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THIRTY-THREE POINTS

BUDDHIST and CHRISTIAN TEACHINGS.

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THIRTY-THREE POINTS

Some doctrines of Buddhism and Christianity
as they appear in the sacred writings.

Buddhism and Christianity have in common a number of moral precepts such as: "Do not steal: do not speak falsely."

In each religion the moral precepts are set within a body of doctrinal teachings. Because the doctrines of the two religions differ, the moral precepts differ also, either in emphasis or in interpretation. For example, the precept; "Do not kill," does not mean the same in the two religions.

This little book does not attempt to compare the ethical teachings of Buddhism and Christianity, but to set forth, without comment, some of the important doctrinal teachings which serve as the matrix of the moral codes.

The doctrines here given in concise form enable the reader to note quickly the basic differences of the two religions in their concepts of man, his nature and his destiny. In this presentation, however, the doctrines of one religion do not parallel those of the other religion in the same logical order.

The reader who wishes to understand more fully these great concepts, and to study the many other religious doctrines not mentioned here, will need able teachers and thick commentaries.

BUDDHIST TEACHINGS

I

1. THE ORIGIN OF MAN IS UNKNOWN.
2. THERE IS NO ETERNAL GOD.
3. MAN IS MADE UP OF FIVE AGGREGATES, OR *KHAMAS*.
4. MAN HAS NO EGO, SOUL, OR ABIDING SELF (no *atta*).
5. LIFE AND ALL THINGS ARE TRANSITORY.
6. MAN IS INVOLVED IN AN ENDLESS ROUND OF REBIRTHS (*samsara*).
7. THE FIRST NOBLE TRUTH: THE FACT OF SUFFERING.
8. THE SECOND NOBLE TRUTH: THE ORIGIN OF SUFFERING, NAMELY DESIRE (*tanha*).
9. THE CHAIN OF CAUSATION, BINDING MAN TO REBIRTH (12 *nidanas*).
10. THE THIRD NOBLE TRUTH: THE CESSATION OF SUFFERING BY ENDING DESIRE.
11. THE FOURTH NOBLE TRUTH: THE WAY TO THE CESSATION OF SUFFERING IS BY THE NOBLE EIGHT-FOLD PATH.
12. FAITH IS NECESSARY IN ORDER TO FOLLOW THE EIGHT-FOLD PATH.

II

13. IGNORANCE (*avijja*) AND DESIRE (*tanha*) ARE THE GREAT FETTERS.
14. MAN CAN BREAK THIS CHAIN OF CAUSATION AT THE LINKS OF IGNORANCE.
15. DESIRE IS OVERCOME BY DETACHMENT AND DISCIPLINE.
16. IGNORANCE IS OVERCOME BY MEDITATION AND CONCENTRATION.

CHRISTIAN TEACHINGS

I

1. GOD CREATED MANKIND.
2. EACH MAN LIVES ON THIS EARTH BUT ONCE.
3. MAN DIFFERS FROM AND IS SUPERIOR TO ANIMALS.
4. MAN, IN HIS ESSENTIAL NATURE, IS MADE IN THE IMAGE OF GOD.
5. MAN'S BODY IS THE TEMPLE OF GOD'S SPIRIT.
6. GOD PLACES VALUE IN MAN'S LIFE.
7. MAN WAS MADE TO BE IN COMMUNION WITH GOD.
8. GOD RESPONDS TO THOSE WHO SINCERELY SEEK HIM.
9. GOD LOVES ALL MANKIND, EVEN THE IGNORANT AND REBELLIOUS.
10. GOD'S LOVE TRANSFORMS MAN'S SUFFERING.

II

11. THE WORLD IS BASICALLY A GOOD WORLD.
12. THE MORAL LAW IN THE WORLD CAME FROM A LAW-GIVER.
13. MORAL AND SCIENTIFIC LAWS EVINCE THE WISDOM AND PURPOSE OF GOD.
14. IN BREAKING THE MORAL LAW MAN DISOBEYS GOD.
15. GOD ADMINISTERS THE MORAL LAW WITH WISDOM, JUSTICE, AND MERCY.
16. THE BASIC SIN OF MAN IS SELFISHNESS, MANIFESTED AS SELF-WILL.

