

Spectrum of Religious Beliefs

	Monotheism	Competing Dualism	Polytheism	Balancing Dualism	Monism	Atheism
Concept of God	One Transcendent God	Two Opposing gods	Many Gods	Two Opposing but interacting and balancing forces	An Impersonal Oneness	No God
Primary Examples	Judaism, Christianity, Islam	Zoroastrianism	Tribal religions, Voodoo, Shinto, any form of folk religion	Taoism, the Yin/Yang concept	Hinduism, Buddhism, Sikhism, New Age religions	Secular Humanism Marxism Confucianism
View of Humanity	Part of Creation but different in kind from the animals	Made to join in the battle against evil	Can be influenced and even possessed by the spirits	A microcosm of the two interacting forces	Caught in the illusion of separateness, but identical to the oneness	A complex form of matter
Humanity's Primary Problem	Breaking God's Laws, Rebellion against God, Failing to seek God's guidance	Choosing to do evil	Angering the gods	Living out of alignment with the way of nature	Ignorance of one's innate glory	Superstition and irrational thinking
The Solution	Living according to the Law, Justified by faith in Christ, Seeking God's guidance	Choosing to do right	Appeasing the gods	Living in harmony with the ways of nature	Realizing our essence is part of the oneness (enlightenment)	Applying rational thinking to our problems
The Afterlife	The person continues their existence in either heaven or hell	The person continues their existence in either heaven or hell	Sometimes the person advances to the spirit world	Usually the person advances to some form of the spirit world	Either the person is reincarnated or merges with oneness	The person ceases to exist