



African Traditional Religions
 Sermon by Ray Reynolds (11/ 28/10)

Introduction: In this lesson we are going to look at some primitive and traditional religions found in Africa. As I summarize these religions, there is so much more beneath the surface that you should take the opportunity to do further study. Now, let's study together. . . .

Discussion:

I. Backgrounds of African Traditional Religions

- A. The Facts About Africa (520 to 550 million people, 122 million sq miles)
- B. The Education of Africans (16-18% literacy rate).
- C. The Work of Africans (farming, crops, hunting, etc.)
- D. The Customs of Africa (living conditions, family traditions, etc.)
- E. The Religions of Africa (localized religions, mixing, adapting, etc.)

II. Teachings & Practices of African Traditional Religions

- A. Common Characteristics of African Traditional Religions
Oral Tradition, Archeological Evidence or Linguistic Sources, Continuing Practice, Art
- B. Common Practices of African Traditional Religions
Concept of Creation, Concept of a Spiritual Cosmos. Concept of a Divine Being, Concept of a Lesser God or Spirits, Concept of a Sacred Places, Spaces, and Symbols, Concept of a Persons
- C. Common Rituals in African Traditional Religions
Birth, Initiation, Marriage, Death, Sacrifices

III. Christianity & African Traditional Religions

- A. Break Down the Barriers
John 1:43-51, Luke 9:51-56, Matthew 28:18-20, Mark 16:15-16
- B. Learn the Language & the Culture
Matthew 9:35, John 3:2, Matthew 10:9-11, Matthew 11:9
- C. Consider the Content of the Message
John 8:32, Romans 1:16, I Peter 1:22-23, Titus 2:1-2, Ephesians 4:15
- D. Use Your Gifts & Talents First
Matthew 25:14-30, Ephesians 4:11-16, Romans 12:6-7, I Corinthians 12:27-29
- E. Don't Force The Issues
Matthew 11:5, 13:1-23, Mark 4:24, Luke 8:18, Matthew 10:42, I Corinthians 3:7

Conclusion: We need to be careful not to allow prejudice and ignorance to become a part of our lives. Do you have a new life in Christ (**Romans 6:3-4**)? Is your faith deeply rooted in Christ?

WORD OF THE DAY = "GOD"