



QA: Eastern Religions Predate the Bible? **WRONG** by [John T Polk II](#)

All Scriptures and comments are based on the **New King James Version**, unless otherwise noted.

QUESTION: Eastern religions (e.g., Hinduism, Buddhism, Confucianism) predate the Holy Bible, right?

ANSWER: WRONG. The Bible Story predates all religions, even though the writing of that story took place over time.

1. Nothing predates the Creation, except God.

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth (**Genesis 1:1**).

[The Son of God] is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible ... All things were created through Him and for Him. (**Colossians 1:15-16**)

All idolatry in all religions have been attempts to make a visible Creator.

[Idolators are those] who exchanged the truth of God for the lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen. (**Romans 1:25**)

2. **Bible events are passed along, and changed to form traditions and misunderstanding, until God inspired men to write the exact details of those events.** This written Scripture should take precedent over all other renderings of these events. Myths may have been influenced by Biblical events, but Scripture did not come from these myths. Here are a couple of examples:
- In Genesis 3**, Eve was tempted by the serpent, and when she sinned, mankind was cast out of the Garden of Eden (a.k.a. "Paradise" = Garden). From the idea of a woman introducing sin and unleashing punishment came Hesiod's Theogony and Works and Days and the concept of Pandora's Box. Hesiod wrote from what he had heard, but the Bible accurately depicts what really happened.
 - In Genesis 6-9**, there was a world-wide Flood that destroyed all life on top of the earth, and only what was in the Ark was spared to re- plenish the earth after the Flood. The Epic of Gilgamesh, which may have been written before Moses wrote Genesis, was based on traditional "folk lore," or oral traditional telling, and therefore an inaccurate rendering of the actual event. **Genesis** is God's factual account, and, though it was written after The Epic of Gilgamesh, it is the historical version for all the world to know.
3. **Hinduism, Buddhism, Confucianism, etc. are religions formed around biblical events though not based upon Scripture itself.**

- a. **Hinduism** came from the Indus Valley of India/ Pakistan, in about 1500 BC, but is not the oldest religion. The oldest religious worship of God is in **Genesis 4**, and is not associated with the Indus Valley, but with humanity itself! Hinduism is the amalgamation of thousands of years of cultural hand-me-downs, written as the **Vedas**. Certainly, some of Bible events have influenced these teachings of India.
- b. **Buddhism** originated in India in 563–483 B.C. with Siddhartha Gautama. "Buddha" means "awakened one," and therefore it is the title of the founder and head of this one-man religious alteration of "Hinduism." His **Four Noble Truths** and **Eightfold Path** are the *Dharma*, or teaching, to be followed.
- c. **Confucianism** expresses confidence in cultural tradition, and has infused that tradition by borrowing from other cultures, and written down in the *Analects*. Founded by a Chinese scholar, K'ung Fu-tzu (a.k.a."Confucius"), 551-479 B.C., this system of ethics was compiled in **The Four Books** and **The Five Classics**. It is this ancestor worship that has been the core of the Chinese culture, even after Communists took over.

Each proclaims "the way," but only Jesus really is (John 14:6)!

—- jttjII May 23, 2021