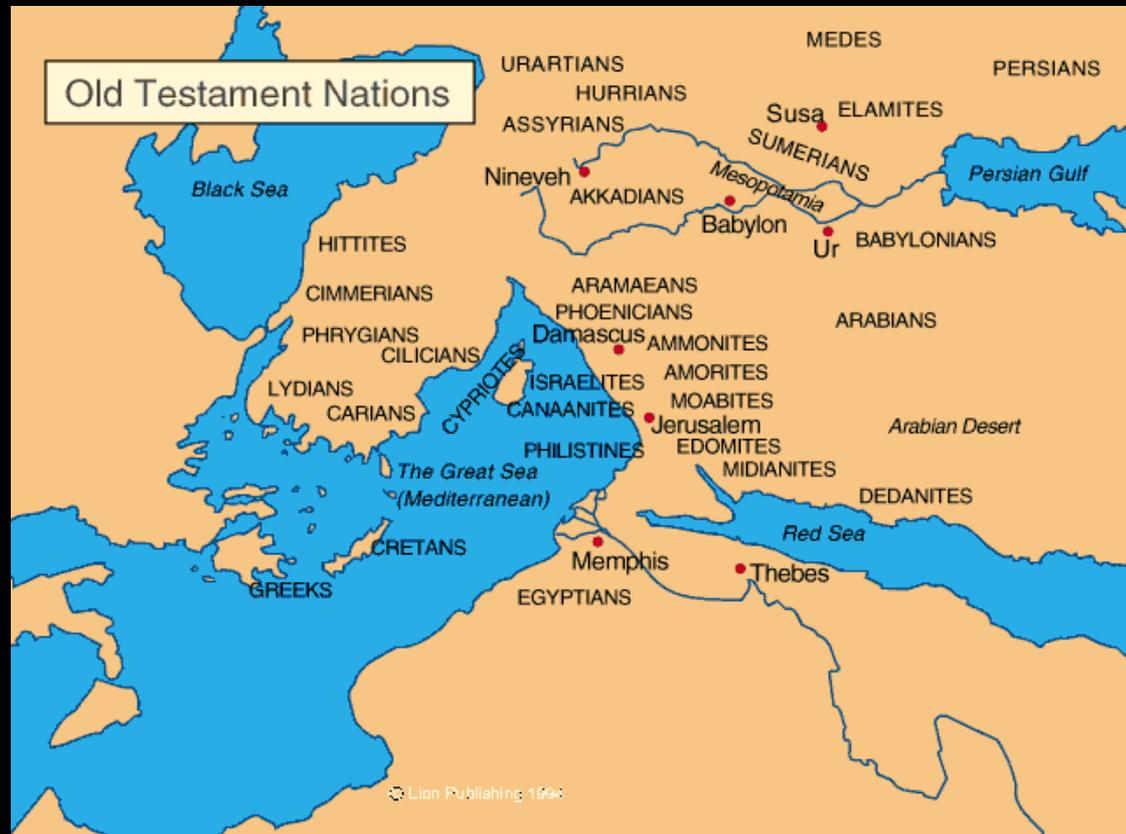
The Wisest King
Builds First Temple



Judaism



Where in the World?



Judaism



▣ Thirteen Basic Beliefs

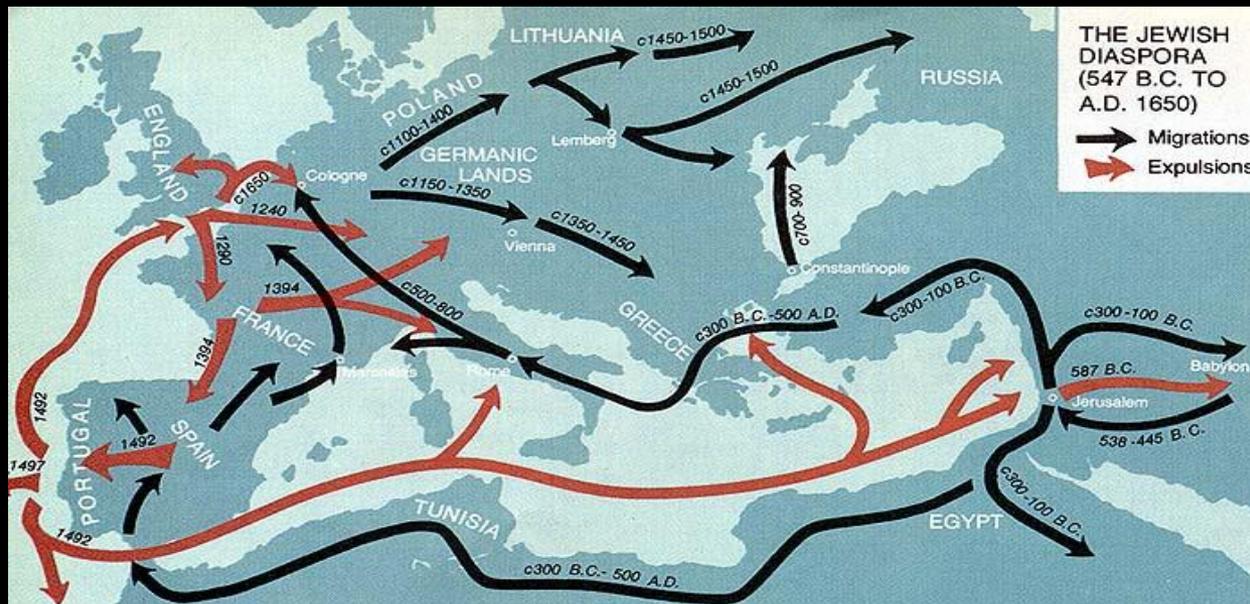
- G-d exists
- G-d is one and unique
- G-d is incorporeal
- G-d is eternal
- Prayer is to be directed to G-d alone and to no other
- The words of the prophets are true
- Moses' prophecies are true, and Moses was the greatest of the prophets
- The Written Torah(first 5 books of the Bible) and Oral Torah (teachings now contained in the Talmud and other writings) were given to Moses
- There will be no other Torah
- G-d knows the thoughts and deeds of men
- G-d will reward the good and punish the wicked

