

<b>Religion</b> (Date-origin)	<b>Dominant Values</b>	<b>Explanation for Evil</b>	<b>Salvation</b>	<b>Afterlife</b>
<b>Buddhism</b> (Sixth Century, B.C.) <a href="#">Introduction to Buddhism</a>	Right knowledge, aspiration, speech, behavior, livelihood, effort, mindfulness, contemplation, control of one's mind, kindness	Insatiable desires are the cause of evil and suffering	Nonattachment to the world; Follow the eight-fold path; Self-effort; Salvation is through reincarnation and working with the laws of karma; Mahayana Buddhism has deities which function as saviors.	Nirvana is the highest destiny of the human spirit--a state of indescribable bliss. In Mahayana Buddhism there are afterlife states referred to as heavens and hells.
<b>Christianity</b> (First Century, A.D.) <a href="#">Introduction to Christianity</a>	Love of God and man; Ten commandments; Service, truth, beauty, goodness, justice, humility, learning.	Satan; Fall of man; Imperfection of creation; egocentricity; alienation from God.	Evangelicals: Salvation comes from faith in blood atonement of Jesus; Mainline: Faith in Jesus as mediator-Savior.	Judgment: heaven and hell; Modern: Growth and service in heaven; fading of belief in an eternal hell.
<b>Confucianism</b> (Fifth Century, B.C.) <a href="#">Introduction to Confucianism</a>	Balance authority and obedience with goodness and love; Respect, courtesy and peace.	Man basically good; Lack of filial piety is the root of evil in society.	Following social propriety and offering sacrifices. In later stages some groups offered sacrifices to Confucius.	Not other-worldly; Accept vague ideas of heaven and hell; Humanistic values relative to the present life.
<b>Hinduism</b> (Second millennium, B.C.) <a href="#">Introduction to Hinduism</a>	Diverse and tolerant; Hereditary caste system, truthfulness, honesty, non irritability, self-control.	Pleasure, wealth and worldly success are illusions, the pursuit of which result in evil.	Path of renunciation; Commitment to Atman-Brahman; Growth toward perfection by reincarnation	Nirvana; Extinction of personality in Brahman or totally indescribable state
<b>Islam</b> (Sixth Century, A.D.) <a href="#">Introduction to Islam</a>	Five Pillars: creed, prayer, almsgiving, fasting and pilgrimage; Predestination; Specific rules of conduct.	Satan; Not submitting to the will of Allah; Allah beyond human questioning; Accept life as is.	Submission to the will of Allah; Living by the Five Pillars	Judgment: heaven and hell; Sensual description of afterlife.

<p><b>Judaism</b> (Second millennium, B.C.) <a href="#">Introduction to Judaism</a></p>	<p>Ten commandments; justice, righteousness, truth, loving-kindness, humility, learning, kosher food.</p>	<p>Satan; Unfaithfulness to the will of God; choosing egocentric self, false gods, or evil.</p>	<p>Early: Animal sacrifice; Later: Faith and righteous living; Messianic deliverance.</p>	<p>Not other-worldly; Early: She'ol--land of the dead; Later: Judgment, heaven and hell.</p>
<p><b>Sikhism</b> (16th century A.D.) <a href="#">Introduction to Sikhism</a></p>	<p>Pure motives and actions; Love of spouse and family; service, humility, learning; forsaking evil company</p>	<p>The illusion that matter is real is the source of evil; Man is helpless and is dependent on divine action</p>	<p>Become one with God; Salvation results from worship of the true name; faith, love and devotion are essential.</p>	<p>Nirvana; extinguishing absorption of individuality in God. There is also mention of heaven and hell.</p>
<p><b>Taoism</b> (Sixth Century, B.C.) <a href="#">Introduction to Taoism</a></p>	<p>Recompense injury with kindness; quiet humility; simplicity in living; attain fullness of life.</p>	<p>Egocentricity is the source of evil and suffering; Man's way vs. God's way; Worldly things are worthless.</p>	<p>Oneness with Tao; Pomp and glory are to be despised.</p>	<p>Early: All goes back to Tao; Later: Heavens and hells.</p>
<p><b>Zoroastrianism</b> (Sixth Century, B.C.) <a href="#">Introduction to Zoroastrianism</a></p>	<p>Good thoughts, words and deeds; Being truthful, compassionate, just; Learning, service</p>	<p>Angra mainyu or Satan; Man born sinless--chooses between good and evil.</p>	<p>Choosing good over evil; Living a righteous life.</p>	<p>Judgment: heaven and hell; Ultimate triumph of good and eradication of evil.</p>

<b>Religion</b>	<b>Dominant Emphasis</b>	<b>Scripture and Revelation</b>	<b>Founder and Origin</b>	<b>Ultimate Reality--God</b>
<b>Buddhism</b> <a href="#">Introduction to Buddhism</a>	Ethical self-culture; Four Noble Truths; Eight-fold Path to Enlightenment	Tripitaka	Siddhartha Gautama	No personal God; no soul; Buddha Deified
<b>Christianity</b> <a href="#">Introduction to Christianity</a>	Jesus as Lord; Fatherhood of God; Brotherhood of man; Kingdom of God; Church	Bible; Roman Catholics also accept church tradition as authoritative	Jesus of Nazareth; Paul: Expediter of church development.	God as Heavenly Father
<b>Confucianism</b> <a href="#">Introduction to Confucianism</a>	Social propriety; The Middle Way ( li )	The Five Classics and Four Books are used as touchstones of conduct and wisdom.	Kung-Confucius	Early: Shang Ti Later: Confucius deified Today: Humanistic
<b>Hinduism</b> <a href="#">Introduction to Hinduism</a>	Divine immanence and spiritual growth governed by karma and reincarnation	The Vedas, Upanishads, Code of Manu, Bhagavad-Gita	Early Aryans from Persia	Impersonal Brahman
<b>Islam</b> <a href="#">Introduction to Islam</a>	Submission to God; Teachings of Muhammed	Quran-Koran; Twenty-eight prophets of Allah (Abraham, Moses, Jesus, others.)	Muhammed	Allah
<b>Judaism</b> <a href="#">Introduction to Judaism</a>	Ethical monotheism; God is active in social/historical processes	Torah-Old Testament; The Talmud (comprised of the Mishnah and Gemara)	Semitic Patriarchs; Abraham and Moses	El Elyon; Elohim; Jehovah;Yahweh
<b>Sikhism</b> <a href="#">Introduction to Sikhism</a>	Syncretic unity between Hinduism and Islam	Granth	Guru Nanak	God--The True Name
<b>Taoism</b> <a href="#">Introduction to Taoism</a>	The divine way (Tao); Simplicity in living; Following nature.	Tao Te Ching	Lao-tzu	The Tao--Supreme Being; The Ultimate All-Father; Absolutes which are unknowable.
<b>Zoroastrianism</b> <a href="#">Introduction to Zoroastrianism</a>	The struggle between good and evil.	Avesta	Zarathustra Spitama-Zoroaster	Ahura Mazda; Seven sources of reality who are both masculine and feminine.