COMPARATIVE RELIGION
Christianity vs. Other Faiths

New Beginnings Christian Fellowship * Bible Study * Lesson One

TEACHERS: Dec. Clarence Williams

REFERENCES:

• * The Holy Bible
• Living What You Believe; Kenneth Boa & William Kruidenier
• * The Kingdom of the Cults; by Dr. Walter Martin
• * Fast Facts on False Teaching; (Mormonism, Jehovah’s Witnesses, New Age, Evolution, Islam and many more.
• * Answering Islam; Dr. Norman Geisler & Abdul Saleeb
• The Islamic Invasion; Robert Morey
• * Charts of Cults, Sects, and Religious Movements; Dr H. Wayne House
• Charts of Christian Theology and Doctrine; Dr. H. Wayne House
• * Redi-Answers on Jehovah’s Witnesses Doctrine; Erich & Jean Grieshaber
• * Expose’ of Jehovah’s Witnesses; ; Erich & Jean Grieshaber
• * Jehovah’s Witnesses, Jesus Christ, and the Gospel of John; Robert Bowman, Jr.
• Why you should Believe in the Trinity (An Answer to Jehovah’s Witnesses; Robert Bowman, Jr.
• How to rescue Your Loved One from the Watch Tower; David A. Reed
• The Maze of Mormonism; Dr. Walter Martin
• The God Makers II (Mormonism); Ed Decker & Caryl Matrisciana
• * Website: Christian Apologetics & Research Ministries www.carm.org
• * Website: Probe Ministries www.probe.org - info@probe.org
• * Website; Christian Research Institute (CRI) www.equip.org
• DVD; DNA vs. The Book of Mormon; 2003 Living Hope Ministries, www.lhvm.org
• * DVD; The Bible vs. the Book of Mormon; LHM, www.lhvm.org

Reference book and websites with (*) are recommended

INTRODUCTION:
This class will be a study in comparative religions. We will examine and compare Christianity with three religious organizations that we commonly interact with, such as Jehovah Witnesses, Mormonism and Islam.

NOTE:
We can see in everyday life that Christians and the Christian Church is under attack. Remember 2-PETER 2: 1, “But there were also false prophets among the people, just as
there will be False Teachers among you, they will secretly introduce destructive heresies, even denying the sovereign Lord who brought them, bringing swift destruction on themselves”. Our hope and prayer is that everyone who takes this class or study this outline will be better equipped to defend the faith and better represent the Kingdom of Heaven.

Before we can effectively study other religions and their beliefs it is imperative that we know what we believe as Christians and why we believe it. ALL Christians need to be able to “contend for the faith that was once given to the saints”. (JUDE 1:3b)

PART ONE
ANSWERS BEFORE THE QUESTIONS

WHAT WE BELIEVE AS CHRISTIANS:
I believe there are at least seven things that every true Christian MUST believe to be saved. You should know at least one scripture that supports your belief about each of these facts.

1. We believe in the VIRGIN BIRTH of Jesus the Christ

   ISA 7:14, …The Lord Himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son and His name shall be call Immanuel.

   MATT 1:23, Behold a Virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a Son, and they shall call His name Emmanuel, being interpreted is, God with us.

   JOHN 1:14, …. And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us…. 

2. We believe that JESUS IS GOD. (that the Father and Holy Spirit is also God, we believe in the Trinity)

   JOHN 1:1 & 14, In the beginning was the Word (Jesus) and the Word (Jesus) was with God and the Word (Jesus) was God.

   JOHN 1:14, And the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us

   JOHN 10:30, I and my Father are one

   ACTS 5:3-4, Ananias and Sapphira lied about their money, to the Holy Ghost / they had not lied to man but to God. (the Holy Ghost)

   JOHN 8:24, If you believe not that I am He, you shall die in your sins.
3. We believe that Jesus **DIED FOR OUR SINS**:

   **JOHN 1:29**, …. Behold the Lamb of God which taketh away the sins of the world

   **JOHN 3:16**, For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son….

   **ROM 5:8 (NIV)**, But God demonstrated His love for us in this. While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

4. We believe that Jesus **PHYSICALLY ROSE** from the dead

   **JOHN 2:18-22**, Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up again.  (v-21)
   He spoke of the **temple of his body**.

   **LUKE 24:17-53**, (The Emmaus road experience) Jesus walked and talked with them after the resurrection as they walked down the Emmaus road…. After He convince them that He had risen from the dead, He ascended into heaven.

   **1-COR 15:1-4**, Christ died for our sins… Rose again on the third day…

5. We believe that Jesus is the **ONLY WAY** to the **Father**

   **JOHN 14:6 (NIV)**, *Jesus said*, I am the way the truth and the Life, no one comes to the Father except through Me.

   **ACTS 4:12 (NIV)**, Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved.

6. We believe that we are **SAVED BY GRACE**

   **EPH 2:8-10**, For by grace we are saved through faith and that not of yourself; it’s the gift of God, lest any man should boast….. Created to do good works.

   **JOHN 1:17**, For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.

7. We believe that Jesus came to earth and He is **COMING BACK AGAIN**.

   **JOHN 14:1-3**, Let not your heart be troubled…. I’m going to prepare a place for you… and **I will come again** to receive you to myself.

   **MATT 24:30-42**, Jesus shall come in the clouds with power and glory… (V-36) no one knows the day or the hour… (V-42) Watch therefore since no one knows when

   **ACTS 1:11**, After Jesus had spoken to them about receiving the power of the Holy
Ghost… He was taken up into heaven on a cloud… They stood there gazing up and were told “This same Jesus that was taken up into heaven, will come back in the same way as you have seen Him go in Heaven”.

1-THES 4:15-18, “This we say unto you by the word of the Lord”……. The Lord Himself shall descend from heaven…. Comfort one another with these words.