Judaism



Jewish Diaspora:

- The settling of scattered colonies of Jews outside Palestine after the Babylonian exile. Especially after the destruction of the Temple by the Romans in 70AD
- From *diaspeirein* to scatter, from *dia-* + *speirein* to sow. First Known Use: 1881



Judaism



Terms To Know: Rabbi (Rebbe)

A religious teacher and person authorized to make decisions on issues of Jewish. Performs many of the same functions as a Protestant minister

Rabbi Menachem
Mendel Schneerson



Rabbi
Karen Thomashow



Rabbi
Daniel Pernick



Judaism



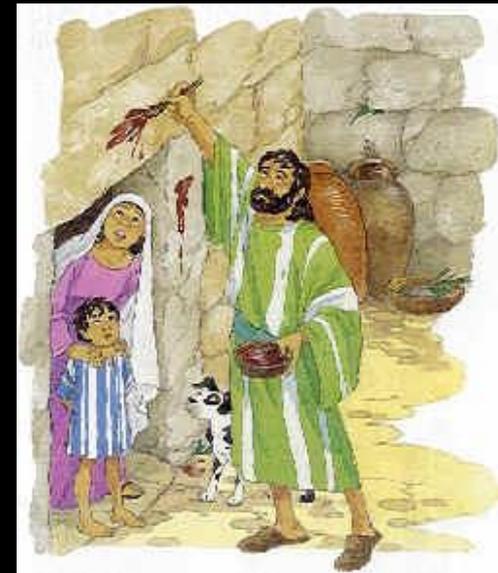
Holidays: Passover

Celebrates the Exodus from Egypt

Beginning of Spring / Connected to Easter

Sedar Meal with Obama

Marking Door so Angel
of Death Passes over



Judaism



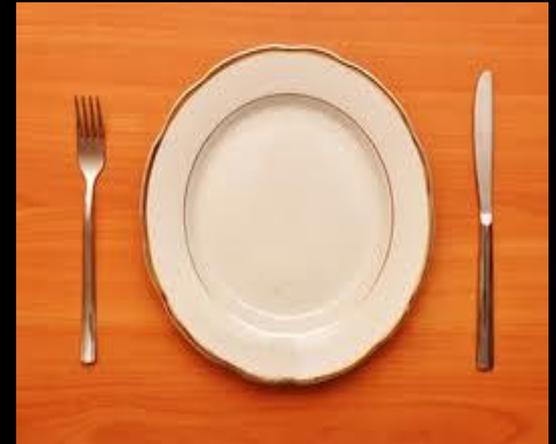
Holidays: Rosh Hashanah Jewish New Year / Beginning of Autumn



Judaism

Holidays: Yom Kipper("Day of Atonement")

The holiest day of the Jewish year. It is a day of communal fasting and praying for forgiveness for one's sins.



Judaism



Language: Hebrew

Original language spoken by Jews. Became a dead language; resurrected and currently spoken in modern Israel

י	ט	ח	ז	ו	ה	ד	ג	ב	א
Yod (Y)	Tet (T)	Chet (Ch)	Zayin (Z)	Vav (V)	He (H)	Dalet (D)	Gimel (G)	Bet (B/V)	Alef (silent)
ע	ס	נ	מ	ל	מ	ל	כ	כ	כ
Ayin (silent)	Samech (S)	Nun (N)	Nun (N)	Mem (M)	Mem (M)	Lamed (L)	Khaf (KCh)	Kaf (K/Kk)	Kaf (K/Kk)
ת	ש	ר	ק	ץ	ץ	פ	פ	פ	פ
Tav (T)	Shin (Sh/S)	Resh (R)	Qof (Q)	Tsadeh (Ts)	Tsadeh (Ts)	Feh (F)	Feh (F)	Feh (F)	Feh (F)

Key: Red - Mother letters Blue - Double letters Black - Single letters Grey - Final form of preceding letter



In Greek,
God is θεός

In Hebrew,
God is אֱלֹהִים.

Judaism



Language: Yiddish

Yiddish was the language of Ashkenazic Jews (Eastern European), and is based on German, Hebrew and other languages. The alphabet based on Hebrew and although originally it was considered like Ebonics, it developed a rich literature, theater and music.

