



1.Omnibenevolent- The state of being all loving and infinitely good.
Omnipotent- The all powerful, almighty & unlimited nature of God.
Trinity- The three persons of God: God the Father; God the Son & God the Holy Spirit.
The Word- term used at the beginning of John's gospel to refer to God the Son.
Incarnation- God becoming human in the form of Jesus.
Atonement- The belief that Jesus' death on the cross healed the rift between humans and God.
Salvation-saving the soul from sin for admission to heaven.
Resurrection- 1. Rising from the dead; 2.The belief that Jesus rose from the dead, on Easter Sunday, conquering death.
Blasphemy- a religious offence which includes claiming to be God.
Crucifixion- Roman method of execution by which criminals were fixed to a cross, used on Jesus.
Ascension- When Jesus rose to his father in heaven.
Original Sin-Augustine Christian doctrine (Roman Catholic), humans are born with urge to disobey God.
Grace- Love and support given by God; no need to earn it.

2.The Christian nature of God:-

Omnipotent
 Many Old Testament stories are about the power of God. in Exodus is the story of the Plagues sent by God so that the Jews could escape from Egypt. This account shows that God was all powerful and in charge of nature. God's power is also shown in the creation story.

Omnibenevolent
 Christians believe that God is all loving. "But you, Lord, are a compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness." Psalm 86:15 "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." John 3:16 - This expresses the fundamental belief that because God loved humanity, he sent Jesus to earth so that people could have eternal life.

The Trinity
 Christians believe in the 'oneness of God'. However, they often speak of the Trinity -



which is the belief that God is made up of three persons: The Father; The Son and the Holy Spirit.
The Father: the all-powerful; all-knowing part of God who created the world. It's the personal, caring relationship between humans and God.
The Son: Christians believe that Jesus is the Son of God. He is God in human form. This is known as the incarnation. God revealing himself to the world. 'In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.' John 1:1
The Holy Spirit: Christians believe that this guides them to live their lives & offers comfort; courage; inspiration and guidance. It is also seen as God's presence in the world. 'In the beginning...the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. Ad God Said, "let there be light."

[What is Christianity and what do Christians believe? | GotQuestions.org](http://www.GotQuestions.org)

3. Christian Creation Story

Day 1: God created light and day
Day 2: God created the sea and the sky
Day 3: God created land and plants (trees; vegetation etc)
Day 4: God created the sun, moon and stars
Day 5: God created birds and fish
Day 6: God created living creatures including man.

Literal Interpretation:
 Literal Christians believe that the world was made as described in the Bible, with each stage happening on a different day. Christians who accept this view tend to reject the scientific explanation of the Big Bang and the theory of evolution.

Liberal Interpretation:
 Liberal Christians believe that whilst the story is symbolically true, it did not necessarily happen over 6 twenty-four-hour periods. Many liberal Christians see the term 'day' as representing a longer period, so the six days of creation could be millions of years. Liberal Christians can therefore accept that God started the Big Bang

4.Jesus' Resurrection (conquering death): Christians believe that Jesus was crucified on Good Friday outside of Jerusalem after requests by the Jewish leaders. A crown of thorns was placed on his head and a spear stuck into his side whilst on the cross. He was placed in a tomb, and on Sunday returned to his followers. Jesus' resurrection is fundamental to the Christian faith and is seen as the greatest miracle.

5. Crucifixion- Key points from the story of

Jesus' crucifixion include:

-Although Jesus was fully God, he was also fully human and wasn't spared the pain of the crucifixion.

-Forgave the guards **'Forgive them father, they know not what they do.'** Luke 23:34

-Promised one criminal beside him that he would join him in paradise.

-At his death, a Roman centurion recognised him as a righteous man. **'Surely this man was the Son of God!'** Mark 15:39

Resurrection- For Christians, this event is proof that Jesus was the Son of God.

Jesus' body was placed in the tomb late on Friday afternoon (Shabbat was about to start) as there was no time to anoint his body. On Sunday morning, Mary Magdeline and other female followers went to prepare the body and found the tomb was empty.



Ascension- 40 days after the resurrection

Jesus ascended to heaven. For Christians, this shows that Jesus is with God. In Mark and Luke, it is written that Jesus met with his disciples, asking them to carry on his work.

'He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
Apostles Creed



6. Genesis 2:

Adam lives in the Garden of Eden and God creates a companion (Eve) for him out of one of his ribs. They are given one rule: To not eat from the tree of knowledge.



