

3 - Sunday Worship - Along with the annual worship of Easter, the weekly celebration of the pagan "Venerable Day of the Sun" was also brought into the church by Constantine as a means to attract pagans to the Christian faith. This was done under the guise of celebrating Jesus' resurrection, but nowhere in the Bible do you see a command to celebrate the resurrection of Christ. Instead, you see a command to rest and worship God on the seventh day Sabbath, which is Saturday, NOT Sunday.



Pope holds wafer similar to Canaanite cultic pillar or "matstsebah".

**\*Other false teachings in Catholicism:** Catholicism also teaches the adoration of Mary and the Apostles, Purgatory, Priestly Confession, Eternal Torment in Hell and the immortality of the soul.

5) We see that Islam and Catholicism is a mixture of the Bible with paganism, but what does the Bible say there would be even within the Christian Church? -Matthew 24:24

1 - "For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect."

**\*Note:** Even within Christianity, the Bible warns of false teachers who would mislead people and result in division and multiple denominations. Many of the false doctrines within Christianity were adopted from the Roman Catholic Church, seeing that Protestants came out from the Catholic Church during the Protestant Reformation.

6) What are the characteristics of God's true religion? -Revelation 14:12.

1 - God's true religion and church will "keep the commandments and have the faith of Jesus."

**\*Note:** God's true religion and church will keep all of God's commandments and have the faith of Jesus. They will believe in Christ's death on the cross for forgiveness of sins and have faith in Christ's POWER to change their heart and help them keep all of God's commandments. This includes the keeping of the 7th day Sabbath of the 4th Commandment, which is Saturday as opposed to Sunday.

**\*Question:** What do all these Christians Denominations, along with the Mormons and Jehovah Witnesses ALL have in Common? **\*Answer:** PAGAN SUNDAY WORSHIP!



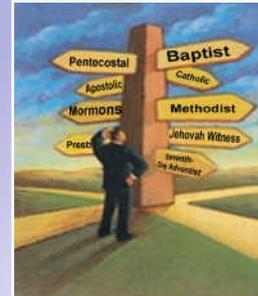
Appeal) Will you become a part of God's true religion that keeps all of His commandments and has the faith of Jesus in a time of religious confusion? \_\_\_\_\_.

**\*Download the next lesson at:** <http://www.soldiers4christ.us>  
Click the "Bible Studies PDF" tab, and select "Beneath the Surface Bible Lesson Series"



## "Beneath the Surface Bible Lesson Series 2017"

### "Lesson 2 - Why are there so many religions?"

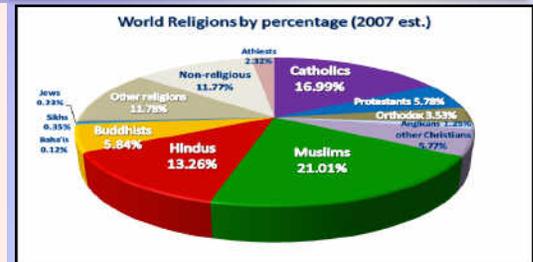


Have you ever asked yourself why there are so many religions in the world today? Even within Christianity, there are thousands of different denominations, which only adds to all the confusion! Some get discouraged from seeking religious Truth because of all the different religions. Complete this lesson with the KJV Bible and find out why there are so many religion and how you can find the TRUE religion!

1) What does the Bible say the gods of heathen nations are? Who is the true Creator? -Psalms 96:5.

1 - "For all the gods of the nations are idols."  
2 - "The LORD made the heavens."

**\*Note:** To the right, you see a graph of the world religions. Hinduism is the largest religion that openly worship images and idols of their gods. Hinduism has an estimated 33 million gods that they worship! The primary gods of Hinduism are Shiva, Vishnu and Brahma.



2) What does the Bible say about the worship of images in the Ten Commandments? -Exodus 20:4, 5.

1 - Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of anything that is in the heaven above,....Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them."

**\*Note:** Though, the Hindu religion teaches the good attributes of honesty, non-violence, celibacy, cleanliness, contentment and prayers, it does NOT teach the worship of Jehovah God, nor Jesus Christ. In contrast, Hinduism worships a counterfeit trinity: Brahma - the creator, Vishnu - the protector, and Shiva - the destroyer. Images of the Hindu gods are placed in their temples and are honored as representations of their gods. The Bible forbids image worship because it degrades and replaces the Creator God.



\*Note: Buddhism is another large religion with approximately 350 millions followers in the world. The name Buddhism comes from the word "budhi" which means "to wake up." This philosophy originated in the experience of a man named Siddhata Guatama (Buddha) nearly 2500 years ago in northern India. While Buddhism teaches morals such as avoiding killing any creature, stealing, adultery, lying, corrupt speech, anger and ignorance it is rooted in the teaching of a man who was quite uncertain about where he would go when he died. His remains can still be found in Kusinara at the foot of the Himalayan Mountains. The Bible gives us a clear understanding on what happens at death, while Buddha himself was confused and uncertain.



