

Worldview Comparison Chart

BIBLICAL WORLDVIEW	EASTERN RELIGIOUS WORLDVIEW
<p>1. The Nature of Reality: An infinite, personal creator God has created a real and originally good spiritual-material universe which He is involved in and sovereignly controls (Genesis 1-2; Romans 1:25, 9:22, 14:9; Philippians 3:21; Psalm 104; 1 Timothy 4:4)</p>	<p>1. The Nature of Reality: God, the universe, and all in it are seen as one being (<i>monism</i>) evolving in consciousness, infused with an impersonal universal energy often called the <i>Ki</i> or <i>Kundalini</i> force that is to be mastered and manipulated through various techniques. (Material life is often thought to be an illusion.)</p>
<p>2. The Problem of Evil: Human beings rebelled against God (the state of sin), fell from their high position to a degraded state cut off from God, are now ruled by the Devil (Lucifer or Satan) and subject to death (Genesis 3; Ephesians 2:2; John 5:19). Lucifer and his angels rebelled and were cast down to earth where they actively assail us (Revelation 12:7-10; 2 Corinthians 4:4; Ephesians 2:1-3, 13; Luke 10:18; 2 Corinthians 11:14).</p>	<p>2. The Problem of Evil: No real problem is seen because of the view that ultimately there is no difference between good and evil; there is just the appearance of evil. Both evil and good are seen as illusion or <i>maya</i>. The concept of yin-yang promotes the idea that there are two opposite but equal natural forces that flow back and forth in complementarity, neither being better or worse than the other.</p>
<p>3. The Nature of Good and Evil: God is entirely good (1 John 1:5) and did not create evil (James 1:13-15); He created beings that choose. Evil results from rebellion against a perfectly righteous God, and when we do evil, we come under His judgment (2 Corinthians 5:10; 2 Peter 3:7; Ephesians 2:3; Revelation 20:11-15). Scripture reveals His moral will (Exodus 20:1-17; Galatians 5:19-24; 1 Thessalonians 4:7).</p>	<p>3. The Nature of Good and Evil: Good and evil are opposites, which join as One at a higher plane of transcendence. Hinduism says we perfect our "godhood" through successive rebirths (reincarnation and the law of Karma).</p>
<p>4. The Solution to Evil: The incarnation, atoning death of Jesus Christ on the cross, and resurrection were necessary to rescue us from our sin, death, and the devil's power over us (Romans 6:5-10; Colossians 2:9-15; 1 John 3:8; Ephesians 2:4-6, 3:10; Hebrews 2:14; 1 Timothy 1:10).</p>	<p>4. The Solution to Evil: Since evil is believed an "illusion", "expanded consciousness" (by way of techniques of Eastern meditation, yoga, self-hypnosis, visualization, spiritism, psychic mind control, etc.) will solve the "problem" by "awakening" us to our true divinity, Oneness with the universe, and innate spiritual powers.</p>
<p>5. The Nature of Jesus Christ: He is God's only Son, God incarnate (1 John 4:2-3), unique, divine, and eternal, co-equal with the Father and the Holy Spirit. He will not incarnate again (Hebrews 9:26), but will return from heaven in glory to judge the earth (John 1:1-4, 5:22; Colossians 1:15, 2:9; 1 Thessalonians 4:16; Titus 2:13; Hebrews 1:3; 1 John 4:15, 5:11-12; Revelations 19:13). He is the only way to the Father (John 6:29, 44-45; 8:42; 10:7-9).</p>	<p>5. The Nature of Jesus Christ: Jesus Christ is generally viewed as (1) a great teacher and not God, or (2) one of many reincarnations of "ascended masters" (spirit guides) and gurus to inhabit the "Christ office." The man Jesus is thus split off from the "office" of Christhood, which is said to be attainable by all. Some teach that during his "hidden years" Jesus supposedly studied occult doctrines in the East.</p>
<p>6. View of the Serpent/Dragon: Another name for the devil or Satan, who deceived the first man and woman into sin and death; <i>"that ancient serpent...who leads the whole world astray"</i> (Gen. 3:1; Rev. 12, 13:2, 20:2).</p>	<p>6. View of the Serpent/Dragon: A mythical-religious symbol often representing a natural force that assisted in the world's creation and brings wealth and wisdom; the serpent also represents the inner <i>Kundalini</i> or <i>Ki</i> power sought after in occult arts.</p>