

World Religions Biblical Readings

1. How does Matthew 5, verses 1 through 12 reveal the reasons that women and the poor were among those most attracted to Christianity in its early years?

2. In Matthew, verses 17 through 30 of chapter 5, Jesus is quoted as saying that he has not “come to abolish the law and the prophets.” How might verses 21 through 48 be viewed by some as a contradiction? How might they be viewed as adhering to established law?

3. In Paul of Tarsus’ first letter to the Corinthians (I Corinthians) he writes of many precepts of Christianity, including the nature of the form in which man will be raised from the dead. In chapter 15, verses 35 through 50, how does Paul’s explanation of this mirror Hindu beliefs in Atman? How does it refute the Buddhist concept of Anatman?