

R8 The Spread of Religions (The movement of ideas as well as Conflict and Conquest)

The Jewish people were captured by the Babylonians and moved to the area of Iraq. Later the Romans conquered them. After the Jews rebelled against Roman rule, the Romans burned the 2nd Temple in Jerusalem. Romans forced Jews to leave their Promised Land (today's Israel) and this is known as the Diaspora. Jews settled throughout the Mediterranean and Europe. Religious persecution by the Romans and later on by Christians led many of the Jewish people to flee to Eastern Europe and Russia. Nazi Germany tried to kill all of the Jewish people in Europe (genocide). The United Nations responded to the deaths of 6 million Jewish people by establishing the nation of Israel with its capital in Jerusalem. As a result the Jewish people regained their promised land. Education has always been important so that the Jewish people can read the Torah and preserve their identity as God's Chosen People. Today, 14 million Jews are found on all of the world's continents, with most living in Israel and the United States.

Christianity: After Jesus's death, his followers continued to spread his teachings. The disciples Matthew, Mark, Luke and John wrote the Gospels, which are found in the New Testament of the Bible. Paul spread Jesus's teachings throughout the Mediterranean. After his death, Paul was named a **saint**. A saint is a person known and admired for his or her holiness.

Christianity spread quickly. Roman leaders arrested and killed some Christians who refused to worship the gods of Rome. Some emperors banned Christianity. Christians often had to worship in secret. Local leaders called bishops led each community. The bishop of Rome, or the pope, came to be viewed as the head of the Christian Church.

Christianity continued to spread throughout Rome. Then the Roman emperor, Constantine became a Christian. According to legend, Constantine believed he would win a battle if converted to Christianity. Constantine did become a Christian and he won the battle. As a result of his victory, he became the new emperor of Rome. Constantine lifted the bans against the practice of it and then made it the official religion of the empire. Christianity eventually spread from the Roman/Byzantine Empire to throughout Europe. European explorers and conquerors brought Christianity to the New World. Today over 2 billion Christians are found throughout the world.

ISLAM Use R6 Islam Beliefs and History answers #9-10-11 to explain how Islam spread throughout the Middle East, Asia, North Africa, and parts of Europe. Today, some 1.4 billion Muslims live throughout the world, with most in the Muslim World area of North Africa, the Middle East, and Southern Asia.

Compare how each of these monotheistic religions spread

Judaism (2-3 key ideas)	Islam (2-3 key ideas)
Christianity (2-3 key ideas)	Similarities between all three

Monotheism Study Guide

What are the basic beliefs and practices of people from the past through today?

Explain the roles of key historical figures

R-1: What are some of the characteristics of a religion + religion in the US 1st Amendment

R-2: Key Terms and facts for Judaism, Christianity, and Islam (Questions on back)

How can religion change societies?

How do religions play a role in migration, conflict and conquest?

R-3: Judaism: Abraham, Egypt, Moses, Exodus, 10 Commandments, 2nd Temple

R-4: Judaism: Roman conquest and Jewish rebellions, the 2nd Temple, the Diaspora

R-5: Christianity: Jesus Christ, Messiah, Disciples, Easter and Resurrection, Beliefs, Holy Spirit, Bible (Old and New Testaments)

R-6: Islam: Muhammad, Hijra, Medina, Mecca, Reasons for Expansion, Sunnis and Shias, Scientific and academic achievements

R-7: Daily Life for Muslims in the US

You should know and be able to use the following terms for each religion's basic beliefs and practices:

Judaism: Jews, Synagogue, Rabbi, Torah, Abraham and Moses, Covenant, 10 Commandments, Justice here on Earth, Yom Kippur, Exodus and the Promised Land, and Messiah

Christianity: Christians, church, Jesus Christ, Bible (Old and New Testament), Minister/Priest, Easter, Resurrection, the Holy Spirit, Messiah, Disciples, forgiveness, eternal life after death, cross

Islam: Muslims, Allah, Muhammad, Mosque, Quran, Imam, the 5 Pillars, Mecca, Hijra, Sunnis and Shias, Jihad

Similarities: Golden Rule, charity, forgiveness, belief in one god, Abraham, Jerusalem, ...

Read the following quotes and explain their significance

1. The Great Commission (Matthew 28:16-20 in the New Testament)

"Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. When they saw him, they worshipped; but some doubted. Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." (baptizing means to signify that a person is now a Christian)

How do you think this teaching led to the global spread of Christianity?

2. Tanak 1917 (Jewish holy book) "... and showing mercy unto the thousandth generation of them that love Me and keep My commandments."

How do you think this passage has helped the Jewish people maintain their identity and survive persecution?

3. Quran 4:29 "He is not a believer who eats his fill when his neighbor beside him is hungry; and: he does not believe whose neighbors are not safe from his injurious conduct.")

How does this teaching help to explain the spread of Islam?