

**A Comparison of
Judaism, Christianity, and Islam**
Abrahamic Religions

- **Date and Place founded:**

- Judaism – approximately 1300 B.C. in Palestine

- Some say the date is unknown

- Christianity – approximately 33 A.D. in Palestine

- Islam – 622 A.D. in Saudi Arabia

- **Founders and Early Leaders**
 - Judaism – Abraham and Moses
 - Christianity – Jesus
 - Islam - Muhammad

- **Followers Called:**

- Judaism – **Jews**
- Christianity – **Christians**
- Islam – **Muslims**

- **Clergy Called:**

- Judaism – rabbis
- Christianity – bishop, pastor, ministers, priest
- Islam - imams

- **House of Worship**

- Judaism – synagogue or temple
- Christianity – church, cathedral, chapel
- Islam – mosque

- **Day of Worship**

- Judaism – Saturday
- Christianity – Sunday
- Islam - Friday

- **Original Language**
 - Judaism – Hebrew
 - Christianity – Aramaic and Greek
 - Islam – Arabic

- **Names of God**
 - Judaism – Yahweh and Elohim
 - Christianity – God, the Trinity
 - Islam - Allah

- **Major Locations TODAY**

- Judaism – Europe, Israel, North America

- Christianity – Europe, North and South America

- Islam – Africa, Middle East, and Southeast Asia

- **Early Expansion**

- **Judaism** – Little expansion mostly confined to Israel

- **Christianity** – by the end of the 4th century Christianity spread across the entire Roman Empire

- **Islam** – Within 12 years, entire Arabian peninsula; after 100 years stretched from Spain to Southeast Asia

- **Current Worldwide Followers TODAY**

- Judaism – 14 million (ranks 12th)
- Christianity – 2 billion (ranks 1st)
- Islam – 1.3 billion (ranks 2nd)

- **In the USA**

- Judaism – 5.6 million
- Christianity – 159 million
- Islam – 1.1 million

- **Sacred Texts**

- Judaism – Hebrew Bible

- Christianity – Old Testament and New Testament

- Islam – Qur'an (Koran)

- **Ultimate Reality** (*Type of Theism*)
 - Judaism – One God
 - Christianity – Trinity (God the father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit)
 - Islam – One God

- **Divine Revelation**

How do we know about God?

- Judaism – through prophets recorded in the Hebrew Bible
- Christianity – through prophets and Jesus as recorded in the Old and New Testament
- Islam – through God's final prophet Muhammad recorded in the Qur'an

- **Identity of Jesus**

- Judaism – False prophet

- Christianity – Son of God, the Messiah, Savior

- Islam – prophet of God

- **Death of Jesus**

- Judaism – death by Crucifixion

- Christianity – death by Crucifixion

- Islam – Did not die, but ascended into heaven (a disciple took his place)

- **Resurrection of Jesus**

- Judaism – Denied

- Christianity – Affirmed

- Islam – Denied; since he did not die

- **Means of Salvation**

- Judaism – Belief in one God; good deeds
- Christianity – correct belief, good deeds; by faith accept Christ as Savior (Protestants)
- Islam – Belief in one God; good deeds and follow Five Pillars of Faith

- **Afterlife**

- Judaism – eternal heaven, or no afterlife

- Christianity – eternal heaven

- Islam – eternal paradise (heaven)

- Judaism - eternal hell, or no afterlife

- Christianity – eternal hell

- Islam – eternal hell

- **Symbols**

- Judaism – Star of David

- Christianity – cross

- Islam – crescent with name of Allah in Arabic