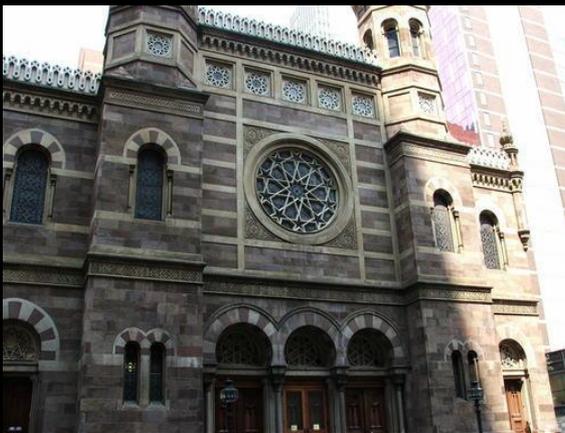


Judaism

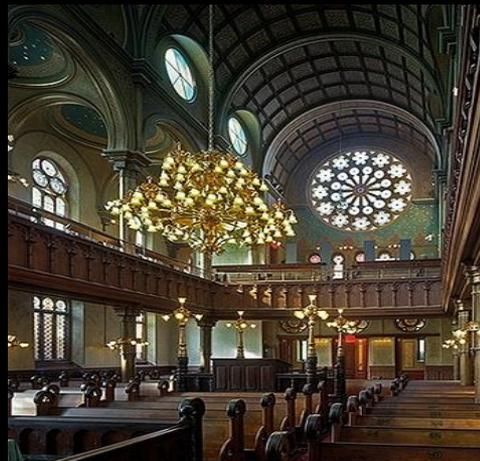
Houses of Worship: Synagogues and Temples

A **synagogue** (from Gr: "assembly") is a Jewish house of prayer. They have a large hall for prayer (the main sanctuary) with an Ark holding Torah scrolls, often with smaller rooms for study, a social hall, offices and a separate room for Torah Study. While consecrated for prayer, a synagogue is not required for worship. Worship can be carried out wherever ten Jews assemble.

NY Central Synagogue



Eldridge St Synagogue



Temple 43rd /5th



Judaism



Bar /Bat Mitzvah

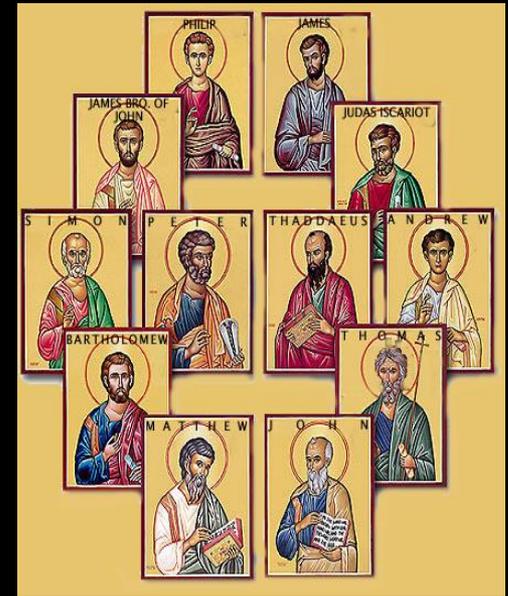
Jews become responsible for observing the commandments at the age of 13 for boys, 12 for girls which is marked by a celebration called bar (or bat) mitzvah. Some synagogues have an additional celebration called confirmation.



