



Major Religious Faiths of the World

| Religion | Book | Leader | Place of Worship | Symbols |
|--|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| Taoism-Asia pre550BC | Dao De Jin | Monk | Temples/altar |  [Yin-Yang] |
| Judaism-Israel 1900BC by Abraham | Torah | Rabbi | Synagogue |  [Star of David] |
| Hinduism-India 1500BC | Bhagavad Gita | Swami | Temples |  [Om, Aum] |
| Buddhism-India 523BC by Prince Siddhartha Gautama | Tripitaka | Monk | Temple/altar |  [Fylfot or left-handed swastika] |
| Christianity 30AD-Jesus Christ's Disciples | Various Versions of the Bible | Priests/Minister/ Pastor | Church/cathedral /mission/ |  [Crosses]  |
| Islam-Saudi Arabia 622AD by Mohammed | Koran | Mullah/Imam | Mosques |  [Crescent and Star] |

Other Religious Faiths or Cults

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|---|--|-----------------------------|---|---|
| Sikhism-Indian About 1500 AD Sri Guru Nanak Dev Ji (1469- 1538) | Shri Guru Granth Sahib | Granthi | Temples 5 th largest religion in world | Turbans plus the 5 Ks |
| Shintoism- Japan 500AD | Zen writings | Priest | Temples/altar |  |
| Jainism-India 570BC King Rishabha | Jain Holy Scriptures | Priest, Pandit | Temples |  |
| Shamanism 5000BC+ | Oral Traditions of AmerIndians | Shaman & Medicine Man | Mountain or Cave Sites | Animalistic symbols |
| Rastafari (Jamaica 1930's) Emperor Haile Selasie, Ethiopia | New Testament -Book of Revelation | Priests | Private Sites | Dreadlocks and Ganja (Marijuana) |
| Voodoo/Black Magic 5000+ years | Allister Crowe's Book of Dark Arts | Priests/Magicians | Underground Grottoes | Many (Hooded Black Robes) |
| Wicca-Europe 800BC | Oral Traditions of Healing Arts | Priestess, Wiccan, Witch | Stone Circles e.g. Stonehenge | White Robes |
| Baha'I (India 1863's) | Writings of Baha'ullah (1817-1892) | Ministers | Church | None |



Branches of the Christian Faith-Denominations (there are more than 1500!)

| <u>Denomination</u> | <u>Founded By</u> | <u>When Founded</u> |
|---|---|--|
| Pauline Christians And later Catholicism | Committee of Paul and other Disciples of Jesus | 33AD or 325AD Nicaea Committee (Catholicism 1054AD) |
| Eastern Orthodox | Greek Priestly Committee | 1054AD |
| Lutheran & Protestant | Martin Luther (ex-Catholic monk) | 1517AD |
| Mennonites (Holland) | Members of Anabaptists | 1525 |
| Anglican (Church of England) | King Henry VIII-instigated break | 1534 |
| Presbyterian (Scotland) | John Knox-John Calvin's Teaching | 1560 |
| Unitarian (Europe) | Socinians | 1500's |
| Puritanism (England) | Radical Protestants | 1500's |
| Congregationalist | Branched from Puritanism | Early 1600's |
| Amish (USA) | Jacob Amman 1644~1720 Came from the Mennonites | 1600's |
| Baptist (Amsterdam, Holland) | John Smyth | 1607 |
| Quakers | George Fox | 1648~1650 |
| Methodist (England) | John and Charles Wesley | 1744 |
| Episcopalian (America) | Samuel Seabury- from England | 1789 |
| Mormon/Latter-Day Saints (New York, America) | Joseph Smith Jr. | 1830 |
| Salvation Army (London, England) | William Booth | 1865 |
| Christian Scientist | Mary Baker Eddy | 1879 |
| Jehovah's Witness (USA) | Charles Taze Russell | 1870's |
| Pentecostal (USA) | Charles Fox Parham | 1901 |
| Christadelphian | Dr. John Thomas | 1848 |
| Disciples of Christ | Breakaway Congregation | 1906 |
| Seventh Day Adventists | Millerites-White and Bates | 1840s~1863 |

Other Belief Systems of the World

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|-----------------------------|--|
| Agnosticism | To profess an uncertainty or skepticism about the existence of a Higher Being |
| Atheism | To not believe in the existence of God or a Higher Power |
| Spiritualism | To believe in the power and existence of Spirits accessible through a Spirit medium |
| Free Thinker | To not be bound by any traditional religious belief, but to be eclectic or all-embracing in one's beliefs |
| Pantheism (modern-day Gaia) | To believe in the existence of a Universal Consciousness or Force immanent in Nature-akin to Taoism |

Religion is a set of ritual belief systems that have developed since early times, in response to Man's fears about the uncertainties of Nature and the Universe, in an attempt to understand and control his uncertain Fate.