

## COMPARATIVE RELIGION

Armstrong, Karen, *The Battle for God: Fundamentalism in Judaism, Christianity and Islam*, 2000, 442 pages.

500 years of the history of Islamic, Jewish, and Christian extremism is examined showing how the myth-making religious imagination has always responded with fear and horror to the march of progressive rationalism.

**291.09 Arm BG**

Ashby, Philip H., *The Conflict of Religions*, 1955, 225 pages.

Ashby presents an understanding of the conflict in which the leading religions find themselves in their encounter with present times, in their relationship to other religions, and their own internal tensions, and suggests a way to go beyond conflict.

**290 Ash CR**

Besant, Annie, *Esoteric Christianity: Or the Lesser Mysteries*, 1970, 277 pages.

Deep truths underlying Christian dogma—lost in the Council of Nicea in 325 A.D.—explore subjects such as the historical and mythic Christ, the Atonement, the Resurrection and Ascension, the Trinity, the Sacraments, and Revelation.

**T B463 EC**

Besant, Annie, *Seven Great Religions*, 1978, 274 pages.

Based on lectures given in 1896, this book describes the primary teachings of Hinduism, Zoroastrianism, Jainism, Buddhism, Christianity, Islam, and Sikhism, and helps us recognize the value and beauty of them all.

**T B463 SGR 1978**

Bockl, George, *God Beyond Religion: Personal Journeyings from Religiosity to Spirituality*, c1988, 184 pages.

The author follows the lives of some people on a journey from orthodoxy, dogma, rules, and rituals to the free-breathing atmosphere of the spirit, as they reach out to the God beyond the exclusivism of established religions.

**291 Boc GR**

Bucaille, Maurice, *The Bible, the Qur'an and Science: The Holy Scriptures Examined in the Light of Modern Knowledge*, c1979, 253 pages.

An objective study of the texts, that separates what belongs to revelation from what is the product of error or human interpretation. It shows these scriptures as a revelation emanating from the same God, with modes of expression that differ through the course of time.

**291 Buc BQS**

Camphausen, Rufus C., *The Divine Library: A Comprehensive Reference Guide to the Sacred Texts and Spiritual Literature of the World*, c1992, 211 pages.

A concise and comprehensive guide to the full spectrum of spiritual literature, that describes 140 sacred texts in relation to the cultures that spawned them and in the context of other contemporary sacred works.

**291.82 Cam DL**

Carmody, Denise L., *Exploring American Religion*, c1990, 376 pages.

An introductory survey of American religion covering the history of its development, the American religious worldview, contemporary trends, and the challenges now facing American religion.

**291 Car EAR**

Charlesworth, James H., *Jews and Christians: Exploring the Past, Present, and Future*, 1990, 258 pages.

Reflections and dialogues of nine distinguished scholars explore past and present relationships between Christians and Jews, enhancing the development of stronger bonds between these two religions.

**261.26 JC**

Eliade, Mircea, *The Eliade Guide to World Religions*, c1991, 301 pages.

A survey of 33 major religious traditions, personalities, histories, sacred texts, mythology, and mystical techniques, as a one-volume distillation of the author's three-volume *A History of Religious Ideas* (291 Eli HRI v. 1-3).

**291 Eli EGWR**

Ellwood, Robert S., *Cycles of Faith: The Development of the World's Religions*, c2003, 215 pages.

Broad, common patterns are discernable within the developments of the world's five largest religions. They move through the following stages: apostolic, imperial, devotional, reformation, and folk religion.

**291 Ell CF**

Ellwood, Robert S., *Religious and Spiritual Groups in Modern America*, [c1973], 334 pages.

Contemporary diversity in religious and spiritual movements in America, are examined among twenty-five groups including Spiritualism, Theosophy, Rosicrucianism, Shamanism, New Thought, Anthroposophy, and Hindu movements.

**200.973 Ell RSGM**

Frazer, James George, Sir, *The Golden Bough: The Roots of Religion and Folklore*, 1981, 407 pages.

A classical anthropological study into the development of religion, which explores a multitude of myths and folktales ranging across cultures and centuries, and points out the striking similarities among them.

**291 FRA GB**

Freke, Timothy, *The Illustrated Book of Sacred Scriptures*, c1998, 175 pages.

A richly illustrated collection of readings from sacred literature exploring the perspectives of the world's religions on universal themes such as the Supreme Being, the Self, the Spiritual Path, Knowledge and Wisdom, among others.

**291.82 Fre IBSS (OVERSIZE)**

Griffiths, Bede, *Vedanta and Christian Faith*, 1991, 232 pages.

A collection of essays by two European Catholic priests who spent most of their lives in India, and Swami Pramananda, a close disciple of Swami Vivekananda who followed his master to the West.

**H181.48 Gri VCF**

Gross, Rita M., *Buddhists Talk about Jesus, Christians Talk about the Buddha*, 2000, 153 pages.

