

♥ Welcome ♥

A decorative graphic featuring the word "Welcome" in a cursive, metallic purple font. The text is flanked by two identical hearts, also in a metallic purple finish. Below the word is a large, ornate flourish that mirrors the cursive style of the text. The entire graphic is set against a light orange background.



Christianity

Cults & Religions

November 18, 2025

Rev. Deborah Dillard

Menu

Biblical Christianity †

Jehovah's Witnesses 

Mormonism 

Seventh-day Adventism 

Unification Church 

Christian Science 

Unity 

New Age 

Wicca 

Scientology ✧

Islam (Sunni & Shi'a) 

Nation of Islam 

Bahá'í Faith 

Judaism 

Kabbalah Centre 

Hinduism 

Hare Krishna 

Transcendental Meditation 

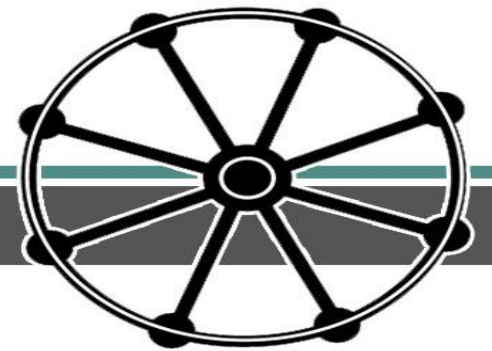
Sikhism 

Buddhism 

Soka Gakkai 

What the Bible Teaches

Buddhism



Buddhism



FOUNDED, LOCATION

- Founded by Gautama Siddhartha, (563–483 BC), also known as Buddha (“Enlightened One”).
- Founded in modern-day Nepal and India as a reformation of Hinduism.
- Main types: Theravada, Mahayana, Vajrayana.



Gautama Siddhartha starving himself in pursuit of enlightenment.

Buddhism



KEY WRITINGS

- *The Mahavastu* (“Great Story”) a collection covering the Buddha’s life story.
- *The Jataka Tales*, 550 stories of the former lives of the Buddha.
- *The Tripitaka* (“Three Baskets”)
- *The Tantras*, as recorded in Tibetan Buddhism.

Buddhism



WHO IS GOD?

- The Buddha himself did not believe in the existence of God.
- Others speak of the Buddha as a universal enlightened consciousness or as a god.



Buddhist monks going to temple in Laos

Buddhism



WHO IS JESUS?

- Jesus Christ is not part of the historic Buddhist worldview.
- Buddhists in the West today generally view Jesus as an enlightened teacher, while Buddhists in Asia believe Jesus is an avatar or a bodhisattva, but not God.



Statue of a bodhisattva
in Japan

Buddhism



WHO IS THE HOLY SPIRIT?

- The Holy Spirit is not part of this belief.
- Buddhists do believe in spirits, and some practice deity yoga and invite spirit possession.

Buddhism



HOW TO BE SAVED

- Goal of life is nirvana, to eliminate all desires or cravings, and in this way escape suffering.
- The Eightfold Path is a system to free Buddhists from desiring anything and eventually achieve nonexistence.



Buddhism



WHAT HAPPENS AFTER DEATH?

- People do not have their own individual souls or spirits.
- However, one's desires and feelings may be reincarnated into another person after death.



Buddhist Wheel of Life
fresco

Buddhism



OTHER BELIEFS, PRACTICES

- Some Buddhist groups talk about an “eternal Buddha” (life-force).
- Through the “Doctrine of Assimilation” the belief systems of other religions are blended into their form of Buddhism.

Soka Gakkai International



FOUNDED, LOCATION

- Founded by Tsunesaburo Makiguchi (1871–1944) and Josei Toda (1900–1958) in 1930 in Japan.
- Based on 13th-century Nichiren Buddhism.



Tsunesaburo Makiguchi



Josei Toda

KEY WRITINGS

- *The Lotus Sutra and The Major Writings of Nichiren Daishonin*
- Writings of Daisaku Ikeda



Nichiren Daishonin

WHO IS GOD?

- There is no god in Soka Gakkai.
- Followers hold to a monistic worldview, believing that there is no separation between creator and creature.
- Followers believe they are protected by Buddhist, Hindu, and Shinto gods that they regard as spiritual forces.

WHO IS JESUS?

- Jesus Christ is not part of this belief.

WHO IS THE HOLY SPIRIT?

- The Holy Spirit is not part of this belief.

HOW TO BE SAVED

- Enlightenment, prosperity, and healing come from chanting *nam-myoho-renge-kyo*, a mantra (phrase) expressing devotion to the law of karma.
- Fulfilling worldly desires brings enlightenment, which can be achieved in one lifetime.

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER DEATH?

- Repeated reincarnation until one awakens to one's Buddha nature, then enters nirvana (escaping the cycle of rebirth).
- Heaven and hell are two of ten states of existence.
- After death, one enters a suspended state called *Ku*.

Soka Gakkai International SGI

OTHER BELIEFS, PRACTICES

- Worship of a sacred scroll called the Gohonzon.
- Soka University is SGI's main educational institution in the United States.



Gohonzon



What the Bible Teaches

What the Bible Teaches

Why Should Christians Study Other Religions?