BUDDHIST TEACHINGS

17. ULTIMATE KNOWLEDGE (OR INSIGHT) IS ATTAINED BY TRANCE (MEDITATIVE ABSORPTION, *dhyana*).
18. KARMA DETERMINES THE **FORM** OF REBIRTH.
19. WILLFUL ACTS RESULT IN THE GRAVEST CONSEQUENCES.
20. **ONE** WHO IS BORN IS DERIVED FROM, BUT IS NOT THE SAME AS, ONE WHO HAS **JUST** DIED.
21. KARMA IS TRANSMITTED TO **THE** ONE BORN VIA CONSCIOUSNESS, *vinnana*.
22. EXISTENCE (*bhava*), IS A CONTINUOUS PROCESS OF **CHANGE**.
23. THERE ARE THIRTY-ONE PLANES OF EXISTENCE.
24. AN ARAHAT IS ONE WHO HAS ATTAINED ENLIGHTENMENT.
25. BY **MEDITATION** AND CONCENTRATION THE MIND ATTAINS ENLIGHTENMENT.
26. ENLIGHTENMENT BRINGS AN END TO IGNORANCE AND REBIRTH.
27. HUMAN SPEECH AND EXPERIENCE ARE NOT **ADEQUATE** TO DESCRIBE NIRVANA.

III

28. SOME ULTIMATE QUESTIONS MUST BE LEFT UNANSWERED.
29. **BUDDHA'S** MISSION WAS TO PROCLAIM THE DHARMA.
30. **THE** MONASTIC ORDER OR **SANGHA** TRANSMITS THE DHARMA.
31. **MERITORIOUS** IS THE WORSHIP OF THE THREE **GEMS**: **BUDDHA**; THE DHARMA, AND THE SANGHA.
32. **WORSHIP** CONSISTS OF PAYING RESPECT TO THE **THREE** GEMS.
33. **THE** LAST WORDS OF **GOTAMA** THE **BUDDHA**.

CHRISTIAN TEACHINGS

17. MAN'S SELFISHNESS NEEDS TO BE REPLACED BY A NEW SELF, A NEW SPIRIT.
18. MAN CAN'T SAVE HIMSELF, **HE** NEEDS DIVINE HELP.
19. THE TRAGEDY OF MAN IS HIS ESTRANGEMENT FROM GOD.

III

20. GOD REVEALED HIMSELF THROUGH THE PROPHETS RECORDED IN THE BIBLE.
21. GOD REVEALED HIMSELF MOST CLEARLY THROUGH HIS SON JESUS CHRIST.
22. JESUS CHRIST SUFFERED CRUCIFIXION (a) to **redeem men**; (b) to reconcile **them** to God.
23. JESUS CHRIST IS VICTOR OVER DEATH.
24. MAN IS SAVED BY FAITH.
25. TRUE SALVATION RESULTS IN OBEDIENCE TO AND LOVE FOR GOD.
26. BY FORGIVENESS GOD RECONCILES MAN, BUT DOES NOT EXEMPT HIM FROM THE FRUITS OF SIN.
27. GOD ALONE IS ETERNAL.
28. TO DWELL WITH GOD IS THE HIGHEST GOAL OF MAN.
29. PEACE, JOY, AND ETERNAL LIFE ARE FOUND WITH GOD.
30. THE TRIUNE GOD IS ONE, NOT THREE.
31. TRUE PRAYER CONSISTS OF: THANKSGIVING TO GOD; CONFESSION OF SIN; APPEALS FOR HELP FOR SELF AND OTHERS; AND COMMITMENT TO GOD'S CARE AND DIRECTION.
32. THE MORAL LAW IS SUMMED UP IN: "LOVE GOD; LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF."
33. THE LAST WORDS OF JESUS CHRIST.

