



The Monotheistic Religions

CHRISTIANITY



As I Enter...

- Think about:
 - What you know about Christianity.
 - Name 3 branches of Christianity
- Agenda
 - Holy Book Passage Activity
 - Where in the world...
 - PPT on Christianity, Judaism, Islam

To begin...

- Distribute and explain Religion Chart






Holy Book Quotes!

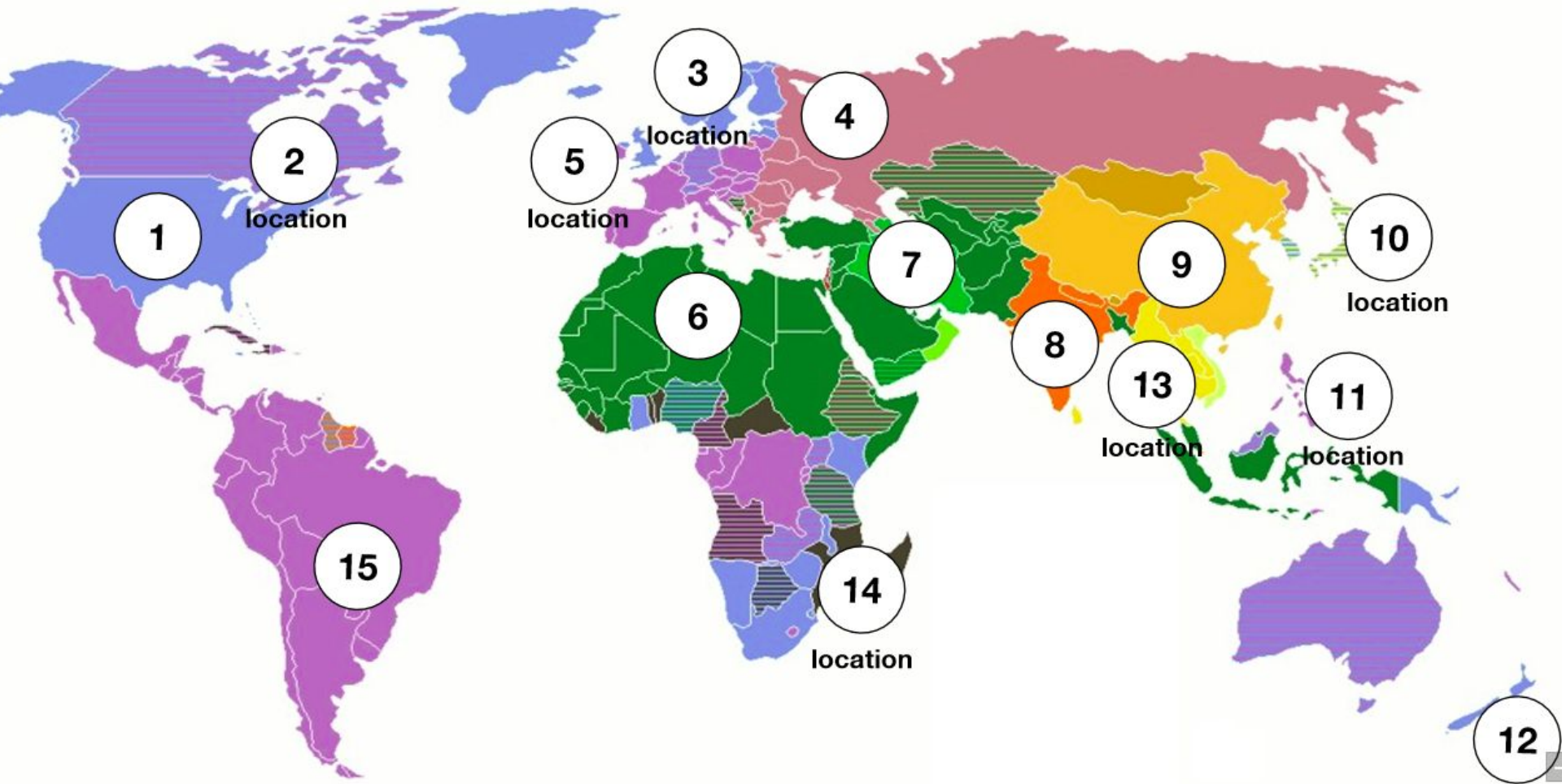
- Directions: For each statement below, determine whether the question applies to Christianity, Islam, or Judaism. Each statement may apply to more than one religion. Write the appropriate letter (C, I, or J)
1. _____ Their Holy Book is called the Koran
 2. _____ Jesus is considered the son of God
 3. _____ This religion accepts both the Old and New Testaments as Holy Books
 4. _____ Followers participate in a pilgrimage to Mecca
 5. _____ This religion is the oldest of the three
 6. _____ This religion believes in one Supreme Being
 7. _____ This religion accepts the Old Testament as its only Holy Book
 8. _____ Jerusalem is considered a holy city
 9. _____ Followers of this religion call themselves Muslims
 10. _____ The Ten Commandments are accepted as guidelines for ethical behavior
 11. _____ This religion has a number of sects or denominations
 12. _____ Place of worship is a church
 13. _____ Place of worship is a mosque
 14. _____ Place of worship is a synagogue

