

WORLD RELIGIONS AND CULTS

REVIEW QUESTIONS ANSWER KEY

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LESSON 3 - MORMONISM

1. What do Mormons think of other churches?

Mormons believe no other church is truly Christian.

2. What do Mormons believe about the history of Christianity?

Mormons believe that real Christianity did not exist after the apostles until their church began.

3. What do Mormons believe about Jesus?

Mormons believe that Jesus was a spirit in heaven like others until he was born on earth.

4. What is the goal of a Mormon?

To become god of another planet like God is for earth.

5. What is the highest authority for a Mormon?

The highest authority for a Mormon is the revelation of Joseph Smith.

LESSON 4 - JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES

1. What do Jehovah's Witnesses think of other churches?

Jehovah's Witnesses believe that all other churches are wrong and that only a Jehovah's Witness can be saved.

2. What do Jehovah's Witnesses believe about the Holy Spirit?

Jehovah's Witnesses believe that the Holy Spirit is an impersonal force that comes from God.

3. What do Jehovah's Witnesses believe about Jesus?

Jehovah's Witnesses believe that Jesus was the first creation of God and that he came to earth as a perfect man, but is not God.

4. What do Jehovah's Witnesses believe about salvation?

Jehovah's Witnesses believe that salvation is earned in a process of believing and doing right things.

LESSON 5 - IGLESIA NI CRISTO

1. What is the translated name of Iglesia ni Cristo?

The name *Iglesia ni Cristo* is translated “Church of Christ.”

2. What large cult is similar to Iglesia ni Cristo in doctrine?

Iglesia ni Cristo has doctrine very similar to the Jehovah’s Witnesses.

3. What is the basis of authority for Iglesia ni Cristo?

The basic authority for Iglesia ni Cristo is the belief that Felix Manalo was prophesied to restore true Christianity.

4. What does Iglesia ni Cristo believe about Jesus?

Iglesia ni Cristo believes that Jesus was a special man but was not God.

5. What does Iglesia ni Cristo believe about salvation?

Iglesia ni Cristo believes that salvation is available only to members of their church and may be earned by a life of obedience.

LESSON 6 - EASTERN LIGHTNING

1. What is the official name of the cult called “Eastern Lightning.”

Eastern Lightning is called “Church of the Almighty God.”

2. What is the most important doctrine of Eastern Lightning?

The most important doctrine of Eastern Lightning is that God has come to earth again in the form of a female Christ, making all previous revelation obsolete.

3. What does Eastern Lightning believe about Jesus?

Eastern Lightning believes that Jesus is no longer important to the church.

4. What does Eastern Lightning believe about salvation?

Eastern Lightning believes a person cannot be saved unless he gives up his faith in Jesus and follows their church and the female Christ.

LESSON 7 - PROSPERITY THEOLOGY

1. What do Prosperity Theology preachers talk about the most?

Prosperity Theology preachers talk most about what a person can get by faith.

2. What is faith, according to Prosperity Theology?

According to Prosperity Theology, faith is a power used by God, and available for man to use the same way.

3. What is God like, according to Prosperity Theology ?

According to Prosperity Theology, God is a physical man just like us, and does everything by the power of faith.

4. What is man, according to Prosperity Theology ?

According to Prosperity Theology, man is a copy of God and can do what God does, and will someday become a god like him.

5. How does Prosperity Theology explain poverty and sickness in the life of a Christian?

According to Prosperity Theology, a Christian can always be wealthy and healthy if he has faith.

LESSON 8 - APOCALYPTIC CULTS

1. What need do Apocalyptic Cults try to meet?

Apocalyptic Cults try to explain the condition of the world and what God is going to do.

2. How do Apocalyptic Cults misuse the Bible?

Apocalyptic Cults misuse the Bible by adding meaning to it by new revelation rather than interpreting what it really says.

3. What is the great theme of apocalyptic scripture from the Bible?

The great theme of prophetic scriptures is that God is in control and will eventually establish his kingdom and reward the righteous.

