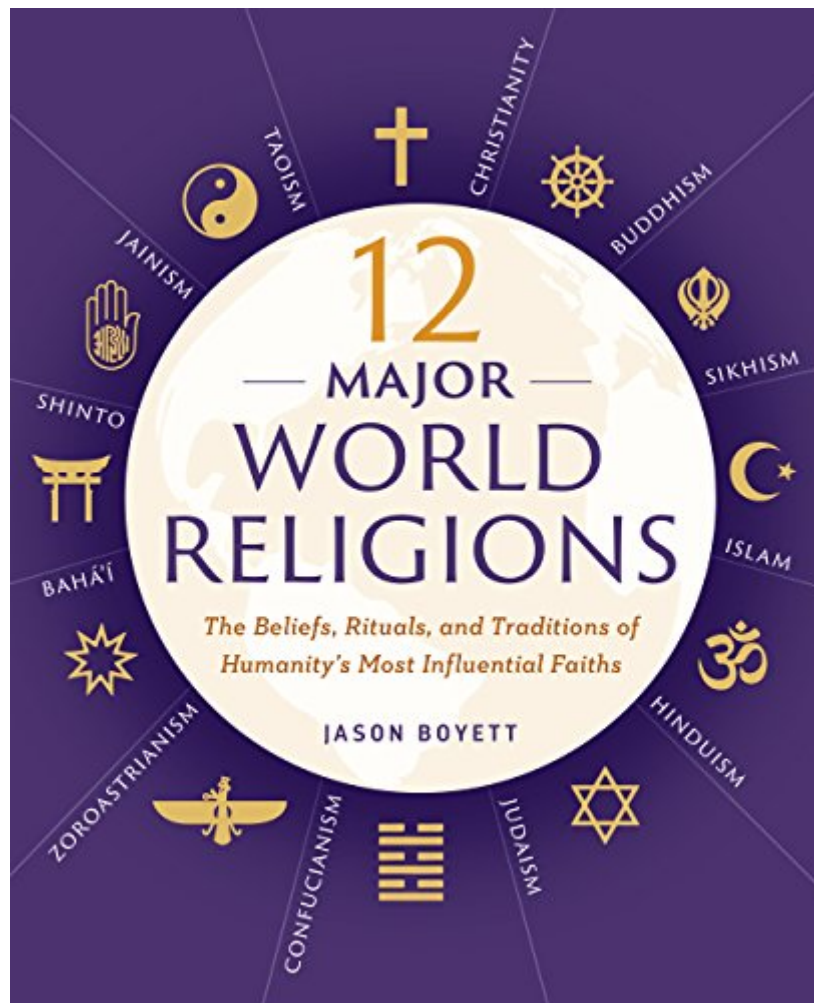




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12 Major World Religions: The Beliefs, Rituals, And Traditions Of Humanity's Most Influential Faiths



Synopsis

For billions of people, having a religious belief system provides purpose in life. For some, religion serves as a guide for moral behavior. Today's world is one in which our understanding of world religions is both understatedly important, as well as increasingly complex. After many years exploring the foundations of various world religions, Jason Boyett has written this comprehensive, easy-to-understand exploration of the twelve major world religions through a meticulous, yet unbiased lens. 12 Major World Religions offers an impartial look at where each of these belief systems intersects, how they differ, and why some have been misunderstood or are currently misunderstood.

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Customer Reviews

If you're looking for a basic understanding of some of the different religions of the world, then this is

a great place to start. However, if you're already well-versed in the different religions of the world, then this book might seem a bit repetitive, but is still an informative book to add to your collection. I, personally, felt that the author provided an insightful, unbiased look into these practices. The book starts off by providing an explanation of ancient foundations for religion; ancient Egypt, ancient Greece/Rome, and the ancient Nordic religion are all mentioned. It includes information on how these ancient people interacted with the world around them and searched for meaning in things that they could not explain (natural disasters, illness, etc.). This section basically defines a basis for believing. It also discusses the major gods and goddesses of these ancient religions, what they thought of death and the afterlife, and includes methods of practice. Once you've obtained a basic understanding of the earliest religions, the book then moves on to today's most popular religions. This section leads off with a chart for reference. This chart shows the number of people in the world that practice the religion, the number of subdivisions, the largest branches of the religion, when the religion began, their primary text, and the location of most of its followers. The religions in this book include Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, Sikhism, Taoism, Judaism, Confucianism, Bahá'í, Shinto, Jainism, and Zoroastrianism. Each religion has its own chapter that takes a close, comparative look at the religions. Each section explains where the religion began, major figures, primary beliefs, major texts, ceremonial practices, divisions, and the potential future of the religions. It should be noted that Zoroastrianism, Taoism, and Confucianism have a significantly small number of followers in comparison to the other religions, but they have had a profound impact on the rituals and beliefs of much larger religious systems today. This is not a book that you have to sit and read in its entirety; it's laid out to make it easy for you to switch back and forth, and to find the specific information you're looking for. Overall, a good read. I would recommend this to those looking for an introduction into the different religions of the world.* I received this complimentary book in exchange for an honest, unbiased review. All opinions are my own.

I love it and use it in my classes.

Very convenient! No need to go shopping! Five stars! Excellent!

Very informative

just enough information on each to use as a Bible study of world religions.

This is an absolutely readable book and I quite enjoyed reading it. There were some obscure nuggets of info that I didn't before on some items; all in all I'd recommend the book to someone who is completely ignorant of the subject. Is it the best work out there? No! However, a book with more meat and substance would be quite scholarly with costs to match. Coming from where I do, the subject of Hinduism, Jainism, and Islam was, in my opinion, somewhat watered down; probably to appeal to it's, assumedly, intended audience, the American Christian reader. For example, the subject of untouchability is not handled at all -- which was a big disappointment. Another case in point, Muharram -- it is a major cause of discontent between Shiites and Sunnis. In essence, the book has steered clear of anything controversial or negative. The highlight of the book is that, as much as is humanly possible, the subject matters within each religion/sect is arranged evenly. So, whether you are reading about Buddhism, or Judaism, you will encounter a similar flow of content.

ok overall, I was hoping for a bit more detail

This book gives an in-depth look at the 12 major religions of the world: Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, Sikhism, Taoism, Judaism, Confucianism, Baha'i, Shinto, Jainism, and Zoroastrianism. The book is broken down into two main sections: the Ancient Foundations being Egypt, Greece/Rome, and the Nordic Region and The Twelve. A few of these I had very little knowledge of and wish I would have picked up the book instead of the kindle version so I could flip back and forth more easily. I received this product for free in exchange for my honest and unbiased review and really liked that the author included the foundations of the religions. It helped to give me a better understanding of some of the lesser known to me religions. The author talked about specific God's to each religion if applicable and the roots of each. For example, the Shinto religion has no supreme deity and no sacred text. There is also no set of doctrine in the Shinto religion unlike many of the other religions. This religion was actually developed before the Japanese language and had its own unique system of writing. The author gives timelines and a rich history lesson for each religion. He also talks about the culture of the people that embody each religion and major figures of each religion. I like the way the book is laid out and think the book would be great for anyone wanting to learn more about other religion especially ones that may be a little less common. I would have liked to have seen some charts comparing the similar religions, but found the book very information. I do recommend the book form instead for this read.

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