Buddhist Teachings

I

1. THE ORIGIN OF MAN IS UNKNOWN.

The earliest point is not revealed of the traveling on of beings clothed in ignorance. (*Samyutta Nikaya 15:1:1*)

Without a cause and unknown is the life of mortals in this world. (*Sutta Nipata*)

2. THERE IS NO ETERNAL GOD.

Now this stanza, O monks, which was sung by Sakka, the leader of the gods, was inappropriate... And why do I say so? Because Sakka, the leader of the gods, O monks, was not free from passion, was not free from hatred, was not free from infatuation... not released from birth, old age, death, sorrow, lamentation, misery, grief and despair.

(*Anguttara Nikaya 3:37*)

3. MAN IS MADE UP OF FIVE AGGREGATES, or *KHANDAS*.

And what, O monks, is the burden (a person) t Reply should be made that it is the five *khandas*. And what are the five? They are form (*rupa*); sensation (*vedana*); perception (*sanna*); predilection or inclination (*sankhara*) and consciousness (*vinnana*). (*Samyutta Nikaya 22:22:1*)

4. MAN HAS NO EGO, SON, OR ABIDING SELF (no *atma*).

The words "living entity" and "ego" are but a mode of expression for the presence of the five attachment groups (aggregates or *khandas*)... In the absolute sense there is no living entity there to form a basis for such figments as "I am", or "I"; in other words, in the absolute sense there is only name (*nama*) and form (*rupa*).

(*Visuddhi-magga, 18:28*)

He sees and knows, causally and truly, that no form whatsoever, past, present, or future, internal or external, gross or delicate, lowly or debonaire, far or near, is either mine, or I, or self of mine.

(*Majjhima Nikaya, Mahapunnama Sutta 111:10*)

Christian Teachings

I

1. GOD CREATED MANKIND.

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

(*Genesis 1:1*),

So God created man... male and female he created them.

(*Genesis 1:27*)

2. EACH MAN LIVES ON THIS EARTH BUT ONCE.

It is appointed for men to die once, and after that comes the judgment.

(*Hebrews 9:27*)

3. MAN DIFFERS FROM AND IS SUPERIOR TO ANIMALS.

O Lord, our God... Thou hast made him (man) little less than God,

And dost crown him with glory and honor,

Thou hast given him dominion over the works of thy hands,

Thou hast put all things under his feet, all sheep and oxen

And also the beasts of the field.

(*Psalms 8:1,5-7*)

4. MAN IN HIS ESSENTIAL NATURE IS MADE IN THE IMAGE OF GOD.

So God created man in his own image.

(*Genesis 1:27*)

With it (the tongue) we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse men, who are made in the likeness of God.

(*James 3:0*)

(Said Jesus), "Pray then like this, 'Our Father who art in heaven...'"

(*Matthew 6:9*)

Buddhist Teachings

5. LIFE AND ALL THINGS ARE TRANSITORY.

Strictly speaking, the duration of the life of a living being is **exceedingly** brief, lasting only while a thought, lasts. Just as a chariot wheel in rolling, rolls only at one **point** of the tire, and in resting rests only at one point, in exactly the same way the life of a living being lasts only for the period of one thought. As soon as the thought has ceased, the **being** is said to have ceased.

Visuddhi-magga 8:39

G. MAN IS INVOLVED IN AN ENDLESS ROUND OF REBIRTHS (*samsara*).

Inconceivable is the beginning of this *samsara* (wheel of existence); not to be discovered is any first beginning of beings, who, obstructed by delusion and ensnared by craving, are hurrying and hastening through this round of rebirths.

Which do you think is more: the flood of tears, which weeping and wailing you have shed upon this long way-hurrying and hastening through **this** round of rebirths, united with the **undesired, separated** from the desired-this, or **the waters of the four oceans** t.

(Samyutta Nikaya 15:3)

Christian Teachings

5. MAN'S BODY IS THE TEMPLE OF GOD'S SPIRIT.

Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's spirit dwells in you ?