Judaism

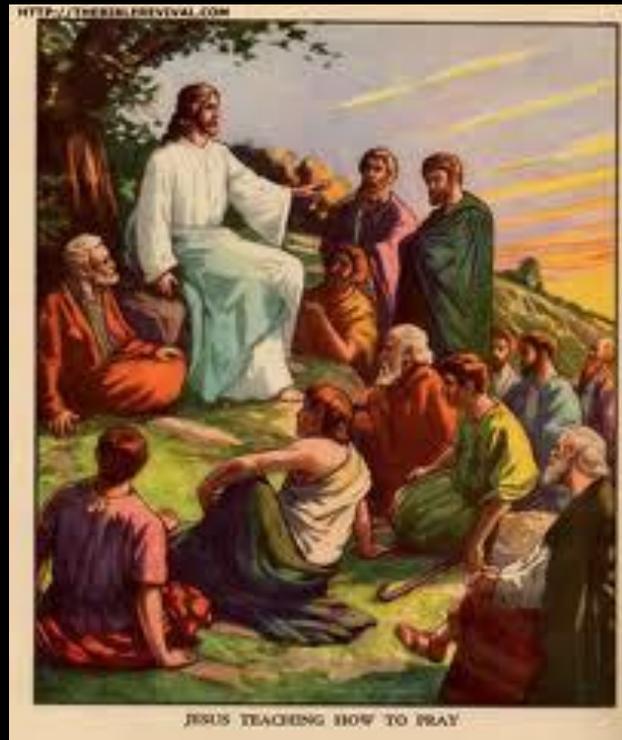


Famous Jews Important to Christians



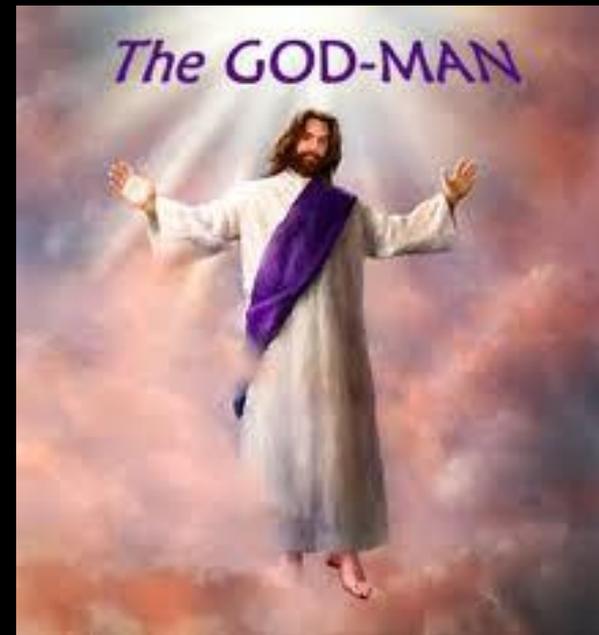
Christianity

Basics: Started by Jesus 2000 years ago.



Christianity

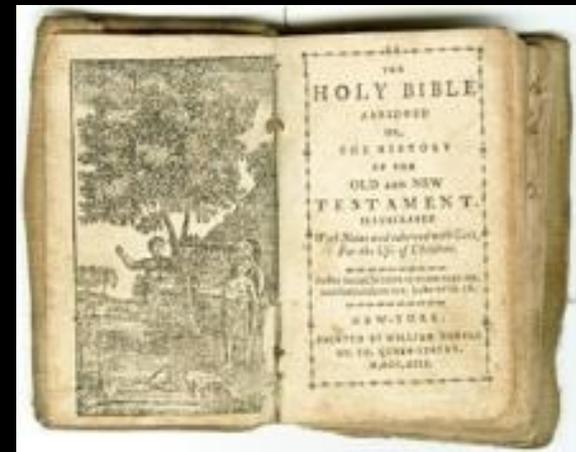
Basics: Jesus is a God who was born as a man



Christianity



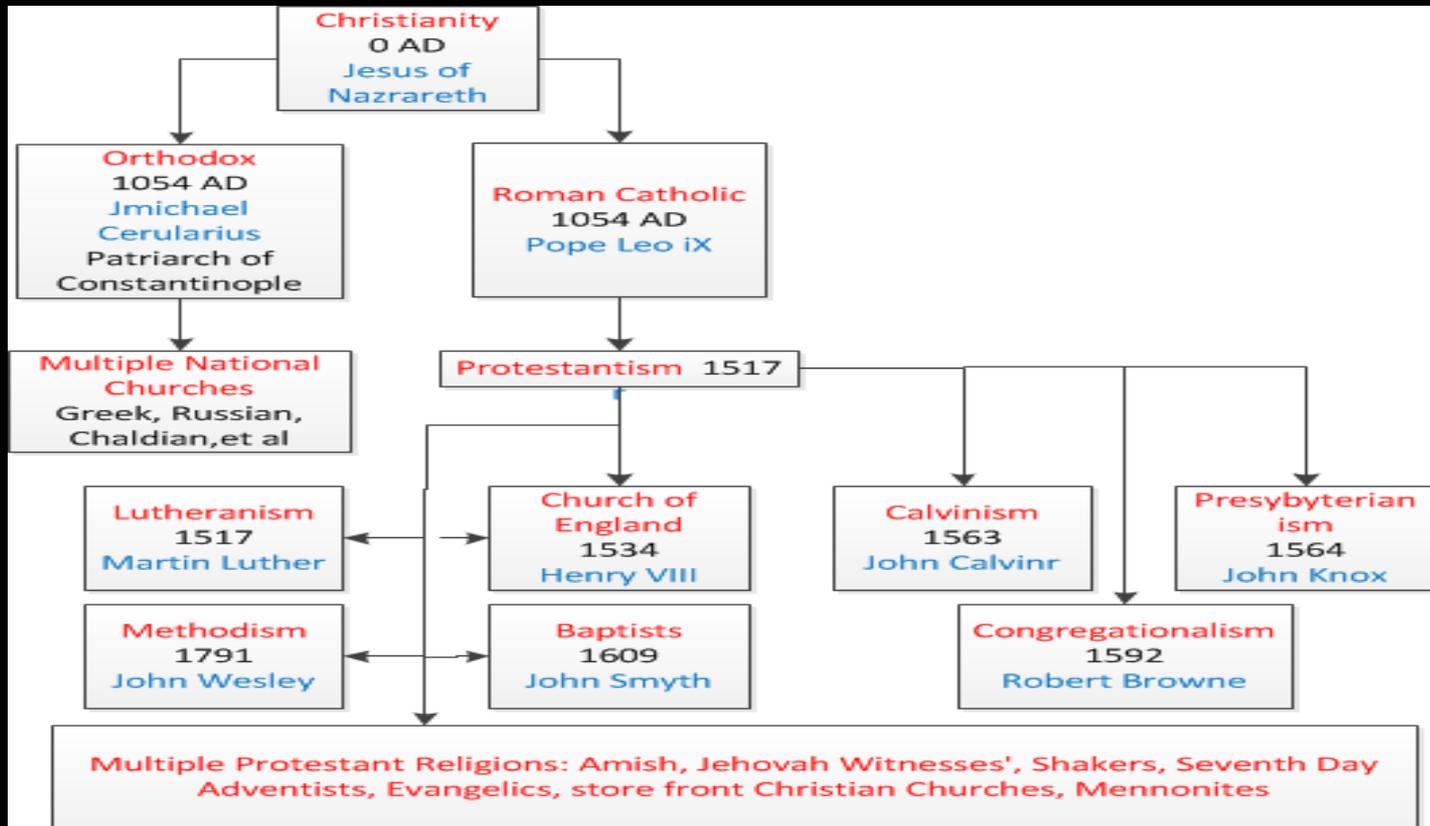
Basics: Sacred writings, called the New Testament was put together during first 400 years. Composed primarily of Gospels and Letters (Epistles)