Introduction Answer Key

- 
1. I
 2. C
 3. C,I
 4. I
 5. J
 6. C,I, J
 7. J
 8. C, I, J
 9. I
 10. C, I, J
 11. C, I, J
 12. C
 13. I
 14. J



Name the Religion



Name the Religion



1- Protestant

2- Catholic (Quebec)

3- Lutheran (Scandinavia)

4- Eastern Orthodox

5- Catholic (Northern Ireland)

6- Sunni Islam

7- Shia (Shiite) Islam

8- Hinduism

9- Buddhism (no religion)

10- Shinto (Japan)

11- Catholic (Philippines)

12- Protestant

13- Buddhism (Indochina)

14- Animism (East Africa)

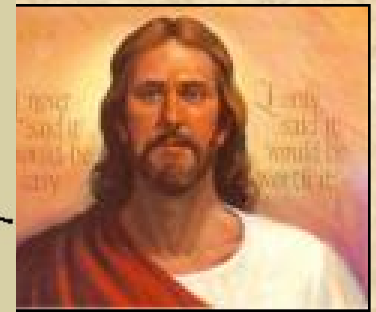
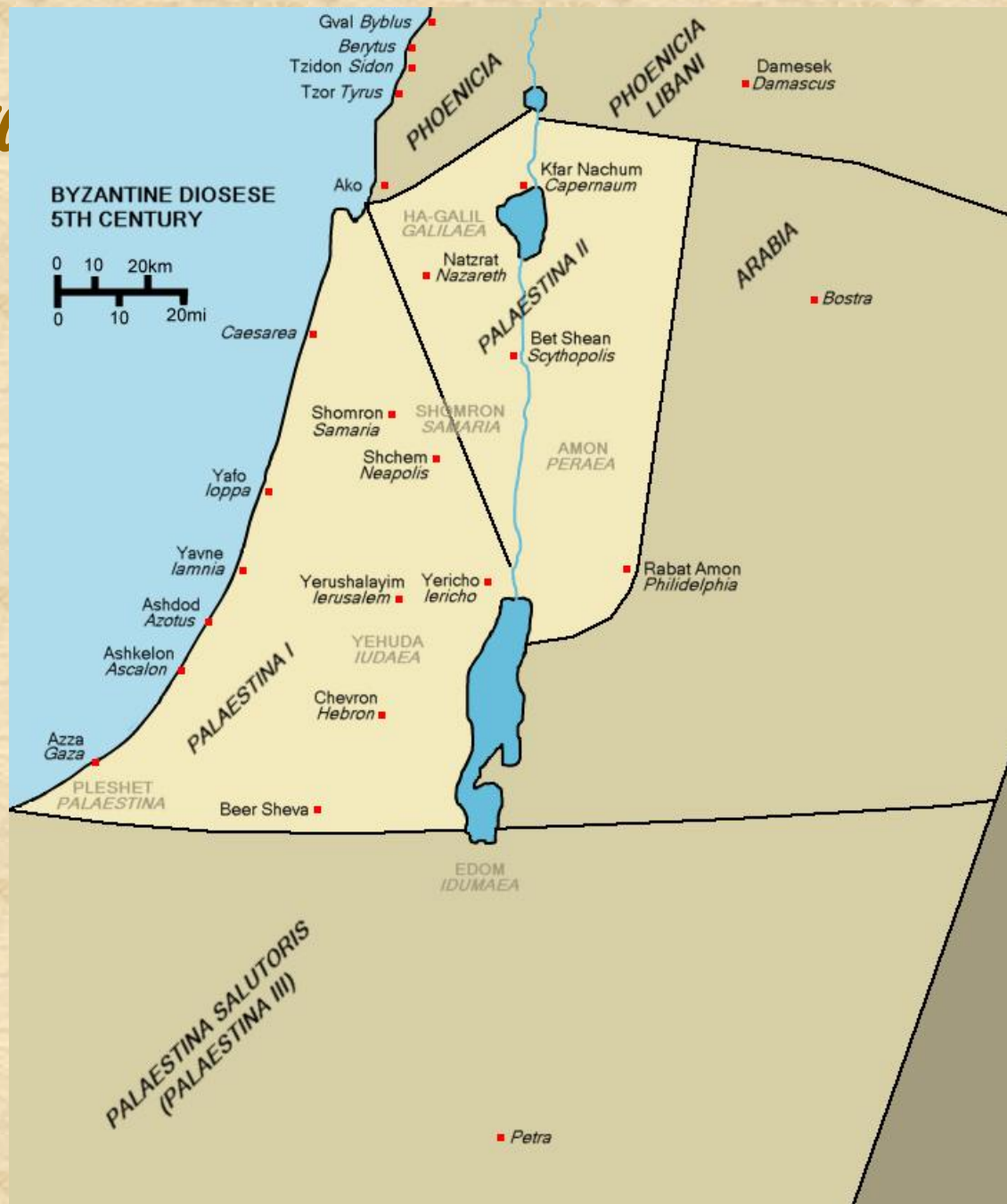
15- Catholic