4. How do the Apocalyptic Cults do harm?

The Apocalyptic Cults take people from churches, have nonchristian actions, disappoint the faith of their followers, and cause people to doubt the Scripture.

LESSON 9 - HINDUISM

1. What do Hindus believe in instead of God?

Hindus believe that everything is part of impersonal reality called Brahman, and that Brahman is the soul of every living thing.

2. What kind of gods are in Hinduism?

The gods of Hinduism are many spirits and ancestors who have limitations and can do good or evil.

3. What is the ultimate goal of a Hindu?

A Hindu wants to reach Nirvana, getting out of the cycles of reincarnation to be absorbed into Brahman.

4. What is the Hindu view of Jesus?

Hindus believe that Jesus was a person who practiced the principles of Hinduism and was a great teacher, but not the unique Son of God.

LESSON 10 - BUDDHISM

1. What is the ultimate goal of the Buddhist?

The Buddhist's ultimate goal is to enter Nirvana, which is to lose individuality and be blended with the oneness of the universe.

2. What is the Buddhist's concept of God?

The Buddhist does not believe in God, and gods are not important in the Buddhist religion.

3. How does the Buddhist explain the suffering of life?

According to Buddhism, all suffering comes from desires, and a person can escape suffering by detaching himself from all desires.

4. What does the Buddhist try to achieve in his life?

The Buddhist practices mental and spiritual exercises to help him detach from all concerns and be free from anxiety.

LESSON 11 - TAOISM**1. To whom do Taoists pray?**

Taoists pray to a variety of gods, spirits, and ancestors.

2. Who are the supreme gods in Taoism?

Taoist believe in Yu-huang, who rules over the other gods; and they believe in Yu-an-shih T'ien-tsun, who has absolute qualities of God but is not involved in the world.

3. What is the goal of the Taoist?

The Taoist wants to live in harmony with the world, free from conflict and suffering.

4. According to Taoism, who is Jesus?

According to Taoism, Jesus was a person who was advanced in spiritual development and showed others the way to become gods.

LESSON 12 - ISLAM**1. Name the god, the prophet, and the holy book of Islam.**

Islam is the worship of Allah, following the prophet Mohammad and the Koran.

2. What do Muslims believe about Jesus?

Muslims believe that Jesus was a prophet but not God and not the Savior.

3. What do Muslims believe about the Bible?

Muslims believe that the Bible is from God but that it is less authoritative than the Koran.

4. What do Muslims believe about salvation?

Muslims believe that salvation is earned by fulfilling the requirements of Islam.

LESSON 13 - JUDAISM

1. What Scriptures do Judaism and Christianity have in common?

Judaism and Christianity both believe in the Old Testament Scriptures.

2. Who was Jesus, according to Judaism?

According to Judaism, Jesus was a controversial teacher, but not the Messiah and not God.

3. What kind of Messiah is expected by Judaism?

Judaism expects that the Messiah will not be God, but a specially anointed man who will bring world peace.

4. What is the concept of salvation in Judaism?

In Judaism, salvation is deliverance from oppression so that the group can live in a blessed, covenant relationship with God.

LESSON 14 - NEW AGE

1. How does the New Age view other religions?

The New Age tolerates any religious group except those that claim to have truth that everyone should believe.

2. What is the New Age concept of God?

The New Age concept of God is pantheistic, and they do not believe in a supreme God who is the Creator.

3. How does the New Age interact with the supernatural?

The New Age communicates with spirits and uses all forms of magic.

4. What does the New Age believe about Jesus?

The New Age believes that Jesus was a man who knew how to use special powers and tried to teach others to do the same.

5. What does the New Age believe about salvation?

The New Age does not believe that sin is real and believes the solution to human problems is development of spiritual awareness and spiritual powers.

LESSON 15 - ANIMISM

1. Why is animism not only one particular religion?

Animism is a type of religion that is followed by people who may call themselves by the names of many different religions.

