

# GCSE Edexcel A Topic on a Page for Area of Study 2

## Christianity (as Second Religion)

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# Teacher's Introduction

This resource covers the Religious Studies GCSE Edexcel A specification for Area of Study 2 – Study of Christianity (Paper 2: Option B – 2B). This covers:

- Beliefs and Teachings
- Practices

## Remember!

Always check the exam board website for new information, including changes to the specification and sample assessment material.




Theme content is split into five sections as follows:

1. **A4 teacher information pages.**
2. **Five A3 revision posters**, between them covering the 16 subtopics (pages 1–4), and perspectives of additional religions for the required areas\*, and the specific short course content (page 5).

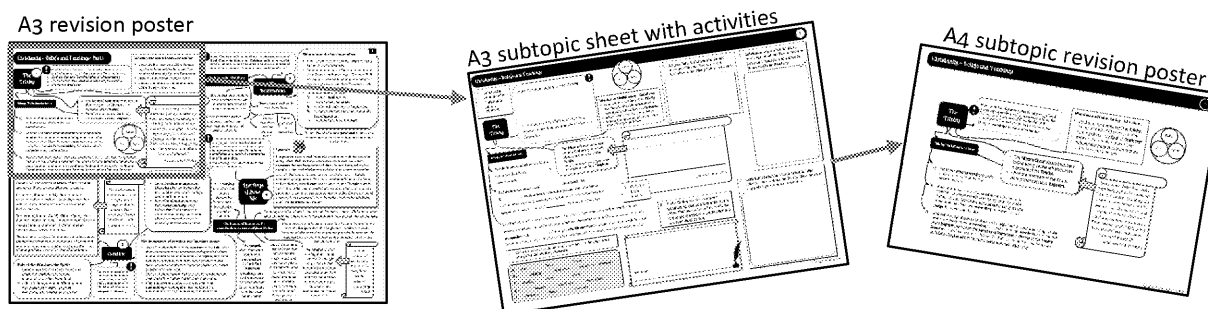
These are labelled: **1** to **5**

\*Remember! Students need to know about beliefs about the afterlife and their significance, and the practice and significance of worship with reference to another religion. Material is given for the former from the perspectives of Judaism, Islam and Buddhism, and for the latter from the perspectives of Judaism and Islam.

These posters are intended as a summary of all of the material, focusing on the main points rather than the detail, so that all important areas are covered without going into too much depth.

3. **Twenty-two A3 subtopic sheets with activities.** Each of these sheets covers one subtopic and provides write-on activities for students to complete. Answers are provided in the A4 subtopic revision posters and the A4 extension question answer pages. These are labelled with numbers inside white circles:  Exam-style questions in the activity sheets are marked by a pencil icon: 
4. **Twenty-two A4 subtopic revision posters.** These provide answers for the main activities given in the A3 subtopic activity sheets. As revision posters, these can be used as a summary for each area, and have enough space for teacher or student annotation. These are labelled with numbers inside black circles: 
5. **A4 answers to extension questions.** These pages provide answers to the extension questions not covered on the A4 subtopic revision posters.

All posters can be displayed on classroom walls, or given to students to learn in lessons or at home.



As a whole, the resource can be used to help students to revise at the end of a topic/subtopic, or before a test or an exam. Different styles and layouts are used to make the information interesting and to help the students engage with the information in a productive way.

H Rich, January 2018

## Free Updates!

Register your email address to receive any future free updates\* made to this resource or other Religious Studies resources your school has purchased, and details of any promotions for your subject.

\* resulting from minor specification changes, suggestions from teachers and peer reviews, or occasional errors reported by customers

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# Christianity – Beliefs and Teachings: Part 1

## The Trinity

1

Most Christians believe in the **Trinity** – that God is one being made up of three persons: God the Father, God the Son and God the Spirit. It is important to Christians that they believe in one God, as **worship** of others is forbidden.

### Worship and belief today – Christians:

- celebrate the members of the **Trinity**, e.g. Jesus' birth at Christmas and the coming of the Holy Spirit at **Pentecost**
- **pray** in Jesus' name / pray to Jesus
- believe they experience the members of the Trinity in their lives



Many Christians believe in the **Trinity** – that God is one being made up of three persons: God the Father, God the Son and God the Spirit. It is important to Christians that they believe in one God, as **worship** of others is forbidden.

### Significance for Christians today:

Shows that God has a relationship with humans, and that it is easier to relate to a human than to a God.

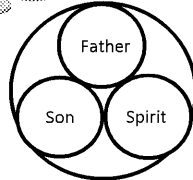
Many Christians believe that Jesus fulfilled the Jewish **law**, so they need to follow his teachings.



The gospels record Jesus' life, including his betrayal, his crucifixion and his ascension. The suffering and death of Jesus is known as the **Passion**.

### Many Christians believe:

- 1) God the Father **created** the world and sent Jesus, God the Son, to **save** humanity.
- 2) God the Son was present at **creation**. He became **incarnate** as Jesus, born of a human mother, Mary. He **gave** humanity, before rising from the dead and **ascending** to heaven. He will **judge** the living and the dead.
- 3) God the Holy Spirit guides Christians and helps them in their lives, living in their hearts. He was present at **creation**, has spoken through **prophets**, descended at Jesus' **baptism**, and upon the **apostles** at **Pentecost**. A change to the **Nicene Creed** indicates that he proceeds from the Father and the Son, but Orthodox Christians disagree and think he proceeds from the Father only.



*'And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, the Beloved with whom I am well pleased."*

(Matthew 3:16–17 NRSV)

### Interpretations:

- Some Christians **interpret** the Bible **literally**; they believe that the world was created in six days (and then God rested).
- Some Christians interpret the Bible **metaphorically**. They believe that God created the world and humans, but that the biblical account of creation is **symbolic**, not literally true.

Jesus **praying** to God before he died showed his human side; he did suffer like other humans.

### Significance for understanding the Bible:

Genesis 1–3 records the **creation** of the universe and of life. There are two different accounts.

In the first (Genesis 1:1–2:4), God creates the universe and its inhabitants in six days, and then rests for a day. Plants and animals are created before humans.

The second (Genesis 2:4–25) differs slightly; after God has created the earth, he creates man. He then creates plants and animals, and then creates woman, out of one of man's ribs.

The woman is tempted by a serpent and the couple eat the fruit of the tree of knowledge of good and evil, which God had forbidden. God casts them out of their garden paradise for their disobedience.

*'So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.'*

(Genesis 1:27 NRSV)

### Creation

The story of **creation** is discussed in the Bible in Genesis chapters 1–3 and John chapter 1:1–18. Different Christians **interpret** it differently.

### Role of the Word and the Spirit:

- Genesis says that the **spirit** of God was present at **creation** (sometimes translated as a 'wind' from God).
- John 1:1–18 says that the **Word** (Jesus) was present at creation and that everything was created through him.

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## Christianity – Beliefs and Teachings: Part 2

**Salvation** within Christianity refers to the belief that Jesus **saved** Christians from sin and death. **Law, sin, grace, the Spirit, and atonement** are all related concepts.

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### Salvation

#### Grace and the Spirit:

Many Christians believe that **grace** is a gift from God, which can **save** them. Jesus coming to save humanity was an expression of God's grace. Many Christians also believe that they receive God's grace through the Holy Spirit, the Bible, and **sacraments**.

**Natural suffering** is caused by a person's actions.  
**Evil** is morally wrong.  
**moral suffering** is caused by a person's actions.

#### Salvation:

Christians believe that Jesus **saved** them from **sin** and death through his death and **resurrection**. This is known as **salvation**.

It is *what* Jesus achieved for them.

#### Atonement:

Christians believe that Jesus **saved** them by dying on the cross and somehow **atoning** for, or making up for, the **sin** they committed. This is known as **atonement**.

#### Different theories of atonement:

Some Christians believe certain people are **predestined** to be **saved**.

Some Christians think that people are **saved** if they use their **free will** to accept Jesus' sacrifice.

Jesus' death was a sacrifice which redeemed humans by paying the price required by **sin** – death.

Jesus' death overcame the forces of evil.

**Atonement** is a **divine mystery**.

#### Law:

Jewish teaching that salvation comes by following Jewish **law**.

Christians instead believe that salvation has come through Jesus' sacrifice – and that this fulfilled the Jewish law – though they may follow some of the Jewish law as well as following Jesus' teachings and example.

#### Significance of salvation and atonement:

- Christians believe that:
  - Jesus' death and **resurrection** show God loves them
  - they have been **saved** from **sin** and death, had their debt paid, and been given **grace**
  - they do not need to follow the Jewish **law**

*'The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.'*  
(Psalm 103:8 NRSV)

In the **parable** of the sheep and the goats, Jesus teaches that he will **judge** people at the end of time depending on their actions – the good will go to **heaven** and the bad to **hell**.

In the **parable** of the bridesmaids, Jesus teaches that people should be ready for the **Kingdom of God** / the end of the world and **judgement** to come at any time.

Some Christians believe in **resurrection of the body**: the dead will be raised in their bodies at the end of time. Jesus taught that the dead would be raised from their graves (John 11:25).

Some Christians believe in **immortality of the soul**: souls will go to **heaven/purgatory/hell** immediately after death. Jesus told the thief on the cross that he would be in paradise that day (Luke 23:43).

Some Christians believe in both **resurrection of the body** and **immortality of the soul**: people will live on immediately after death, but will be reunited with their bodies and **judged** at the end of time.

*'For all of us must appear before the judgement seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil.'*  
(2 Corinthians 5:10 NRSV)

Many Christians believe that good people will go to **heaven**, a realm inhabited by God and angels, when they die. Jesus told his **disciples** that he would prepare a place for them (John 14:2–4). Some Christians believe only Christians will go to heaven, because Jesus said that he was the 'way' to '[God the] Father' (John 14:6).

The Catholic Church teaches that many people go to **purgatory**, a realm where they 'stop' to 'purge' their sins before entering heaven. The 39 Articles of Religion of the Church of England claims that purgatory is not in the Bible and does not exist.

Many Christians believe in **hell**, a horrible realm where bad people go when they die, separated from God.

**Eschatology** refers to the end of things – for example, the end of life (death) and the end of time. Christians have various beliefs about what happens when they die and what will happen at the end of time. **Remember to see the sheet on other religions for contrast, and the short course material.**

Realms after death

Judgement

Eschatology

Life after death – how:

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## Christianity – Practices: Part 1

**Worship** covers any acts of devotion to God and can come in different styles and involve different practices. **Remember to see the sheet on other religions for contrast.**

- **Sermon/Talk** – used to teach about Christianity and the Bible. Important in helping Christians understand their **faith** better and in encouraging them to live good lives and have a full relationship with God.
- **Bible reading** – used to teach God's will, in group or private **worship**. Important because Christians may feel that God speaks to them through it and gives his **grace**.
- **Singing** – Christians sing to praise God and reflect. Important in allowing Christians to express their feelings about God, often as part of a group.
- **Prayer** – communication with God, important in helping Christians in their relationship with God. Can be formal or informal.

Catholics and some Anglicans may see **liturgical worship** as highly significant because they feel **liturgies** and **sacraments** are important for connecting with God.

**Liturgy:**  
This is a set **worship** service, involving set items, such as set words, set hymns and set **prayers**. This (and **liturgical worship**) may be used to help to make worship feel special, and also to allow a congregation to become familiar with the words and practices used.

May be used for special occasions, e.g. when **sacraments** are being practised, or at celebrations such as Christmas and Easter.

Also known as Communion, Supper, the Eucharist, bread and wine, it follows Jesus' **Last Supper** in this way as that his body (wine) were given for forgiveness of sins, an important part of Christianity for them.

In the Eucharist, bread and wine are used to represent the **congregation**. The bread is broken into wafers, and one wafer is given to each person.

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**Worship**

**Styles of worship**

**Liturgical worship:**  
This is **worship** which follows a set structure. Many churches follow the same **liturgical** order every week, but use different hymns and prayers. For example, each week. The **Book of Common Prayer** contains many liturgical services.

Used by many churches for ordinary church services, such as the Catholic Mass.

**Non-liturgical worship:**  
This is less-structured and more spontaneous **worship** which may be used if Christians want to **worship** God in the way which feels appropriate at the time, rather than having it planned in advance.

Used by some churches occasionally, or for normal services, e.g. by Pentecostal churches. This may be done privately and individually when Christians want to **worship** God at any time.

- **Focusing on icons** – some Christians, such as Orthodox Christians, focus on special paintings of Jesus and the saints to help with their worship – other Christians do not see icons as helpful.
- **Sacraments, e.g. Eucharist and Baptism** – often practised within a liturgy. These are special practices with individual meanings and importance. Some Christians feel they receive God's grace through these.

Others, e.g. Pentecostals, may see **non-liturgical worship** as more significant, because they want their worship to be inspired by God / the Holy Spirit.

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit”

(Matthew 28:19-20)

e.g. Christians **say** the **Lord's Prayer** – there are different versions adapted from a prayer Jesus taught his disciples. This allows Christians to ask God for provision and guidance.

Some **prayers** are **informal** – e.g. Christians use the **Lord's Prayer** for particular purposes.

**Prayers are informal**  
**prayers**, which Christians can use to share their own thoughts with God and talk to him about their feelings and things currently happening in the world and their lives.

**Prayer** is communication with God. Christians **pray** in different ways and for many reasons – above all, to have a close relationship with God.

**Prayer**

**Types of prayer**

Both types of **prayer** (set and informal) can be said in formal services, or in less formal / individual **worship**.

- Prayers can be used to praise God, to thank him, to ask for his forgiveness, and to ask him for help, for others or oneself.
- Catholics may think set prayers are more important because many have been taught by Jesus / the Bible / the Church.

**Significance and importance:**

- The Catholic Church considers some prayers important because people who have had visions, or where things have happened, have been prayed for.
- Many Protestants believe places are important in the Bible but may go to a **pilgrimage** site at a particular time **worshipping** God. Other Christians have their own reasons.

“Pray then in this way: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And do not bring us to the time of trial, but rescue us from the evil one.”

(Matthew 6:9–13 NRSV)

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## Christianity – Practices: Part 2

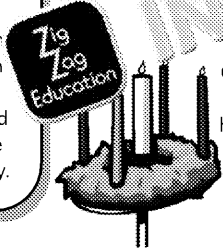
There are several important Christian **celebrations**, especially those surrounding and including **Christmas** and **Easter**. These are often based on events in the Bible or in the lives of saints.

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### Celebrations

**Christmas and Advent:** **Christmas** is the celebration of Jesus' birth, and **Advent** is the time of preparation leading up to it.

Christians celebrate these because they believe God sent his son, Jesus, who many believe to be God **incarnate**, to **save** them and **reconcile** them with God. Christmas is significant because Jesus' birth was when Jesus came into the world to live with and teach humans, and without his birth he would not have been able to die and rise to **save** humanity.



There may be special services (e.g. Christingle services, vicar and midnight Mass) during **Advent** and on **Christmas** Eve, and church groups throughout Advent, to focus on Jesus' coming to the world.

Many Christians light candles on the four Sundays in Advent and on **Christmas** Eve. These remind Christians of **prophets** and key events leading up to the birth of Jesus, and/or of qualities such as love and peace. The white candle in the centre symbolises Jesus the **King of Peace** and is lit on **Christmas** Day.

Christians may fast in **Lent**; they may give up a certain type of food to help them focus on God, and remember all that he provides them with. They may spend more time focused on God in **prayer**, or give money to **charity**.

Christians often celebrate **Palm Sunday** to remember Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem, showing Jesus as a king, but not a conventional king.

On **Good Friday**, Christians remember the **crucifixion**, and on **Easter Sunday**, the **resurrection**. There may be **vigils** or aids to **meditation** in church before Easter, and services of the **Eucharist** on Easter Sunday.

### Easter, Holy Week and Lent:

On **Good Friday**, Christians celebrate Jesus being **crucified** to **atone** for Christians' **sins**, and on **Easter Sunday**, they celebrate him being **resurrected** from the dead, overcoming death. These are significant because Christians believe that through these Jesus brought them **salvation** and **reconciliation** with God.

**Lent** is the period of 40 days (plus Sundays) leading up to Easter, and including **Holy Week**, the week before Easter (which includes **Palm Sunday**, remembrance of the *cleansing of the Temple*, **Maundy Thursday** and **Good Friday**), which is historically a time for Christians to repent.

Christians often celebrate the **Last Supper** and Jesus washing his **disciples'** feet on **Maundy Thursday**.

### History of Church growth:

- Early Christians **evangelised** locally, and then spread out further.
- Evangelism was helped by the first Christian Roman Emperor – Constantine – other leaders; and trade.
- Churches have tried to **convert** people in the areas where they are active.
- Some Christians have tried to evangelise overseas through **missionary** work.

**Evangelism** is spreading the good news and hoping to **convert** people to Christianity. Christians do this because Jesus commanded them to; so they do so to serve God. Christians may also want to evangelise to help others through bringing them to Jesus. The Church may evangelise to maintain church members; needed to provide funds and volunteers to continue Christian work.