Christianity

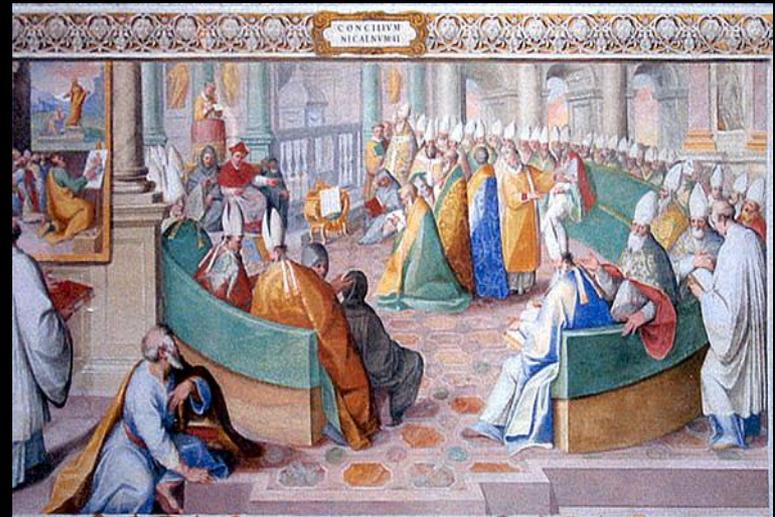


Basics: Christianity split into different churches through the years



Christianity

Basics: The basic Christian creed was put together by the first Christian Church Council in Nicaea (Turkey) in 325 , revised in 381 by Council of Constantinople and contains what most Christians believe.



Christianity



Nicene Creed

“We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen”



Christianity



Nicene Creed

“We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.”



Christianity

Nicene Creed

“Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.!”



Christianity

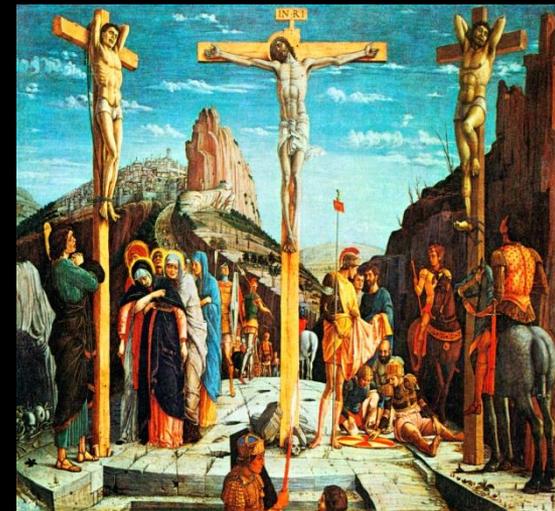


“For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried”

- *Jesus dies to atone for our sins – allows us to go to Heaven*
- *Progression of Easter Week – Palm Sunday - Maundy Thursday (Day of Last Supper) Good Friday – Jesus is Crucified.*



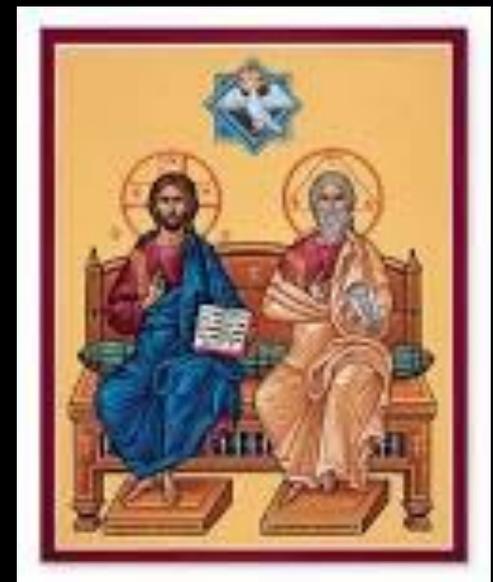
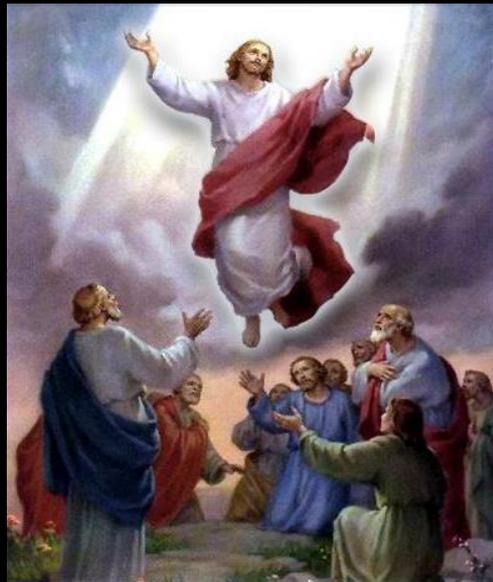
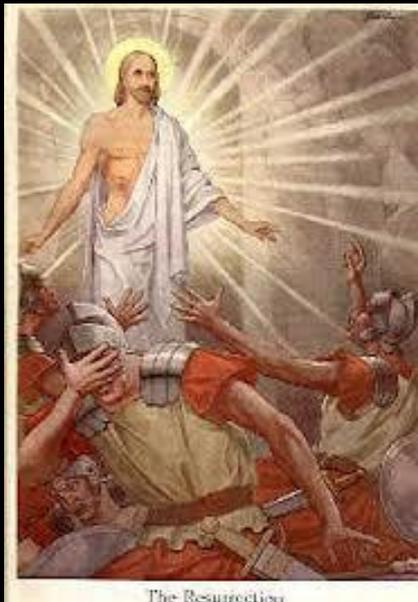
Jesus being crucified