- To effectively share the gospel
 - Paul's goal in Acts 17:24–28 was to build bridges and help followers of other religions understand the gospel.
- To uphold the faith
 - Early Christian leaders, such as Paul, Peter, John, and Jude warned and instructed Christians about the teachings of false prophets.
 - Their goal was to defend the flock and uphold the faith.

What the Bible Teaches

How to Test the Prophets

- “Dear friends, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world. This is how you can recognize the Spirit of God: Every spirit that acknowledges that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, but every spirit that does not acknowledge Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you have heard is coming and even now is already in the world.”—*1 John 4:1–3*

What the Bible Teaches

How to Recognize False Gospels

- “But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach a gospel other than the one we preached to you, let him be eternally condemned! As we have already said, so now I say again: If anybody is preaching to you a gospel other than what you accepted, let him be eternally condemned!”—*Galatians 1:8–9*

What Other Groups Say about Jesus	What the Bible Says
Jesus was not God.	John 1:1–18; 8:56–58; Col. 1;15–20; 1 Tim. 3:16
Jesus was created by God.	John 10:30–38; 17:5; Isa. 7:14; Matt. 1:18
There are three separate gods: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, not one God in three persons	Deut. 6:4; Isa. 7:14; 43:10; 44:6–8; Matt. 1:18; 28:18–19; John 10:30–38; Heb. 1:1–14; 1 Peter 1:2
Jesus was not necessary because there is no sin.	John 3:14–17; Rom. 3:23–30; 6:23; 1 Cor. 15:1–8; 1 John 1:8–10.
Jesus was not raised bodily from the dead.	Luke 24:36–53; Acts 1:11; 1 Cor. 15:1–3
Jesus was a great prophet, but not God.	Isa. 7:14; Matt. 1:18; John 5:17–18, 23; 10:30–38; Col. 2:9–10

What Other Groups Say about Jesus	What the Bible Says
There are many ways to God, not just one.	John 3:14–17; 14:6–7; 1 Tim. 2:5–6
Jesus is not necessary because people must pay for their own sins.	John 17:2–3; Rom. 6:23; 10:3–10; Eph. 2:8–9
Jesus died for sins, but people can't be saved unless they obey all of the teachings of the church.	John 14:6–7; Rom. 10:3–10; Eph. 2:8–9
Jesus is God, but less than God the Father.	John 5:17–23; 14:6–7; Col. 2:9–10
Jesus was just a man.	Isa. 7:14; Matt. 1:18; John 10:30–38; 2:18–22
Jesus is not the only son of God.	John 3:14–17, 36; Heb. 1:1–14
Jesus will never come again.	Acts 1:11; 1 Thess. 4:13–18

What the Bible Teaches

How to Become a Christian

- The Bible says God loved the world so much that he gave his only begotten Son, that whoever believes in him will not perish but have everlasting life (John 3:16). God loves you and wants a relationship with you.
- The ABCs
 - All have sinned (Rom. 3:23; 6:23; 1 John 1:10).
 - Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ (Acts 16:31; John 1:12).
 - Confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead (Rom. 10:9).



Happy

No Bible Study

Tuesday, November 25th

Wednesday, November 26th

No Prayer Meeting

Wednesday November 26th



**December
Bible Study
Tuesday @ 7pm**

**Rev. Gerry T. Anderson
Pastor**



**NMBC invites you to join us
Weekly**

on Wednesdays @ 7:00pm via



Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83142456020?pwd=jRBReVYTYgORJbQ0CRU9zWRqX9YY9d.1>

Meeting ID: **831 4245 6020**

Passcode: **677284**

Dial-in: **(929) 205-6099**

**COME PRAY
WITH US**

Prayer Box

Please submit your
prayer
requests in the
“Prayer Box”
located in the front
lobby.



Prayer Request Card

If you have any prayer requests or needs,
please let us know & let us pray for you!

For you shall go out in joy and be led forth in peace, the mountains and the hills before you
shall break forth into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. Isaiah 55:12



MISSIONARY MINISTRY



PANTRY DONATION DRIVE



Thank you for
your donations!

- * Canned Vegetables
- * Rice
- * Cranberry Sauce
- * Stuffing Mix



THANKSGIVING FOOD DISTRIBUTION



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2025
9 A.M. until all boxes are distributed

NEW MACEDONIA BAPTIST CHURCH

7725 HIGHWAY 85 | RIVERDALE, GA 30274

First come, First served

ATTENTION
NMBC Members aged 75 & up

Saturday, December 13th ~ 10:00-11:00 AM

HOLIDAY DRIVE-BY

Senior Saints 75 & older

Each participant will receive a token of love

Deadline to sign up is December 5th. Please sign up at the security desk or call the church at 678-479-8190 and leave a message for Sis. Shelia Watson or Sis. Brenda Marshall.

2025 Mortgage Burning Campaign

**The Goal = \$76,756.50
to pay off our mortgage by December 15, 2025**

The Ask = \$512 pledge per household

**For questions or info, contact the church
@ 678-479-8190 or @ nmbapt@bellsouth.net**

Good Night

sweet DREAMS

DEAR Friends