2. How do animists interact with the supernatural?

Animists interact with the spirit world with rituals and special objects.

3. Why do animists not pray to God?

Animists do not pray to God because they believe he is distant and uninvolved with their lives.

4. What is a superstition?

A superstition is the idea that a person must follow certain practices because of objects, actions, or places that have spiritual power.

5. Why is a Christian not bound by superstition?

A Christian is not bound by superstitions because he trusts the supreme power of God.

LESSON 16 - VOODOO

1. Whom do Voodoo practitioners worship?

Voodoo practitioners worship spirits and Satan.

2. What is the goal of a worshipper during a Voodoo worship service?

The Voodoo worshipper tries to become possessed by a spirit.

3. What Christian church has often been confused with Voodoo?

The images and rituals of Roman Catholicism are often used in Voodoo.

4. What are some examples of things used in Voodoo ceremonies?

Voodoo uses animal sacrifices, candles, images of saints, drawn diagrams, prayers, songs, white robes, food, and other things.

LESSON 17 - SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISM

1. What is the primary doctrine that distinguishes Adventists from other churches?

Adventists are distinguished from other churches most by their observance of the Saturday Sabbath.

2. What is the Adventist view of God?

Adventists believe in the Trinity and in the deity of Christ and the Holy Spirit.

3. What is the Adventist view of salvation?

Adventists believe in salvation by grace through faith, and that a believer must live a life of obedience after conversion.

4. What is the Adventist view of man's eternal destiny?

Adventists believe that there is no eternal hell, and people without salvation will be destroyed, and that man is not immortal until resurrected for heaven.

LESSON 18 - ROMAN CATHOLICISM

1. What does Roman Catholicism claim with their name?

Roman Catholicism claims to be the complete, universal church.

2. What are some reasons Roman Catholics are accused of idolatry?

Roman Catholics are accused of idolatry because they pray to the images of saints and Mary.

3. What do Roman Catholics believe about God?

Roman Catholics believe in the Trinity and in the deity of Christ and the Holy Spirit.

4. What is the Roman Catholic view of salvation?

Roman Catholics believe that salvation depends not only on the atonement of Christ but on being part of the Catholic church, receiving communion, and earning merit by works.

5. What is the Roman Catholic doctrine of purgatory?

The Roman Catholic doctrine of purgatory is that after death a person must be punished and purified for sins before entering heaven.

LESSON 19 - EASTERN ORTHODOXY

1. What does the name of Eastern Orthodoxy show that they claim?

The name *Orthodoxy* means right worship, and shows that they claim to be the church that worships God properly.

2. What is the Eastern Orthodox view of God?

Eastern Orthodoxy believes in the Trinity and in the deity of Christ and the Holy Spirit.

3. What does Eastern Orthodoxy believe about the saints?

Eastern Orthodoxy believes that the saints of the past can help people in response to prayers, so they pray to saints.

4. What is Eastern Orthodoxy's doctrine of *theosis*?

The doctrine of *theosis* is that the Holy Spirit gradually transforms the believer to bring him to the holy perfection of God, in a process that will not be completed until after death.

5. What does Eastern Orthodoxy believe about the Bible?

Eastern Orthodoxy teaches that the Bible is the authority for their doctrine, but that the Bible must be interpreted by the church.

LESSON 20 - UNITED PENTECOSTALISM

1. What is the United Pentecostal view of God?

United Pentecostals do not believe in the Trinity, but they believe that God the Father and Jesus are the same person and that the Holy Spirit is God in action.

2. What do United Pentecostals believe are necessary signs of salvation?

United Pentecostals believe a person is not saved unless he has been baptized in water in Jesus' name and has spoken in tongues.

3. What do United Pentecostals believe about Christian living?

United Pentecostals believe that a Christian will live in victory over sin and separation from the ways of the world.

4. What do United Pentecostals believe about the Bible?

United Pentecostals believe that the Bible is the final authority and that the church should follow the example of the church in the book of Acts.