The Fall:

Adam and Eve are tempted by Satan disguised as a snake to eat from the tree of knowledge. The devil claims that the only reason God doesn't want them to eat it is that they would then have the same knowledge as God.

When God discovers their sin, they are ordered out of the Garden of Eden and can no longer eat from the tree of life, so death enters the world. This 'original sin', which all humans are born with, separates humans from God.

7.Salvation: The death of Jesus, on the cross, atoned for human sin and allowed them the hope of salvation. Catholics believe that taking part in the sacraments will bring them salvation whereas Protestants believe they must have faith in Jesus and repent of their sins. The Holy Spirit is sent by God to bring grace to help them pray and lead a good life. The Holy Spirit is also present during the sacraments.



Judgement: There will be a day of judgement when Jesus will return, human life on Earth will end (Parousia) and people will be judged on their actions (parable of the Sheep and the Goats and Lazarus and the Rich Man).

Resurrection: Upon death the soul will join God in heaven and there will be a resurrection of the body at the end of time. Whether people go to heaven, hell or purgatory (Catholic belief) depends on their actions in life.

8.The role of Christ in salvation:

Salvation means to be saved from sin and the consequences of it and be granted eternal life with God. Salvation can be achieved through:

- Good works- Having faith in God and obeying God's law, as shown in the Old Testament.
- **Grace-** given by God through faith in Jesus. It is not earned or deserved but it is a gift for the faithful.

Jesus' death makes up for the original sin committed by Adam and Eve. Humans can now receive forgiveness for their sins. This restoring of the relationship between people and God through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus is known as **atonement. 'He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.'** 1 John 2:1

9.Incarnation (evidence of Jesus' divinity)

Jesus was not conceived through sexual intercourse. Mary (who was a virgin) was told by an angel that she would give birth to a child named Jesus.

'The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us.'

This belief is important to Christians as it gives evidence that Jesus is God incarnate-made flesh in human form. Fully God yet fully human and thus God the Son as part of the Trinity. Christians refer to Jesus as Christ (anointed one) which is a translation of the Hebrew word *mashiach* (Messiah)

Key Words

Discrimination: Acts of treating groups of people, or individuals differently based on prejudice.

Human Rights: The basic entitlements of all human beings, afforded to them simply because they are human, for example an education.

Prejudice: Pre-judging / making a judgement about someone based on skin colour; age etc.

Relative Poverty: A standard of poverty measured in relation to the standards of a society in which a person lives, for example living on x% less of the average UK income.

Absolute Poverty: State of deprivation, where a person cannot access the most basic of their human needs.

Social Justice: Promoting a fair society by challenging injustice and valuing diversity - ensuring that everyone has equal access to provisions/opportunities

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pRGhrYmUjU4>

Religious Expression: For Christians it is important to tell others about their faith through missionaries or evangelism.

Equality- the state of being equal, especially in status, rights, and opportunities.

Tithe- one tenth of annual produce or earnings (Christian)

Exploitation- misuse of power or money to get others to do things for little or no reward.

Human Trafficking- illegal movement of people.

Human Rights

-Human Rights are universal moral rights that always apply to all people, in all situations regardless of race, gender, religion, physical ability etc. -The 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which contained 30 articles, are based on the first one '**All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights**'

☸ Social Justice -Is promoting a fair society by challenging injustice and valuing diversity and ensuring that everyone has equal access to provisions, equal opportunities and rights. It often involves governments and agencies working together.

Martin Luther King -

Campaigned against segregation in the USA using non-violent methods. Due to Christian beliefs, he saw everyone as equal in the eyes of God & should be treated as such. He led the Montgomery Bus Boycott; sit-ins; peaceful demonstrations and the March on Washington where he made the 'I had a dream'

speech. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IB0i6bJljw>




Gender prejudice and discrimination

People can often be discriminated against because of their gender. This is called sexism. Traditionally, there are roles for men and roles for women in society and within religion. However, these have not been equal roles with equal opportunity, Religions would argue that the roles are equal but different. In society in the last 100 years the role of women has changes. There are far more women in top jobs, in male-dominated sports, in politics and in the armed forces. However, in terms of leadership of religion, most still are male dominated.



Hinduism-is open to all other faiths. Rabindranath Tagore, once likened religions to '**different paths to the top of the same mountain.**' Hinduism does not agree with trying to convert others. It is also true that some practices of non-Hindus are seen as impure, for example, eating beef, which makes some from the Brahmin caste treat non-Hindus as inferiors. In India, Muslims have complained that the Hindu based legal system discriminates against them, making them feel threatened.