What is Christianity?

- *A diverse, 2000 year old religion followed by almost one third of the world's population!*
- *Based on the life, teachings, death, and resurrection of a first century Jew known as Jesus, believed to be the Christ (messiah, savior) by his followers (thus called "Christians")*

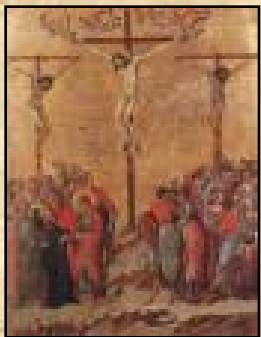
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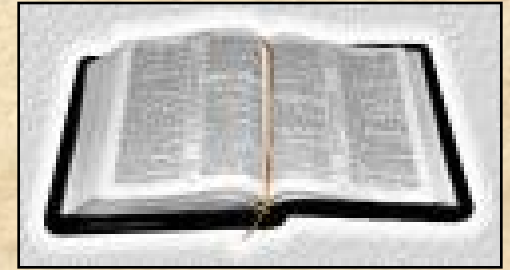
What did Jesus teach?

What did he do?



- A *story telling teacher* who taught through parables about the Kingdom of God ("the Kingdom of God is like...")
- A *miracle worker and faith healer* ("your faith has made you whole")
- A *religious and social reformer* (love and the spirit of the law, over the letter of the law)
- Preaching forgiveness of sin over punishment for sin
- Inspirational words of wisdom:
 - The "Greatest commandment": Love God and love others as you love yourself
 - The "Golden Rule": Do unto others as you would have others do unto you
 - The "Lord's Prayer" ("Our Father who art in heaven...")

Scriptural sources – The Christian Bible



- Old Testament (the Hebrew Bible)
- New Testament (written after Jesus' death, by his followers, during the first century; not canonized until the 4th century)
 - Four gospels ("good words") about the birth, life, teaching, acts, death, and resurrection of Jesus
 - The Book of Acts of the apostles – earliest history of the developing church
 - Epistles ("letters") of Paul and other evangelists addressed to the churches they founded and led throughout the Mediterranean
 - The Book of Revelation – a vision of the future, the ultimate destiny of mankind, the culmination of God's plan for humanity

What do Christians believe? – The Christ of faith



“Who do men say that I am?”