Twelve scholars—six Christian and six Buddhist—speak simply and frankly about their personal relationship to the great religious leader of the other tradition, celebrating the similarities as well as the differences between them.

**261.243 Gro BTJ**

Gross, Rita M., *Christians Talk about Buddhist Meditation, Buddhists Talk about Christian Prayer*, c2003, 157 pages.

A collection of articles in which Christian and Buddhist scholars-practitioners engage in dialog based on a spirit of candid and constructive criticism of their experiences of each other's tradition.

**261.243 GRO CT**

Hick, John, *More Than One Way? Four Views on Salvation in a Pluralistic World*, c1995, 283 pages.

A discussion of varying viewpoints about salvation: Is it in Christ alone? Is it also available to those who have not had the opportunity of hearing the gospel? Is it universally available but established by Christ? And, do all religions lead to God?

**261.2 Okh MTOW**

Holdrege, Barbara A., *Veda and Torah: Transcending the Textuality of Scripture*, c1996, 765 pages.

Fundamental affinities shared by Brahmanic and Rabbinic traditions, provide an alternative model of the religious tradition, one that is founded on categories of interpretation other than the Christian-based ones of most modern scholars.

**291.82 Hol VT**

Ingram, Paul O., *Buddhist-Christian Dialogue: Mutual Renewal and Transformation*, c1986, 248 pages.

A collection of essays focused on philosophical, theological, and structural aspects of contemporary Buddhist-Christian dialogue in an effort to assess its potential as a source for renewal and transformation of both traditions.

**261.243 Ing BCD**

Jones, Prudence, *A History of Pagan Europe*, 1995, 262 pages.

A comprehensive study of Paganism as a persisting force in European history with a profound influence on modern thinking that offers rewarding — often provocative — new perspectives on European history.

**291.094 Jon HPE**

Küng, Hans, *Christianity and Chinese Religions*, 1989, 309 pages.

Presenting the Chinese spiritual traditions—folk religion, Confucianism, Taoism, and Buddhism—in all their complexity, this renowned Christian theologian provides an analysis from a Christian perspective.

**261.2951 KUN CCR**

Küng, Hans, *Christianity and the World Religions: Paths of Dialogue with Islam, Hinduism, and Buddhism*, 1986, 460 pages.

With an emphasis on reflection and reconciliation, Küng presents a series of discussions between a Christian theologian and three religious scholars, pointing towards an ecumenical solution to areas of religious friction.

**261.2 Kun CWR**

Larsen, Stephen, *The Fundamentalist Mind: How Polarized Thinking Imperils Us All*, c2007, 248 pages.

From the point of view of a mythologist and neuro-therapist, Larsen examines the biological conditioning of our brain to dualistic and absolutistic ways of thinking, and how religious myths and metaphors can be taken literally.

**200.19 LAR FM**

Lessa, William A., *Reader in Comparative Religion: An Anthropological Approach*, c1979, 488 pages.

An overview of anthropological findings about the origin and development of religion, its function in human society, an interpretation and analysis of symbolism, ritual, and myths, and an examination of shamanism, magic, and witchcraft.

**200.8 Les RCR**

Meyer, Marvin W., *The Ancient Mysteries: A Sourcebook: Sacred Texts of the Mystery Religions of the Ancient Mediterranean World*, c1987, 267 pages.

An anthology of original texts on the Greco-Roman mystery religions, including those of Eleusis, Messenia, Dionysos, Isis and Osiris, Mithras and the mysteries within Judaism and Christianity.

**291.13 AM**

Miller, Timothy, *America's Alternative Religions*, c1995, 474 pages.

A collection of essays written by experts, informs the reader on the most relevant alternative religions, covering such essentials as history, theology, impact on culture, and current status.

**200.973 AAR**

Mitchell, Donald W., *The Gethsemani Encounter: A Dialogue on the Spiritual Life by Buddhist and Christian Monastics*, 1998, 306 pages.

An inter-monastic encounter held in July 1996, centered on the spiritual life in the Buddhist and Christian monastic traditions. Part One offers 25 presentations on the subject and Part Two contains the actual dialogue itself.

**261.243 Mit GE**

O'Brien, Justin, *A Meeting of Mystic Paths: Christianity and Yoga*, c1996, 175 pages.

Combining the twin traditions of Christianity and yoga, the author shows contrasts and convergences, practices, and beliefs, bringing forth a new awareness of human dignity and dazzling possibilities for spiritual development.

**261.2 OBr MMP**

Osborne, Arthur, *Buddhism and Christianity in the Light of Hinduism*, [c1959], 164 pages.

Buddhism and Christianity have many parallelisms and yet, doctrinally, they are opposed in many respects. The author demonstrates how both approaches coexist in Hinduism and explains how they are complementary to each other.

**291 Osb BCH**

Peterson, Roland, *Everyone is Right: A New Look at Comparative Religion and its Relation to Science*, c1986, 304 pages.