**Missionary** work is often abroad – often in countries without a strong Christian presence – trying to **evangelise** in areas which are less economically developed, while also helping to develop the area.

Alpha courses and Church activities open to the public – designed to attract people interested in religion and Christianity, and to help them learn about the religion.

Centres and drop-ins where the homeless, elderly, or overly drunk people on a night out, can receive food, shelter and help, and which also provide a space to discuss religion.

Charities which help with humanitarian support abroad and also inform people about Christianity, e.g. Christian Aid.

'And he said to them, "Go into all the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation."' (Mark 16:15 NRSV)

### Christian Aid:

Christian Aid is a **charity** which mainly supports people practically, often in less economically developed countries, with the aim of ending poverty and aiding those who are suffering. They do this out of **compassion**, and because of other Christian teaching.



The Church works to **reconcile** conflict and inequality out of **compassion**, e.g. by negotiation.

### Culture of the Church

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### Examples of evangelism and missionary work

The **Church** has grown greatly since the time of Jesus, though it is now declining in some Western countries. The Church has tried to grow through **missionary** work and **evangelism**, which are important to many Christians.

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## Christianity – Additional Religions and Short Course Material

Different religions believe different things about the afterlife, e.g. how this is experienced. Non-religious people often argue that the afterlife does not exist.

### Judaism

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Jews may believe in **immortality of the soul**, **resurrection of the body**, or **reincarnation**.

The Jewish afterlife is referred to as **Olam Ha-Ba** (Hebrew for 'the world to come').

Some Jews believe in equivalents of the Christian **heaven** and **hell**.  
But some believe that evil people will cease to exist at death.

There is no fixed concept of the afterlife in Judaism.

Lack of certainty about the afterlife can be significant in focusing Jews on this life.

'Many of those who die on the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt.' (Daniel 12:2 NRSV)

### The Afterlife

Muslims believe in **judgement** at the end of time and **resurrection** of the body but NOT **heaven** or **hell**. They believe in the second coming of Jesus before the end of time.

Muslims believe in **heaven** and **hell**, like Christians, but NOT in **purgatory**.

### Islam

Muslims believe that some people of some other religions such as Judaism and Christianity can go to **heaven** (unlike certain Christians who believe that only Christians can go to heaven).

Belief in the afterlife is significant in comforting Muslims and encouraging them to live good lives.

'... Only he who is saved far from the Fire and admitted to the Garden will have attained the object (of Life): for the life of this world is but goods and chattels of deception.' (Qur'an 3:185)

### Non-religious

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Non-religious people cannot 'come back from the dead', there is no **evidence** of an afterlife.

People who believe in an afterlife because it is a **source of comfort**, not because it is real.

Some people have **falsely claimed** to come back from the dead, which makes people suspicious.

### Christians respond:

Just because an afterlife is comforting and used as social control, and some people lie, does not mean it is not real. The Bible is evidence for life after death.

'... through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven...' (1 Peter 3:21–22 NRSV)

### Buddhism

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Buddhists believe in **reincarnation**: when a person is reborn and lives another life.

For some, this is significant in making them want to live good lives to achieve a better rebirth.

(Buddhists believe that good actions bring good consequences and vice versa – this is known as **kamma** (karma).)

For some, this is significant in making them want to live lives which will help them to achieve liberation from the cycle of birth and rebirth (**samsara**).

(Buddhists believe that suffering and want to be liberated from **samsara** they can achieve the state of **nibbana** (**nirvana**).)

So Buddhists may practise meditation and help others in order to work towards this.

For Buddhists, their next life depends on their actions. Some Christians also believe this, but also believe in an afterlife through Jesus.

Belief in life after death has continued because it has been used as a form of **social control** – if people believe in a good afterlife they may remain content with a bad current life – and not rebel for fear of **hell**.

Worship practised

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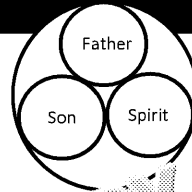
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1. Explain the concept of the Trinity and who it contains.

Most Christians believe in the Trinity...



4. Do you believe in their beliefs?

## The Trinity

It is important to Christians that they believe in one God, as the Bible is forbidden.

**Worshiping the Father, Son and Holy Spirit – Christians:**

- celebrate the members of the **Trinity**, including Jesus' birth at Christmas and the coming of the Holy Spirit at **Pentecost**
- pray** in Jesus' name / pray to Jesus
- believe they experience the members of the Trinity in their lives

**Many Christians believe:**

God the Father **created** the world and sent Jesus, God the **A** \_\_\_\_\_, to **save** humanity.

- The **Nicene Creed** states that Jesus is God and gives beliefs about the members of the **Trinity**.
- All of the members of the Trinity were present at Jesus' **baptism**.

God the Son was present at **B** \_\_\_\_\_ and helped with  
**B** \_\_\_\_\_. He became the human being Jesus, born of a human  
mother, Mary. He died to **save** humanity, before rising from the dead and  
**ascending** to heaven. He will **C** \_\_\_\_\_ the living and the dead.

God the Holy Spirit guides Christians and helps them in their lives, living in their hearts. He was present at **creation**, has spoken through **prophets**, descended at Jesus' **D** \_\_\_\_\_ upc the **apostles** at **E** \_\_\_\_\_. A change to the **Nicene Creed** indicates that the Holy Spirit proceeds from the Father and the Son, but Orthodox Christians disagree and think the Holy Spirit proceeds from the Father only.

5. Find a Bible quote about worshipping one God. (Hint: Find one who is answering questions. This is a good place to look.)

2. Write the correct multiple-choice answers for the gaps above – one gap is deliberately repeated.

- A** – Son                      Moses  
**B** – creation                  Judgement                  the Ten Commandments  
**C** – destroy                  create                  judge  
**D** – baptism                  crucifixion                  resurrection  
**E** – Christmas                  Easter                  Pentecost

3. Fill in the Bible quote.

Reference:

Genesis 1–3 records the **creation** of the \_\_\_\_\_ and of life. There are \_\_\_\_\_ different accounts.

In the first (Genesis 1:1–2:4), God creates the universe and its inhabitants in \_\_\_\_\_ days, and then rests for a day. Plants and animals are created before humans.

The second (Genesis 2:4–25) differs slightly. It says that God has created the earth, heavens and seas. He then creates plants and \_\_\_\_\_, and then creates \_\_\_\_\_, out of one of man's ribs.

The woman is tempted by a serpent and the couple eat the fruit of the \_\_\_\_\_ of knowledge of good and evil, which God had forbidden. God casts them out of their garden paradise for their disobedience.

1. Fill in the gaps! Use the words in the box to the right.

six tree universe  
animals two woman

so God created man in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.' (Genesis 1:27 NRSV)

Interpretation  
Some Christians **interpret** the bible **A**; they believe that the world was created in six days (and then God rested).  
Some Christians interpret the Bible **B**. They believe that God created the world and humanity, but that the biblical account of creation is spiritually, but not **A**, true.

2. Write a short paragraph about the importance of creation for Christians today.

The importance of creation for Christians today:

Some Christians believe in the **doctrine** of the **Fall**.

... and need **saving**, so they are grateful for Jesus coming to allow them to be reconciled to God / have a relationship with God.

Many Christians believe that God gave them **dominion** over the earth.

They also believe that God charged them with stewardship over the earth, so they believe they should do this.

Role of the Word and the Spirit:

- Genesis says that the spirit of God was present at **creation** (sometimes translated as a 'wind' from God).
- John 1:1–18 says that the **Word** (Jesus) was present at creation and that everything was created through him.

The story of **creation** is discussed in the Bible in Genesis chapters 1–3 and John chapter 1:1–18. Different Christians interpret it differently.

4. Find a Bible quote from John 1 about creation and write it here:

Reference:

5. Outline three Christian beliefs about creation. (3 marks)

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Many Christians believe that Jesus was the **incarnation** of God – God in the flesh. Most Christians believe he was fully human and fully God at the same time. He is also referred to as Christ (Greek for 'anointed one') and Son of God.

## Significance for Christians today:

Shows that God wants to have a \_\_\_\_\_ with humans, and makes it easier to relate to him.

Many Christians believe Jesus fulfilled the Jewish \_\_\_\_\_, so they do not need to follow it.

Shows that there can be \_\_\_\_\_

Shows that God is \_\_\_\_\_ after death.

Shows that God is \_\_\_\_\_ and cares enough about humans to live with them and die for them.

1. Fill in the gaps! Use the words in the box below.

law life compassionate  
relationship powerful authority

## The Incarnation

### Biblical basis for the incarnation:

- The Gospel of John (1:1–18) refers to Jesus as being God **incarnate**.
- Jesus is referred to as God incarnate in the New Testament letters, e.g. 1 Timothy 3:16. Jesus is referred to as the incarnate in multiple places in the New Testament, this makes it seem more reliable.
- Jesus had **divine** abilities:
  - 1)
  - 2)
  - 3)
- he appeared more than human at the **Transfiguration**
- he came back from the dead

3. Look up 1 Timothy 3:16 and the incarnation here:

Reference:

4. Find examples in the gospels of Jesus' humanity. Make a few notes.

5. "If there is a God, do you think that it might come down to earth in human form?"

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The gospels record the **last days of Jesus' life**, including: the **Last Supper**; his betrayal; his arrest; his trials; his **crucifixion** and death; his **resurrection**; and his **ascension**. The suffering and death of Jesus are known as the **Passion**.

Jesus **praying** to God before he died showed his human side – he did suffer like other humans.

**Last Days of Jesus' Life**

Zig Zag Education

**Significance of these events for understanding the person of Jesus Christ:**

The **gospels** show that Jesus' death and **resurrection** fulfilled **C** \_\_\_\_\_ **Testament** **prophecy**, and so the purpose of Jesus' life was to achieve God's long-term plan for humanity.

2. Write the correct multiple-choice answer in each gap.

- A** – sin \_\_\_\_\_ gentiles  
**B** – \_\_\_\_\_ hate \_\_\_\_\_ the Fall \_\_\_\_\_ death  
**C** – New \_\_\_\_\_ Old \_\_\_\_\_ Jewish  
**D** – \_\_\_\_\_ divinity \_\_\_\_\_ humanity \_\_\_\_\_ forgiveness  
**E** – reconciled \_\_\_\_\_ resurrected \_\_\_\_\_ crucified

## Synopsis:

The **gospels** record that Jesus ate a last meal with his \_\_\_\_\_, telling them that his body and blood were given as a new \_\_\_\_\_ for the forgiveness of \_\_\_\_\_ sins. He was betrayed by his disciple \_\_\_\_\_ Judas, and tried in front of the High Priest and \_\_\_\_\_ council, the Roman Governor Pontius Pilate, and, in \_\_\_\_\_'s account, \_\_\_\_\_ the Jews convinced Pilate to kill Jesus, and he was \_\_\_\_\_ died by **crucifixion**. When \_\_\_\_\_, the \_\_\_\_\_ curtain tore in two. After Jesus' death on the \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ noon \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ going to his tomb on the \_\_\_\_\_ morning (the third day after his death), \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ appeared, risen from the dead, to his **disciples**, and then **ascended** to heaven.

Jesus says that his blood is poured out for many – many Christians believe Jesus came to reunite God with the **A** \_\_\_\_\_ (non-Jews) as well as the Jews.

Shows Jesus came to die as a sacrifice, to **save** humanity. He tells his **disciples** that the forgiveness of **sins** is possible because of him, then dies to pay the price for human sin. His **resurrection** shows that he has also defeated **B** \_\_\_\_\_ – the punishment of sin.

Jesus' statements that he is the Son of God (to the High Priest) and that his kingdom is not of this world (to Pilate) show Jesus' awareness of his **D** \_\_\_\_\_. This shows Jesus came to reveal God's presence and nature to \_\_\_\_\_ and have a relationship.

The **Temple** curtain tearing from top to bottom is thought to symbolise that humans are no longer separated from God and that Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ the way to God.

4. Find another Bible quote that relates to the crucifixion or resurrection and write it here:

Reference:

1. Fill in the words.

**Temple**  
**Sunday** \_\_\_\_\_ **Luke** \_\_\_\_\_

3. Fill in the Bible quote.

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Zig Zag  
 Education

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# Christianity – Beliefs and Teachings

**Salvation** within Christianity refers to the belief that Jesus saved Christians from sin and death. **Law**, **sin**, **grace**, the Spirit, and **atonement** are all related concepts.

## Grace and the Spirit:

Many Christians believe that **grace** is a gift from God, which can **save** humanity was an expression of God's grace. Many Christians also believe in grace through the Holy Spirit, the Bible, and **sacraments**.

1. Explain the concepts of salvation and atonement, and Jesus' role in these.

## Salvation

**Salvation:**

*It is what Jesus achieved for them.*

**Atonement:**

*It is how Jesus achieved salvation for them.*



## Different theories of atonement:

Some Christians believe in **original sin** – inherited from birth, a result of the **Fall**.

Others just believe in **personal sin** – things a Christian does wrong themselves.

Christians believe they need **saving** from **sin** – acting against God's will – so they can have a full relationship with God.

## Law:

Jews try to achieve **salvation** by following the Jewish **law**.

Christians instead believe that salvation has come through Jesus' sacrifice – and that this fulfilled the Jewish law – though they may follow some of the Jewish law as well as following Jesus' teachings and example.

2. Give three reasons for atonement.

**Significance of salvation:**  
Christians believe

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)

Some Christians believe certain people are **predestined** to be **saved**.

Some Christians think that people are **saved** if they use their **free will** to accept Jesus' sacrifice.

Jesus' death was a sacrifice which redeemed humans by paying the price required by **sin** – death.

Jesus' death overcame the forces of evil.

**Atonement** is a **divine mystery**.

3. Which understanding of who receives salvation (predestination or free will) makes more sense to you? Why?



Write a relevant Bible quote relevant to salvation from John 3 or Acts 4 and write it here:

Reference:



5. Explain two ways through Jesus into heaven (4 marks) (Example)

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# Christianity – Beliefs and Teachings

1. Fill in the gaps with places Christians believe people go to after death. You will need to use some more than once.

'For all of us must appear before the judgement seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil.'

(2 Corinthians 5:10 NRSV)

Many Christians believe that good people will go to \_\_\_\_\_, a realm inhabited by God and angels, when they die. Jesus told his **disciples** that he would prepare a place for them (John 14:2-4). Some Christians believe on \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ cause \_\_\_\_\_ that he was the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Father' (John 14:6).

The Catholic Church teaches that many people go to \_\_\_\_\_, a realm where they must do penance for their **sins**, before entering \_\_\_\_\_. In the **39 Articles of Religion**, the Church of England claims that \_\_\_\_\_ is not found in the Bible and does not exist.

Many Christians believe in \_\_\_\_\_, a horrible realm where bad people go when they die, separated from God.

**Eschatology** refers to the end of things – for example, the end of life (death) and the end of time. Christians have various beliefs about what happens when they die and what will happen at the end of time. **Remember to see the sheet on other religions for contrast, and the short course material.**

4. Find a Bible quote about life after death (use which is referred to above) and write it in the box.

Reference:

In the **parable** of the **A \_\_\_\_\_** and the goats, Jesus teaches that he will judge the end of time depending on their actions – the good will go to **heaven** and the

In the **parable** of the **B \_\_\_\_\_**, Jesus teaches that people should be ready for the **King's \_\_\_\_\_** / the \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_ time.

**Judgement**

**Realms after death**

**Eschatology**

**Life after death – how:**

Some Christians believe in both **resurrection of the body** and **the soul**: people will live on immediately after death, but will be their bodies and **E \_\_\_\_\_** at the end of time.

Some Christians believe in **the body**: the dead will be bodies at the end of time. the dead would be raised from \_\_\_\_\_ (John 5:28–29)

Some Christians believe in **of the soul**: souls will go **D \_\_\_\_\_/hell** immediately after death. Jesus told the thief that he would be in paradise (Luke 23:43)

2. Write the correct multiple-choice answer in the box.

A – sheep cows  
B – tenants sower  
C – resurrection reincarnation  
D – nirvana Hades  
E – buried judged

5. Find another parable or teaching about judgement and does it teach? (Hint: try Matthew 24 or 25.)

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1. Fill in the Bible quote.

Natural suffering is...

Evil is...

Moral suffering is...

2. Explain the concepts of natural suffering, evil and moral suffering.

e.g. pain caused by a tsunami or earthquake, or by disease

e.g. murder, theft, adultery

If God is righteous nature, it arises: and suffering

Why the problem to question their existence of God

People may believe he must be **omnipotent**. However, believe a **omnipotent** God who **evil** and **suffering** and will to prevent might conclude that be **as** allowing evil and

Types of suffering

The Problem of Evil/Suffering and God's Nature



Problem for Christians.

If God is not **omnipotent**, this seems to undermine **omnipotent**, which is based on belief in a loving God, who is fair, and holds that God was powerful enough to create the universe and defeat **evil**.

• If God is **omnipotent**, righteous and **omnipotent**, it does not make **evil** and **suffering** for him to allow **evil** and **suffering**.

