

## World Religions Part 3: Hinduism

### History of Hinduism

#### Caste System:

Brahmins  
Kshatriyas  
Vaisyas  
Shudras  
Untouchables

### Foundation of Hinduism

Reincarnation  
Karma

### Four Paths to Moksha (Salvation):

Karma  
Bhakti  
Jnana  
Raja

### Nine Core Beliefs of Hinduism

1. Reverence for their revealed scriptures
2. All-pervasive divinity
3. Three worlds and Cycles of creation
4. The laws of Karma and Dharma
5. Reincarnation and Liberation
6. Temples and the Inner Worlds
7. Yoga guided by Satguru
8. Compassion and Noninjury
9. Genuine Respect for other faiths



### Key Differences from Christianity:

1. In Hinduism, Jesus is not god, but one of the many incarnations of Vishnu  
John 1:1-2, 14
2. Hindus believe in Reincarnation and Multiple paths to Salvation  
Hebrews 9:26b-27

### Takeaway:

Hinduism is more of a philosophy than a theology, and any religion that seeks god within themselves is too small. More importantly, Hinduism, like every other religion other than Christianity, does not worship a Living God.

### Study/Discussion Questions:

1. What did you learn about Hinduism that was new to you?
2. Do we experience any type of caste system in the U.S. today? If so, what does it look like?
3. How do the concepts of Reincarnation and Karma show up today? How can these ideologies be dangerous?
4. What are the primary differences between Hinduism and Christianity? Why do these differences matter?