Christianity

“On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.”

- *Celebrated as Easter, first Sunday after the first full moon after the Spring Equinox*



Christianity

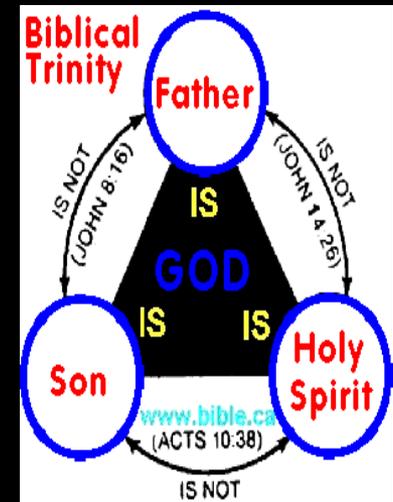
“He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.”



Christianity



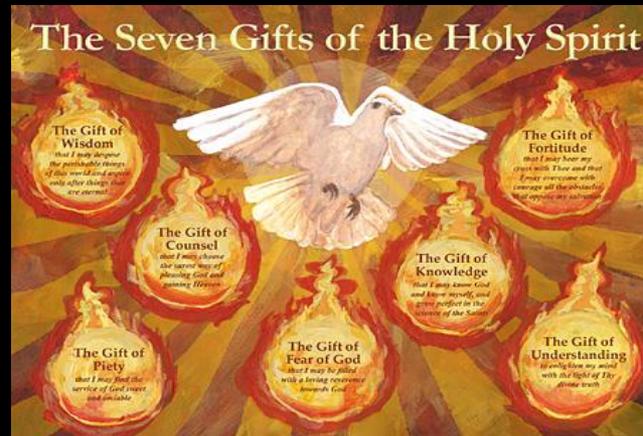
“We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of Life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified.”



Christianity



“He has spoken through the Prophets.”



Christianity

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

“Thou art Peter and upon this rock I will build my church and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven...” Matthew 16:81,19

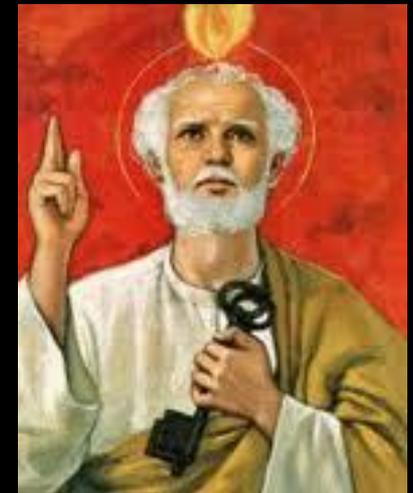
The Church in Heaven



Jesus giving Peter the Keys



St Peter with Keys



Christianity

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

- Jesus says, "Truly, truly, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God." John 3:3,5
- *Jesus himself was baptized by John the Baptist*

Jesus Being Baptized



Infant Being Baptized



Adult Being Baptized



Christianity



We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.

- *Heaven, Hell and Purgatory: Heaven and Hell are eternal. Purgatory is temporary and we eventually complete our punishment and go to heaven. Purification of souls after death is not held by many Protestant Churches*
- *Special prayers and ceremonies (indulgencies) will allow us and family members to move more quickly out of purgatory.*

People Arising From the Dead



Heaven: The New Jerusalem



Hell

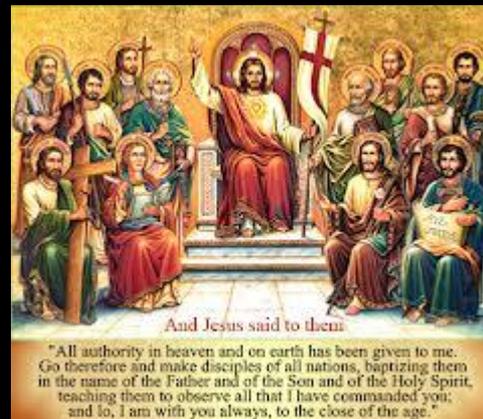
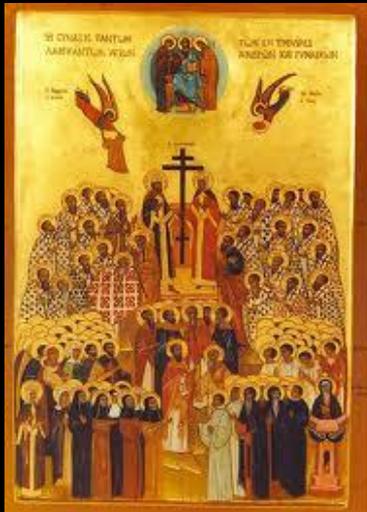