Prejudice Hindu Dharma is that Brahma is found in everything, so therefore any prejudiced thoughts or discriminative acts would be viewed as wrong.

- Hindus believe in non-violence (ahimsa) love and respect for all things
- Compassion is a key belief with the desire to improve things for others, not persecute them
- Hurting others can lead to bad karma which affects future reincarnations
- Hindus believe that the true self is the atman and as everyone has one, that must mean that everyone is 
- The Bhagavad Gita suggests that to reach liberation then you should work for the welfare of all fellow human beings

Poverty it is important to create wealth (artha) to provide or their family and maintain society. Rich devotees should not hoard wealth but use it in stewardship roles. Excess wealth can lead to overindulgence and materialistic rather than spiritual living. Money causes pain when earned, it causes pain to keep it and it causes pain to lose as well as to spend (Panchatantra) Happiness arises from contentment, uncontrolled pursuit of wealth will result in unhappiness (Manu) Act in the world as a servant, look after everyone and act as if everything belongs to you, but know in your heart that nothing is yours – you are the guardian, the servant of God. Hindus believe that life is all about good deeds here and now. This not only helps the receiver, but it helps the giver's own rebirth. by helping those in poverty, they can improve their own karma and rebirth '**it is the same God shining out through so many different eyes,**'

Sexuality- Traditionally in the UK society expects men and women to be couples. Homosexuals often suffer homophobia because people do not agree with the relationships they have. It is often difficult to tell families (who may themselves be unsupportive or even homophobic) and as a result there is little support available. For religious people who are gay, there are also fears of how their community might respond, and it may be the case that their religion forbids homosexuality. Also, many religions do not agree with these relationship, although they do agree that people should not be discriminated against. For religion, a key role of sex is to accept God's blessing of children, and same-sex couples cannot do this naturally and in holy books there are teachings aga



uality.

Disability By law, a disability is a long-term issue which has a significant impact on the day-to-day life of the person with the disability, so that they cannot do (some) things as normal. People with a disability are often denied access to places, e.g., school or public buildings. Religion believes that all people are equal, and God creates people in many ways. We are all valued despite our differences. Discrimination is totally wrong where disability is concerned

Wealth and Poverty

People require the same basic needs:

Food
Water
Clothing
Shelter



1 in 9 suffers from chronic hunger, 100 million are homeless, 2000 people die per day due to unclean water.

Christianity- 'If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother in need, how can the love of God be in him?' (1 John 3:17) 'If a brother has no clothes or food what good is it to wish him well without caring for his physical needs?' (James 2:15)



Discrimination

There are laws in the UK to deal with discrimination. As prejudice is about the way people think, the law cannot do anything, but when that prejudice turns into discriminative actions, then the law can act. However, discrimination is not always easy to prove. The **1976 Race Relations Act (RRA)** made it illegal to discriminate against anyone because of race, nationality, ethnic or national background in four main areas: jobs, education, housing and the provision of services; to use threatening or abusive language regarding race. It also made it illegal to publish anything to stir up racial hatred.

There have also been laws passed about **Equal Pay (1975), Sex Discrimination (1975), Disability Discrimination Act (1995) and the Sexual Orientation Regulation (2007)**. All these Acts have been superseded by the Equality Act (2010).

Christianity-Many Christians believe that the only way to salvation (earn a place in heaven) is through belief in Jesus. This excludes all other religions and is the main reason why Christianity has always been a missionary religion; trying to convert others. Some believe that if a person leads a morally good life, then they too can earn salvation, which opens the door to accept all other faiths, given their key principles fit with Christianity's. Whatever the belief about who can and cannot go to heaven, it is important to treat everyone with equanimity and kindness, so Christians should not be involved in any form of religious discrimination.



Christianity believes that all forms of discrimination are wrong.

- God created everyone equally (Old Testament)
- There is neither Jew nor Gentile, slave nor free, male or female. We are all equal in Christ (Galatians)
- So, in everything, do unto others what you would have done to you (Matthew 7:12)
- Jesus told us to love our neighbour (Sermon on the Mount) o In the Good Samaritan story, the man is helped because of his need, not because of who he was or was not (in fact, the victim and helper were enemy nations)

Christians believe that there is nothing wrong with wealth itself; it is how we use it that matters. We can use it for good and bad. Wealth is seen as a gift from God. Our money should come from lawful means. In the Bible there is the warning that the wrong attitude for money could lead people away from God. **'For the love of money is the roots of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs'** (1 Timothy 6:10) No one can serve two masters - you cannot serve both money and God Be on your guard against all kinds of greed: a man's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions (Luke 12:15)