3. Fill in the gaps in the two boxes! Use the words in the box to the right. You will need to use some words more than once.

with **benevolent** **sense** **refused** **death** **Christianity**

4. Give another two examples of natural suffering and moral suffering.

Natural suffering:

- 1)
- 2)

Moral suffering:

- 1)
- 2)

5. Do you think natural suffering or moral suffering is a problem for Christians? Why?

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1. Fill in the gaps.  
Use the words in the box below.

**natural  
suffering  
saved  
just  
free will  
trial**

Some argue it is more loving for God to have given humans \_\_\_\_\_, meaning **evil** may be caused by human choice.

↳ Does not solve problem of \_\_\_\_\_ **suffering**.

↳ Some think it is worth having evil to have free will, but others disagree.

Some Christians believe **evil** and \_\_\_\_\_ are a \_\_\_\_\_ and a test.

↳ Even if **suffering** is necessary, surely less **suffering** is necessary.



Christians may feel that e \_\_\_\_\_  
**pray** for someone's suffer

↳ It (does / does not) ma \_\_\_\_\_  
or answer some praye

If there was no (suffering) \_\_\_\_\_  
opportunity for **charity** \_\_\_\_\_

↳ There would always be \_\_\_\_\_  
(Psalms/Esther) and Job's \_\_\_\_\_  
understanding.

↳ This cannot be dispro

4. Find a relevant

The vale of soul-making theory suggests that humans need evil and suffering to develop morally and spiritually.

The Book of Job shows suffering as a test of character – Job...

The Book of Job also shows that suffering tests faith – Job...

Psalms 119 shows \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ we \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ to punish humans.

↳ Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ humans.

↳ It is not always the **evil** who \_\_\_\_\_  
**suffer**.

## Solutions to the Problem of Evil/Suffering

Solutions to the problem of evil and suffering can be biblical, theoretical and practical. Some may seem more successful than others.

2. How does the book of Job show suffering as a test of character and faith?

5. Do you think that free will provides a good enough reason for a God to allow evil and suffering? Why / why not?

6. **Extension:** Which do you think is the strongest solution given here? Which do you think is the weakest? Give reasons for both.

Strongest:

Why:

Weakest:

Why:

7. **Extension** \_\_\_\_\_  
and suffer \_\_\_\_\_  
(Exam Pa

Argue for \_\_\_\_\_  
to Christa \_\_\_\_\_  
follows fr

Make som \_\_\_\_\_  
answer in

Reference \_\_\_\_\_

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1. Fill in the four blank worship activities using the descriptions.

**Worship** covers any acts of devotion to God and can come in different styles and involve different practices. **Remember to see the sheet on other religions for contrast.**

## Liturgy:

This is a set **worship** service, involving set items, such as set words, set hymns and set **prayers**. This (and **liturgical worship**) may be used to help to make worship feel special, and also to allow a congregation to become familiar with the words and practices used

## Liturgical worship:

This is **worship** which follows a structure. Many churches may follow the same **liturgical** style every week, but use different hymns and **prayers**, for example, each week. The **Book of Common Prayer** contains many liturgical services.

## Styles of worship

## Worship activities

1) \_\_\_\_\_ – used to teach about Christianity and the Bible. Important in helping Christians understand their **faith** better and in encouraging them to live their lives and have a full relationship with God.

\_\_\_\_\_ – used to teach about Christianity and the Bible, in group or private. Important because Christians may feel that God speaks to them through the Bible and gives his **grace**.

- **Singing** – Christians sing to praise God and reflect. Important in allowing Christians to express their feelings about God, often as part of a group.

2) \_\_\_\_\_ – communication with God, important in helping Christians in their relationship with God. Can be formal or informal.

3) \_\_\_\_\_ – focusing on God or religious themes. More likely to be done individually. Helpful in letting Christians reflect on their religion and its part in their life.

2. Explain what non-liturgical worship is, and why it might be used.

## Non-liturgical worship:

- **Focusing on icons** – some Christians, such as the Eastern Orthodox, focus on special paintings of Jesus and the Virgin Mary in their **worship** – other Christians do not see this as important.

Catholics and some Anglicans may see **liturgical worship** as highly significant because they feel **liturgies** and **sacraments** are important for connecting with God.

Others, e.g. Pentecostals, may see **non-liturgical worship** as more significant, because they want their worship to be inspired by God / the Holy Spirit.

4) \_\_\_\_\_ – **Eucharist** and **Baptism** – are special practices with individual importance. Some Christians feel they receive God's grace through these practices.

4. Explain two reasons why Christians worship God. (4 marks) (Exam Practice)

5. Why do you think worship is important to Christians?

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Also known as Mass, Holy Communion and the Lord's Supper, the **Eucharist** is eating bread and drinking wine. This follows Jesus' command at the **Last Supper** to remember him in this way and to remember that his body (bread) and blood (wine) were sacrificed for the forgiveness of **sins**. It is important in reminding Christians what God has done for them.

**Sacraments** are important practices which help Christians **worship** God. Some Christians feel that they receive God's **grace** through these and that the sacraments are powerful in themselves, while others see sacraments as **symbolic**. **Ordinances** are practices which are important for Christians but which are not given the significance of sacraments.

Some denominations (such as the Catholic Church) observe seven **sacraments**: **Eucharist**, **Baptism**, Confirmation, Penance, Matrimony, Holy Orders, and Anointing of the Sick.

Most Christian **denominations** observe **baptism** and the **Eucharist** as **sacraments**, e.g. the Church of England 39 Articles affirm two sacraments.

Quakers and the Salvation Army do not observe **sacraments**.

## Sacraments

### Eucharist

In the Anglican Church, ordained clergy bless the bread and wine and distribute it; often the members of the **congregation** come to the **A** \_\_\_\_\_. The **Eucharist** will be part of a **liturgy** and is usually done with **wafters**, and the wine is in one chalice. A blessing will be given for those who do not receive bread and wine.

The Catholic Church believes in **B** \_\_\_\_\_. that the bread and wine somehow become the body and blood of Jesus. Catholics must have a special First Communion service to receive the **Eucharist**. The **39 Articles** (Church of England) claim there is no **B** \_\_\_\_\_.

The Baptist Church only **baptises** **C** \_\_\_\_\_ (and older children). They must make promises to commit their life to God and are fully immersed in water.

Other Churches also celebrate the **Eucharist** in different ways.

Some Churches practise infant and adult **baptism** (people have a choice).

### Baptism

In the Anglican Church, **infant baptism**, also known as **christening**, is common. A young child is **anointed** with water from a **D** \_\_\_\_\_, and the parents and godparents make promises to raise the child in the Christian **faith**.

*Baptism is...*

1. Write the correct multiple-choice answers in the gaps.

- A** – altar      lectern      pulpit  
**B** – real presence      incarnation      transubstantiation  
**C** – adults      infants      teenagers  
**D** – spoon      font      pool

2. Fill in the missing quote.

5. Explain two reasons why sacraments are important to Christians. (4 marks)  
**(Exam Practice)**

6. **Extension:** Find out why Quakers and the Salvation Army do not observe sacraments.

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“Pray then in this way:  
Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name.  
Your kingdom come. Your  
will be done, on earth as it  
is in heaven. Give us this  
day our daily bread. And  
forgive us our debts, as we  
also have forgiven our  
debtors. And do not bring  
us to the time of trial, but  
rescue us from the evil  
one.”

(Matthew 6:9–13 NRSV)

e.g. Christians **say** the  
\_\_\_\_\_ – there are  
different versions adapted  
from a prayer Jesus taught his  
disciples. This allows Christians  
to ask God for provision and  
guidance.

Some **prayers** are **A**, which Christians may use for particular purposes.

Some **prayers** are **B**, which Christians can use to share their own thoughts with God and talk to him about their feelings and things currently happening in the world and their lives.

1. Which prayer did Jesus teach his disciples to say?



Prayer

Types of prayer

Both types of **prayer** (set and informal) can be said in formal services, or in less formal / individual **worship**.

- Prayers can be used to praise God, to thank him, to ask for his forgiveness, and to ask him for help, for others or oneself.
- Catholics may think set prayers are more important because many have been taught by Jesus / the Bible / the Church.
- Liberal Protestants may see informal prayers as more important as they build a personal relationship with God.

2. Write A or B next to each type of prayer to match it to the correct box.



informal prayers



set prayers

4. When teaching the Lord's Prayer in Matthew 6, Jesus said that God would forgive someone's sins if they did what?



Prayer is...

3. What is prayer and what is its purpose?

7.

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1. Give two different reasons why pilgrimage / pilgrimage places may be thought important.

**Significance and importance:**

- ♦ The Catholic Church...
- ♦ Many Protestants...



Walsingham    Iona  
Taizé    Jerusalem

3. Write the name of the pilgrimage site next to its description. Use the words in the box to the left.

\_\_\_\_\_ – important because Jesus taught \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ here.  
 \_\_\_\_\_ – important because a vision \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ was seen \_\_\_\_\_ + \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ – important because they each host a Christian community.

Places of pilgrimage

Pilgrimage

2. What is pilgrimage, and why do Christians go on pilgrimage?

Pilgrimage...

**History:**

**Pilgrimage** is Christian, but began making sites important Jesus and the

The Jews went to Jerusalem (43). Some Christians should go on Jesus did, who a Jewish tradition not need to

4. Explain two reasons why Christians may go on pilgrimage. (4 marks) **(Exam Practice)**



5. Give three other places Christians may go on pilgrimage.

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)

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1. Fill in the gaps! Use the words in the box to the right. You will need to use some more than once.

Good Friday    reconcile    Lent    salvation    Advent

Christmas and \_\_\_\_\_:

**Christmas** is the celebration of Jesus' birth, and \_\_\_\_\_ is the time of preparation leading up to it.

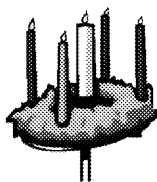
Christians celebrate these because they believe God's son, Jesus, who many believe to be God **incarnate**, to **save** them and \_\_\_\_\_ them with God. Christmas is significant because Jesus' birth was when Jesus came into the world to live with and \_\_\_\_\_ humans, and without his birth he would not have been able to die and rise to **save** humanity.

There are several important Christian **celebrations**, especially those surrounding and including **Christmas** and **Easter**. These are events in the Bible or in the lives of saints.

**Celebration** In **Advent**, Christians may spend more time **praying** – to strengthen their relationship with God, who **symbolically** renews their lives at (Christmas/Easter), and to ask for peace in the world.

There may be special services (e.g. Christingle services, carol services and midnight Mass) during (**Lent/Advent**) and on **Christmas** Day, and Advent groups throughout Advent, to focus on Jesus and welcome him.

Many Christians light candles on an **Advent** wreath in church on the four Sundays in Advent and on **Christmas** Day. These remind Christians of (**saints/prophets**) and key figures leading up to the birth of Jesus, and/or of qualities such as love and hope. The white candle in the centre symbolises Jesus the light of the world and is lit on **Christmas** Day.



Christians may (fast/diet) in **Lent**; they may give up a certain type of food to help them focus on God, and remember all that he provides them with. They may spend more time focused on God in **prayer**, or give money to **charity**.

Christians often celebrate **Palm Sunday** to remember Jesus' (carnival/triumphal) entry into Jerusalem, showing Jesus as a king, but not a conventional king.

**Easter, Holy Week and**

On \_\_\_\_\_, Christians are being **crucified** to atone for their sins, and on **Easter Sunday**, Jesus is being **resurrected** from the dead. These are significant events that Christians believe that through them, they can be **saved** and **reconciled** with God.

\_\_\_\_\_ is the period of four Sundays leading up to **Easter**.

**Holy Week**, the week leading up to **Easter**, includes **Palm Sunday**, **Maundy Thursday**, **Good Friday**, and **Easter Sunday**, which includes the **cleansing of the Temple** (Jesus' cleansing of the Temple), which Christians are asked to repent of.

On **Good Friday**, Christians remember the **crucifixion**, and on **Easter Sunday**, the **resurrection**. There may be **vigils/wakes** or aids to **meditation** in church before Easter, and services of the **Eucharist** on **Easter Sunday**.

3. Find a Bible quote about the events that Christmas celebrates, and write it here:  
(Hint: use the start of Matthew's Gospel or Luke's Gospel.)

4. Find a Bible quote about the events that Easter celebrates, and write it here:  
(Hint: look for a quote in the New Testament about resurrection and write it here.)

Reference:

Reference:

Christians often celebrate **Last Supper** and Jesus washing his **disciples' feet/hands** on **Maundy Thursday**.

5. Read 1 Corinthians 13:1-13 and write down three points from it.

- 1)  
2)  
3)

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1. What is evangelism? Why do Christians / does the Church evangelise?

**History of Church growth:**

- Early Christians **evangelised** locally, and then spread out further.
- Evangelism was helped by the first Christian Roman Emperor – Constantine – and other leaders and teachers.
- Churches have tried to **convert** people in the areas where they are active.
- Some Christians have tried to evangelise overseas through **missionary** work.

Evangelism is...

**Missionary** work is often abroad – often in areas with a strong religious presence – trying to **evangelise** in areas which are less economically developed, while also helping with \_\_\_\_\_ considerations.

**Future of the Church**

The **Church** has grown greatly since the time of Jesus, though it is now declining in some Western countries. The Church has tried to grow through **missionary** work and **evangelism**, which are important to many Christians.

**Examples of evangelism and missionary work**

\_\_\_\_\_ which help with humanitarian support abroad and also inform people about Christianity, e.g. Chr...

Do you think it is right for Christians to focus on evangelism? Do you think they should only seek to help people in need?

(Mark ...)

3. Fill in the words in ...

4. Outline three purposes of evangelism. (3 marks) (Exam Practice)

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## 1. What is ecumenism? Why is it important?

Ecumenism is...

The local church, or parish, is important because it tries to help local believers and the local area with faith and with practical issues.



How the local church helps believers and the community

Local Church

How the local church helps believers and the community

Churches want to help support the **faith** of others.

Church members may want to help others with their lives due to **compassion**.

Churches and Christians want to **evangelise** God (see 1 Peter 5: 1–4) and gain more of God's love.

## 2. Fill in the (five) gaps about what a church does in the local community – with no prompts!

- Provides a service or support groups, e.g. to study the \_\_\_\_\_ or help Christians understand their faith, strengthen their Christian faith, practise Christian teachings in their everyday lives.
- Provides fellowship – the opportunity to spend time with other Christians. This allows believers to discuss their \_\_\_\_\_ and form friendships.
- Provides activities for children, to help them to learn about \_\_\_\_\_ and grow in their **faith**.
- Church members will visit those who are \_\_\_\_\_ or unable to attend church so Christians will receive spiritual and practical support in hard times.
- Churches may do **outreach** work, such as running \_\_\_\_\_ courses and activities to help non-Christians come to **faith**. These activities may provide enjoyment and support for those in the community who need practical support or companionship.
- The Church may speak out about local issues or help local charities to add weight to the community voice and give support to local projects.

## 4. Read 1 Peter 5:1–4. Write down what you take from it.

1)

2)

3)

## 3. Find a Bible quote which provides a way in which the local church may help others in the local community, and write it here: (Hint: try Matthew 25 or Mark 10.)

How do you think different churches work together ecumenically on a local level?

Reference:



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1. What does Christian Aid aim to do – and how and why does it do this?

Christian Aid:



**Charity** – Christians believe that they should help, and give to, others.

- Jesus taught them that they ought to help others, including in the parable of the sheep and the goats in Matthew **A** \_\_\_\_\_, where he indicates that those who perform acts of **charity** will go to **B** \_\_\_\_\_, because helping others is a service to God. Those who do not help others will go to **C** \_\_\_\_\_.
- St Paul also teaches that Christians should love everyone and help them through **D** \_\_\_\_\_, rather than as an empty gesture (in 1 \_\_\_\_\_).
- Different Christian beliefs differ about whether they should give all their possessions to charity, give a **E** \_\_\_\_\_, or approach charity in a different way. Some feel that helping others is more important than giving money, but many feel that they must give money/goods as well as any other help.
- The worldwide church promotes giving charity for these reasons.

2. Write the multiple answers

“Truly I tell you, as you did this to the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you are members of my family.”  
(Matthew 25:40)

**Role and importance:**

- To help support all Christians.
  - To promote charity.
- 1)

**Worldwide Church**

In some countries Christians are **persecuted** for their **faith** – they may not be allowed to worship publicly or own Bibles, e.g. in North Korea.

The **worldwide Church** can mean all Christians, or all churches of a particular **denomination**. Many denominations work together as members of the World Council of Churches, though the Catholic Church is not a member.

If you were a persecuted Christian, how do you think you would respond? Why?

The Church works to **reconcile** conflict and inequality out of **compassion** e.g. by negotiation.

3. Give another three roles of the worldwide Church. (Hint: use the other boxes as prompts.)

4. What do you think is the most important thing the worldwide Church does? Why?



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1. What is the afterlife called in Judaism?

Judaism

Different religions believe different things about the afterlife, e.g. how this is experienced. !

