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|  | **Judaism** | **Christianity** | **Islam**  |
| Where is it found?  | Jerusalem, Israel5th largest, 12.5 million | Every world continentLargest in world, 2.2 billion | Middle East, N. Africa, Asia2nd largest, 1.6 billion |
| Who is the Founder?  | Abraham: began belief in 1 GodMoses: laws, Egypt | Jesus of Nazareth Jewish prophet whose teaching created New Test. | Muhammad Arabic prophet whose teachings created Quran  |
| When did it start?  | 3,500 years ago  | 2,000 years ago | 1,400 years ago  |
| What are their holy books? | Torah: old testament of Bible | Holy Bible | QuranAlso believe in Torah and Bible but think Quran is newest message from God  |
| What are their places of worship called? | SynagogueCall God YAHWEH | ChurchCall God GOD | MosqueCall God Allah  |
| What are their religious leaders called?  | Rabbis | Priest, Pastor, Minister, Father, etc (depends on which denomination)  | Imam (Arabic for leader)  |
| What are some of their important holidays? | Hannukah: 8 day celebration with gifts and candlesPassover: celebrate Moses leading Hebrew slaves out of Egypt  | Christmas: celebrate Jesus’ birthEaster: celebrate Jesus’ resurrection from death | Ramadan: a holy month in Islam where Muslims do not eat or drink during the day time, pray longer and more often, and study the Quran to work on their spiritual selves.  |
| What are some of their beliefs and practices? | Monotheism: belief in 1 god(first monotheist religion) 10 commandments613 Mosaic Laws-laws of Moses, some Jews follow all these lawsDo not believe Jesus was Messiah | Monotheism (same God as the Jews) Jesus is Son of God and people get salvation (saved) through HimHeaven and hellForgiveness from God and towards other people Treat others well Go to Church, pray, and study the bible | Monotheism (same God as Jews and Christians) Believe in God’s Word (books), Heaven and Hell, and God’s prophetsBelieve Muhammad is last prophet of GodPractices: pray 5 times a day, give $ to poor, pilgrimage (visit) holy city of Mecca, and Fasting (not eating) during holy month of Ramadan  |
|  | **Buddhism** | **Hinduism**  |
| Where is it found?  | Southeast Asia4th largest, 400 million | India3rd largest, 1 billion  |
| Who is the Founder?  | Siddhartha GutamaThe Buddha | No single founder |
| When did it start?  | 2,500 years ago | 4,000 years ago |
| What are their holy books? | Tipitaka:The teachings of the Buddha | Vedas and Upanishads |
| What are their places of worship called? | Pagodas and Stupas (temple styles)Do not worship a God but think Buddha is special | Mandirs (temples)Worship many Gods and Goddess  |
| What are their religious leaders called?  | Monks | Pujari  |
| What are some of their important holidays? | Vesak: Buddha’s birthdaySongkran: Spring Festival | Holi- spring festival; lite bonfires, colored powderDiwali-New Years Festival (5 day)  |
| What are some of their beliefs and practices? | * Don’t worship a god
* Believe in karma and reincarnation
* Think all life is suffering
* Follow eightfold path regarding good thoughts and behaviors

Meditation: relaxing the mindNonviolence: do not harm any living thingVegetarian: do not eat meat  | Reincarnation-reborn when you die based on your karmaKarma- Your actions in life affect you in this life and the nextPuja is worship (prayer, hymns, offerings)Yoga- combination of breathing, stretching, and meditation (thought) exercises to stay spiritually healthy |