# Science: The Religion of Humanity

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## Introduction

The quest for the one true God has captivated the prophets of Judaism, Christianity and Islam. There was a widespread belief that there were many gods that would govern humanity in ancient times. Some did not believe in God or gods at all. There was a polytheistic attitude that it would be impossible to live with on true God. This thinking insulted the early prophets. They believed that a relationship and interaction with one God should be accepted by the masses. These men, Moses, Jesus Christ and Muhammad, believed that they could receive messages from a one true God. They also believed that they could talk to their followers by representing the one true God. Jews would call God Yahweh. Christians would speak of God when talking about the higher power. Muslims call the one true God "Allah." Their concepts were different but they all agreed on one basic belief for their messages, the one true God is the only God. This paper examines the goals, activities and motivations of the three great Prophets. They all had a beautiful message for all of us. We are a better human race thanks to the devotion of these men to the principle of uniting Humanity with God. This paper examines Judaism, Christianity and Islam from a modern, scientific perspective.

### Part 1:

## The Prophets

## What is a Prophet?

A prophet refers to a person who serves as a go-between between God and persons who are detached from God. Such a person can receive and send messages to and from God himself. Such individuals are given a mission by God to serve some purpose that will further God's relationship with humanity. Ancient prophets dealt with entire populations of people that did not believe in God at all. This represented a total detachment from God. This detachment is considered to be evil and detrimental to the ability of humanity to survive and to conceive life. Prophets always talk about reaching God and serving his dream of conceiving and supporting life to the masses of people.

### The Prophet Moses

Moses recognized that the descendents of Abraham, the Jewish people, could be the first family on the Earth to recognize the existence of the One True God. He believed that he could directly communicate with God. He also believed that he could follow God's guidance to deliver the Jewish People to the Promised Land. This would be God's reward to the Jews for recognizing His existence as the One True God. They would reject the worship of idols and false gods ahead of all the peoples of the Earth. Moses would call the Jewish People as God's Chosen People for this purpose. Moses was a true servant of God who helped to found the Nation of Israel.

## The Prophet Jesus Christ

Jesus Christ was a Jewish rabbi with a combination of a Latin and Greek name. He felt that he was chosen to represent God to a population of Roman citizens that believed in the false gods of Rome and Athens. He believed that he was the Son of God which was a designation that was rejected by most Jewish leaders. His message could have been directed to the Jewish people but it was most likely meant for persons who were polytheists who rejected the existence of the One True God. He believed that he was on a mission to convert Roman citizens to the Jewish concept of a One True God. He would perform miracles because he felt that it would be the only way that his message would be taken seriously. Most people would now agree that there is only one God.

The Holy Spirit was a partnership between God and Jesus Christ that would make Christ's missions a reality. The exact substance of the Holy Spirit was never completely identified in the scriptures. It is imperative that most people would try to investigate the substance of the Holy Spirit when they try to identify the source of his message and healing powers. The Holy Spirit may have helped Jesus Christ to found medical science by proving to be a healing power for his followers. The Holy Spirit may have also helped Jesus to have come back to life after his crucifixion.

He may have been executed because his message would cause most Roman citizens to believe in the One True God rather than in the false gods of Rome and Athens. Such monotheistic thinking was illegal in the Roman Empire. Individuals who would reject polytheism would be put to death under Roman law. The Jewish religious leaders, on the other hand, believed that their relationship with the One True God was exclusive to them and was none of anyone's business. The fact that Jesus could not understand this was irritating to the Jewish religious leaders in the Holy Land at the time. This may be why the Jewish people may have supported his crucifixion.

Jesus Christ is still a fascinating prophet to most people. His effect on the world may be evident forever. His message still touches billions of people. Many pray because of his message. He taught people how to talk to God in a constructive manner that would accomplish a goal. He also taught about forgiveness for others and by God. Most of his followers finally accepted the existence of the One True God in the hundreds of years after his death. His legacy will remain for all of eternity.

### The Prophet Mohammed

Mohammed was also one of the greatest prophets of the ancient era. He believed that he was sent by God, which he called Allah, to teach his followers about the existence of the One True God. He practiced and preached monotheism to all of his followers. His followers did not necessarily believe in false gods. They may have had a nomadic atheistic attitude which may have represented a detachment from God. He rejected polytheism. He taught his followers to be devoted to Allah and to worship him on a daily basis.

Mohammed may have had a way to communicate with God that fascinated his followers. He mainly concentrated on a ministry in the Arabian Peninsula and in other areas of what is now known as the Middle East. He may have been influenced by Moses and Jesus Christ. The belief of his followers was that Jesus was a prophet who was not necessarily the Son of God in and of himself.