The Jewish afterlife is referred to as \_\_\_\_\_ (Hebrew for 'the world to come').

Jews may believe in immortality of the soul, resurrection of \_\_\_\_\_ or reincarnation.

Some Jews believe in equivalents of the Christian \_\_\_\_\_ and hell.  
But some believe that evil people will cease to exist at death.

3. Why might certainty about the afterlife be significant?

Lack of certainty about the afterlife can be significant...

There is a concept of the afterlife in Judaism.

Zig Zag Education



2. Fill in the quote.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Zig Zag Education

(Matthew 12:22 NRSV)

The Afterlife

4. List two similarities and two differences between belief in the afterlife in Christianity and Judaism.

Similarity 1:

Similarity 2:

Difference 1:

Difference 2:

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Zig  
Zag  
Education

## Christianity – Additional Religions – Afterlife

Different religions believe different things about the afterlife, e.g. how this is experienced.

1. Though they believe in resurrection of the body, which related concept do Muslims not believe in?

Muslims believe in **judgement** at the end of time and **resurrection of the body** but NOT in \_\_\_\_\_

They believe in the second coming of \_\_\_\_\_ before the end of the world.

Muslims believe that some people of some other religions \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ can go to heaven. This is different from certain Christians who believe that only Christians can go to heaven.

Muslims believe in **heaven** and **hell**, like Christians, but NOT in **purgatory**.

Belief in the afterlife is significant for Muslims as it is comforting and encourages them to live good lives.

3. Fill in the quote.



(Qur'an 3:185)

4. List two similarities and two differences between belief in the afterlife in Christianity and Islam.

Similarity 1:

Similarity 2:

Difference 1:

Difference 2:

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1. Name the Buddhism concept that people are born again when they die.

## Buddhism

Buddhists believe in \_\_\_\_\_  
when a person is reborn  
and lives another life.

For some, this is significant  
in making them want to  
live good lives to achieve a  
better rebirth.

(Buddhists believe that  
good actions bring good  
consequences and  
bad actions bring bad  
consequences (karma).)

Different religions believe different things about  
the afterlife, e.g. how this is experienced.

What do  
Buddhists  
believe their  
next life  
depends on?

For Buddhists, their next life  
depends on their \_\_\_\_\_.

Some Christians also believe  
this, but they also believe that  
their afterlife depends on being  
**saved** through Jesus.

2. What is the  
name of the  
state of  
liberation from  
the cycle of  
birth and  
death  
(samsara)  
which  
Buddhists  
believe in?

For some, this is significant in making  
them want to live lives which will help  
them to achieve liberation from the  
cycle of birth and rebirth (**samsara**).

(Buddhists believe that life is suffering  
and want to be liberated from samsara  
so they can achieve the state of  
\_\_\_\_\_.)

So Buddhists may practise meditation  
and help others in order to work  
towards this.

## The Afterlife

4. List one similarity and three differences between belief in \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_, Christianity and Buddhism.

Similarity 1:

Difference 1:

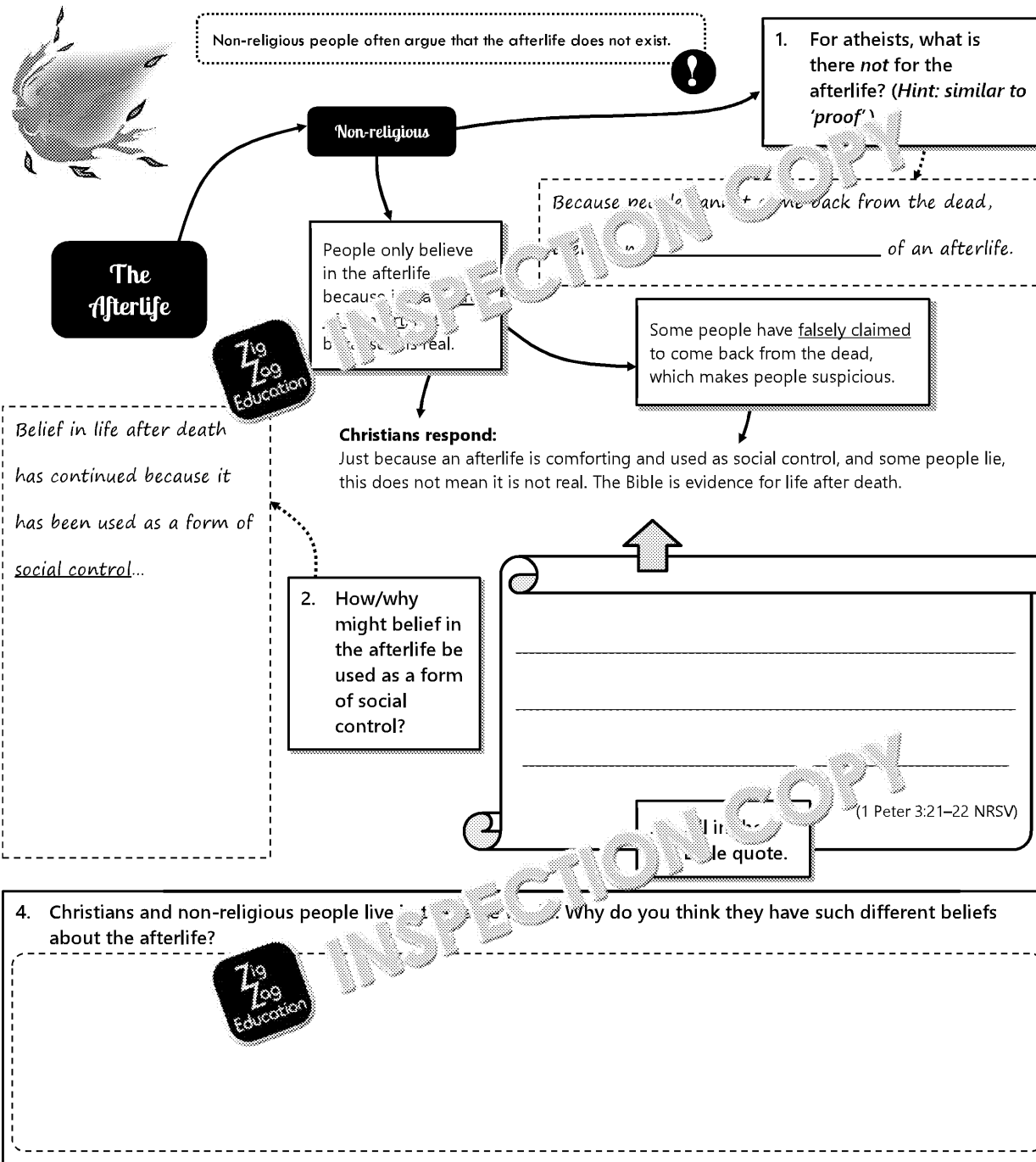
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1. What are the differences between Orthodox Judaism and Reform Judaism with regards to women and men during worship?



Worship is important in religions other than Christianity, but it is not practiced in exactly the same ways.



The Jewish holy building is a **synagogue**. Jews **worship** here, as well as elsewhere.

Judaism

Three lots of **prayers** should be said daily in the **synagogue** or wherever a Jew is: evening, morning and afternoon.

Jewish services contain **prayer**, reading of the **Torah** and **psalms**, discussion of the Scriptures and sometimes music.

2. What are the differences between Orthodox Judaism and Reform Judaism regarding language services led in?

Many (more commonly male) Jews wear a **prayer shawl** (tallit) and a **kippah** (skullcap) when they pray. **Scripture** is commanded in the **Torah**.

Orthodox services....

but Reform services...

In Orthodox Judaism,...

In Reform Judaism,...

Worship

3. Why has synagogue worship been particularly important to Jews since around the middle of the first century CE?

Worship is significant to Jews because:

- they believe **worship** serves God and they want to do this. It also allows them to have a relationship with him.
- 
- 
- 
- Jews believe God is present with them when several of them worship him together.
- Jews want to understand God's word in the Scriptures because commandments are given to them.

4. List two similarities and two differences between worship in Christianity and (any branch of) Judaism.

Similarity 1:

Similarity 2:

Difference 1:

Difference 2:

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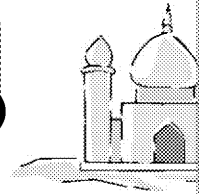
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1. How many times a day must Muslims pray (or how many sets of prayers must they say)?

## Worship

Worship is important in religions other than Christianity, but it is not practised in exactly the same ways.



Worship for Muslims is mainly **prayer (salah)**. Muslims must pray \_\_\_\_\_ times a day, facing Makkah in Saudi Arabia. 'Establish regular Prayer: for Prayer restrains from shameful and unjust deeds; and remembrance of Allah is the greatest (thing in life) without doubt...' (Qur'an 29:45)

Muslims must perform \_\_\_\_\_ before **praying** and perform \_\_\_\_\_ while praying.

Women **pray** at home, or in a different section of the mosque from men.

**Prayers** on \_\_\_\_\_ at midday are the most important. Muslims will often attend the **mosque** for these, and the imam will lead a service including a talk/sermon.

### Worship is significant to Muslims because:

- **prayer/worship** is one of the five pillars of Islam
- Muslims want to have a good relationship with Allah
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

2. Prayers on which day are most important for Muslims?

## Islam

The Muslim holy building is a **mosque**. Muslims **worship** here, as well as at home.

3. Give another two reasons why worship is significant to Muslims.

4. List two similarities and two differences between worship in Christianity and Islam.

Similarity 1:

Similarity 2:

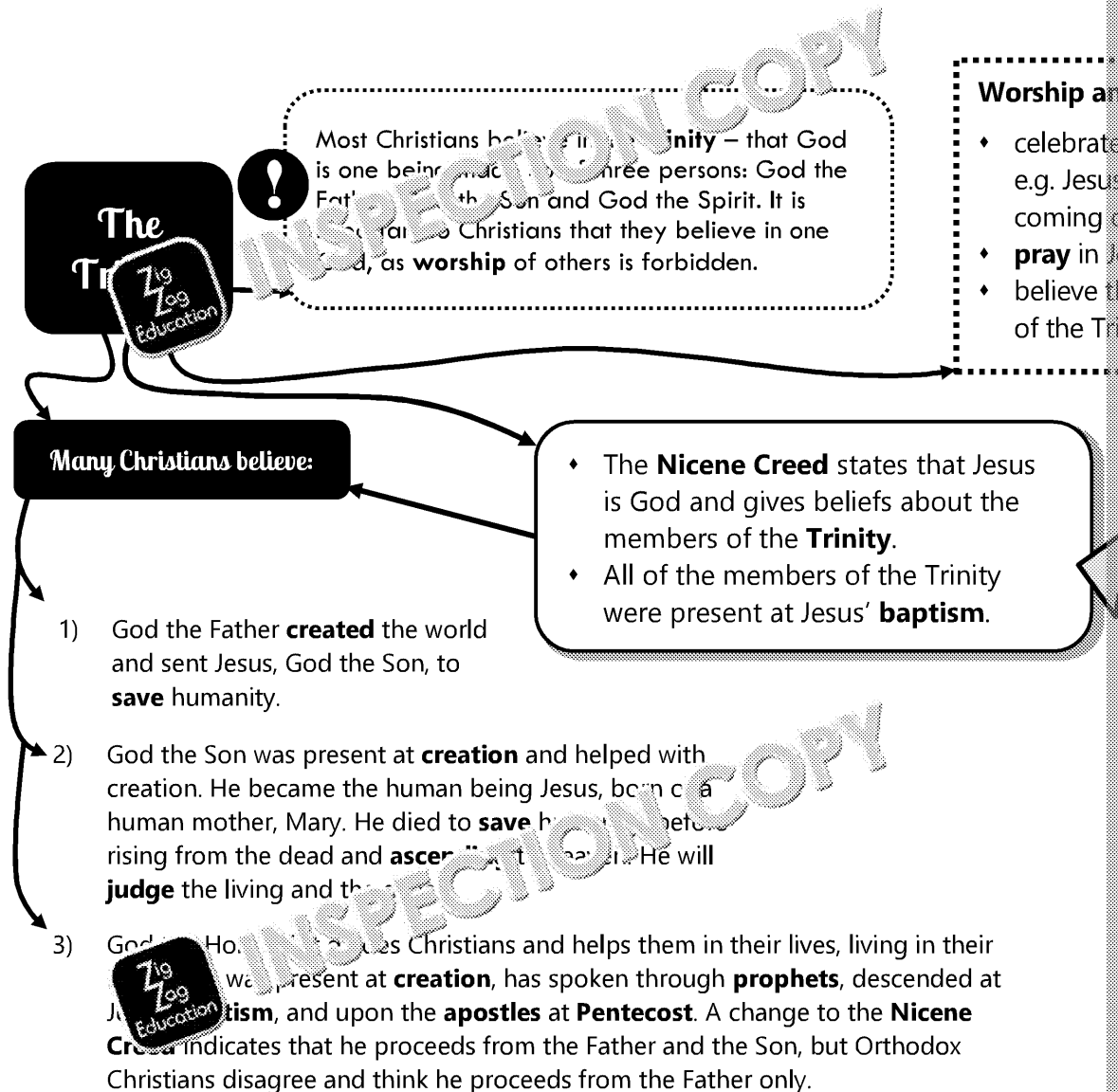
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Genesis 1–3 records the **creation** of the universe and of life. There are two different accounts.

In the first (Genesis 1:1–2:4), God creates the universe and its inhabitants in six days, and then rests for a day. The animals are created before humankind.

The second (Genesis 2:4–25) differs slightly; after God has created the earth, he creates man. He then creates plants and animals, and then creates woman, out of one of man's ribs.

The woman is tempted by a serpent and the couple eat the fruit of the tree of knowledge of good and evil, which God had forbidden. God casts them out of their garden paradise for their disobedience.

*'So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.'*  
(Genesis 1:27 NRSV)

### Creation

#### Role of the Word and the Spirit:

- Genesis says that the spirit of God was present at **creation** (sometimes translated as a 'wind' from God).
- John 1:1–18 says that the **Word** (Jesus) was present at **creation** and that every thing was created through him.

The story of **creation** is discussed in the Bible in Genesis chapters 1–3 and John chapter 1:1–18. Different Christians **interpret** it differently.

#### The importance of creation

- Some believe that the world was created by God, and that the world is a **gift** from God.
- Some believe that the world was created by God, but that the world is a **curse** because of the fall of man.
- Some believe that the world was created by God, but that the world is a **test** for humans.
- Some believe that the world was created by God, but that the world is a **stewardship** for humans.

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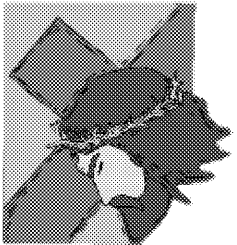




Many Christians believe that Jesus was the **incarnation** of God, coming into the flesh. Most Christians believe he was fully human and fully God at the same time. He is also referred to as Christ (Greek for 'anointed one') and Son of God.



Significance for Christians today:



Shows that God wants to have a relationship with humans, and makes it easier to relate to him.

Many Christians believe that Jesus fulfilled the Jewish **law**, so they do not need to follow it.



### The Incarnation

Means Jesus' **authority** was from God.

Shows that there is life after death.

Shows that God is **powerful**.

Shows that...

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## Christianity – Beliefs and Teachings



The gospels record the **last days of Jesus' life**, including: the **Last Supper**; his betrayal; his arrest; his trials; his **crucifixion** and death; his **resurrection**; and his **ascension**.

The suffering and death of Jesus are known as the **Passion**.

Jesus **prayed**

God. He showed his human side – he did suffer like other humans.

### Last Days of Jesus' Life

**Scripture is:**

The **gospels** record that Jesus' body and blood were given. He was betrayed by his disciple Judas. He was tried by the Sanhedrin Council, the Roman Government. The Jews convinced Pilate to crucify him. The **Temple** curtain tore in two. He went to his tomb on the Sabbath. He appeared, risen from the dead.

### Significance of these events for understanding the person of Jesus Christ:

Jesus says that his blood is poured out for many. Jesus came to reunite God with the **gentiles**.

Shows Jesus tells his disciples about the **resurrection** because of his **resurrection**.

The **gospels** show that Jesus' death and **resurrection** fulfill the **Old Testament prophecy**, and so the purpose of Jesus' life was to achieve God's long-term plan for humanity.

Jesus' statements that he is the Son of God (to the High Priest) and that his kingdom is not of this world (to Pilate) show Jesus' awareness of his **divinity**. This shows Jesus came to reveal God's presence and nature.