Christianity



Key Concepts: Apostolic Succession:

- The method whereby the ministry of the Christian Church is held to be derived from the apostles by a continuous succession, which has usually been associated with a claim that the succession is through a series of bishops.
- Held by Catholic, Orthodox, Anglican and Lutheran Churches



Christianity

Key Concepts: Devotion to Saints

- Practiced primarily in Catholic and Orthodox Churches.
- Mary, Mother of Jesus, is most important saint.
- Saints recognized by tradition, martyrdom and miracles
- Saints prayed to for intercession; not worshiped



Christianity

Key Concepts: Christian Services:

- Liturgical Churches: Reenacts the Last Supper.
- Non-liturgical Churches: Preaching; Bible Reading; Music
- Charismatic Churches

Catholic Mass



Protestant Service



Charismatic laying on of hands



Christianity

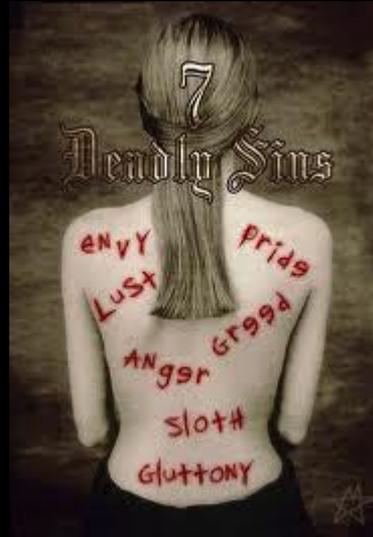
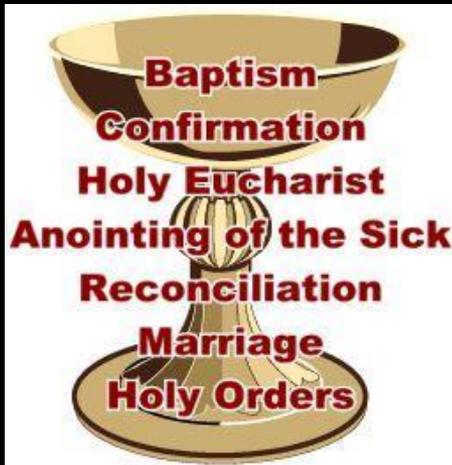


Sacraments

Sins

Virtues

- Sacrament: A Christian rite that is believed to have been ordained by Christ and that is held to be a means of divine grace or to be a sign or symbol of a spiritual reality
- Sin: an offense against religious or moral law
- Virtue: conformity to a standard of right



PRUDENCE

JUSTICE

FORTITUDE

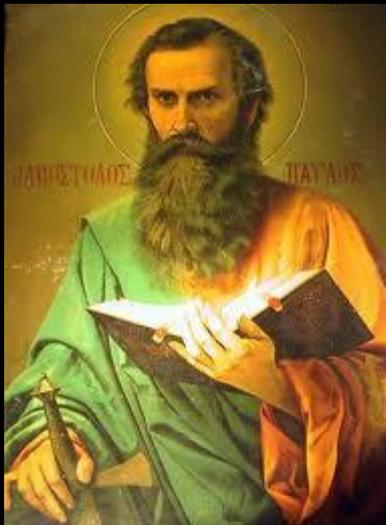
TEMPERANCE

Christianity

Three Important Christians: Pre-Reformation

- St Paul: Organizes and Spreads Christianity after Jesus' death
- St Augustine: Most important theologian of early Christianity
- St Thomas Aquinas: Most important theologian of Medieval Christianity

St Paul: 5AD-67AD



St Augustine 354-430



St Thomas: 1225-1274



Christianity



Protestantism: One of the major divisions within Christianity.

Broadly, Christianity outside "of a Catholic or Eastern Orthodox church".[[]

