

## Christianity

At the time of the Crusades Christianity as a practice was in its rudimentary beginning. The men and women of the Crusades were ruled more by their emotions than by logic. They followed the Bible but more so, they followed those that interpreted the Bible for them. As Pope, Urbane III is the religious leader for the Crusaders and he is responsible for delivering the word of God to his people.

## The Old Testament and the Old Covenant

In the time before Jesus Christ, The Lord God demanded his children use exacting ritual to properly make their praise. In return The Lord would care for his children. When The Lamb Christ arrived on this Earth, the old rituals were no longer required.

For those that still observe the Old Covenant, the power is still granted to protect his children. The rituals and words are contained in documents such as the Sword of Moses. Power is also contained in artifacts of the time before Christ such as the Ark of the Covenant.

Be warned, the rituals must be followed exactly or The Lord will be offended and his wrath may be turned upon those that do not care enough to practice properly the Old Covenant.

## The New Testament and The Way of Christ

When Jesus Christ walked the Earth preaching his message that is now known as Christianity or the Way of Christ, he ended the Old Covenant ways. By accepting Christ as your personal Lord and Savior you would be granted relief from your burdens and God would walk with you. Now you could reach God through prayer rather than ritual.

Prayer will give you the strength to defeat your foes. It is only through your actions that The Lord will grant you the power to vanquish your faithless foes, The Lord will not do this for you.

## Islam and The Way of Muhammad

In the seventh century, at the age of 40, Muhammad was visited by the archangel Gabriel and provided him with the doctrine that would become known as Islam. The writings of the new and old testaments were incomplete and Muhammad was the prophet to finish them.

The Islamic calendar is based on a lunar cycle and corresponds to the following 12 months. 1. Al-Muharram, 2. Safar, 3. Rabe'ul Awwal, 4. Rabe'ul Athathanee, 5. Jumadah Awwal, 6. Jumadth Thanee, 7. Rajab, 8. Sha'aban, 9. Ramadan, 10. Shawwal, 11. Dhul-Qidah, 12. Dhul-Hijah. The practice of this religion is based on the five pillars of Islam.

The first pillar is that there is no God but Allah and Muhammad is his Prophet. This is the profession of faith that must be made in public by a Muslim once in a lifetime. The Muslim then becomes part of the Islamic community.

The five daily prayers are the second pillar. The prayers are to be offered in a mosque whenever possible and a call to prayer is announced by the muezzin prayer caller from a minaret at the mosque. The first prayer is offered before sunrise, the second is offered soon after noon, the third is offered in the late afternoon, the next is after soon sunset, and the last must be before midnight.

Payment of the zakat is the third pillar of Islam. This is to help the poor and continue to fund the Islamic holy war known as Jihad.

The fourth pillar is fasting during Ramadan in the ninth month of the Islamic calendar. One must fast from dawn to sunset and have no sinful thoughts or actions.

The fifth pillar is to make at least one pilgrimage to the Kaaba at Mecca in their lifetime. The pilgrim is dressed in a seamless white gown

and does not cut their hair or shed blood. The journey begins in the first ten days of Dhul-Hijah.

The followers of Islam are known as Muslims and Allah will protect them and aid them in their fight against the invaders and they will protect the world and its environment.

## Hell and Lucifer's Fall

With Lucifer's fall from the grace of The Lord, came the creation of Hell. Jealous and hateful toward mankind for the attention paid to them by The Lord, Lucifer became more distorted. As his inside changed so his outside appearance began to deform and he tried several times to hide himself from The Lord but it was not to be and Lucifer reacted drastically. When Lucifer came to war against The Lord with his army of fellow Angels he was cast out of the Plane of Heaven and to the Plane of Hell where the souls of those that did not live according to the way of The Lord were sent.

What were once Angels that believed in what Lucifer said in Heaven and fought for with him, have now become twisted, misshapen, and dark. An evil jealous anger, self-loathing, and resentment grew. Those that were Angels were cruel to the souls that pined to be with God. The stronger Angels became Devils and the lesser Angels became Demons. The Devils and Demons began to prod and organize the souls into something of their own individual armies and the armies became a way for them to release their rage and despair.

In Hell many battles were fought, as the former Angelic allies became bitter Hellish enemies. Some blamed others, many blamed Lucifer, and wars were initiated against different factions.

In the end all saw the futility and struck something of an overall truce with Lucifer as the overall ruler. Though many skirmishes still exist in Hell, there are no more wars. Some that speak with the denizens of Hell say it is because the beings have discerned a way out of Hell for all time and they are working on this plan.

## The Old Gods

Before there was a worship of The Lord or the worship of Allah, there was worship of Old Gods by beings that were not yet men. The Old Gods are forgotten by most but a few know of them. The origin and nature of the Old Gods is unknown.

Some writings exist in the land that was once Sumer and is now known as Umm Qasr, deep in the Seljuk Empire, where the Tigris River meets the Persian Sea.

Knowledge of these entities exists in old writings in clay and stone that are scattered about much of the world. In Egypt more information is known of the Old Gods that rule the dead before the time of Lucifer's Fall. The records of the methods of worship and the rituals remained intact and there are priests that continue the worship in secret to the present day. In other slivers of the world the practices are rudimentary and dangerous but many attempt the practices regardless.

The Byzantine Empire secured many of these writings. At first they were studied with the curiosity of the scholar but some decadents began to believe in the power of the ancient writings. Secret cults formed that engaged in the worship and practiced the rituals.

## Gypsy Magick

A combination of sleight of hand and powers from an ancient time are combined to produce the illusory abilities of the Gypsies. Their spells are not designed to cause great damage but more to trick the target into misdirection so the Gypsy will better be able to accomplish his goal.