A study of the truths that form the basis of the major religions, affirming their common messages, this book also includes an encounter between religion and science through esotericism—the Ageless Wisdom.

**291 Pet EIR**

Riegert, Ray, *The Lost Sutras of Jesus: Unlocking the Ancient Wisdom of the Xian Monks*, c2003, 140 pages.

The history, message, and meaning of a set of 1300-year-old scrolls lost in China for nine centuries, combines a new translation of selected Sutras with commentary from the editors.

**261.2 Rie LSJ**

Robertson, J. M., *Pagan Christs*, 1967, 171 pages.

An account of the numerous savior-gods in the history of ancient religion, whose death and resurrection was periodically celebrated, such as Adonis, Attis, Osiris, and Mithra, proposing that the Gospel story was a mystery play.

**202.3 Rob PG**

Schuon, Frithjof, *Christianity/Islam: Essays on Esoteric Ecumenicism*, c1985, 270 pages.

A collection of essays where the apparent outward contradictions between these two religions are seen not as irreconcilable alternatives, but as necessarily different crystallizations of a unique sacred Reality, which, itself, is above all forms.

**291 Sch CI**

Schuon, Frithjof, *The Transcendent Unity of Religions*, 1984, 173 pages.

A classic book showing that religions, in their essence or esoteric aspect, share a common ground, but which widely differ in their 'exoteric' teachings, those that are shaped by different cultures, times, and history.

**291 Sch TUR 1984**

Smart, Ninian, *The World's Religions: Old Traditions and Modern Transformations*, 1995, 576 pages.

A richly illustrated exploration into the extraordinary diversity of all major religions of the world—their beliefs, practices, institutions, and arts—and how they have shaped the history of the world.

**291 SMA WR**

Smith, Huston, *The World's Religions*, c1991, 399 pages.

Considered as one of the best, most accessible introductions to the major world religions, this book surveys the principal teachings of Hinduism, Buddhism, Confucianism, Taoism, Islam and Sufism, Judaism, Christianity, and the native traditions.

**291 Smi WR**

Smoley, Richard, *Hidden Wisdom: A Guide to the Western Inner Traditions*, 2006, 400 pages.

An overview of the mystical Western traditions that ranges from Jungian psychology to the Kabbalah and Gnosticism, and from Freemasonry and the Templars to alchemy, shamanism, neo-paganism, and esoteric Christianity.

**291 Smo HW**

Stark, Rodney, *Discovering God: The Origins of the Great Religions and the Evolution of Belief*, c2007, 484 pages.

Surveying the birth and growth of religions around the world, from the prehistoric era of primal beliefs to modern times, Stark proposes that God is discovered, not merely projected or fabricated, and that it is our understanding of God that evolves.

**200 Sta DG**

Tanner, Florice, *The Mystery Teachings in World Religions*, 1973, 192 pages.

Common teachings in Hinduism, Buddhism, Shintoism, Jainism, Sikhism, the Judeo-Christian tradition, Zoroastrianism, and pagan religions, are highlighted showing how key concepts are presented in different ways in each tradition.

**T T157 MTWR.**

Wallis, Richard T., *Neoplatonism and Gnosticism*, 1992, 531 pages.

This collection of essays analyzes the relationship between Neo-platonic philosophy and the religious movement of Gnosticism, with a view toward understanding how this relationship also influenced the development of early Christian theology.

**186.4 WAL NG**

Ward, Keith, *Religion and Revelation: A Theology of Revelation in the World's Religions*, 1994, 350 pages.

A new and detailed investigation of the idea of revelation in five major scriptural religions of the world—Christianity, Judaism, Hinduism and Buddhism, is provided using a comparative method.

**291 War RR**

Wilson, Andrew, *World Scripture: A Comparative Anthology of Sacred Texts*, 1995, 882 pages.

An assemblage of quotations from the holy scriptures of the world, with a systematic arrangement of the texts by themes that provide a logical and orderly way to compare and contrast the wide range of material.

**291.82 Wil WS**

### **Sound Recordings**

Algeo, John, *Annie Besant on the World's Great Religions*, AR 5060-9

Ellwood, Robert S., *God and Immortal Spirit: Theosophy and World Religions*, CDA 0023

Smith, Huston, *Many Religions as Voices in a Single Symphony*, CDA 0325-3

Templeton, John, *Wisdom from World Religions: Pathways Toward Heaven on Earth*, CDA 0102

### **Videorecordings**

Harewood, Dorian, *A History of God*, DVD 0210

Kultur International Films, *Religions of the World*, DVD 0176

Smith, Huston, *Huston Smith, a Life of Exploring Religious Frontiers*, VR 1153

1993 Parliament of the World's Religions, *Sunyata-Kenosis: The Arising of Universal Compassion in Spiritual Journey*, VR 0957 Pts. 1-3