Mohammed founded Islam. This religion is still alien to the western world. Islam is a message that is directed to hundreds of millions of people throughout the world. His legacy still affects all Christians and Jews to this day. He believed in the goodness of the Arabian peoples. He believed in the potential of the Middle East when they would study Islam and his message.

The modern-day followers of Mohammed are discouraged by a wide-spread belief that Muslims have a propensity for violence. This is not true of all of Mohammed's followers in the modern world. It is important for governments to understand that forgiveness of the actions of a few Muslims who might embrace the destruction of life is not indicative of the intentions of Muslims as a whole. Mohammed did not embrace violence or the destruction of life. We all hope that a new era of cooperation between Christians, Jews and Muslims will honor his legacy and the legacies of all of the ancient prophets. We should all pray that Mohammed's message will contribute to a constructive dialogue between all peoples that deal with the Middle East.

## Part 2

## The Holy Cities

### What is a Holy City?

A Holy City is a birthplace of humanity's relationship with God. It is a place where human beings can talk, find and care about God. It is a place that has the status to be recognized as a place of worship God as if he were holding hands with him. The history of a Holy City can identify the One True God's true affections and intentions toward human beings. We can all feel God's true nature, goodness and grace when thinking about and visiting a Holy City. God lives within such cities and lives within the hearts of people that visit the Holy Cites.

#### Jerusalem

Jerusalem is a Holy City that was the capital of the Jew's Holy Land. The Holy Land was promised to the Jews in exchange for their unequivocal acceptance of the One True God. God and Moses delivered the Jews from captivity in Egypt to settle in what would become Israel. The Jews may have been the first peoples to believe in the existence of the One True God. This may be why they are referred to as the God's Chosen People. The history of Jerusalem is full of conflict, intrigue and mystery. God's spirit lives there for the entire world to see.

#### Rome

Rome used to be a city that whose population would worship the false gods of Rome and Athens. It later became the capital of the Holy Roman Empire and was converted into a city that accepted and would worship the One True God. Rome recognizes the beauty of Jesus Christ's message of repentance and devotion to God. The conflicts in Europe continued through the Middle Ages. Rome stands out as a city that is a home of God and of Europe's salvation from the evil of humanity's false gods. The beauty of Rome is a center of devotion to Christ's message of forgiveness and brotherhood and sisterhood of all mankind. Rome is a city that respects the Holy Land and will always fight to make sure that all human beings will remember the sins of the past and the joy of God's vision of Humanity for the future.

#### Месса

Mohammed and the early Islamic leaders envisioned creating a city that would be the home of God in the Middle East and throughout the world. This city would be beautiful, delightful and majestic. The dream of Muslins is to visit a city where they will come face to face with Allah, the One True God. Mecca represents one of the birthplaces of Humanity's relationship with God. It is a center where God lives and communicates with Mohammed's followers throughout the world. It is the hope of all Muslims that Mecca will be preserved forever as a centerpiece that will represent Allah's unending affection and gratefulness for the love that all Muslims share for him. The One True God lives in this city and the light from this city can be seen all over the world by Muslims and by peoples of all faiths.

## Part 3

## **Religious Laws and Doctrines**

### The Ten Commandments

The Ten Commandments spelled out the ground rules for living in an unending relationship with God. The Commandments allow Jews, Christians and Muslims to understand the behaviors that offend God and that can damage or even destroy one's relationship with God and society.

The Commandments specify violations that represent violations with humanity's efforts to destroy and damage life. It is, to this day, illegal to kill or murder human beings. The destruction of human life impairs God's ability to conceive human life. It ruptures the ability that God has to maintain human life in the universe. The Commandments make it perfectly clear that there would be grave consequences for anyone who tries to destroy life.

Worshiping idols or Satan can be catastrophic to God's relationships with humanity. The commandments make it clear that God will not tolerate polytheism or occult worship or rituals. God doesn't want his name to be demeaned by derogatory and profane spoken references to his name or to the names of any of his prophets.

Adultery and perjury against the truth about others remain crimes in most societies to this day. Having an affair while married is unacceptable behavior toward God. Perjury against others is also illegal. Lying about one's acquaintances can carry very grave consequences.

Stealing is still illegal in most societies. It is a crime that violates the ability of humanity to provide a safe and productive upbringing to kids. It also robs people of their ability to support themselves. It can damage a society as a whole by causing its economy to disintegrate.

God has special laws that are observed by all societies to this day. God will bring human beings to justice when they believe that they can destroy life for whatever reasons that they may have. God's ability to conceive and to reproduce human life is destroyed when human life is destroyed. Countless children fail to be born while countless children live without parents, grandparents, spouses or other family members are absent because their lives have been destroyed.

Obeying God's laws is the first step to achieving everlasting life and peace with the universe. We may achieve tranquility or lose our world, one way or the other.

