

Christian Beliefs

What Is God Like?



Learning Objective

- To be able to explain what Christians believe God is like.

Success Criteria

- I can describe what is meant by the term 'Abrahamic'.
- I can describe the main characteristics of God in Christianity.
- I can apply these characteristics to some Christian texts.

What Is God Like?



Think of three words that describe God.

If you don't believe in God, think about how a Christian person would describe God.



The Abrahamic Religions



In this topic, you will be finding out about what God is like in Christianity. Christianity is one of the Abrahamic religions.

These religions are all monotheistic. This means they believe in one God.



Judaism, Christianity and Islam are often called the 'Abrahamic' religions. This is because Abraham (called Ibrahim in Islam) is a major prophet in all three religions.

The God of Classical Theism



The three religions mentioned on the last slide have a very similar views of God. This shared idea of God is referred to as the God of Classical Theism.

Read the quotes from your task sheet. Use these to help you find out some of the characteristics Christians believe God has.

What Is the God of Classical Theism Like?



Christians believe God has four main traits or characteristics..

Clues

Benevolent=



Omnipotent



The God of Classical Theism

In the Abrahamic religions God's characteristics are:

Creator

The idea that God made the world and everything in it.

Benevolent

The idea that God is all-loving. This means he cares for each of us individually and will always forgive us if we sin. His love is everlasting.

Omnipotent

The idea that God is all-powerful and is able to do anything he wishes. For example, he has the power to perform miracles.

Omniscient

The idea that God knows everything that happens, has happened and will happen in the future. Some people refer to this as him being 'all-knowing'.

The Characteristics of God



Read the three stories/quotes on the task sheet.

Each one shows one of these characteristics in action:

- Omnipotence
- Benevolence
- Omniscience



Can you think of any other religious stories or events that show God putting one of these characteristics into action? Try to give one for each characteristic.