

Christianity, Cult's and Religions – A comparative Look at the World we live in.

During this study, we'll look at 8 distinctive areas that separate and define each of 20 different religions or cults that exist in the world today. This is not to be considered an exhaustive study nor is it to be considered inclusive of all the world's religions or cults. But it is only an overview of some of the major influences in the world today. There are many more sub-cultures and "sects" of each of these that we will not have the time to discuss. Therefore let me encourage each of you to determine to investigate and learn for yourselves what those influences are and how they may affect your personal Christian belief system and Christian walk with God.

Unification Church:

Founder: Sun Myung Moon (1920 – 2012) Started the "Holy Spirit Association for the Unification of World Christianity", also known as the "Family Federation for World Peace and Unification) in 1954 in Korea. It is also known in the US as "Lovin' Life Ministries."

Date: 1954

Location: Korea and New York City

Followers: Moonies

Key Writings: Divine Principle by Sun Myung Moon, which is considered to be the "Completed Testament." *Outline of the Principle*, Level 4, and the Bible. (The Bible is "not the truth itself, but a textbook teaching the truth." "Heaven is not any kind of Disneyland; heaven is in the midst of you because the place where you are becomes God's dwelling place and the dwelling place of your parents." [*Word and Deed*](#), January 30 1977, Rev. Sun Myung Moon (1920 - 2012)

Who is God?: God is both positive and negative. God created the universe out of himself; the universe is God's "body." God does not know the future; he is suffering, and needs man (mainly Sun Myung Moon) to make him happy. There is no Trinity.

Who is Jesus?: Jesus was a perfect man, but not God. He is the son of Zechariah, not born of a virgin. His mission was to unite the Jews behind him, find a perfect bride, and begin a perfect family. The mission failed. Jesus did not resurrect physically from the dead. The second coming of Christ is fulfilled in Sun Myung Moon, who is superior to Jesus and will finish the mission of Jesus. **(Luke 1:13 ff)**

Who is the Holy Spirit?: The Holy Spirit is a feminine spirit who works with Jesus in the spirit world to lead people to Sun Myung Moon.

How to be Saved: Obedience to and acceptance of the *True Parents* (Moon and his wife) eliminate sin and result in perfection. Those married by Moon and his wife drink a special holy wine containing 21 ingredients (including the True Parents' blood).

What happens after Death?: After death one goes to the spirit world. There is no resurrection. Members advance by convincing others to follow Sun Myung Moon. Everybody will be saved even Satan.

Other facts, beliefs, and practices.

1. They place great emphasis on mediumism (channeling) to contact the dead.
2. They believe that they can “liberate” souls of their ancestors.
3. Mass marriages based on different racial backgrounds arraigned by Moon, and performed by Moon.
4. They believe that a marriage is not complete unless the marriage produces children. That is the ultimate purpose of marriage.
5. Moon tried to persuade churches to remove their crosses.
6. They believe that Jesus bows down to Rev. Moon, who is the King of Kings, Lord of Lords, and the Lamb of God.
7. They believe that we must have three prides: First, pride in history; or our past; next, pride in our present, and finally pride in our future.
8. The entire teaching of God's truth can be summarized in one simple sentence: *All mankind desires to become sons and daughters of God, even in the fallen world. We know that the fallen world resulted from the fallen ancestors of mankind. To restore the fallen world, someone has to bring a new, common center to the universe: God's center. Therefore, we need new, God-centered parents, and the concept of True Parents came into being.*
9. Rev. Moon said, *“I am the first one to come with the power to neutralize the poison that Satan has been spreading for 6000 years.”*