

WORLD RELIGIONS AND CULTS TEST ANSWER KEY

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Lesson 3

Mormonism

(1) What do Mormons think of other churches?

Mormons believe that all other churches are false.

(2) What do Mormons believe about the history of Christianity?

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

(3) Who do Mormons believe Jesus was before his birth?

Mormons believe that Jesus was a spirit, like other angels; he was not God.

(4) What is the ultimate goal of a Mormon?

The ultimate goal of Mormon is to become a god after death.

(5) What is the highest authority for a Mormon?

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

Lesson 4

Jehovah's Witnesses

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

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

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

Jehovah's Witnesses believe that the Holy Spirit is not God, but an impersonal force that comes from God.

(3) What false beliefs about Jesus are taught by the Jehovah's Witnesses?

Jehovah's Witnesses teach that Jesus was the first thing God created, but he was merely a perfect man, and not God.

(4) What do Jehovah's Witnesses believe a person must do to be saved?

Jehovah's Witnesses believe that in order to be saved, a person must join their organization, learn their doctrines, and begin practicing their requirements.

Lesson 5

Iglesia ni Cristo

(1) What is the translated name of Iglesia ni Cristo?

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

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

The doctrine of Iglesia ni Cristo is very similar to that of Jehovah's Witnesses.

(3) What is the most important belief of Iglesia ni Cristo?

The most important belief of Iglesia is that it is the true church, restored by Felix Manalo.

(4) What does Iglesia ni Cristo teach about Jesus?

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

(5) According to Iglesia ni Cristo, what two things must a person do to be saved?

According to Iglesia ni Cristo, a person must join the church and keep the church's requirements in order to be saved.

Lesson 6

Eastern Lightning

(1) What is the official name of the cult called Eastern Lightning?

Eastern Lightning is called "Church of Almighty God."

(2) What does Eastern Lightning teach about Jesus?

Eastern Lightning teaches that the name of Jesus is now obsolete and powerless, and that Deng is now the Christ.

(3) According to Eastern Lightning, how is a person saved?

According to Eastern Lightning a person must give up his faith in Jesus and instead follow Deng, the female Christ.

Lesson 7

Prosperity Theology

(1) What do prosperity theology preachers emphasize in their teaching about faith?

Prosperity theology preachers emphasize that every person can have health and wealth if he learns how to use faith.

(2) What is faith, according to prosperity theology?

According to prosperity theology, faith is the impersonal power and substance of the universe.

(3) Who is God, according to prosperity theology?

According to prosperity theology, God is a physical man.

(4) According to prosperity theology, what are people?

According to prosperity theology, people are copies of God.

Lesson 8

Apocalyptic Cults

(1) How do apocalyptic cults try to meet people's emotional and spiritual needs?

Apocalyptic cults try to meet people's needs by explaining the condition of the world and what we should be doing to prepare.

(2) How do apocalyptic cults misuse the Bible?

Apocalyptic cults misuse the Bible by depending on new revelation to add meaning to the Bible.

(3) What is the great theme of prophetic scriptures from the Bible?

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

(4) How are apocalyptic cults destructive?

The apocalyptic cults take people from Christian churches to false doctrine, participate in unchristian behavior, disappoint the faith of their followers, and cause people to doubt the scripture.

Lesson 9

Hinduism

(1) What is Brahman, according to Hindus?

Hindus believe Brahman is the soul or essential self in every living thing.

(2) How is the moral character of the gods of Hinduism different than the moral character of the one true God?

The gods of Hinduism do both good and evil.

(3) What is the ultimate goal of a Hindu?

The Hindu's ultimate goal is to find release from the cycle of reincarnation in an eternal condition called nirvana.

(4) What is the Hindu view of Jesus?

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

Lesson 10

Buddhism

(1) Name and define the ultimate goal of the Buddhist.

The Buddhist's ultimate goal is to enter nirvana, which means nothingness, the end of self.

(2) What do Buddhists believe in instead of God?

Buddhists believe in an ultimate reality that is the total of everything that exists.

(3) What explanation do Buddhists have for suffering in life?

Suffering is the result of desires.

(4) Why do Buddhists practice mental and spiritual exercises?

The Buddhist practices mental and spiritual exercises to help him move from self-centeredness.

Lesson 11

Taoism

(1) To whom do Taoists pray?

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

(2) Who are the supreme gods in Taoism?

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

(3) What is the goal of the Taoist?

The Taoist wants to bring himself into harmony with the forces of the universe, in order to improve his health and lengthen his life.

(4) According to Taoism, who is Jesus?

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

Lesson 12

Islam

(1) Name the god, the prophet, and the holy book of Islam.

- Allah is the god of Islam.
- Muhammad is the prophet of Allah.
- The Koran is the holy book of Islam.

(2) What false beliefs about Jesus do Muslims hold?

Muslims do not believe that Jesus was the Son of God or an incarnation of God, and they deny that Jesus is the Savior of the world.

