

Belief System	Christianity	Judaism	Islam	Mormonism
Primary Founder	Jesus Christ, however he was the culmination of the promise begun in Genesis	Abraham	Abraham, Mohammed	Joseph Smith
God	One, eternal, Triune, righteous, wise, loving, merciful	One, eternal, just	Allah, one, eternal	Once a man, who later became a god. Not the Trinity.
Man	Sinful, but valuable to God	Basically good with “flaws,” learns through suffering. Born pure.	Basically good	People will become gods who will be worshiped.
Scripture	The Bible—inspired and infallible	The Torah (The Old Testament)	The Koran	Book of Mormon, the Pearl of Great Price, and The Bible
Jesus Christ	Fully God, fully man, deity	Ignored, distorted, or “respectfully rejected” God shares his glory with no one	A prophet, a man, not the Son of God	An “elder brother” who became a god—separate from God. Also the brother of Lucifer.
Life’s Purpose	To know God through a relationship with Jesus Christ and help others do the same	To love God and try to do good.	To submit to Allah	To be part of the “one true Church” - the LDS Church
Salvation	Through faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. By grace, not by works.	Atonement is the process of seeking forgiveness and reconciliation with God. Prayer, repentance and following the Law.	Balance between good and bad deeds determine where you go. Allah’s grace might intervene	Resurrected by Grace, but saved by works. No eternal life without Mormon membership. God’s grace and man’s works.
Heaven	Place of eternal joy for those who have received God’s gift of salvation in Jesus.	If there is one, we’ll all be there. After purging in Sheol, souls go to heaven.	For those chosen by Allah	Planet Kolob: celestial kingdom; terrestrial kingdom; telestial kingdom.
Hell	Place of eternal torment for those who have rejected God’s love.	For Evil People. Temporary for most souls	For those rejected by Allah and temporarily for those who have sinned	No real hell, just lower levels of heave.
Other Beliefs	Group worship, Baptism, and Lord’s Supper. No secret rites.	Festivals include: Passover, Sukkoth, Hanukkah, Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur and Purim. Jerusalem is considered the holy city. Not evangelistic—makes no effort to convert people.	5 Pillars: 1. Confess that Allah is God and Muhammad is his prophet. 2. Pray 5 times/day facing Mecca. 3. Give Alms (money). 4. Fast during Ramadan. 5. Make a pilgrimage to Mecca ones in a lifetime.	No alcohol, tobacco, coffee or tea. Baptism on behalf of the dead. 2 year missionary commitment encouraged. Secret rituals available only to members in good standing.

Belief System	Jehovah's Witnesses	Hinduism	Buddhism	New Age/ "Spirituality"
Primary Founder	Charles Russell	No one founder	Siddhartha Gautama	1960's culture (Borrowed aspects of world religions)
God	Jehovah, but no at all like the God of the Bible. Father to mankind, but not to Jesus	Thirty-three million gods. Brahmin is the supreme god	No God, only "Divine Consciousness"	Singular spirit, multitude of spirits or nothing at all.
Man	Basically good, spiritual needs can be earned All do not <i>have</i> souls but <i>are</i> souls	Part of god (Brahmin, the main god)	Good, part of god, though god doesn't really exist	Good, even divine, part of God
Scripture	Jehovah's Witness' version of the Bible only. <i>Watchtower</i> and certain other publications	The Vedas	The Tripitaka (3 Baskets), Four Noble Truths and the Eight-Fold Path	No one authoritative book
Jesus Christ	First perfect human who gave up his life. First coming was physical, second coming was spiritual	Real person who achieved "oneness" - distorted view	An avatar, shaman, mystic	Didn't exist or if he did was only a man
Life's Purpose	To win others to the Jehovah's Witnesses faith and thereby earn heaven	To work out bad karma through knowledge, devotion or good deeds	Enlightenment	To gain power, self-realization, godhood
Salvation	Be baptized as Jehovah's Witnesses. Earned through "door-to-door work". Only for 144,000	Release from bad karma into higher and higher levels of existence until united with Brahmin in nirvana		Need to offset bad karma
Heaven	For 144,000 faithful Jehovah's Witnesses	Nirvana, where you are <i>muktil free from all desires</i>	Emptiness, the end of consciousness, thought ceases.	None; ion the mind; here on earth
Hell	No hell—Annihilation	Here on earth, being trapped in reincarnations.	No such thing as sin, so no need for punishment	None; or ignorance, or for evil people
Other Beliefs	Communion once a year for "anointed." Do not observe holidays or birthdays. Forbidden to vote, salute the flag, serve the military or accept blood transfusions. If you leave, you are cut off from the family.	Worship stone and wooden idols. Disciples meditate on a word, phrase or picture. Yoga used as a meditation tool.	"Doctrine of Assimilation" blends the belief systems of other religions into forms of Buddhism.	Can include yoga, meditation, astrology, channeling, hypnosis, trances and tarot card readings. Use of crystals to get in harmony with God (energy) for psychic healing, for contact with spirits, etc.

Belief System	Scientology	Atheism/Agnosticism/ Secularism	Wicca
Primary Founder	L. Ron Hubbard	Various Humanists	No one founder
God	No defined god or supreme being—rejects the Biblical description of God	Doesn't exist or if he does, we can't know him so why try	Called the "Goddess" - dominate force n the universe
Man	Everyone is a "thetan", an immortal spirit with unlimited powers over his universe. Immortal spiritual beings trapped in mortal bodies—possibly alien.	The ultimate authority for all things. The god of secular humanists.	Good—not in need of saving
Scripture	<i>Dianetics: The Modern Science of Mental Health</i> and others by L. Ron Hubbard.	None	No official scripture. <i>The Book of Shadows</i>
Jesus Christ	Rarely mentioned, did not die for our sins. A Deception that impedes spiritual development.	Just a man	Either rejected or a spiritual leader who taught love and compassion
Life's Purpose	Work with an "auditor" to remove "engrams" and achieve a state of "clear"	None, or if there is a purpose, it is to user in utopia	To honor and preserve nature.
Salvation	No sin needed or need to repent. Salvation is freedom from reincarnation.	No need for salvation	No need for salvation
Heaven	For those who have cleared their "engrams" (hang-ups)	There isn't one, or maybe we can turn Earth into "heaven"	No life after death
Hell	No such thing	No such thing	No life after death
Other Beliefs	Members observe the birthday of L. Ron Hubbard and the publishing of <i>Dianetics</i> . Marketed heavily to celebrities to help spread the religion.	Individual ethics (what's right for you isn't necessarily right for me). Truth is relative.	Practicespell casting or divination.