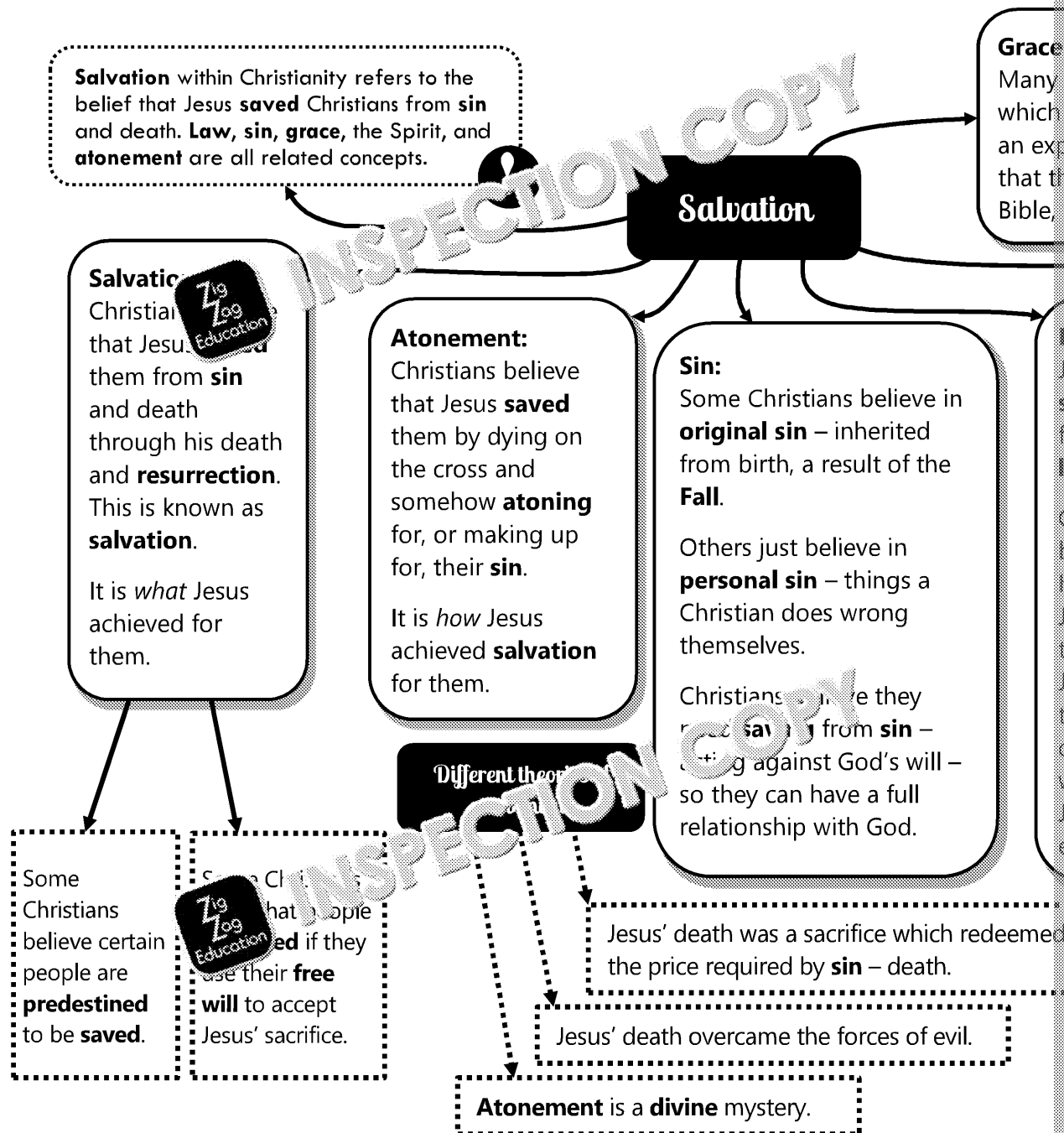
The **Temple** tearing from top to bottom is the symbol that humans are separated from God and that Jesus came so that humans and God could be **reconciled** and have a new relationship.

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## Christianity – Beliefs and Teachings



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## Christianity – Beliefs and Teachings

Many Christians believe that good people will go to **heaven**, a realm inhabited by God and angels, when they die. Jesus told his **disciples** that he would prepare a place for them (John 14:2–4). Some Christians believe only Christians will go to heaven, because Jesus said that he was the 'way' to '[God the] Father' (John 14:6).



In the **parable** of the bridesmaids, Jesus teaches that people should be ready for the **Kingdom of God** at the end of the world and **judgement** to come at any time.

*'For all of us must appear before the judgement seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil.'*

(2 Corinthians 5:10 NRSV)

Zig Zag Education

The Catholic Church teaches that many people go to **purgatory**, a realm where they must do penance for their **sins**, before entering **heaven**. In the **39 Articles of Religion**, the Church of England claims that purgatory is not found in the Bible and does not exist.

Many Christians believe in **hell**, a horrible realm where bad people go when they die, separated from God.

**Eschatology** refers to the end of things – for example, the end of the world (the end of time). Christians have various beliefs about what happens when they die and what will happen at the end of the world. **Remember to see the sheet on other religions for contrast, and the short course material.**

Realms after death

Judgement

Eschatology

Some Christians believe in the **immortality of the soul**, but will be reunited with God.

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## Christianity – Beliefs and Teachings

**Natural suffering** is pain which is caused not by a person, but by natural events

e.g. pain caused by an earthquake, or a flood

**Evil** is a morally bad intention or action, often resulting in **moral suffering** – pain which is caused by a deliberate human action

e.g. murder, theft



Types

The Problem of Evil/Suffering and Natural Disasters

### Problems for Christians:

- ♦ If God is not **benevolent**, **righteous** or **omnipotent**, this seems to undermine Christianity, which is based on belief in a loving God, who is fair, and holds that God was powerful enough to create the universe and overcome death.
- ♦ If God is benevolent, righteous and omnipotent, it does not make sense for him to allow **evil** and **suffering**.



*'The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.'*

(Psalm 103:8 NRSV)



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## Christianity – Beliefs and Teachings

Some argue it is more loving for God to have given humans **free will**, meaning **evil** may be caused by human choice.

- ✎ Does not solve problem of **natural suffering**.
- ✎ Some think it is worth having evil if we have free will, but others disagree.

Some Christians believe **evil** and **suffering** are a trial and a test.

- ✎ Even if **suffering** is necessary, surely less **suffering** is necessary.

The **vale of soul-making theory** suggests that humans need **evil** and **suffering** to develop morally and spiritually.

The *Book of Job* shows suffering as a test of character – Job proves he is a good person even when bad things happen to him.

The *Book of Job* shows how suffering tests Job and he builds a stronger relationship with God through **praying** about his misfortune.

### Solutions to the Problem of Evil/Suffering

If there was no **suffering**, there would be no opportunity for **charity** – helping others who are suffering.

- ✎ There would always be people to help in



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## Christianity – Practices

**Worship** covers any acts of devotion to God and can come in different styles and involve different practices. **Remember to see the sheet on other religions for contrast.**



### Liturgy:

This is a set **worship** service involving set items, set hymns and set prayers. These (and **liturgical** words) are used to help to make worship feel special, and also for people to become familiar with the words and actions.

- ♦ **Sermon/Talk** – used to teach about Christianity and the Bible. Important for helping Christians understand the **faith** better and encouraging them to live good lives and have a full relationship with God.

- ♦ **Bible reading** – used to teach God's will, in group or private **worship**. Important because Christians may feel that God speaks to them through the Bible and gives his **grace**.

- ♦ **Singing** – Christians sing to praise God and reflect. Important in allowing Christians to express their feelings about God, often as part of a group.

- ♦ **Prayer** – communication with God, important in helping Christians in their relationship with God. Can be formal or informal.

## Worship

## Styles of worship

### Worship activities

- ♦ **Meditation** – focusing on God or religious themes. More likely to be done individually. Helpful in letting Christians reflect on their lives or on their relationship with God.

### Liturgical worship

This is **worship** with a set structure. Many churches follow the same structure every week but use different hymns and **prayers** each week. The **Prayer Book** contains the words for these services.

### Non-liturgical worship

This is less-structured. Christians want to express their feelings, rather than follow a set pattern.

- ♦ **Focus** – focus on God's word and **worship**.

- ♦ **Sacraments** – important within many religions, especially Christianity. God's grace is given through these.

Catholics and some Anglicans may see **liturgical worship** as highly significant because they feel **liturgies** and **sacraments** are important for connecting with God.

Others, e.g. Pentecostals, may see **non-liturgical worship** as more significant, because they want their worship to be inspired by God / the Holy Spirit.

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Also known as Mass, Holy Communion and the Lord's Supper, the **Eucharist** is eating bread and drinking wine. This follows Jesus' command at the **Last Supper** to remember him in this way and to remember that his body (bread) and blood (wine) were sacrificed for the forgiveness of **sins**. It is important in reminding Christians what God has done for them.

**Sacraments** are important practices which help Christians **worship** God. Some Christians feel that they receive God's **grace** through these and that the sacraments are powerful in themselves while others see sacraments as **symbolic**. **Ordinances** are practices which are important for Christians but which are not given the significance of sacraments.

## Sacraments



### Eucharist

### Baptism

In the Anglican Church, ordained clergy bless the bread and wine and distribute it; often members of the **congregation** come to the **altar**. The **Eucharist** will be part of a **liturgy**. The bread is thin wafers, and the wine is usually in one chalice. A blessing will be given for those who do not receive bread and wine.

The Catholic Church believes in **transubstantiation**: that the bread and wine somehow become the body and blood of Jesus. Catholics must have a special First Communion service to receive the **Eucharist**. The **39 Articles** (Church of England) claim there is no transubstantiation.

Other Churches also celebrate the **Eucharist** in different ways.

Some Churches practise infant and adult **baptism** (people have a choice).

In the Anglican Church, **infant baptism**, also known as **christening**, is common. A young child is **anointed** with water from a **font**, and the parents and godparents make promises to raise the child in the Christian **faith**.

The Baptist Church only **baptises** adults (and older children). They must make promises to commit their life to God and are fully immersed in water.

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit”

(Matthew 28:19 NRSV)

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“Pray then in this way: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And do not bring us to the time of trial, but rescue us from the evil one.”

(Matthew 6:9–13 NRSV)

e.g. Christians **say** the **Lord's Prayer** – there are different versions adapted from a prayer Jesus taught his disciples. This shows Christians to ask God for provision and guidance.

Some **prayers** are **set prayers** – exact prayers which Christians use. Christians may use these for particular purposes.

Some **prayers** are **informal prayers**, which Christians can use to share their own thoughts with God and talk to him about their feelings and things currently happening in the world and their lives.

**Prayer** is communication with God. Christians **pray** in different ways and for different reasons – above all, to have a close relationship with God.

Prayer

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### Significance and importance:

- The Catholic Church considers certain places important because of people who have lived there, visions that have happened there.
- Many Protestants do not believe places are important in themselves, but may go to a **pilgrimage** site to spend time **worshipping** with other Christians or for their own reasons.



*Jerusalem* – important because Jesus taught, died and rose here.

*Walsingham* – important because a vision of Mary was seen here and there are shrines to her.

*London* – important because of the birth of Christ.

Places of pilgrimage

Pilgrimage

**Pilgrimage** involves going on a physical journey in order to complete a spiritual journey. It helps Christians to focus on and deepen their faith.

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There are several important Christian **celebrations** those surrounding and including **Christmas** and often based on events in the Bible or in the lives of Jesus and the apostles.

### Christmas and Advent:

**Christmas** is the celebration of Jesus' birth and **Advent** is the time of preparation leading up to Christmas.

Christians celebrate these because they believe God sent his son, Jesus, who many believe to be God **incarnate**, to **save** them and **reconcile** them with God. Christmas is significant because Jesus' birth was when Jesus came into the world to live with and teach humans, and without his birth he would not have been able to die and rise to **save** humanity.

### Celebrations

In **Advent**, Christians may spend time in prayer – to improve their relationship with God – and **symbolically** enter their lives and ask for peace in the world.

There may be special services (e.g. Christingle services and midnight Mass) during **Advent** and on **Christmas**. Some churches have singing groups throughout Advent, to focus on Jesus and his birth.

Many Christians light candles on an **Advent** wreath in church on the four Sundays in Advent and on **Christmas** Day. These remind Christians of the **prophets** and key figures leading up to the birth of Jesus, and the themes such as love and hope. The white candle in the centre symbolises the light of the world and is lit on **Christmas** Day.



Christians may also fast in **Lent**; they may give up food or other pleasures to focus on God, and receive forgiveness for their sins. They may spend time in prayer, or give money to charity.

Christians often celebrate *Palm Sunday*, remembering Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem, and the **Eucharist**, but not a conventional service.

On **Good Friday**, Christians remember the **crucifixion**, and on **Easter** Sunday, the **resurrection**. Christians may spend time in **vigils** or aids to **meditation** in church before Easter, and services of the **Eucharist** on Easter Sunday.

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## Christianity – Practices

### History of Church growth:

- ♦ Early Christians **evangelised** locally, and then spread out further.
- ♦ Evangelism was helped by the first Christian Roman Emperor, Constantine, and church leaders, and the Church has since then spread.
- ♦ Churches have tried to **convert** people in the areas where they are active.
- ♦ Some Christians have tried to evangelise overseas through **missionary** work.

**Evangelism** is spreading the good news and hoping to convert people to Christianity. Christians do this because Jesus commanded them to. Some Christians may also want to evangelise to help people who are struggling. The Church may evangelise to maintain church growth and have more hands and volunteers to continue Christian work.

**Missionary** work is often abroad – often in countries without a strong Christian presence – trying to **evangelise** in areas which are less economically developed, while also helping with practical considerations.

### Future of the Church

The **Church** has **grown** greatly since the time of Jesus, but is now declining in some Western countries. The Church is expected to grow through **missionary** work and **evangelism**, which are important to many Christians.

Alpha courses are open to the public, interested in learning about Christianity and to teach the basics of the faith.

Centres provide practical help, and support for people in need.

Examples of evangelism and missionary work

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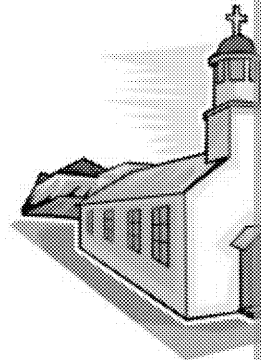
## Christianity – Practices

The **local church, or parish**, is important because it tries to help local believers and the local area with **faith** and with practical issues.

- ♦ **Worship** services and meeting groups, where people can study the **Bible** or **pray**. These help Christians to understand their faith, strengthen their Christian identity and live out the Christian teachings in their everyday life.
- ♦ Provides fellowship – the opportunity to spend time with other Christians. This allows believers to discuss their **faith** and form friendships.
- ♦ Provides activities for children, to help them to learn about Christianity and grow in their **faith**.
- ♦ Church members will visit those who are ill or unable to attend church so Christians will receive spiritual and practical support in hard times.
- ♦ Churches may do *outreach* work, such as running Alpha courses and activities to help non-Christians come to **faith**. These activities may provide enjoyment and support for those who are new to the community who need practical support or companionship.
- ♦ The Church may speak out about local issues or help local charities to add weight to the community voice and give support to local projects.

How the local church helps believers and the community

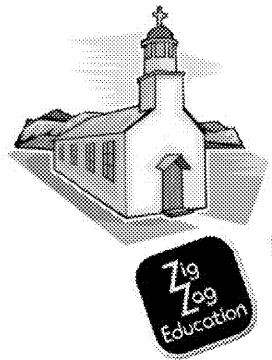
Local Church



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### Christian Aid:

Christian Aid is a **charity** which mainly supports people practically, often in less economically developed countries, with the aim of ending poverty and aiding those who are suffering. They do this out of **compassion**, and because of other Christian teaching.

**Charity** – Christians believe that they should help, and give,

- ♦ Jesus taught them that they ought to help others, including sheep and goats. In Matthew 25, where he indicates that those who help others will go to **heaven** because helping others is a good thing, and those who do not help others will go to **hell**.

St Paul also teaches that Christians should love everyone with **compassion**, rather than as an empty gesture (in 1 Corinthians 13).

- ♦ Christian's beliefs differ about whether they should give charity, give a tithe, or approach charity in a different way. Helping others is more important than giving money, but many give money/goods as well as any other help.
- ♦ The worldwide Church promotes giving charity for these reasons.

