

Worldview: Buddhism

Ayomide Adeyekun

Alliance University

NUR301: Worldview Perspectives: The Christian Nurse

Professor Lima

April 24th, 2023

Buddhism

Buddhism is a non-theistic religion , also considered a philosophy and a moral discipline, originating in India in the 6th and 5th centuries BCE. It was founded by the sage Siddhartha Gautama (the Buddha l. c. 563 - c. 483 BCE) who, according to legend, had been a Hindu prince

Before abandoning his life as a prince and the wealth that came with it, to become a spiritual being abstinent from worldly desires , Siddhartha lived comfortably as a noble with his wife and family but once he became aware of human suffering he felt he had to find some way of easing people's pain. He went on to practice strict spiritual disciplines to become an enlightened being who taught others the path they should take to escape samsara, the cycle of suffering, rebirth, and death.

Concepts of Buddhism

There is no God in Buddhism, but there is a creator whose name is Siddhartha Gautama. The one who set the example for the way of living and beliefs that Buddhists have. He is acknowledged as the Buddha because he was the first person to reach enlightenment. He is still worshiped and seen as a higher being than any ordinary person, so he is essentially what would be the closest thing to a God the religion has even though he is not defined this way. A person in the buddhist religion is seen as somebody who goes through suffering within their life and are consistently reborn until they reach nirvana. When they reach nirvana the cycle of suffering and rebirth ends because they are enlightened. In Buddhism the world is viewed as a unity of nature of all things. Everyone is viewed as equal.

The worldview is structured by karma, reincarnation, endless wheel of life, believing that suffering and only one human effort can overcome it. They consider health to be holistic. They are spiritually intune with themselves. They view illness and death as a natural event for all. No one should be scared, and view it as the suffering is going to be relieved. The mind and body are functioning as one. In Buddhism, compassion is an aspiration, a state of mind, wanting others to be free from suffering. It's not passive , it's not empathy alone, but actively striving to free others from suffering. Genuine compassion must have both wisdom and lovingkindness. That is to say, one must understand the nature of the suffering from which we wish to free others.

Biblical worldview and Buddhism

Biblical worldview and Buddhism worldview have very little similarities when it comes to the question of origin. Christians believe in creation, and that God is the creator. They believe humans are made in God's image, and that He created the heavens and the earth. Buddhist believe there is no external concept of a god. When the Buddha was approached by a non-Buddhist who did not understand his nature and thought he was the same concept of Jesus, Buddha rejected this concept entirely. Buddhist believe in a concept of a network meaning that something exists because something else already existed. Everything is connected, they do not believe there is a need to jump from existence to non-existence.

Being human to a Buddhist comes from their view of a collection of five aggregates; body, consciousness, volition, perception, and emotions. They believe that humans are being in a state of constant and continuous change. Then the Lord God made a woman from the rib

he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man. “The man said, “This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called ‘woman,’ for she was taken out of man.” That is why a man leaves his father and mother and is united to his wife, and they become one flesh.” **Genesis 2: 22-24** “Yet for us there is but one God, the Father, from whom all things came and for whom we live; and there is but one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom all things came and through whom we live.” **1 Corinthians 8:6**, These two Bible verses are proof that Christians will always believe God is the one that put them in the world that he created.

Conclusion

Buddhism is profound, superb and wonderful. However, it is very much distorted and misinterpreted. The common misconception is held by a great many people, that in the wake of advanced development of science today, Buddhism, which promotes superstition, would become obsolete. On the other hand, some other people cherish the notion that Buddhism is established on a theological basis, with a view of spreading its moral teaching, it is not without a good measure of spiritual value to humanity. Buddhism is based on absolute freedom and true equality; it is rational, liberal, objective, concrete, complete, positive, pragmatic and applicable at all levels. Buddhism is neither a theological religion or a sickness of mental ills, but a Subject of Study, similar to science, to wedge into the truths of life and the universe; apart from its extraordinary functions and extensive application, it is a wholesome, practical way of living to be realized by self experience only.

References

- *32 bible verses about creation (2/2)*. DailyVerses.net. (n.d.). Retrieved April 24, 2023, from <https://dailyverses.net/creation?p=2>
- Mark, J. J. (2023, April 21). *Buddhism*. World History Encyclopedia. Retrieved April 24, 2023, from <https://www.worldhistory.org/buddhism/>
- Buddhist worldview and Christian worldview questions and reality. Preach It, Teach It. (2019, November 27). Retrieved February 22, 2023, from <https://preachitteachit.org/articles/detail/the-buddhist-and-christian-worldview/>
- Guidelines for health care providers interacting with ... - advocate health. (n.d.). Retrieved February 23, 2023, from <https://www.advocatehealth.com/assets/documents/faith/cgbuddhist.pdf>