- *The “Christ” – born of a virgin in fulfillment of Jewish messianic expectation to be “king of the Jews”*
- *The “Son of God” – fully divine and fully human*
- *The savior of humanity – saving us from sin through his sacrifice on the cross*
- *Risen from the dead (resurrection) “on the third day” – overcoming death so that we too may have “eternal life”*
- *Ascended into heaven, residing with God “the father” to intervene on our behalf*
- *Will come again at the “end of days” to judge the living and the dead*

What do Christians believe? –

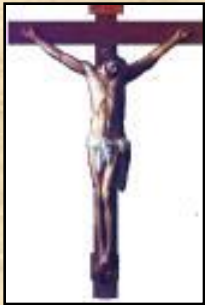
The Trinity



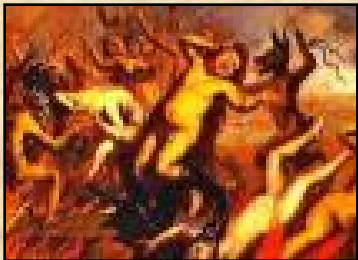
- *God the Father* residing in heaven (same God worshiped by Jews and Muslims)
- *God the Son* (Jesus, the Christ) who “came down from heaven” to dwell among us, as one of us
- *God the Holy Spirit* (“Holy Ghost”)
 - *The spirit of God residing within everyone who accepts the sacrifice of Christ and thus becomes a Christian*

Communion with God the Father is through the Son and the Holy Spirit

What else do Christians believe?

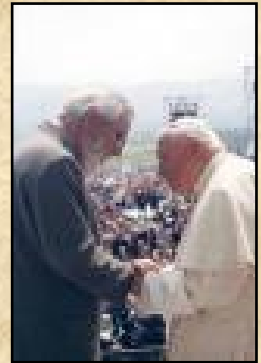


- Original sin: all humanity is inherently separated from God
- The sacrifice of Jesus – a sinless representative of humanity (a “scapegoat”) – as the ultimate atonement for the sins of humanity
- Heaven and Hell:
 - Eternal life for those who are “saved by the blood of the lamb (Jesus)”
 - Eternal damnation for those who are not so saved





Who are Christians?