### The Five Pillars of Faith

The First Pillar of Faith is a simple statement that the One True God is called Allah and Islam's prophet is Muhammad. This is consistent with the Jewish and Christian belief in the existence of One True God. The name is different than Yahweh for Jews and God for Christians. It is important to recognize prophets in all religions. The early Muslims also recognized prophets other that Muhammad which belonged to the Jewish and Christian faiths. Muhammad is the prophet that introduced Arabians to their concept of God.

The Second Pillar is the Muslim ritual of performing five prayers everyday. All Jews, Christians and Muslims have found ways to talk to God. Muslims are very committed to talking to God. Talking to God helps all of us in daily life. It gives God a chance to understand our concerns and our need for his help and guidance. Judaism, Christianity and Islam are similar in their beliefs about the power of daily prayer and worship.

The Third Pillar is a commitment to fast from dusk to dawn during the Holy Month of Ramadan. The idea of sacrificing the need to eat is a sacrifice that allows Muslims to show affection and respect for God. They feel that it is their duty to give up the daily functions of living during Ramadan as a show of love and admiration for Allah. Jews and Christians may also have fasting rituals but not to the extent of Ramadan.

The Fourth Pillar is for Muslims to pay taxes on crops during the year. Jews and Christians also must pay taxes to the government. This practice may indicate an early effort by Muhammad and his early followers to begin to build a government in the Arabian Peninsula and Persia. Muslims are required to support their governments through taxes. This may have been a progression away from an existence of nomadic tribes that were scattered all over the Middle East. It may have been important for early Muslims to prepare for the eventuality of governmental unification.

The Fifth Pillar requires a commitment by Muslims to engage in a pilgrimage to Mecca, The Hajj, at least once in a lifetime. It is of vital importance to see the beauty of Mecca and to experience a face-to-face encounter with God. It is an expensive ritual but Christian transportation systems and communication devices make this goal realizable for Muslims all over the world.

## **Holidays and Rituals**

## The Jewish Holidays

The most notable Jewish Holidays are Passover, Chanukah and Yom Kippur, Passover celebrates the event that led to the deliverance of the Jews from Captivity in Egypt. They then were led to the Promised Land by Moses and his followers.

Chanukah celebrates the miracle in which a Menorah, eight lighted candles, could stay burning for eight days with only enough oil to be lit for one day during the celebration of the rededication of the Temple in Jerusalem in  $2^{nd}$  century B.C.

Yom Kippur is a Holy Celebration where the Jews seek exoneration and repentance for crimes and sins that they have committed against God and humanity. They seek total forgiveness from God and the human race.

## The Christian Holidays

The most notable Christian holidays are Christmas, Easter Sunday and Ascension Day.

Christmas celebrates the birth of Jesus Christ. The story behind the birth claims that Mary, the mother of Jesus, was a virgin at the time of conception. The Bible does not specifically mention the process by which Jesus was conceived. This is a problem for Jews and Muslims because it seems highly unlikely that the birth happened without out some scientific reproductive process that had to have taken place to produce the pregnancy. Such an event has not been replicated since then. It was a mysterious birth that would change the world forever. The birth of Jesus Christ marked a turning point in humanity's relationship with God.

Easter Sunday celebrates the resurrection of Jesus Christ after being crucified by the Roman Empire and Israel. It seems unlikely that anyone could execute a prophet of this nature without some divine response from God and the Holy Spirit. The exact process of how to bring a crucified man back to life in three days has been a subconscious mystery for all Christians, Jews and Muslims. The intervention of the Holy Spirit in the resurrection process sent a strong message that destroying part of God is impossible.

Ascension Day celebrates the Ascension of Jesus Christ to heaven. It is a mystery as to how a man can be lifted into the clouds only to disappear forever. The mystery and intrigue of the Ascension has and will captivate Christians, Jews and Muslims for all of eternity. Part 5

## Conclusion

Christianity, Judaism and Islam affirm the existence of the One True God. The three great prophets, Moses, Jesus Christ and Mohammad taught us how to love God, to respect God and to find God.

The destruction of human life injures God and Humanity. God is the force that keeps us in existence. He brought us into the world. All happiness and goodness comes from God.

The Great Prophets understood that Humanity must have a relationship with our Creator. The introduced us to methods by which we could talk to God. They taught us the Laws of God.

We can better understand God thought Science. We study life and his creations by engaging in scientific research and endeavors. Scientists need the support of God and of Humanity to fulfill their commitment to building a new and lasting relationship with God and His Universe.

Science makes Earth a better place to live. Science helps us to work with God and to find him through His creations. We should all pray for peace in the Middle East and throughout the world. We must look to God for the strength to find tranquility in the face of war and bloodshed.

God loves us. He loves the world's religious leaders. He also loves Science. We will find God. God will also find us.