Protestant Interior



Catholic Interior



Orthodox Interior



Christianity

Protestantism: Created by Reformation

Starts with Martin Luther in 1517

Reaction against corruption in Catholic Church

Resulted in Splitting Western Christianity

Created over 100 years of religious wars in Europe

Martin Luther



Whore of Babylon



Pope Leo X



Christianity

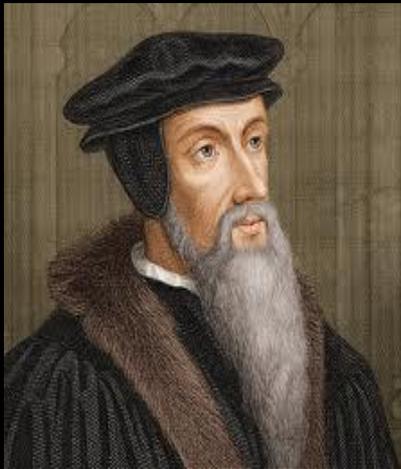
Protestantism: Famous Founders

John Calvin: 1509-1564 – Founded Calvinism in Switzerland

King Henry VIII – 1491-1547 – Founded Church of England

King James I – 1566-1625 – Translated Bible to English

John Calvin



King Henry VIII



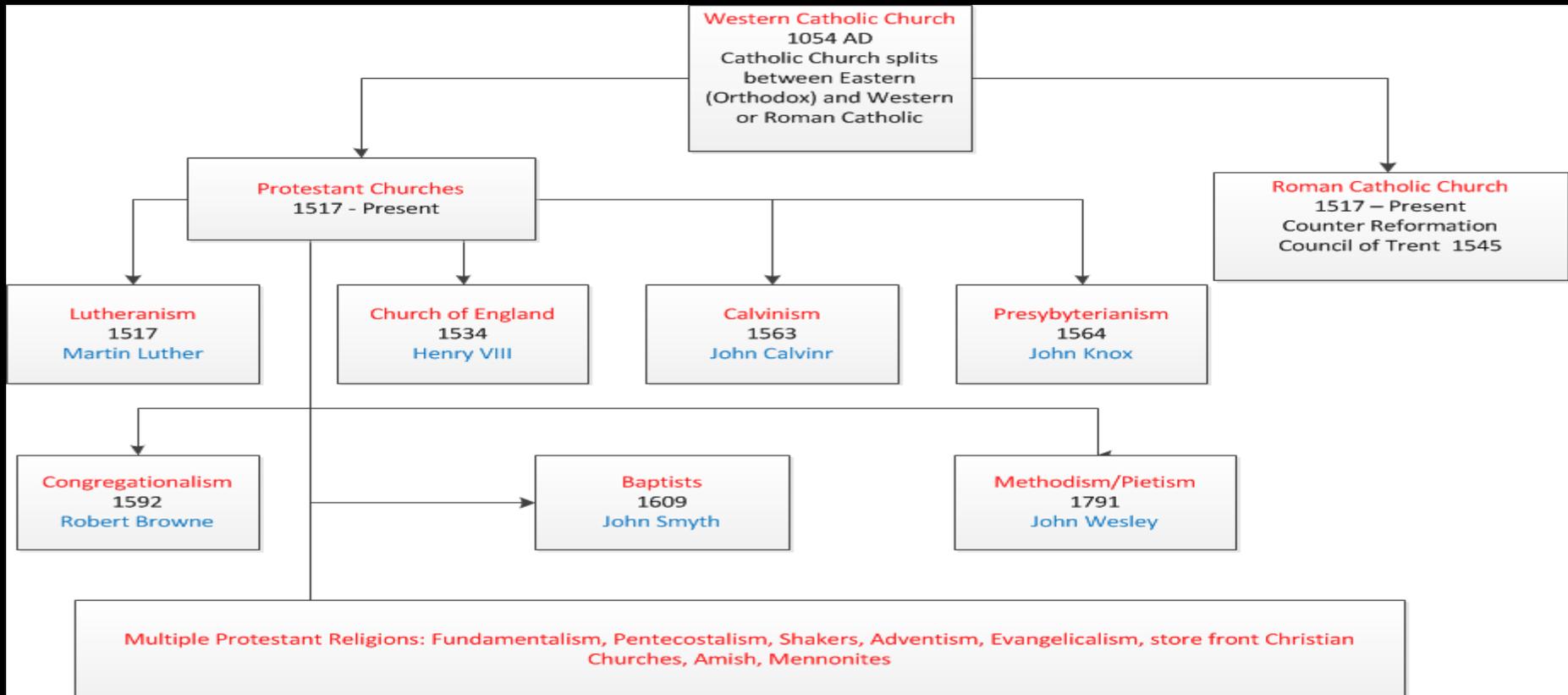
King James I



Christianity



Reformation: Split Western Christians Between Roman Catholics and Many Protestant Churches



Christianity

Reformation: Europe divided with the North Europe mostly Protestant and Southern Europe mostly Catholic.



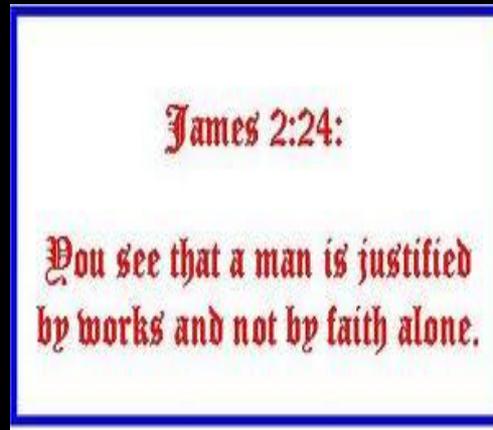
Christianity

Protestantism Basic Beliefs – Salvation comes by grace through faith alone in Jesus as the Christ, rather than through good works.

It doesn't make any difference how many good things you do – it won't get you to heaven.

Abraham Sacrificing Isaac

Catholic Belief – You can't be saved without good works



Christianity

Protestantism Basic Beliefs –Universal Priesthood of Believers

- Implies the right and duty of all Christians to read the Bible and take part in the government of the Church.
- Hierarchical system; authority of the Church put in an exclusive priesthood, ordained priests mediate between God and the people.