(1 Corinthians 3:16)

Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God ?

(1 Corinthians 6:19)

6. GOD PLACES VALUE IN MAN'S LIFE.

For thus says the high and lofty One, who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy, "I dwell in the High and Holy Place, and with him also who is of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite."

(Isaiah 57:15)

But God, who is rich in **mercy**...even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ, **and** raised us up with him... For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works.

(Ephesians 2: 1,5,6,10)

Buddhist Teachings

1. THE FIRST NOBLE TRUTH: THE FACT OF SUFFERING.

• This is the noble truth of suffering: birth is suffering, old age is suffering, sickness is suffering, death is suffering. Union with unpleasant things is suffering, separation from pleasant things is suffering, not obtaining what one wishes is suffering, in short, the five aggregates (*khandas*) of clinging to existence is suffering.

(*Vinaya, Mahavagga 1:6:10*)

The eye, O monks, is burning, visible things are burning... burning with the fire of lust, the fire of anger, the fire of ignorance, burning with the anxieties of birth, decay, death, grief, lamentation, suffering, dejection and despair.

(*Mahavagga 1:21:2*)

2. THE SECOND NOBLE TRUTH: THE ORIGIN OF SUFFERING, NAMELY DESIRE (*tanha*).

And this, O monks, is the noble truth or the cause of suffering: desire (craving) which leads to rebirth, accompanied by delight and passion, rejoicing as finding delight here and there, namely the craving for lust, the desire for existence, the desire for non-existence.

(*Vinaya, Mahavagga 1:6:10*)

Christian Teachings

7. MAN WAS MADE TO BE IN COMMUNION WITH GOD.

For ho (God) is not far from each one of us, for "In him we live and move and have our being... For we are indeed his offspring." Being then God's offspring we ought not to think that the Deity is like gold or silver or stone."

(*Acts 17:27-29*)

He has showed you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God ?

(*Micah 6:8*)

8. GOD RESPONDS TO THOSE WHO SINCERELY SEEK HIM.

Seek ye the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near. Let the wicked forsake his way and the unrighteousness man his thoughts, let him return to the Lord that he may have mercy upon him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

(*Isaiah 55:6,7*)

We know that in everything God works for good with those who love him.

(*Romans 8:28*)

Buddhist Teachings

THE CHAIN OF CAUSATION, BINDING MAN TO RE-BIRTH (12 *nidanas*).

(*paticca-sammuppada*)

On ignorance depends karma;

On karma depends consciousness;

On consciousness depend name and form (*nama-rupa*).

On name and form depend the six organs of sense;

On the six organs of sense depends contact;

On contact depends sensation;

On sensation depends desire;

On desire depends attachment;

On attachment depends existence;

On existence depends birth;

On birth depend old age and death, sorrow, lamentation, misery, grief, and despair. Thus does **this** entire aggregation of misery arise.

(*Samyutla Nikaya 22:90:16*)

THE THIRD NOBLE TRUTH: THE CESSATION OF SUFFERING BY ENDING DESIRE.

And **this**, O monks, is the noble truth of the cessation of suffering: The complete and trackless cessation of desire, abandonment of it, relinquishment, release, and aversion.

(*Vinaya, Mahavagga 1:6:10*)

Christian Teachings

9. GOD LOVES ALL MANKIND, EVEN THE IGNORANT AND REBELLIOUS.

And he (God) made from one every nation of men to live on all the face of the earth . . . that they should seek God.

(*Acts 17:20,27*)

He (God) says, "All day long have I held out my hands to a disobedient and contrary people."

(*Romans 10:21*)

So we know and believe the love God has for us. God is love . . . we love because he first loved us.

(*1 John 4:16,19*)

10. GOD'S LOVE TRANSFORMS MAN'S SUFFERING.

(Said Jesus) "In me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation, but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world."

(*John 16:33*)

I suffered distress and anguish,

Then I called on the name of the Lord . . .

