



Hinduism

Sermon by Ray Reynolds (9/12/10 - PM)

Introduction: Scholars and anthropologists believe that Hinduism precedes Judaism and has its roots in the Patriarchal age. Hinduism is credited for the root system of many Indian religions. Our goal is to get a basic understanding of this world religion and then see where we can find common ground to reach them with the good news of the gospel. Let's study together

Discussion:

I. Backgrounds of Early Hinduism

- A. The early roots of Hinduism (2,000 BC)
- B. The sects of Hinduism (Saivism, Shaktism, Vaishnavism, Smartism)
- C. The sacred writings of Hinduism (The Veda's = Rig, Sama, Yajur, Atharva)
- D. The gods of Hinduism (Brahma, Sheva, and Vishnu = Brahman)
- E. The historic development of Hinduism (Aryan influence)

II. Teachings of Hinduism

- A. The caste system (Brahmin, Kshatriya, Vashya, Shudra)
- B. The concept of reincarnation (Samsara = Circle of Life)
- C. The concept of karma ("Good begets good, and bad begets bad")
- D. The concept of nirvana (Karma Yoga, Raja Yoga, Bhakti Yoga, Jnana Yoga)
- E. The stages of life (Student, Householder, Nomad, Holy Man)

III. Christianity & Hinduism

- A. Human Rights (**Matthew 7:12**)
- B. Fear of Islam (**Matthew 5:38-48**)
- C. Relationships (**John 3:16**)
- D. Outreach (**John 4:39-42, Acts 8:1-25**)
- E. Evangelism (**Acts 8:26-40, Acts 17:32-34**)

Conclusion: God is not the author of confusion (**I Corinthians 14:33**). God hopes to bring all religions to the cross! Jesus died for all men (**John 3:16**) and He is both "*Lord and Christ*" (**Acts 2:36**). We need to "*repent and be baptized*" for the remission of our sins (**Acts 2:38**). We can be given a new life in Christ (**Romans 6:3-4**). Is your faith deeply rooted in Christ?

WORD OF THE DAY = "Hinduism"