

Mohammad

Many moral struggles

Violated his own teaching (exceeding # of wives)

Changed his own teaching mid stream

Jesus

Perfect

3. Miracles

Confucius - none

Buddha - none

Mohammad - none

Jesus - many

Not “if”, but “how”

4. Prophetic Power

Confucius - none

Buddha - none

Mohammad - few

Jesus - constantly

5. Present Status

WHAT ABOUT OTHER RELIGIONS?

8 PRIMARY QUESTIONS SERIES

Randy Pope

Options

1. None Are Correct

(No way to God)

2. All Are Correct

(Yet they contradict each other)

3. Only One Is Correct

Recommendation for Investigation

1. Pick the religions and their leaders which you think have the most merit,

Confucianism (Confucius)
Buddhism (Siddhartha Guantama)
Islam (Mohammad)
Christianity (Jesus)

2. Pick a handful of the most critical evaluative issues and do a comparative study,

Teachings
Moral Life
Miracles
Prophetic Power
Present Status

Religions and Their Leaders

1. Confucianism (Confucius)

From China
551 B.C. – 479 B.C.
Largest following at one time = 300 million
Only 6 million now

2. Buddhism (Buddha)

Siddhartha Guantama
From India

563 B.C. – 483 B.C.
360 million followers

3. Islam (Mohammad)

570 A.D.
1.2 billion followers

4. Christianity (Jesus)

2 billion followers

*Note: Hinduism is not included because:

no central leader associated
no single God represented
some consider it a social system more than a religion

Areas of Contrast

1. Teaching

Confucius
“Analects”
Wisdom editor only
Buddha
Four Noble Truths (taken from Hinduism)
First writing 400 years later (oral tradition)
“Scholars are increasingly reluctant to make unqualified claims about the historical facts of the Buddha’s life & teachings”
–Wikipedia
Mohammad
Koran
Jesus

Old Testament & New Testament Of The Bible

2. Moral Life

Confucius
Good, but not perfect
Buddha
Good, but not perfect