
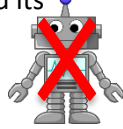




GCSE EP – Christianity Beliefs – Knowledge Organiser







Key terms	The Nicene Creed - The Christian statement of belief			Key Teachings
<p>Ascension Jesus returning to be with God in heaven after the crucifixion, 40 days after resurrection.</p>	<p>God is creator; Jesus was born of the Virgin Mary by the power of God; Jesus was crucified, resurrected and ascended to heaven; There will be a day of judgment; There is one universal church; God will forgive sins; There will be resurrection and eternal life.</p>			<p>“We believe in one God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit.”</p>
<p>Atonement Making things better after sinning, asking for forgiveness from God.</p>	<p>The Nature of God</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Believe in one God (monotheism) who is the creator and the sustainer of all that exists. God is omnipotent which means He is almighty and has unlimited power. God is omnibenevolent which means He is all-loving. God is just which means He is a fair judge. God is transcendent which means He is outside of our space and time and beyond our understanding. 	<p>The Trinity</p> <p>Christians believe that the Trinity is made up of God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. They believe God is three in one. There are not three Gods, but different forms of the same thing.</p> <p>Each person of the Trinity is fully God but the three persons of the Trinity are not the same.</p> 		<p>“I am the first, and I am the last: and beside Me there is no God.”</p> <p>“I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.”</p>
<p>Benevolent God’s nature as all-loving.</p>	<p>The Father Almighty - Creator - Judge</p> <p>Shows caring fatherly relationship between humans and God.</p>	<p>The Son Teacher – Healer - Miracle Worker</p> <p>Both fully human and fully God, Jesus was the incarnation of God.</p>	<p>The Holy Spirit Hope – Courage – Inspiration.</p> <p>Unseen power of God at work in the world.</p>	<p>“The Almighty is beyond our reach and exalted in power.”</p>
<p>Crucifixion Jesus’ execution by the Romans on the cross.</p>	<p>The Problem of Evil</p> <p>If God is has all these qualities why does He allow bad things to happen to good and innocent people?</p> <p><u>Epicurean Paradox</u></p> <p>If God can’t stop evil then He can’t be omnipotent. If He is able to stop evil, but chooses not to, He can’t be omnibenevolent.</p> <p><u>Inconsistent Triad – J.L. Mackie</u></p> <p>You cannot have an all-loving, all-powerful God who allows evil to exist. Christians believe that God is transcendent and they can trust God when things in the world are not right.</p> <p><u>The Story of Job</u></p> <p>A wealthy, good man. Satan says that he is only good because God blesses him and there is no evil in his life. Satan tortures Job. Job still worships God. Job says God’s ways are beyond human understanding.</p>			<p>Original Sin – Suffering is a consequence of the fall of man in Genesis 3. (St Augustine of Hippo)</p>
<p>Genesis The first book of the Bible, the story of creation is here.</p>	<p>Humans and Sin</p> <p>Sin separates humans from God, this can be anything that goes against God or his laws. As humans are not perfect it is impossible not to sin. Christians believe that all are born with sin in them known as Original sin. This is due to Adam an Eve disobeying God and eating the fruit from the tree of knowledge. This action separated humans from God and brought about death into the world.</p>			<p>Free Will Defence – evil is a cause of human’s free will. (Alvin Plantinga)</p>
<p>Grace A quality of God which shows to humans that God loves them which they don’t need to earn.</p>	<p>Christians have freewill however they should use this to make the right choices using God and Jesus’ teachings to guide them, e.g. The Ten Commandments. Salvation means to be saved from Sin and its consequences, e.g. going to hell.</p> 			<p>No pain, no gain – Our relationship strengthens with God through experiences, including evil and suffering. (St Irenaeua)</p>
<p>Heaven Eternal happiness, being in the presence of God.</p>	<p>“The God who made this universe, if it was created by God, is quite clearly a maniac.” (Stephen Fry)</p>			