### Role and importance:

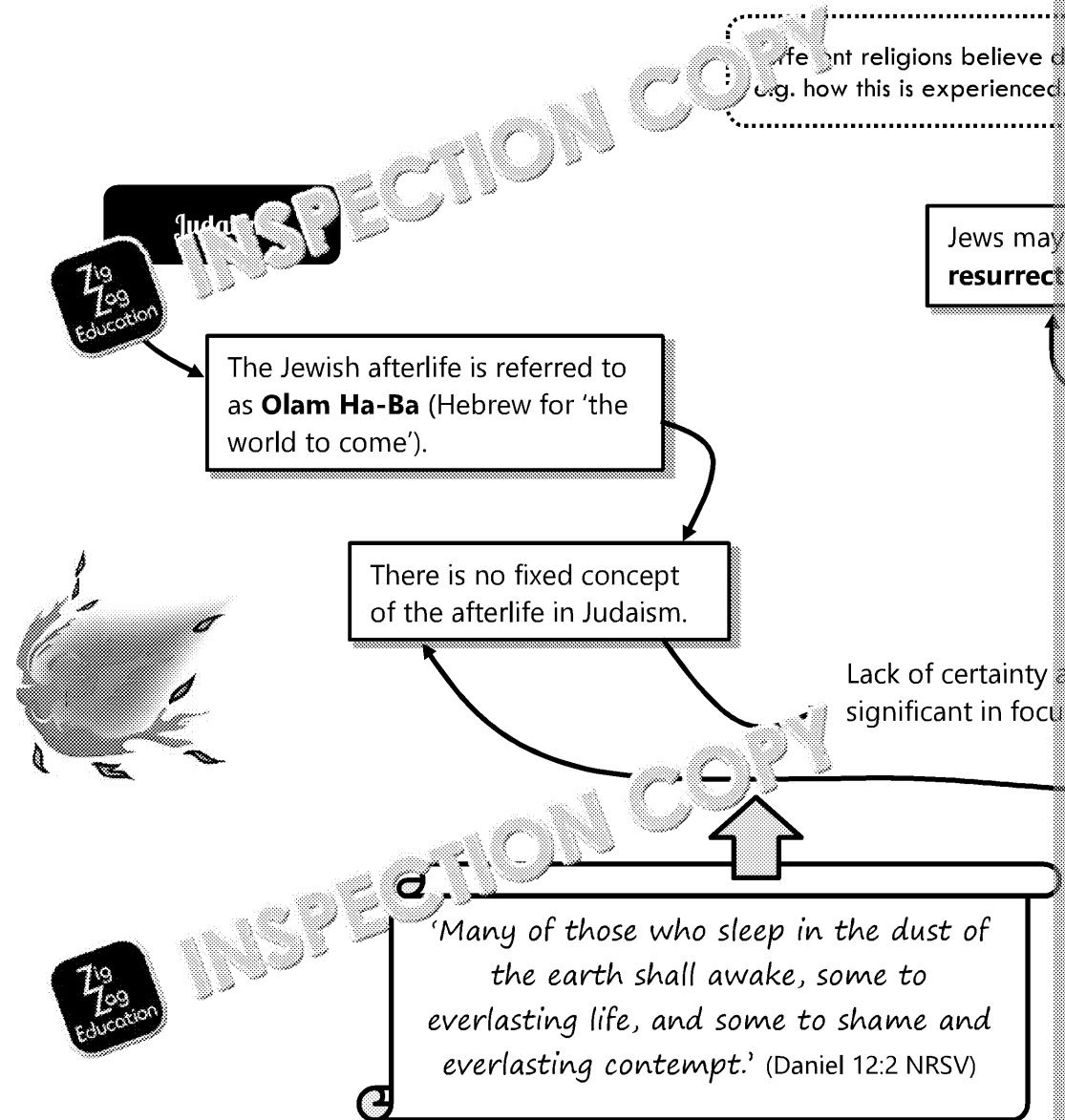
- ♦ To help coordinate beliefs and practices so Christians know how to live out their faith.
- ♦ To help Christians work together for peace and **reconciliation**.
- ♦ To help support all Christians.
- ♦ To **evangelise**, to **convert** more Christians.
- ♦ To promote charity.

The Church works to **reconcile** conflict and inequality out of **compassion**, e.g. by negotiation.

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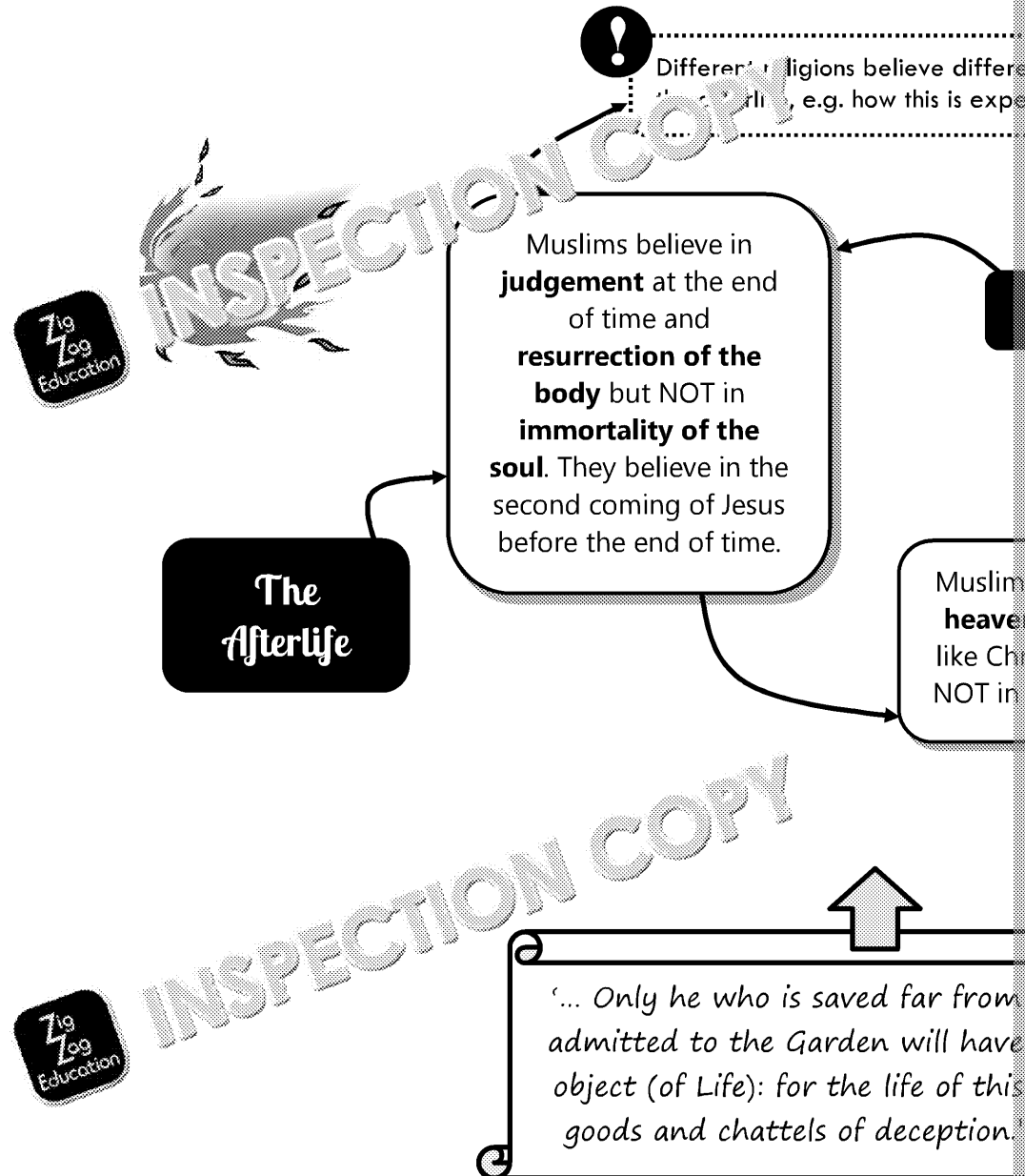




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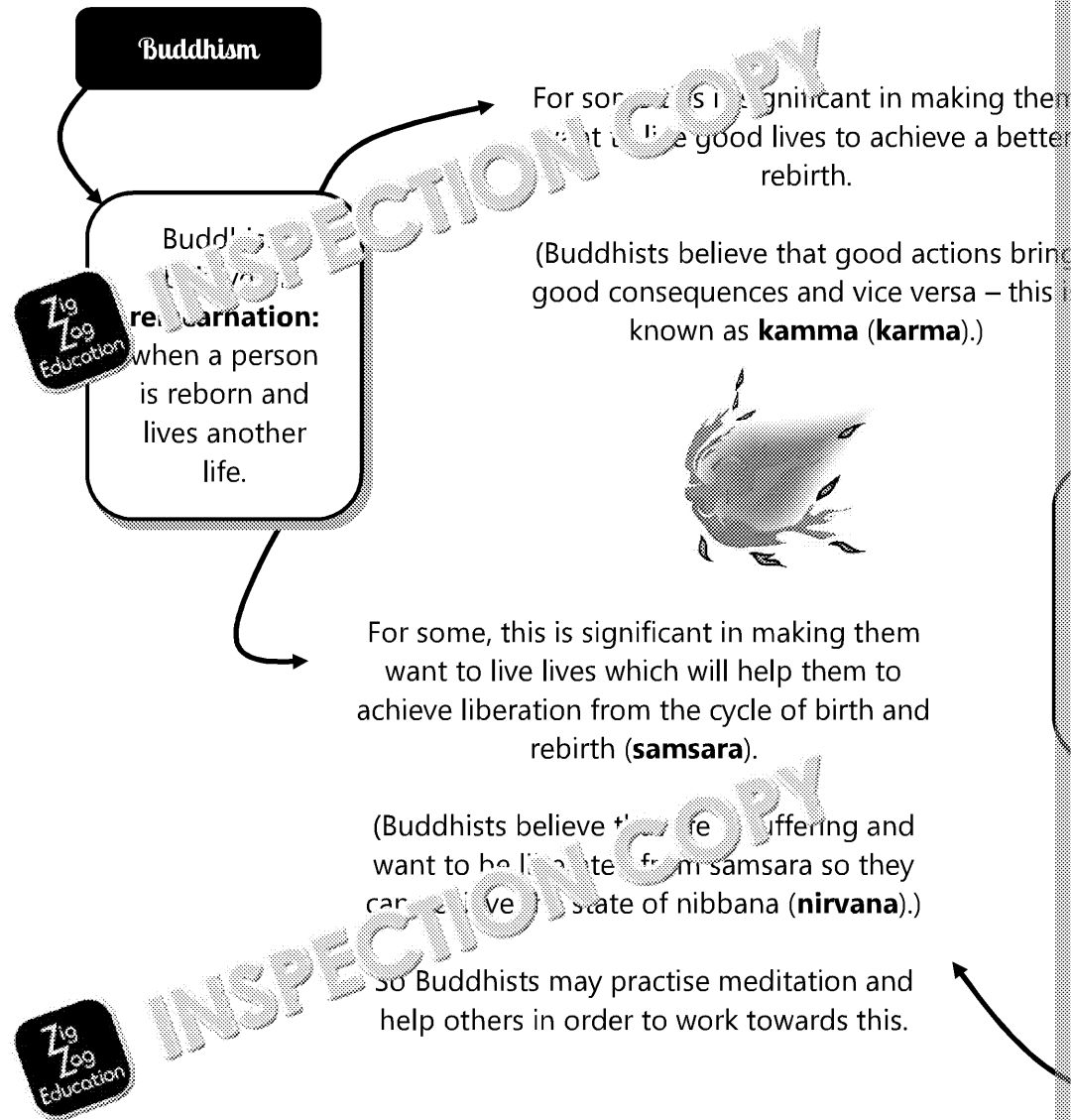


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## The Afterlife



Belief in life after death has continued because it has been used as a form of social control – if people believe in a good afterlife they may remain content with a bad current life and not rebel against authority.

### Non-religious

Non-religious people

People only believe in the afterlife because it is a source of comfort, not because it is real.

### Christians respond:

... because an afterlife is comfort and social control, and some people lie, it is not real. The Bible is evidence

... through  
who has gone

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## Christianity – Additional Religions – Worship

**Worship** is important in religions other than Christianity, but it is not practised in exactly the same ways.



The Jewish holy building **synagogue**. Jews **worship** as elsewhere.

**prayers** should be said in the **synagogue** or wherever a Jew is: evening, morning and afternoon.

Many (more commonly male) Jews wear **prayer** shawls (**tallit**) with tassels/fringes and boxes containing Scripture (**tefillin**) when they **pray**. These are commanded in the **Torah**.

In Orthodox Judaism, women and men are separated during **worship** and **prayer**. In Reform Judaism, men and women worship together.



Jews of the

Orthodox  
Reform  
conservative

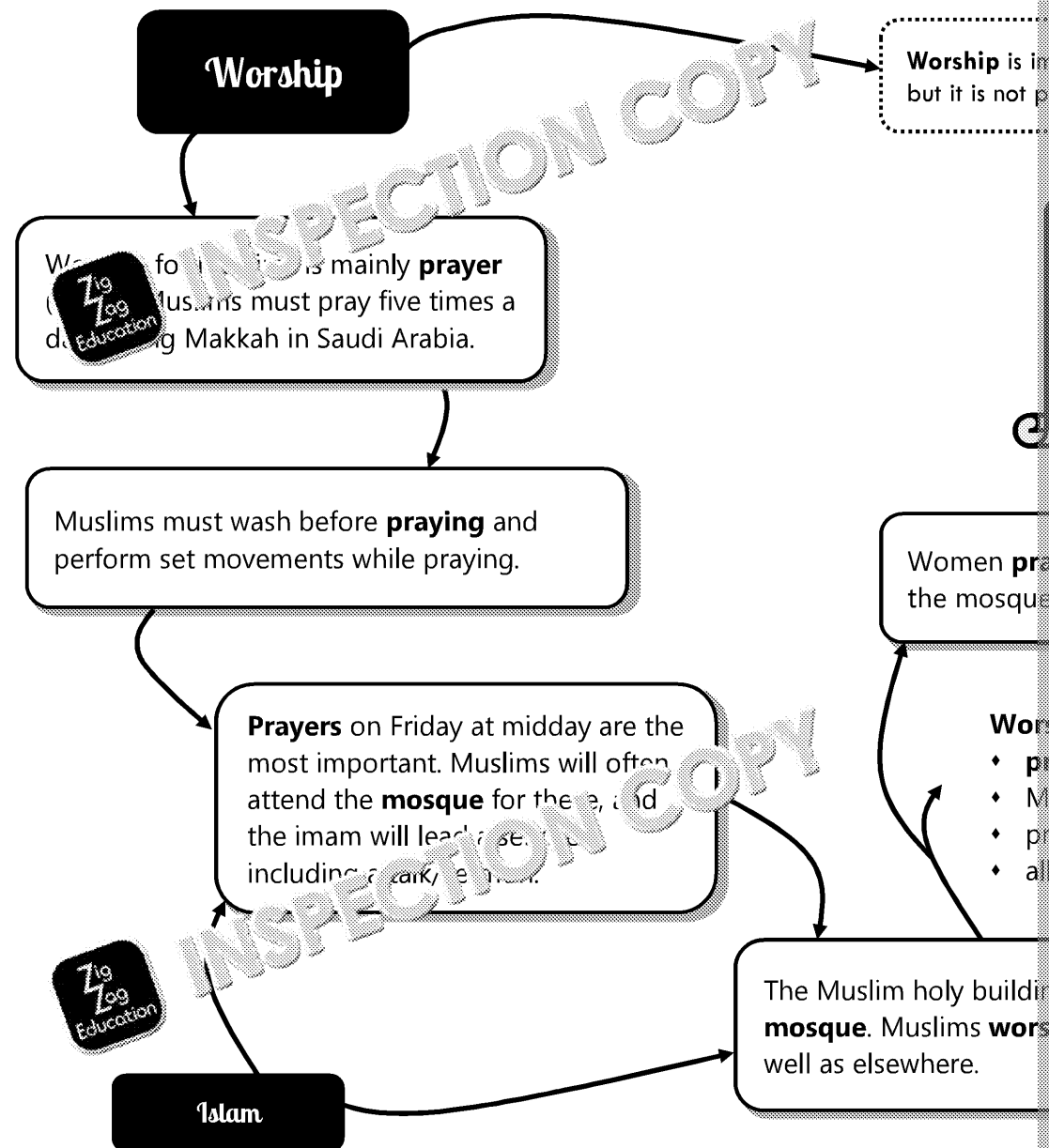
Worship

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# Christianity Topic on a Page Activities

## Remember!

Always check the exam board website for new information, including changes to the specification and sample assessment material.

## 1. The Trinity

- 1) See summary sheet
- 2) See summary sheet
- 3) See summary sheet
- 4) For example:
  - I think Christians can defend belief in one God while believing in the Trinity sense by human standards. it is not possible for God to exist like this, as he is able to do anything.
  - I do not think Christians can defend belief in one God while believing in the Trinity. All the three persons of the Trinity are thought to be divine. If God is one, so not all of the three persons described as the Trinity can be God.
- 5) For example:  
'Hear, O Israel: The LORD is our God, the LORD alone.' (or 'The Lord is our God, the LORD alone.' (NRSV)
- 6) For example:
  - Christians believe that God is one being, while still being three persons with the Trinity. The three persons are the Father, Son and Spirit.
  - 'The Lord is our God, the Lord is one.' (Deuteronomy 6:4 NRSV)
  - Christians believe that all the persons of the Trinity are fully God.
  - Christians believe that the second person of the Trinity has existed both in the past and the present. They believe that he was present at the creation of the world, but also that he came to earth as Jesus. The person of Jesus is known as God the Son.
  - 'Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God."' (Matthew 16:16)

1 mark per simple point, 1 mark per development (maximum 4), 1 mark for a reference to authority.

One development cannot be credited twice. Each development must be relevant to the question asked, as must the reference to a source of wisdom and authority.
- 7) For example:
  - Jesus comes from the Father, but is one being with him.
  - Jesus' mother was a virgin.
  - Jesus will come to judge those alive and those dead.

