

1  **World History I**


HIST 1210

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2  **Zoroastrianism (Iran)**

- Two main deities (Ahura Mazda, Ahriman)
- Constant battle:
 - good and evil
 - light and dark
 - truth and falsehood
 - spirit and matter
- Rituals involving fire and water
- Afterlife with rewards and punishments
- Never spread much beyond Iran.

3  **Religion: Abrahamic Religions**

- Shared elements
 - Belief in one God
 - Shared stories of creation
 - Covenant of Abraham
 - Tradition of prophets
 - Moral code
 - Similar rituals and practices.
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4  **Judaism**

- Worship of Yahweh (originally a tribal god)
- Scriptures (codified 6th century BCE)
 - Torah (Pentateuch): Creation, covenant, law
 - Histories, prophets, poetry, etc.
- Idea of the chosen people.

5  **Judaism**

- Kingdoms of Israel and Judah (11th-6th centuries BCE)
- Diaspora (8th-6th centuries BCE)
- Destruction of the Temple (586 BCE).

6  **Christianity**

- Life of Jesus
 - Jewish community
 - Preaching
 - Political and religious situation
 - Roman Empire
 - Divisions within Judaism
- Crucifixion.

7  **Christianity**

- Written Scriptures
- Worship
 - Weekly gatherings
 - Eucharist (body and blood of Christ)
 - Shared meal (agape or “love feast”).

8  **Christianity**

- Early spread
 - Within Jewish community
 - Outside of Jewish community (Saul/Paul)
 - Beyond Roman Empire
 - Appeal to women
 - Appeal to those outsiders.

9 **Christianity**

- Roman attitudes
 - General religious toleration
 - Requirement of public sacrifice
 - Distaste for elements of Christianity
 - Shameful death of a god
 - Misunderstanding of rituals
 - Refusal to sacrifice.

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10 **Christianity**

- Top-Down Conversion: Roman Empire
 - Persecution
 - Localized
 - Sporadic
 - Focus on public sacrifice
 - Conversion of Constantine, 313 CE
 - Official religion, 392 CE.

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11 **Discussion (5 minutes)**

- Sidonius lived in the western Roman Empire in the 400s CE, shortly before Rome's collapse. Does the picture you get from his writings agree with or disagree with the picture you have of this time and place from the textbook and other course materials?

12 **Writing (5 minutes)**

- Does the situation described by Sidonius agree or disagree with the situation described in your textbook and the lectures of the declining Roman Empire? Give examples from his letters to support your conclusion.