

CHAPTER 5

RISE AND SPREAD OF CHRISTIANITY AND ISLAM

CHAPTER 5.1

CHRISTIANITY

I. ANSWER THE FOLLOWING IN ONE WORD OR ONE SENTENCE EACH.

1. Which is the biggest religion in the world?

A: Christianity

2. Who was the founder of Christianity?

A: Jesus Christ.

3. Which is the emblem of Christianity?

A: Cross.

4. Which was the religious center of the Jews?

A: Jerusalem.

5. Which God was worshipped by the Jews?

A: God Jehovah.

6. Which was the religious text of the Jews?

A: Hebrew Bible.

7. Who was the religious prophet of the Jews?

A: Moses.

8. When was Jesus Christ born?

A: 25th December, 4th BCE.

9. Where was Jesus born?

A: Bethlehem in Judea.

10. What do u mean by Christ?

A: Anointed one.

11. On which hill was Jesus crucified?

A: Mount Calvary at Golgotha hill near Jerusalem.

12. What is Easter Sunday?

A: After crucifixion, Jesus rose to life on the third day (Sunday) after his death. This day is celebrated as Easter.

13. Which part of the Bible contains the teachings of Jesus?

A: New Testament.

14. What was Milan Edict?

A: Roman emperor Constantine issued the Edict of Milan, in 313 CE, to make Christianity a legal religion in the Roman empire.

15. Who was the first Roman emperor to accept Christianity?

A: Emperor Constantine.

16. Who was the Roman emperor to declare Christianity as National religion?

A: Emperor Constantine.

17. Who was the first Christian Missionary who came to India to spread Christianity?

A: St.Thomas.

II. ANSWER IN TWO WORDS OR TWO SENTENCES EACH.

1. Who were the parents of Jesus?

A: Joseph and Virgin Mary.

2. Which are the two parts of the Bible?

- A: a) Old Testament
b) New Testament.

3. When was Jesus crucified? Who was the Roman Governor at that time?

- A: a) On Friday, April 3rd, 30 CE.
b) Pontius Pilate.

4. What was Resurrection of Jesus?

- A: After being crucified on Friday, April 3rd, 30 CE, Jesus rose to life on the third day (Sunday) after his death. This event is called Resurrection of Jesus.

5. Name the two important disciples of Jesus.

- A: a) St. Peter
b) St. Paul.

6. Name the two Roman emperors who tortured Christians?

- A: a) Emperor Nero
b) Emperor Diocletian.

7. Who issued Milan Edict? When?

- A: a) Emperor Constantine
b) 313 CE.

8. Who were the two Roman emperors who gave royal patronage to Christianity?

- A: a) Emperor Constantine
b) Emperor Theodosius.

9. Which are the important festivals of Christians?

- A: a) Christmas – Birth day of Jesus
b) Easter - Resurrection of Jesus .

10. Which are the two sects of Christianity?

- A: a) Roman Catholics.
b) Protestants.

III. ANSWER IN 15 TO 20 SENTENCES.

1. Write about the life history of Jesus.

A: Jesus was the founder of Christianity. He was a Jew. He was born on 25th December, 4 BCE at Bethlehem in Judea. Joseph and Virgin Mary were his parents. The birth of Jesus and the appearance of Eastern star made the priests to believe that Jesus was a divine entity. So, they began to worship him. As Jesus grew up, he learnt the profession of his father, which is carpentry, and also grazed the sheep. He led a simple life and mingled with the poor. At the age of twelve, he went to a Jewish church and surprised the people by expounding them the meaning of religious texts, which people had failed to understand. John the Baptist, told his people that the Messiah would arrive to deliver and relieve them from sinful life. He was baptized by John at the age of 30. After this he became a wandering preacher.

He spent the rest of his life preaching about fatherhood of God. His simple teachings gathered people around him, he helped the sick and oppressed. By his virtuous religious and spiritual thoughts, Jesus became Christ. Christ means "anointed one". He said love of justice, humility, and obedience to the will of God were the gateway to heaven. He criticized Jewish religious practices, so he became their enemy. King Herod condemned him and sent him to death. He was crucified at Mount Calvary in Golgotha hill near Jerusalem. It is believed that he rose to life on the third day after his death. This is known as Resurrection of Jesus and this day is celebrated as Easter Sunday.

2. Explain the teachings of Jesus Christ.

A: The important teachings of Jesus Christ are:

- 1) Jesus preached the existence of one God. We are his sons. God is supreme, the king of heaven. He is merciful.
- 2) Jesus preached fatherhood of God and brotherhood of men. Men should live like brothers and be devoted to God.
- 3) Jesus believed in forgiveness. He emphasized upon love towards mankind. He insisted on justice, humility, and duty. He said, "love your neighbors, love your enemies, bless them who curse you and do good to those who hate you and pray for them."
- 4) According to Jesus, humility, purity of heart, sincerity and fulfillment of duty were the gateway to heaven.
- 5) One should give up worldly richness. Those who have mercy will reach the kingdom of heaven.
- 6) He said, "Service to people is service to God".
- 7) He said "do not commit adultery", "do not steal", and "give respect to elders".
- 8) He believed in the kingdom of heaven, where there is no discrimination like poor-rich, slave-helpless, superior-inferior etc.
- 9) Forgiveness is a great virtue and such people are close to God.

3. Which were the important causes for the spread of Christianity?

A: 1. Personality of Jesus:

The simplicity of Jesus attracted common people. His appeal towards poor, sinners and sufferers and his spiritual power helped in the spread of religion.

2. Simple principles:

Jesus's principles like fraternity, compassion, forgiveness and faith in the kingdom of heaven made Him popular among poor and slaves.

3. Role of Apostles:

The 12 Apostles played an important role in spreading Christianity. Among them St. Peter and St. Paul are important. St. Peter found a church at Rome and became the first Pope to spread Christianity in Rome and Asia Minor. St. Paul became the second Pope and spread Christianity in Greece, Rome, Macedonia, Athens, Damascus and Philippi. He established churches to propagate the principles of Jesus. He is called as 'Second Jesus'. The martyrdom inspired many like St. Mathew, St. Mark, St. Luke and St. John. They consolidated the Gospels of Jesus. The efforts of St. Augustine in England, St. Patrick in Ireland, and St. Boniface in Germany led to the spread of Christianity.

4. Conviction of Christians:

Christians preach love for cruelty, compassion for non-compassion. Rome could not destroy this religion, instead it accepted this as its state religion.

5. Role of church:

People believed church as way to heaven and Pope as representative of God. Despite persecution, Christianity gained popularity.

6. Role of Constantine:

Roman emperor Constantine recognized Christianity and built a new city called Constantinople. He gave permission to the missionaries to spread Christianity in the East. He issued the Edict of Milan in 313 CE, to make Christianity a legal religion in the Roman empire.