



**Shintoism, Legalism, and Zoroastrianism**  
*Sermon by Ray Reynolds (10/ 3/10)*

Introduction: For as long as there have been communities and cultures there have been religious people. Some monotheistic and some polytheistic. In our lesson today we will move into Japan and Persia to see some more religions that are very prominent. Let's study together. . . .

Discussion:

**I. Backgrounds of Shintoism**

- A. The early roots of Shintoism (3rd century BC)
- B. The teachings of Shintoism (Nihongi and Kojika)
- C. The sects of Shintoism (Sectarian Shinto and State Shinto Religion).

**II. Backgrounds of Legalism**

- A. The early roots of Legalism (7th century BC)
- B. The teachings of Legalism (Shang Yang's writings)
- C. The conflicts of Legalism
- D. The communist roots in Legalism
- E. The assimilation of beliefs

**III. Backgrounds of Zoroastrianism**

- A. The early roots of Zoroastrianism (6th century BC)
- B. The life of Zoroaster (7th Century BC)
- C. The teachings of Zoroastrianis (The Gathas)

**IV. Christianity & The Eastern Religions**

- A. The difference between God and Satan.  
**Isaiah 14:1-23, Ezekiel 28:11-19, Jude 6, Genesis 1:1, Deuteronomy 6:4-5, John 1:1**
- B. The fight between good and evil.  
**II Corinthians 10:3-5, Ephesians 6:10-18, I Corinthians 15, Galatians 5:22-23, John 15:1-8**
- C. The need for a pure mind and conscience.  
**Romans 12:1-2, Ephesians 4:23, I Peter 1:13, James 1:14-15**
- D. The fear of a dead or angry god.  
**Hebrews 7:25, Hebrews 4:15, I Peter 5:7, John 3:16**
- E. The belief in a higher standard of living.  
**II Corinthians 13:11, I Peter 2:21-25, Romans 3:23, 6:23, James 3:2, I John 1:8-2:1, Philippians 2:5**

Conclusion: God created every human on this planet! We need to love one another! Do you have a new life in Christ (**Romans 6:3-4**)? Is your faith deeply rooted in Christ?

**WORD OF THE DAY = "Religion"**