Buddhists meditating at a Buddhist temple

\*Buddhist Meditation: Buddhists teach that meditation is essential in order to reach enlightenment. This meditation is often done before an image of Buddha, which is forbidden in the Second Commandment. Through following the "Noble 8 Fold Path" and through meditation, they seek to achieve Nirvana, which was described by Buddha as being "a condition, where there is neither earth nor water, neither air nor light, neither limitless space, nor limitless time, neither any kind of being, neither ideation nor non-ideation, neither this world nor that world. There is neither arising nor passing-away, nor dying, neither caused nor effect, neither change nor standstill." (Taylor and Offner, The World's Religions, GrandRapids: InterVarsity, 1975, page 177).

**\*Warning: Neither Buddhism, nor Hinduism teach of a personal God that loves and relates to humanity. Both of these religions teach the making of graven images and reincarnation. Both are clearly false religions that evolved from the idolatry at the Tower of Babel. (See Genesis 11:1-9)**

3) What does the Bible teach about mixing pagan beliefs with the Bible? -1 Corinthians 10:20, Jeremiah 10:2.

1 - "But I say, that the things which the Gentiles sacrifice, they sacrifice to devils, and not to God: and I would not that ye should have fellowship with devils."

2 - The Bible warns us to "learn not the way of the heathen".

\*Islam: The Islamic Muslim faith is the largest organized religion in the world, yet it is a mixture of Bible teaching with Arabian moon worship and false teaching. Mohammad, the founder of Islam, was born in the Arabian city of Mecca of the Quraysh tribe. "The Quraysh's main god was Hubal." (https://en.wikipedia.org) If you research Hubal, you will find that he was the god of the moon. The Arabians believed that "Allat", which is where Muslims get the name "Allah", was the mother of Hubal and was also a moon god. Mohammad sought to unite the Quraysh tribe with the Jews and Christians by starting his own religion,.....



Allat the moon god

....called Islam. Islam is a mixture of moon worship and the stories and practices of the Old Testament of the Bible. Though, Muslims follow some principles of the Bible, there are many practices and symbols that originated from Quraysh moon worship.

\*Moon Worship in Islam: The MOST important principles of Islam are the 5 pillars. These principles DO NOT originate from the Bible, but from moon worship.

**5 Pillars of Islam:**

- 1 - Shahadah: sincerely reciting the Muslim profession of faith. (This acknowledges Allah as being one and great.)
- 2 - Salat: performing ritual prayers in the proper way five times each day.
- 3 - Zakat: paying an alms (or charity) tax to benefit the poor and the needy.
- 4 - Sawm: fasting during the month of Ramadan.
- 5 - Hajj: pilgrimage to Mecca.

**Moon Worship:**

The pagans worshipped "Allat", which means the "greatest." He was greater than the 360 other gods in the Ka'aba. "Pagans prior to Islam would pray five times toward Mecca." -The Encyclopedia of Islam (edited by Eliade) P. 303FF  
Pagans moon worshippers gave alms to the poor.  
Pagans fasted during the month that begins and ends with the crescent moon.  
Pagans made a pilgrimage to the Mecca shrine where there were 360 gods.

\*Roman Catholic: Roman Catholicism is the second largest religion in the world. As Islam is a mixture of the Bible and moon worship, Roman Catholicism has many practices that originated from sun worship. Notice the sun symbol to the right above the Eucharist in the Catholic ceremony.



4) What did King Josiah do to the priest who worshipped the sun and the moon gods? -2 Kings 23:5.

1 - "He put down the idolatrous priests, whom the kings of Judah had ordained to burn incense in the high places in the cities of Judah,.....them also that burned incense unto Baal, to the sun, and to the moon."

\*Note: The priests of Israel had polluted the pure religion of Israel with the worship of Baal, the sun god, and also the moon god. God raised up King Josiah to reform the children of Israel away from these practices.

\*Sun worship in Roman Catholicism: Though, many Catholics claim that the Roman Catholic church originated from Saint Peter, nowhere in the Bible do we see the practices and teachings of Catholicism being taught by the early church. In contrast, we see many teachings that came in from sun worship and paganism:

1 - Title of Pope: The ancient Egyptians were lead by Pharaoh, who was considered to be the human incarnate of the Sun god Ra. This belief was adopted by the Romans, where the Emperor held the title "Pontifex Maximus", which means the "great bridge builder". This is in reference to being a bridge between God and man, which ultimately, replaces Jesus Christ. This title was eventually adopted by the Roman Catholic Church and given to the Pope.

2 - The Eucharist: The wafer, which is the counterfeit for communion, is shaped like pagan sun disc and is yellow in color as the sun. The priest holds the wafer above his head similar to the pagan Canaanite cultic pillar known as "matstsebah".