

Prophets in Human History?

Buddhism

Siddartha Gautama

Who Speaks for God

Islam

Muhammed

Hinduism

Many Schools of Thought

Christianity

Jesus Christ

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Who Speaks for God?

Buddhism:

- Buddhism has a definitive founder: Siddartha Gautama, the "Buddha".
- •He was agnostic.
- Buddhists do not need to believe in "God".
- Gautama was intriguing and wise, but didn't claim to communicate from God.

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Who Speaks for God?

Hinduism:

- •Unfair to limit Hinduism to just one prophet or just one god.
- •There are many gods, or one, or none, depending on the branch of Hinduism.
- •There is no one definitive founder or prophet.

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Who Speaks for God?

<u>Islam:</u>

- •Muhammed is the prophet of Islam.
- •He claimed to speak for God.
- •He wrote the Quran, the holy book of Islam.
- •1 Billion Muslims.

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Who Speaks for God?

Christianity:

- Jesus is the prophet of Christianity.
- •Not just a prophet, but God himself.
- •Unlike Muhammed, he worked miracles and rose from the dead.
- •2 Billion Christians.

The Ultimate Prophet



In many and various ways God spoke of old to our fathers by the prophets; but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son.

- Hebrews 1:1-2



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Muhammed Commends Jesus

Quran:

- •Muhammed and the Quran affirm Jesus was a true prophet.
- Quran mentions Jesus 25 times, Muhammed 4 times.
- Affirms Jesus worked miracles and rose from the dead.
- Affirms that Jesus will return to judge the living and dead.
- Affirms Jesus is "Word of God" and "Spirit of God".
- •Entire chapter on Mary as mother of Jesus. She is the only woman mentioned in the Quran.

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Israel's History of Faith



From my youth onwards I have found in Jesus my great brother...I am more than ever certain that a great place belongs to him in Israel's history of faith and that this place cannot be described by any of the usual categories.

- Martin Buber, Jewish Leader and Philosopher



Filled with Life



I am a Jew, but I am enthralled by the luminous figure of the Nazarene [Jesus] ... No one can read the Gospels without feeling the actual presence of Jesus. His personality pulsates in every word. No myth is filled with such life.

- Albert Einstein

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Admired by Leaders



If Christians would really live according to the teachings of Christ, as found in the Bible, India would be Christian today.

- Mahatma Ghandi

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TWIY Session 11

- •If you are going to investigate people in world history who have claimed to speak on behalf of God, why is Jesus the obvious candidate to start with?
- Are all the world religions just different paths up the same mountain? Or do different world religions actually have different goals? Discuss.