

9-3

World History

9-3 Belief Systems STUDY GUIDE - Mr. George

Terms to Know:

Abraham	samsara	Legalism
Moses	deities	Polytheism
Jesus	Brahma	Buddha
Paul	Vishnu	enlightenment
caste system	Shiva	Socrates
Purusha (levels of caste system)	Vedas	Plato
Untouchables	Nirvana	Aristotle
brahman	Siddhartha Guatama	myth
atman	Buddhism	Torah
moksha	Socrates	Great Wall of China
reincarnation	Plato	Four Noble Truths
karma	Aristotle	Eightfold Path
dharma	Confucius	Covenant
	Daoism	monotheism

Ethical/Belief Systems (Textbook pages):

- Judaism (pages 77-82)
- Christianity (pages 168-172)
- Hinduism & Buddhism (page 66-71)
- Greek philosophers (pages 138-139)
- Confucianism, Legalism and Daoism (pages 104-109)

Key Concepts:

- Address the question: Why is there so much suffering in the world?
- Compare and contrast (Describe the similarities and differences between) Judaism and Christianity
- Compare and contrast (Describe the similarities and differences between) the theories of Socrates, Plato and Aristotle
- Compare and contrast (Describe the similarities and differences between) Confucianism, Legalism and Daoism

You should be able to answer, *in your own words*:

- How did the caste system reflect Hindu beliefs?
- What were the major characteristics of Hinduism and Buddhism?
- Compare and contrast Hinduism and Buddhism.
- How has religion and philosophies evolved since the early river valley civilizations?
- Compare and contrast Chinese philosophy (east) and Greek philosophy (west)

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THE ORIGINS OF JUDAISM

TIMELINE



Using Ch. 3-4, complete the timeline.

1800 B.C.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - _____ "father of the Hebrew people" lived in the city of ___ in Mesopotamia -God commanded Abraham to move his people to land of _____
1650 B.C.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Descendants of Abraham moved to Egypt due to a _____ -first given place of _____ in Egypt -forced into _____ in Egypt
1300-1200 B.C.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - _____ fled Egypt, known as _____, led by _____ -Moses climbs Mt. _____ to pray -spoke with _____ -brought down _____ - _____ = agreement between God and Hebrews -God promised to protect Hebrews -Hebrews promise to keep God's Commandments
1160 B.C.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Wandered desert for _____ and returned to Canaan -Organized into _____
1020-922 B.C.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Only 1 tribe remained = _____ (Jews, Judaism) -New Kingdom = _____ = greatest period of power and independence -Kings = Saul, _____, Solomon -David = names _____ the capital -Solomon = built great _____ = costly
922 B.C.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Kingdom divides _____ -Israel = _____ - _____ = _____
738 B.C.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Israel and Judah paid _____ (peace money) to _____
722 B.C.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Israel conquered by Assyrians
586 B.C.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - _____ captured Israel and Judah -Solomon's Temple was destroyed
539 B.C.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - _____ of Persia conquered Babylon -40,000 exiles allowed to return to Jerusalem -rebuilt temple

	Judaism	Christianity
What do the followers believe?		
What are the basic principles/goals?		
Holy Book?		
What rituals are performed by each religion?		
What are the main sects of each religion?		
What does each religion consider the holiest city?		

HINDUISM AND BUDDHISM

Hinduism	Founder/Origins	Buddhism
	Key Beliefs	
	Gods	
	Sacred Literature	
	Effect on Society	

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CHINESE PHILOSOPHY

	Confucianism	Daoism	Legalism
Founder			
Core Beliefs			
Ideas on Government			
Influential Writings			
Key Terms			

THE CASTE SYSTEM

Caste is the system of social organization. Each person is born into a caste and expects to be reborn after death into a higher caste. Socially mobile Westerners may have difficulty understanding why a person would accept caste. Hindus, with their sense of security, occupation continuity, and guarantee of rebirth to a higher plane, wonder at Westerners' discontent and ambition. Restrictions on caste involve regulation on cooking and dining, marriage, occupation and social position. These help to maintain the mosaic that is India, but they foster stagnation. Read the following Bronze Age Vedic poem on the origin of the castes.

When the [the gods] divided the Man,
Into how many parts did they divide him?
What was his mouth, what were his arms,
What were his thighs and his feet called?
The brahman [priest] was his mouth,
Of his arms was made the warrior,
His thighs became the vaishya [farmer or merchant]
Of his feet the shudra [servant] was born.

This poem demonstrates two aspects of the Indian caste system. First, that it appears to be divinely ordered and is therefore acceptable; secondly, that all parts of the caste are integral parts of the man—Indian society.

Another group, the pariah or untouchables, were considered to be ritually unclean because they held occupations which were religiously improper, i.e., slaughtering animals, cutting hair, cleaning up streets and human excrement, etc. These persons were considered necessary to society, but outside the bounds of the caste system. All persons, however, would be reborn again and again and all would rise up through the levels of society and eventually become pure enough to enter paradise. The lower one was in the caste system, the less expected of them regarding behavior.

Directions: Fill in as many advantages and disadvantages of the caste system that you can think of.

Caste System

Advantages	Disadvantages

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