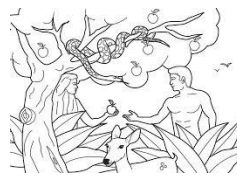






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Key Terms	Salvation and Atonement		Key Teachings
<p>Hell Eternal suffering, absence of God.</p> <p>Incarnation God becoming flesh in the form of Jesus Christ.</p> <p>Just God's nature as fair.</p> <p>Monotheistic A religion which believes in one God.</p> <p>Omnipotent God's nature as all-powerful</p> <p>Original Sin The built-in tendency to do wrong which comes from Eve's disobedience</p> <p>Parable A story told by Jesus with a message. These guide Christians in how to live their life.</p> <p>Polytheistic Belief in more than one God.</p>	<p>The death of Jesus made up for original sin. It allows us to atone for sins and reach eternal life in heaven. Jesus was sent by God to repair the broken relationship between God and man.</p> <p>Salvation is the idea that Jesus' crucifixion saves human beings from eternal damnation. Sin separates us from God and salvation saves us from this. This salvation comes through faith in God and Grace through faith in Jesus.</p>		<p>"Jesus answered: 'I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.'"</p> <p>"I and the Father are One."</p>
	<p>Incarnation</p> <p>Christians believe that God was incarnated (made flesh) in human form as Jesus Christ. Mary was impregnated by the Holy Spirit and gave birth as a virgin. This is proof of Jesus' status as the son of God. Christmas is the festival that celebrates the incarnation.</p> <p>God in human form makes it easier to understand his actions, e.g. miracles and the resurrection. Jesus is known as the Messiah. When Jesus was baptised God said, "<i>You are my son</i>". Jesus was asked whether he was the Son of God, he replied, "<i>I am</i>"</p> 	<p>Crucifixion</p> <p>Jesus travelled to Jerusalem to preach and was sentenced to death by Pontius Pilate. He was nailed to a cross to die. Jesus was able to forgive those who killed him showing the importance of forgiveness. This event is remembered on Good Friday.</p> <p>The crucifixion influences Christians today; by accepting Jesus' sacrifice their sins will be forgiven and they will go to heaven. They acknowledge that suffering is a part of life and God can understand what it is like for someone to suffer.</p> 	<p>"The Word became flesh and lived amongst us."</p> <p>"God so loved the world he gave his one and only Son."</p> <p>"I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will never die."</p> <p>"He left them and was taken to heaven."</p>
	<p>Resurrection</p> <p>Jesus was buried in a tomb and left there until Easter Sunday as it was the Sabbath so no-one could touch the body. Early on the Sunday 3 women visited his tomb expecting to find his body but it was not there. He appeared to different people as a physical being. This event is celebrated on Easter Sunday.</p> <p>The resurrection proves Jesus was divine and not just a human. The significance for Christians is it shows the power of good over evil, that they can be resurrected and shouldn't fear death. The resurrection gives purpose to the Christian faith.</p> 	<p>Ascension</p> <p>Before his ascension Jesus appeared to his disciples and told them to spread the word of him. The time between resurrection and ascension reminds Christians that God will forgive sins and they can become closer to God. The Holy Spirit will be there to guide and comfort.</p> <p>The ascension, when Jesus went up to heaven, happened 40 days after the resurrection. It assures Christians they will rise again after death and live on in the afterlife. It leads Christians to try and lead a good life.</p> 	<p>"The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all men."</p> <p>"In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace."</p> <p>"'It is finished!' Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit."</p>



Key Terms	Creation	Afterlife	Key Teachings
<p>Purgatory A Catholic belief in a ‘waiting room’ before going to heaven or hell where your soul is cleansed.</p> <p>Resurrection Jesus returning from the dead after he was crucified</p> <p>Sabbath A day of abstinence from work. For Jews it is from Friday evening to Saturday evening.</p> <p>Salvation Being saved from sin and given eternal life in heaven by God.</p> <p>Trinity God’s nature as three parts in one: The Father, Son and Holy Spirit.</p> <p>Transcendence Outside of our space, time and beyond human understanding.</p>	<p>Genesis 1: Creation of All Day 1: Night and Day Day 2: Heavens Day 3: Land and Plants Day 4: Sun, Moon and Stars Day 5: Birds and Fish Day 6: Land animals and man Day 7: God rested.</p>  <p>Genesis 2: Creation of Man Adam lives in the Garden of Eden. God creates a ‘helper’ for him from Adam’s rib; Eve. God commands them not to eat from the tree of knowledge.</p> <p>Genesis 3: The Fall of Man Adam and Eve are tempted by the devil in the form of a serpent to eat the apple from the tree of knowledge. They confess to God who punishes them. They must leave the Garden of Eden and will no longer have eternal life.</p>  <p>Presence of Jesus at Creation John’s Gospel – “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God”. Many Christians interpret this as the ‘Word’ meaning Jesus. This makes them believe that Jesus was present at the beginning of creation.</p>	<p>Christians believe in eternal life but what happens to them depends on their belief in God. Judgement will happen at death or at the day of judgement.</p> <p>Heaven and Hell People will go to heaven or hell depending on how they behave and whether they have a belief in Jesus. Heaven is with God, eternal happiness and no suffering. Hell is seen as eternal torment, absence from God and life with the Devil.</p>   <p>Purgatory A place Catholics believe in, where your soul is cleansed as no-one is ready to go to heaven as humans are all imperfect.</p> <p>Parable of the Sheep and the Goats Shows how people will be judged by God. The sheep are the good and the goats the bad, going to heaven and hell. Treating others well and believing in God is important to guarantee a good afterlife.</p>  <p>Parable of Lazarus Poor man who led a good life helping others and his family went to heaven. Rich, selfish man went to hell.</p> 	<p>“In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.”</p> <p>“And God said, ‘Let there be light’ and there was light.”</p> <p>“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.” “I am going to prepare a place for you.”</p> <p>“So God created mankind in his own image.”</p> <p>“From the tree of knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat from it you will surely die.”</p> <p>“God will bring into judgement both the righteous and the wicked.”</p> <p>“Just as people are destined to die once, and after that to face judgment.”</p> <p>“My Father’s house has many rooms...I am going to there to prepare a place for you.”</p>