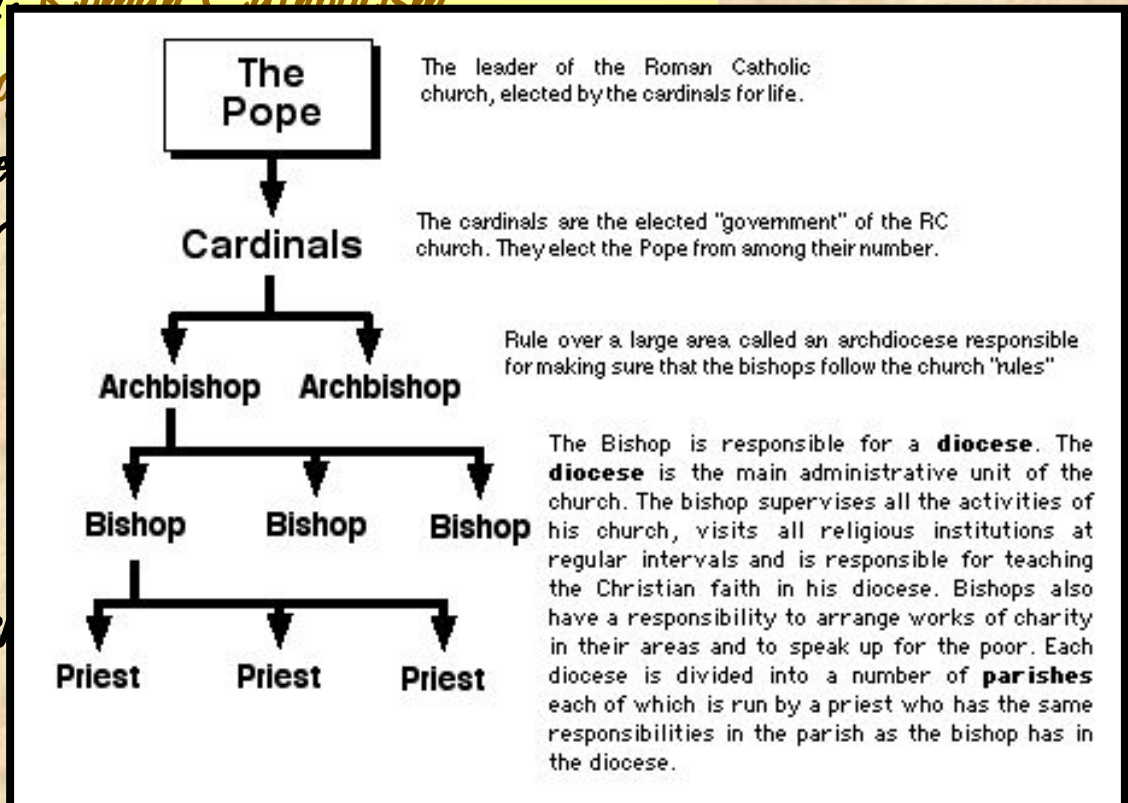


- The Eastern church: *Orthodox Christianity*
- The Western church: *Roman Catholicism*

- unified under the Pope
- found throughout western Europe
- Over 900 million (1999)



These two original churches



What about the Protestants?

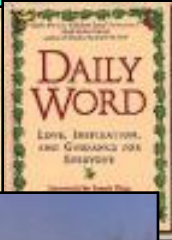
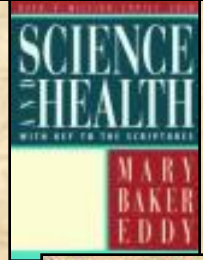


- Broke from Catholic church beginning in 16th century
 - *Lutheran* (early 16th century)
 - *Church of England* (Anglican, Episcopal- 16th century)
 - “*Reformed*” churches: Presbyterian, Congregational, etc.
- *Anabaptist* and other *sectarian* churches break away from these original (“mainline”) churches:
 - Baptist, Methodist, Brethren (Puritan), Mennonite, Amish, Quaker, etc.



Who else are Christians? -American born Christian groups

- 19th and 20th century developments include:
 - Mormons (1830's)
 - Seventh-Day Adventist (1840's)
 - Christian Science and Unity (1880's)
 - Jehovah's Witness (20th century)
 - Evangelicals and Pentecostals (20th century)
 - Unification Church (20th century, Korean origin)
- cults
 - CBS Footage
 - Jonestown



How do Christians practice their faith? – in church

- Sacraments:

1. Baptism
2. Communion (Eucharist, Mass, the Lord's Supper)
3. Confirmation
4. Confession of sins, penance, atonement
5. Marriage ("Holy Matrimony")
6. Ordination ("Holy Orders")
7. Healing (anointing, "Holy Unction", "Last rites")



- Sabbath celebrated on Sunday with prayer, scripture readings, singing of hymns, a sermon or lesson

What are some Christian holy days?



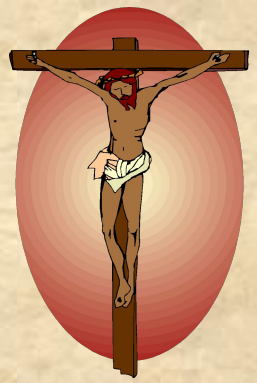
Two major seasons in the Christian calendar:

- Christmas – celebrating the birth of Jesus
- Easter – commemorating the resurrection of Christ

- **Christmas:**

- *Advent* (four weeks leading up to Christmas day)
- *Christmas Day* (December 25th)
- *Epiphany* (the “twelfth day of Christmas”)





More Christian holy days:

- *Easter: (early spring, date varies)*
 - *Ash Wednesday and lent* (40 days before Easter, a period of sacrifice and spiritual renewal in preparation for Easter)
 - *Holy Week* including:
 - *Palm Sunday* (Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem)
 - *Holy Thursday* (inauguration of the communion meal)
 - *Good Friday* (Jesus' Passion and crucifixion)
 - *Easter Sunday* (celebrating the resurrection)



Pentecost: the 50th day (seven weeks) after Easter (commemorates the coming of the Holy Spirit upon the apostles)





sexual

What is the bare essence of Christianity?



- *A faith and life based on the person and/ or teachings of Jesus as savior, model, or inspiration*
- *Use of the New Testament to inform faith and practice*



Then there's this....

- Scientology Explained
 - Link doesn't work ☹