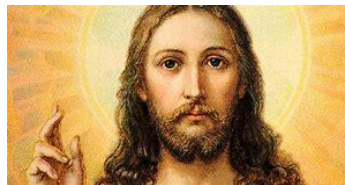


Key figures

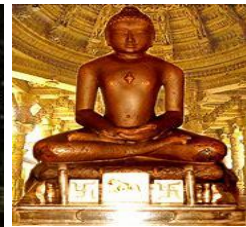
Christians

- Abraham is the founder of Judaism, Islam and Christianity.
- Judaism followed Isaac, son of Abraham and his wife, Sarah; Islam followed Ishmael, son of Abraham and his slave, Hagar
- Moses was descended from Abraham and Isaac. He is famous for receiving the ten commandments from God and leading the Hebrews out of slavery in Egypt to Israel. He is therefore a major figure to Jews but also to Christians – the first five books of the Bible are about Moses.
- Ishmael was the first prophet in Islam. Moses and Jesus were later prophets and the last was Muhammed.
- Jesus was born as a Jew but was unhappy with the teaching and behaviours of the Jewish elders. His teachings of a God of forgiveness and peace was the basis for Christianity. He is seen by Christians as the actual son of God.



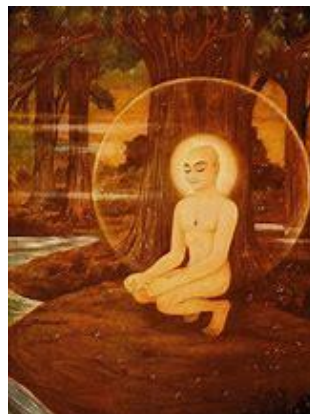
Jains

- Jains believe that there is no actual founder of Jainism because the religion is eternal (it has no beginning or end).
- However, scholars believe that Jainism in its current form was started by Nataputta Mahavira in the Ganges basin of eastern India.
- He lived about 599 – 527 BC, around the same time as the Buddha.
- Mahavira was the 24th great teacher (Turthankar).
- He was born into a royal family but gave up all his possessions aged about 30 and became an ascetic, looking for spiritual awakening.
- He meditated and made himself suffer for 12 years, after which he preached for 30 years, achieving moksha in 6 BC
- He taught that people should practise peace, truth and not marry, to achieve spiritual freedom.
- His symbol is a lion.



Abraham

Mahavira



Moses



Key Vocabulary

scholar	A person who studies
ascetic	A monk who shows severe self discipline and avoids all enjoyable things for religious reasons
meditation	Focussing or clearing the mind to become more self aware or aware of the truth
moksha	Being released from the cycle of being born and dying repeatedly
Ten commandments	The holy laws stating how mankind should live.