(3) What do Muslims believe about the Bible?

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

(4) What do Muslims believe about salvation?

Muslims believe that salvation is earned by fulfilling the requirements (the Five Pillars) of Islam.

Lesson 13

Judaism

(1) What scriptures do Judaism and Christianity have in common?

Judaism and Christianity both believe in the Old Testament scriptures.

(2) Who was Jesus, according to Judaism?

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

(3) What kind of Messiah is expected by Judaism?

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

(4) What is the concept of salvation in Judaism?

Judaism views salvation as deliverance from situations of oppression or conditions that keep them from serving God as they should.

Lesson 14

New Age Religion

(1) How do New Agers view other religions?

New Agers tolerate any religious group except those that claim to have truth that everyone should believe.

(2) What is the New Age concept of God?

The New Age concept of God is pantheistic.

(3) How do New Age followers interact with the supernatural?

New Age followers interact with the supernatural using all forms of magic.

(4) What do New Age followers believe about Jesus?

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

(5) What do New Age followers believe about sin?

New Age followers do not believe in the reality of sin, because they do not believe in a God who sets a standard and judges.

(6) What do New Age followers believe about salvation?

New Age followers reject the biblical concept of salvation, and believe the solution to human problems is development of spiritual awareness and spiritual powers.

Lesson 15

Animism

(1) Are animistic beliefs restricted to one particular religion? Explain.

No. Many animistic beliefs and practices can be found among worshippers in other major world religions including Hinduism, Buddhism, Voodooism, and Roman Catholicism.

(2) How do animists interact with spirits?

Animists interact with spirits using special words, items, or actions.

(3) Why do animists not pray to God?

Animists do not pray to God because they do not think that contact with him is possible.

(4) What is a superstition?

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

(5) Why is a Christian not bound by superstition?

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

Lesson 16

Voodoo

(1) Whom do Voodoo practitioners worship?

Voodoo practitioners worship Satan and evil spirits.

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

The Voodoo worshipper tries to become possessed by a spirit.

(3) From what church does the Voodoo religion borrow rituals, images, and saint names?

Voodoo borrows rituals, images, and saint names from the Roman Catholic Church.

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

Answers should include some of the following:

Voodoo worshippers use

- Animal sacrifices
- Dances
- Songs
- Prayers
- Food
- Drawn diagrams
- Snakes
- White clothing
- Face paint

in their worship ceremonies.

Lesson 17

Understanding Seventh-Day Adventism

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

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

(2) What is the Adventist view of God?

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

(3) What is the Adventist view of salvation?

Adventists believe in salvation by grace through faith, not by good works.

(4) What do Adventists believe will happen to people at the resurrection?

Adventists believe that at the resurrection all those who are saved will receive eternal life, while those who are not saved will be judged and destroyed in the lake of fire.

Lesson 18

Understanding Roman Catholicism

(1) What does Roman Catholicism claim with its name?

Roman Catholicism claims to be the complete, universal church.

(2) Why are Roman Catholics accused of idolatry?

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

(3) What do Roman Catholics believe about God?

Roman Catholics believe in the Trinity, the deity, death, burial & bodily resurrection of Christ and the deity of the Holy Spirit.

(4) What is the Roman Catholic view of salvation?

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

(5) What is the Roman Catholic doctrine of purgatory?

The Roman Catholic doctrine of purgatory is that after death a person must suffer punishment for sins before entering heaven.

Lesson 19

Understanding Eastern Orthodoxy

(1) What does the name of the Eastern Orthodox Church claim?

The word *Orthodox* means right worship, and shows that the Eastern Orthodox Church claims to be the church that worships God properly.

(2) What is the Eastern Orthodox Church's view of God?

The Eastern Orthodox Church believes in the Trinity and in the deity of Christ and the Holy Spirit.

(3) Why do followers of Eastern Orthodoxy pray to saints?

Many followers of Eastern Orthodoxy consider God, and even Jesus, distant and unconcerned about them, so they pray to saints instead.

(4) What does the Eastern Orthodox Church teach about the Bible?

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

(5) According to the teaching of Eastern Orthodoxy what happens in *theosis*?

According to Eastern Orthodoxy, in *theosis* a believer is gradually transformed to become like God, having his same nature of holy perfection.

Lesson 20

Understanding United Pentecostalism

(1) What is the United Pentecostal view of Jesus?

United Pentecostals believe that Jesus is the same person as God the Father, therefore they believe in the deity of Christ.

(2) According to the United Pentecostals, what things must happen for a person to be saved?

According to United Pentecostals, to be saved a person must be filled with the Spirit, speak in tongues, and be baptized in the name of Jesus (not the Trinity).

(3) What do United Pentecostals believe about Christian living?

United Pentecostals believe that a Christian will live a life of victory over sin by the power of the Holy Spirit.

(4) What do United Pentecostals believe about the Bible?

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