## 2. Creation

- 1) See summary sheet
- 2) See summary sheet
- 3) See summary sheet
- 4) For example:  
'In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being.'
- 5) For example:
  - Christians believe that the world was created by God – by the Father, Son and Spirit.
  - Christians believe that the world was created for them to care for and look after.
  - Some Christians believe that the universe was literally created in six days.

1 mark per point, maximum 3
- 6) For example:
  - Literal pro: You do not have to justify believing parts of the Bible and not others.
  - Literal con: Science disagrees with the biblical accounts of creation.

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- Metaphorical pro: Christians can believe in religion and science without the
- Metaphorical con: Believing that God created the world / life through the Bible God seem less powerful and involved.

(Note: cons for the literal view may be pros for the metaphorical view, and vice versa)

- 7) For example: The doctrine of the Fall is the idea that humans fell from God's grace. This corrupted all of humanity, not just Adam and Eve. This led to original sin being passed on to their children. Humans really need saving as they are very separated from God. Furthermore, it is damaged and that humans will not necessarily choose to live life as God intends. It passes on sin. The doctrine can be seen to have positive implications: that though we repent then God will forgive them, and they will be able to have a full relationship with God.

### 3. The Incarnation

- 1) See summary sheet
- 2) See summary sheet
- 3) 'Without any doubt, the mystery of our religion is great: He [God] was revealed in the flesh' (Colossians 2:9)
- 4) For example: Jesus cried when his friend Lazarus died (John 11:35); Jesus was not tired (John 11:12); Jesus slept (e.g. Mark 4:38); Jesus died in agony (Jesus' Passion in any of the Gospels)
- 5) For example:
  - I think it makes sense for God / a God to come down to earth in human form, to follow his teaching, and they will respect him for living among them, and for his sacrifice.
  - I do not think it makes sense for God to come down to earth, as he is so different from humans, why he is worthy of worship.
- 6) For example:
  - Docetism claims that Jesus was fully divine and just appeared to be human.
  - Adoptionism holds that Jesus was a sinless human who God adopted at some point. Some forms of Adoptionism hold that after Jesus' adoption, he became divine, though others do not.
- 7) For example:

Connections	Judgment
A few shallow connections between material that is relevant to the question. <i>Very</i> narrow understanding of religion.	Points not well supported and do not follow from arguments.
Many shallow connections between material that is relevant to the question. Narrow understanding of religion.	Some attempt at supporting arguments, though conclusions do not follow.
Good reasoning, and different viewpoints considered. <i>Partially</i> answers question. Good understanding of religion.	Most points are well supported, leading to a conclusion that is <i>somewhat</i> supported.
Good critical reasoning, and different viewpoints considered. <i>Fully</i> answers question. <i>Consistently</i> good understanding of religion.	All points are well supported, leading to a comprehensive evaluation, and a conclusion which is <i>fully</i> supported.

#### Points and justification for

- Jesus showed divine qualities, such as healing and rising from the dead. He was hungry and pain.
- Jesus is spoken of as God in the flesh in the New Testament.
- 'In the beginning, the Word was with God, and the Word was God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being' (John 1:1-3)
- 'Without any doubt, the mystery of our religion is great: He [God] was revealed in the flesh' (Colossians 2:9)
- Christianity has taught this for years – if Jesus was not God, God would have guided him.

#### Points and justification against

- Jesus' followers may not have thought he was God incarnate during early Christianity. Evidence of Jesus being thought to be God in the gospels.
  - References to Jesus as God's son may not mean that he is divine – they could mean he was a prophet. Many Christians have believed this.
  - Other prophets in the Bible have been able to heal and perform miracles, but they were not God.
  - Jesus could have been fully God veiled as a human (Docetism) or a human who God adopted (Adoptionism).
- Accept any relevant point or justification.

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#### 4. Last Days of Jesus' Life

- 1) See summary sheet
- 2) See summary sheet
- 3) See summary sheet
- 4) For example:  
'While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood before them, terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you doubt? He is not here, but has risen."' (Luke 24:4-5 NRSV)
- 5) For example:
  - Reconciliation between people and God, so that they can have a relationship
  - Forgiveness of sins, so humans do not need to be punished.
  - Overcoming death, so there can be eternal life for humans.

1 mark per point, maximum 3
- 6) For example: I think the gospels are different because they are compiled from different witnesses of Jesus, and the gospel authors want to emphasise different points. They are aware of different events in Jesus' life, and may have altered their accounts to point to different things.
- 7) For example: I think Jesus' crucifixion should be more important for Christians, as it shows his humanity and atoned for humans' sin. On the other hand, the resurrection can be seen as a sign of God's power when Jesus conquered death.

#### 5. Salvation

- 1) See summary sheet
- 2) See summary sheet
- 3) For example:
  - I think it makes most sense that people can be saved if they come to God through Jesus. This means people can choose to accept Jesus, and need to make an effort to come to God. If humanity how to live makes little sense if people do not possess free will to choose. If people are predestined to be saved, this seems unfair on those who cannot achieve anything of their own if God has already chosen to save them.
  - I think that it makes most sense that people are predestined to be saved. If God has created them, he has argued that creating them means he has determined the choices they will make. If God must know which actions humans will make before they make them, and as God is all-powerful, he must have made it to be otherwise. Therefore, when he created humanity, God must have chosen this, and so salvation is predestined.
- 4) For example:
  - "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life." (John 3:16 NRSV)
  - "There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven by which we must be saved." (Acts 4:12 NRSV)
- 5) For example:
  - Because Christians believe that they have received salvation in Jesus, this influences how they view God. Christians want to know how God is freeing them from the law of sin and death.
  - Because Christians believe that they have been saved through Jesus, they need to know how Jesus fulfilled this, and so following Jesus and accepting his teachings is important. They therefore interpret the Old Testament differently in light of the New Testament. Many of the rules given there were temporary and not permanent.

1 mark per simple point, 2 marks per developed point (maximum 4)  
One development cannot be credited twice. Each development must be relevant to the question asked.
- 6) For example: Some Christians believe that it was necessary for Jesus to die for salvation. This is loving and just – he wanted to save humans, but something had to be made up for the sin that led to his death. To die as only he was able to atone for all sin, and this achieved salvation without him needing to be resurrected.

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- 7) For example: Predestination is associated with John Calvin, an important Christian Reformation, and is one of the beliefs of Calvinism. Calvin believed that God had chosen who to save (and others to be condemned). In this belief, it is God who guides those he has chosen to save, and God is merciful in saving some, and just in condemning others. (Single predestination has chosen who to save but has not actively chosen to condemn others. Double predestination has chosen who to save and who to condemn.)

## 6. Eschatology

- 1) See summary sheet
- 2) See summary sheet
- 3) See summary sheet
- 4) For example:  
'Do not be astonished at this; for the hour is coming when all who are in their graves will come out...' (John 5:28-29 NRSV)
- 5) For example: The parable of the talents (Matthew 25:14-30) teaches that people are given what God has given them, and given more, but those who do not use what God has given them are punished.
- 6) For example:
  - Some Christians believe that after death the soul will live on immediately – good people to heaven and bad people to hell (some believe that some people will go to purgatory to develop before entering heaven). Afterlife begins immediately after death and the soul is immortal. This is related to the resurrection of the body, such as Jesus talking about life immediately after death.
  - [to the thief on the cross] "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."
  - Some Christians believe that life after death does not begin immediately after death, but begins at the resurrection of the body at the end of time. This is known as resurrection of the body, and it is believed that everyone will be judged before being sent to heaven or hell.
  - 'Do not be astonished at this; for the hour is coming when all who are in their graves will come out...' (John 5:28-29 NRSV)

1 mark per simple point, 1 mark per development (maximum 4), 1 mark for a reference to authority.

One development cannot be credited twice. Each development must be relevant to the question asked, as must the reference to a source of wisdom and authority.

- 7) For example: I do not think some Christians are justified in interpreting John 14:1-6 to mean that people can only go to heaven. Many Christians claim John 14:6 means that people can only know God through Jesus the Son, and as Christians believe in a loving God, this seems a better interpretation. I think a loving God would condemn people to hell for not worshipping him and for not knowing him.

## 7. The Problem of Evil/Suffering and God's Nature

- 1) See summary sheet
- 2) See summary sheet
- 3) See summary sheet
- 4) For example:
  - Natural suffering:
    - Suffering caused by forest fires
    - Suffering caused by flooding
  - Moral suffering:
    - Suffering caused by bullying
    - Suffering caused by war
- 5) For example: I think natural suffering is a bigger problem for Christians – morally, it is hard to work out why a God would allow natural suffering, certainly. There seems to be no good reason for children to develop cancer, or floods to destroy lives. It is incomprehensible why a loving and powerful God would allow this. Also, as Christians believe in a loving God, he is responsible for creating natural evil.

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- 6) For example:
- The problem of evil and suffering exists partly because it makes little sense suffering. Christians believe that God is benevolent, and being benevolent not want others to suffer. However, suffering still exists.
  - 'The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and great in power; he will not contend with anyone, he is not angry with them; he will not punish them, because he has compassion. The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and great in power; he will not contend with anyone, he is not angry with them; he will not punish them, because he has compassion.'
  - The problem of evil and suffering also exists because if God is omnipotent, evil and suffering; however, there is still evil and suffering. Christians may and whether he is all-powerful, bearing in mind that he has not stopped suffering.
  - 'For the Lord your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who is not repayed, who does not give an account, who does not suffer from anyone, who does not fear anyone, who does not give an account to anyone.'

1 mark per simple point, 1 mark per development (maximum 4), 1 mark for wisdom and authority.

One development cannot be credited twice. Each development must be relevant and to the question asked, as must the reference to a source of wisdom and authority.

- 7) For example: I do not think that Christians are justified in believing in a benevolent God. This is because there are not seem to be satisfactory solutions for there being moral suffering in the world that there is if God is loving and all-powerful. Either able to stop evil and suffering because a loving God could not want humans to suffer.

## 8. Solutions to the Problem of Evil/Suffering

- See summary sheet
- See summary sheet
- See summary sheet
- For example:  
'This is my comfort in my distress, that your promise gives me life... Trouble and your commandments are my delight.' (Psalm 119:50, 143 NRSV)
- For example: I think that free will is a fairly good solution to the problem of evil as people would prefer to have free will, and for there to be a possibility that some are puppets, not able to make real choices. Also, good actions performed through free will are more than good actions which were not free. Therefore, I think it is a good reason for moral suffering. However, it does not provide an explanation for why God would allow suffering.
- For example:
  - I think that if there is a God who allows evil and suffering, then he must do so somehow beneficial for humans. I think the strongest solution to the problem of evil is the free will defence – through such tests humans are able to develop good character through trials and with and reliance on God if they trust in him when tested.
  - I do not think that evil and suffering are just, so this is not a successful solution to the problem of evil. The free will defence is the weakest. To start with, many bad people do not suffer, while good people suffer for humanity's sin, they no longer need to be punished.

Connections	Judgment
<i>A few</i> shallow connections between material that is relevant to the question. <i>Very</i> narrow understanding of religion.	Points not well supported, do not follow from arguments.
<i>Many</i> shallow connections between material that is relevant to the question. Narrow understanding of religion.	Some attempt at supporting evaluation, though conclusions do not follow.
Good reasoning, and different viewpoints considered. <i>Partially</i> answers question. Good understanding of religion.	<i>Most</i> points are well supported, leading to a conclusion which is <i>somewhat</i> supported.
Good critical reasoning, and different viewpoints considered. <i>Fully</i> answers question. <i>Consistently</i> good understanding of religion.	<i>All</i> points are well supported, leading to a comprehensive evaluation and conclusion which is <i>fully</i> supported.

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### Points and justification for

- Free will explains why there is evil and suffering – it is more benevolent for this results in people choosing to hurt others.
- ‘The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness.’ (Psalm 103:8)
- The existence of evil and suffering is not actually a bad thing – they help Christians grow and not expecting what they do not deserve. Suffering also helps Christians turn to him to help them – the book of Job, and the Psalms support this.
- ‘This is my comfort in my distress, that your promise gives me life... Trouble has found me, but your commandments are my delight.’ (Psalm 119:50, 143 NRSV)
- If God is not thought to be omnipotent, then this solves the problem of evil – God could not create a world without disease or natural disasters.
- It may be that evil and suffering are just – this may be the reason why God

### Points and justification against

- Christians do not know why there is evil and suffering, but they do not need trust God.
- God cannot be benevolent as Christians claim if he allows the amount of evil have found a way to deal with free will and at least limit evil and suffering.
- Christians think that God created the universe – if he is this powerful, then why does evil exist? If he does not, this is a problem. If he is this powerful, he would not have allowed evil and suffering.
- 'For the Lord your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who is not repayed or rewarded, for he is the Lord, the God, the Lord alone' (10:17 NRSV)
- There are ways for humans to be good people and have a relationship with God. If evil and suffering cannot be explained as a test – not by a loving God.
- Christians believe that Jesus atoned for their sins, so it cannot be possible that God is punishing them for their sins. Christianity.

Accept any relevant point or justification.

## 9. Worship

- 1) See summary sheet
- 2) See summary sheet
- 3) See summary sheet
- 4) For example:
  - Christians worship God to praise him. They are grateful to him for having sent Jesus to save them.
  - Christians worship God to have a relationship with him; they want to apologize for help with their lives. Worshipping God reassures and encourages them.

1 mark per simple point, 2 marks per developed point (maximum 4)

One development cannot be credited twice. Each development must be relevant to the question asked.

- 5) For example: I think worship is important to Christians because it allows them to connect with God. They can ask him for help, praise him, and also ask for his forgiveness. Without worship, they are unable to interact with God and enjoy the relationship with him which Jesus achieved through his death. Worship is also important to Christians because they can interact with God as part of a community (e.g. communal singing).
- 6) For example:
  - I think liturgical worship should be more important for Christians as this is the traditional way of worship. Denominations such as the Catholic Church, which have a great deal of experience with liturgical worship also contains sacraments, which are important Christian practices.
  - I think non-liturgical worship should be more important to Christians as this allows them to worship authentically and personally in whatever way is appropriate to them at the time.
- 7) For example: The *Book of Common Prayer* is a Church of England book of beliefs and prayers compiled by bishops in the 1500s. It is the official prayer book for the Church of England and other denominations. It contains guidance on which Bible passages should be read and when (e.g. daily and all year round).

## 10. Sacraments

- 1) See summary sheet
  - 2) See summary sheet
  - 3) See summary sheet
  - 4) For example:  
‘Then he took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.’ (Luke 22:19 NRSV)
  - 5) For example:
    - Sacraments are important to Christians because they are ways of engaging with God. For example, Baptism welcomes someone into the Church’s family.
    - Sacraments are important to (some) Christians because they believe that through them – for example, Catholics believe they truly experience Jesus’ death for them – bread and wine transubstantiate into his body and blood.
- 1 mark per simple point 2 marks per developed point (maximum 4)  
One developed point may be credited twice. Each development must be relevant to the question asked.
- 6) For example: Quakers and the Salvation Army do not observe sacraments as they feel that people receive God’s grace through Jesus and do not need sacraments. They want people to rely on what they see as outer symbols, but to focus on God.
  - 7) For example: Catholics believe in transubstantiation because they take Jesus’ words that he is giving his followers his body and blood. St Paul’s letters have also been interpreted of this – that the bread and wine really become Jesus’ body and blood.

## 11. Prayer

- 1) See summary sheet
- 2) See summary sheet
- 3) See summary sheet
- 4) For example: Jesus said God would forgive someone’s sins if they forgave others.
- 5) For example: Many Catholics use a rosary to pray with – a necklace made of beads to concentrate on prayer and to remember to say certain prayers – they can hold different prayers to remember and count them.
- 6) For example:

Connections	Judgment
<i>A few</i> shallow connections between material that is relevant to the question. <i>Very</i> narrow understanding of religion.	Points not well supported and do not follow from arguments.
<i>Many</i> shallow connections between material that is relevant to the question. <i>Narrow</i> understanding of religion.	Some attempt at supporting conclusion, though conclusions are not fully supported.
Good reasoning, and different viewpoints are considered. <i>Partially</i> answers the question. <i>Good</i> understanding of religion.	<i>Most</i> points are well supported and lead to a conclusion. Evaluation, leading to a conclusion that is <i>somewhat</i> supported.
Good critical reasoning, and different viewpoints consistently considered. <i>Fully</i> answers question. <i>Consistently</i> good understanding of religion.	<i>All</i> points are well supported and lead to a comprehensive evaluation and conclusion which is <i>fully</i> supported.

### Points and justification for

- Prayer allows Christians to have a relationship with God. Christians would not have a relationship with God without talking and listening to him.
- Jesus specifically taught his disciples to pray in a certain way, meaning that they should follow his example by Jesus.
- ‘Pray then in this way: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And do not bring us to the time of trial, but rescue us from the evil one.’ (Matthew 6:9-13)
- Prayer allows Christians to do many different things, including praise, thanksgiving, confession, and intercession.

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### Points and justification against

- Christians need to read and learn about the Bible as much as they need to pray for a foundation for their faith and understand what Jesus did for them.
- Sacraments are particularly important worship practices which may be more important than other practices. For example, many Christians believe they are able to be saved through Baptism and the Eucharist.
- 'The one who believes and is baptized will be saved; but the one who does not believe will be condemned' (Mark 16:16 NRSV)
- Many Christians find it easier to connect with God and understand what he is saying, and may find this more helpful to their relationship with God than communicating with him.
- Christians may feel that they worship God through living good lives, and that is more important than other practices.

Accept any relevant point or justification.

- 7) For example: The prayer 'Make Me an Instrument of Your Peace' is a famous prayer, a set prayer, as it has set words, so people can say this exact prayer. Its purpose is to make them better people who will do God's will, allowing them to focus on becoming better people who express the thoughts of God who is not always perfect, but who wants to be perfect.

## 12. Pilgrimage

- 1) See summary sheet
- 2) See summary sheet
- 3) See summary sheet
- 4) For example:
  - Christians may go to a particular pilgrimage site to receive healing – some people believe in miraculous physical healings taking place there, and some Christians may also go to a pilgrimage site to spend time with other Christians, to worship God by being with others who also want to worship him. They may feel that their faith is strengthened by the faith from other Christians.

1 mark per simple point, 2 marks per developed point (maximum 4)

One development cannot be credited twice. Each development must be relevant to the question asked.

- 5) For example: Lourdes, Rome, Glastonbury...
- 6) For example: Some Christians may think that pilgrimage is unimportant because they can go on a physical journey to improve their relationship with God. They may also feel that God is in any physical location. Some Christians feel that pilgrimage has become too commercial and the commercial aspect of pilgrimage detracts from its spiritual focus – some may feel that they should give money to charity than to spend it on pilgrimage.
- 7) For example: Lourdes in France is a pilgrimage site which is particularly important because a girl called Bernadette claimed to have seen visions of Jesus' mother, the Virgin Mary, in the nineteenth century. Since then, Catholics have come to Lourdes to pay devotion to the Virgin Mary, who appeared to Bernadette, and also in search of healing. The Virgin Mary reported to Bernadette that the ground, and the spring of water which came from the ground, was the place where the Virgin Mary had been. The Catholic Church recognises Lourdes as a place of healing and supports people who go there to be healed.

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### 13. Celebrations

- 1) See summary sheet
- 2) See summary sheet
- 3) For example:  
[Prophesy, taken to be about Jesus] 'For a child has been born for us, a son given  
shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father  
(NRSV)
- 4) For example:  
'But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have  
through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human  
so all will be made alive in Christ.' (1 Corinthians 15:20-22 NRSV)
- 5) For example:
  - As Jesus was raised from the dead, this means that this is possible for others.
  - Jesus' resurrection has freed Christians from their sins.
  - Jesus is the second Adam, sent to remedy original sin.
  - God the Father has given power to Jesus.

1 mark per point, maximum 3

- 6) For example:

Connections	Judgment
<i>A few</i> shallow connections between material that is relevant to the question. <i>Very</i> narrow understanding of religion.	Points not well supported and do not follow from arguments.
<i>Many</i> shallow connections between material that is relevant to the question. <i>Narrow</i> understanding of religion.	Some attempt at supporting evaluation, though conclusions do not follow.
Good reasoning, and different viewpoints considered. <i>Partially</i> answers question. <i>Good</i> understanding of religion.	<i>Most</i> points are well supported by evaluation, leading to a conclusion which is <i>somewhat</i> supported.
Good critical reasoning, and different viewpoints considered. <i>Fully</i> answers question. <i>Consistently</i> good understanding of religion.	<i>All</i> points are well supported by comprehensive evaluation, leading to a conclusion which is <i>fully</i> supported.

#### Points and justification for

- Without Christmas, there would be no Christianity – if Jesus had not entered the world and died for Christians.
- Christmas is often emphasised more than other festivals. Christians often spend more time celebrating Christmas than other times of the year.
- Christmas celebrates Jesus coming into the world, and celebrates him revealing God's will. This is really important to Christians.
- [Prophesy, taken to be about Jesus] 'For a child has been born for us, a son given upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father' (Isaiah 9:6 NRSV)

#### Points and justification against

- Many Christians feel that Easter is the most important time of the year, because it brought humanity salvation.
- 'But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died. Through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being. So all will be made alive in Christ.' (1 Corinthians 15:20-22 NRSV)
- While many Christians focus on Christmas Day more than on Easter Sunday by present-buying and parties. At Easter, many Christians have space to focus on Jesus' sacrifice.
- Many Christians feel that while festivals are important, all the year is equally important. They believe that Jesus died so that they could live good lives in a close relationship with him.

Accept any relevant point or justification.

- 7) For example: Pentecost comes 50 days after Easter and celebrates when the Holy Spirit came upon the disciples. Christians remember that those first disciples received the Holy Spirit and so they receive the Holy Spirit in their lives.

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## 14. Future of the Church

- 1) See summary sheet
- 2) See summary sheet
- 3) See summary sheet
- 4) For example:
  - Fulfilling Jesus' command
  - Compassion
  - Growing Church numbers

1 mark per point, maximum 3
- 5) For example: I do not think that it is right for Christians to put monetary resources on things like building churches, as there are so many people worldwide who need practical help to live. I think they should focus on evangelism. However, as evangelism is important for Christians, I do not think they are wrong for putting evangelism before practical help.
- 6) For example: I think Christianity is likely to shrink in the more economically developed areas of the world because secularism is becoming very socially acceptable. However, I think it will grow in poorer and less-developed areas of the world because people feel a need for religion. As the developed world faces more uncertainty or instability, numbers of Christians may increase.
- 7) For example: David Livingstone (1813–1873) was a famous Christian missionary who travelled through Africa and preaching the Gospel. He also supported ending slavery. He could help end it by evangelising in Africa and providing opportunities for (more) people to work.

## 15. Local Church

- 1) See summary sheet
- 2) See summary sheet
- 3) For example:
 

'Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs' (Mark 10:14 NRSV) – churches can help young children come to God.
- 4) For example:
  - Church leaders should help their congregations.
  - Church leaders should be good examples rather than harsh leaders.
  - Being a church leader and helping others will be rewarded.

1 mark per point, maximum 3
- 5) For example: Different local churches may work together to strengthen bonds between their communities. They may also work together to carry out joint work which they might not be able to do on their own, such as money/volunteers to help with individually, such as outreach days. Jesus also worked with people for the common good, and so it may be seen as unchristian not to work together.
- 6) For example:
  - One way in which the local church helps the local community is by speaking out on issues that affect the community, such as helping out in the community – some churches help to clean up the neighbourhood, and this can make a difference, whether this is on a small or large scale.
  - The local church helps the local community by running activities and offering support for parents with toddlers. These can help people to get out and about, and help them to build relationships. Christians believe that they should help others, as Jesus taught that we should love our neighbours as ourselves – and people want help when they need it.
  - 'Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs...' (Mark 10:14 NRSV) – churches can help young children come to God.

1 mark per simple point, 1 mark per development (maximum 4), 1 mark for a reference to a source of wisdom and authority.

One development cannot be credited twice. Each development must be relevant to the question asked, as must the reference to a source of wisdom and authority.

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- 7) For example: I think local churches are effective in reaching local believers, and a and personal support. I think non-believing members of the community may still be carried out by local churches, but would not be interested in the worldwide Church.

## 16. Worldwide Church

- 1) See summary sheet
- 2) See summary sheet
- 3) See summary sheet
- 4) For example: I think the most important thing which the worldwide Church does has the influence to help to end inequalities and conflicts and to help people work for a harmonious world.
- 5) For example: If I were a persecuted Christian, I think I would be scared and would go to a safer area if I could. I think it is better to try to be reconciled with those who have treated you badly, but it can be really hard if you were in that position.
- 6) For example:
  - The worldwide Church is important because it helps with reconciliation. It encourages people to get along with each other – for example, warring countries – and it helps to encourage people to be treated with those who have treated them badly. It does this partly by encouraging people to be compassionate and love others, and reconciling people is loving; and also because reconciliation was important – that people should be reconciled with each other. If they were conflicting with others, it would make it hard for them to be fully happy.
  - The worldwide Church is also important because it encourages charity and kindness. It is important because it helps people to live stable and happy lives, and because if they did not help others, they would not go to heaven.
  - “And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these members of my family, you did it to me.’” (Matthew 25:40 NRSV)

1 mark per simple point, 1 mark per development (maximum 4), 1 mark for a reference to a source of wisdom and authority.

One development cannot be credited twice. Each development must be relevant to the question asked, as must the reference to a source of wisdom and authority.

- 7) For example:
  - Pope Francis helped reconcile the USA and Cuba by helping with negotiations.
  - Archbishop Desmond Tutu helped to reconcile black and white people in South Africa through the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.
  - The Corrymeela community has worked to heal tensions in Northern Ireland.

## 17. Afterlife – Judaism

- 1) See summary sheet
- 2) See summary sheet
- 3) See summary sheet
- 4) For example:
 

Similarities:

  - Some Jews believe in the rewards of heaven and hell, as Christians do.
  - Some Jews believe in the resurrection of the body, as many Christians do.
  - Some Jews believe in the immortality of the soul, as many Christians do.

Differences:

  - There is not a fixed concept of the afterlife in Judaism, as there is little concrete teaching in contrast to there being quite a bit of teaching about heaven and hell and the New Testament.
  - Some Jews believe in reincarnation, and this is generally not believed in within Christianity.
- 5) For example:
 

‘... the breath [spirit] returns to God who gave it... For God will bring every deed into judgement, secret thing, whether good or evil.’ (Ecclesiastes 12:7, 14 NRSV) – this implies that the soul is judged after death (as he does not appear to bring judgement on all during life).

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- 6) For example: Reform Jews are likely to reject the coming of a Messiah figure before the dead (whereas Orthodox Jews do look to the coming of a Messiah), and are also more concerned with the immortality of the soul than in a bodily resurrection of the dead at the end of time (Orthodox Jews).
- 7) For example:
  - Many Jews believe that good and bad actions impact on whether one will inherit life (not just a matter of religious belief).
  - Jews do not generally believe that people of different religions are barred from heaven.

## 18. Afterlife – Islam

- 1) See summary sheet
- 2) See summary sheet
- 3) See summary sheet
- 4) For example:

### Similar

- Muslims believe in resurrection of the body, like many Christians.
- Muslims believe in equivalents of heaven and hell, as Christians do.
- Muslims believe in a Day of Judgement at the end of time, as many Christians.
- Muslims believe in the second coming of Jesus before the end of time.

Differences:

- Muslims do not believe in purgatory, unlike some Christians.
- Muslims do not believe in immortality of the soul, unlike some Christians.

- 5) For example:

“...Then will they say: “Who will cause us to return?” Say: “He Who created you in the first place.” They will say, “He will cause us to return.” Say: “He will cause you to return, heads towards thee, and say, “When will that be?” Say, “Maybe it will be quite soon.”

- 6) For example: Muslims believe that at the end of time all the dead will be resurrected in scorching heat, waiting for judgement. Allah will judge humans and send them to heaven or hell. Shi'a Muslims await the arrival of the Madhi (a figure who will return at the end of time). When this comes this will mean judgement is near.

- 7) For example:
- The Qur'an often describes heaven (jannah) as an amazing place with beautiful gardens, rivers, and palaces.
  - Muslims believe that hell (jahannam) involves physical torment. Some Muslims believe that those who go to hell will eventually be forgiven and allowed to go to heaven.

## 19. Afterlife – Buddhism

- 1) See summary sheet
- 2) See summary sheet
- 3) See summary sheet
- 4) For example:

Similarity:

- Buddhists, like many Christians, believe that good and bad actions will influence

## Differen

- Most Christians believe that if they go to heaven, it is because they have been saved. They do not believe that the Buddha personally 'saves' them.
- Buddhists believe in reincarnation, and Christians generally do not.
- Buddhists believe in nirvana, an 'extinguishing' which is quite different from the Christian concept of heaven, which is believed to involve worshipping God.

- 5) Buddhists believe in a cycle of life and death called **samsara**. They believe that life is full of **suffering (dukkha)** – therefore, they aim to achieve liberation through the process of rebirth. They believe that they need to have better rebirths before achieving the state of liberation, nibbana (nirvana).



- 6) For example: In Theravada Buddhism, Buddhists aim to become Arahants – to achieve enlightenment, see the Buddha and achieve nibbana – after death they will then not be reborn. However, in Mahayana Buddhism, Buddhists become Bodhisattvas – on achieving enlightenment they choose to be reborn to help others achieve enlightenment. They aim to help others to achieve enlightenment out of compassion.
- 7) For example:
  - Buddhists believe in six realms that they believe that people are reborn in: the realm of the gods, the realm of the demigods, the realm of humans, the realm of animals, the realm of ghosts, the animal kingdom, the human realm, the realm of the Titans/demi-gods.
  - Buddhists believe that they will be reborn unless they can break the chain of samsara. They aim to break the chain of samsara to keep them cycling within samsara, and unless they can break the 10 fetters that bind them to samsara, they will be reborn.

## 20. Afterlife – Short Course

- 1) See summary sheet
- 2) See summary sheet
- 3) See summary sheet
- 4) For example: Christians and non-religious people interpret the world in different experiences and in their lives, and believe due to Christian teachings that this will be the case. Religious people do not believe that they experience God in the world, and feel that there is no God. Therefore, they believe that after physical death, there is not an afterlife. (Here we include people who would see themselves as 'spiritual'.)
- 5) For example: I think the strongest non-religious argument against the existence of God is the lack of evidence. Even if people have reported to have come back from the dead, there are no accounts such as Jesus' resurrection cannot be sufficiently historically and scientifically proven. If people cannot experience the afterlife, it is hard/impossible to prove that it exists. One can argue that it is more likely that there is not an afterlife, which defies the laws of science.
- 6) For example: In some ways, different religions believing in an afterlife makes it seem more likely that it exists. It would suggest that this is an accurate belief, whereas beliefs which completely contradict each other seem less likely because contradictory beliefs cannot all be right. However, in some cases, believing in life after death makes it seem less likely, as they sometimes portray the afterlife differently from death. For example, Buddhist reincarnation is very different from Christian heaven. If one is incorrect, then, for some, this makes it seem likely that all beliefs in life after death are incorrect.
- 7) For example: I don't think either Christians or non-religious people have a better argument for the afterlife – they are working from different assumptions, and so their arguments are based on their other beliefs. I think Christians have good reason to believe in the afterlife as they witnessed Jesus risen from the dead, but non-religious people have good reason to believe in no afterlife as it is not scientific.

## 21. Worship – Judaism

- 1) See summary sheet
- 2) See summary sheet
- 3) See summary sheet
- 4) For example:

## Similarities

- Both Jews and Christians include prayer in their worship.
- Both Jews and Christians include reading from their holy Scriptures in their worship.

Differences:

- Whereas Orthodox Jews hold their worship services in Hebrew, all Christians worship in the vernacular (common language).
- Christians do not wear tallit and tefillin during worship, unlike many Jews.

- 5) For example:  
'I will offer to you a thanksgiving sacrifice and call on the name of the LORD. I will praise you in the presence of all his people' (Psalm 116: 17-18 NRSV) – this describes Jewish sacrifice before the destruction of the Temple.

- 6) For example:
  - A bimah/bema is a platform from which the Torah is read in the synagogue.
  - The Ner Tamid (everlasting light) is a light kept in the synagogue which is n represents God's presence.
  - The Aron Kodesh (Holy Ark) is where the scrolls of the Torah are stored in t keep the Torah here to show reverence for it, and to protect it from damage
- 7) For example:
  - While in Orthodox Judaism men are expected to pray at set times, Orthodox having to pray at these set times. However, they are still expected to pray.
  - Many Jews cover their heads during worship. Many men will wear a skull ca women must also cover their heads – many wear a wig.

## 22. Worship – Islam

- 1) See summary sheet
- 2) See summary sheet
- 3) See summary sheet
- 4) For example:
 

Similarities:

  - Both Muslims and Christians include prayer in their worship.
  - Services for both Muslims and Christians on their holy day often include a s

Differences:

  - Christians do not have to pray facing a specific direction, or while making s pray towards Makkah and while performing specific cycles of movements (
  - Christians do not have to pray five times a day, unlike Muslims.
- 5) For example:
 

'But celebrate the praises of thy Lord, and be of those who prostrate themselves
- 6) For example:
  - Sunni Muslims will pray at five separate times of day, but Shi'a Muslims may so that they only actually pray on three separate occasions.
  - When Sunni Muslims prostrate themselves for prayer, they place their head Shi'a Muslims place a block of clay (or another natural material) called a tur to touch their head, because they believe that they should only prostrate the
- 7) For example:
  - Muslims (in Muslim countries) know when they should pray because they h from the minaret on a mosque.
  - The first words of Islamic prayer (worship) are 'Allahu Akbar' – God is great

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