Gracious is the Lord, and righteous;

Our God is merciful, the Lord preserves the simple,

When I was brought low, he saved me . . .

For thou hast delivered my soul from death,

My eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling.

(*Psalms 116:3-6, 5*)

Buddhist Teachings

11. THE FOURTH NOBLE TRUTH: THE WAY TO THE CESSATION OF SUFFERING IS BY THE NOBLE EIGHT-FOLD PATH.

And this, O monks, is the noble truth of the path that leads to the cessation of suffering; this is the noble eight-fold way, namely: right views, right resolve, right speech, right action, right livelihood, right effort, right mindfulness, and right concentration.

(*Vinaya, Mahavagga 1:0:10*)

12. FAITH IS NECESSARY IN ORDER TO FOLLOW THE EIGHT-FOLD PATH.

Herein a monk is full of faith, he has faith in the enlightenment of the Truth-finder, thinking, "Indeed this Lord is a perfected one ..."

(*Majjhima Nikaya 2:95:128*)

And further, O monks, when a brother does not doubt in the system of belief, is not uncertain regarding it, has confidence in it, and has faith in it, then his mind does incline to zeal, exertion, perseverance, and struggle.

(*Ketokhila Sutta*)

The Bhagavat said, Faith is in this world the best property for a man... By faith one crosses the stream, by zeal the sea, by exertion one conquers pain, by understanding one is purified."

(*Sutta Nipata, Uragavagga, Alavaka Sutta*)

But if faith comes to have vanished, then disbelief sets in, stays, then there is a stepping in of wrong.

(*Anguttara Nikaya 3:5*)

By faith thou too shall win release.

(*Sutta Nipata 1146*)

Christian Teachings

II

11. THE WORLD IS BASICALLY A GOOD WORLD.

And God saw everything he had made, and behold, it was very good.

(*Genesis 1:31*)

Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow... even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field... will he not much more clothe you ?

(*Matthew 6:28-30*)

12. THE MORAL LAW IN THE WORLD CAME FROM A LAW-GIVER.

The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul,
The testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple,
The precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart,
The commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes.

(*Psalms 19:7-8*)

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

(*John 1:1*)

Teach me, O Lord, the way of thy statutes;

and I will keep it unto the end.

Give me understanding, that I may keep thy law ...

Let thy hand be ready to help me,

for I have chosen thy precepts.

I long for thy salvation, O Lord,
and thy law is my delight.

(*Psalms 110: 33,34 173,174*)

Buddhist Teachings

II

IGNORANCE (avijja) AND DESIRE (tanha) ARE THE GREAT FETTERS.

So, bhikkhus, for the fool who is hindered by ignorance and tethered by craving there arises this body.

(Samyutta Nikaya 2:23)

Verily, because beings, obstructed by delusion and ensnared by desire (craving), now here now there, seek after fresh delights, therefore they come to ever fresh rebirth.

(Majjhima Nikaya 43)

4. MAN CAN BREAK THIS CHAIN OF CAUSATION AT THE LINKS OF IGNORANCE AND DESIRE.

"It is through not understanding and grasping the four noble truths. O monks, that we have had to run so long, to wonder so long, in this weary path of rebirth, both you and I."

"And what are these four?"

"The noble truth about sorrow, the noble truth about the cause of sorrow, the noble truth about the cessation of sorrow, and the noble truth that leads to the cessation of sorrow."

But when these noble truths are grasped and known, the desire for existence is rooted out, that which leads to renewed existence is destroyed, and then there is no more rebirth."

Thus spoke the Blessed One.

(Mahaparinibbana Sutta 2:2)

Christian Teachings

13. MORAL AND SCIENTIFIC LAWS EVINCE THE WISDOM AND PURPOSE OF GOD.

Great are the works of the Lord... and his righteousness endures forever... All his precepts are trustworthy, they are established forever and ever.

(Psalm 111:2,3,7)

Thou, Lord, didst found the earth in the beginning, and the heavens are the work of thy hands.

(Hebrews 1:10)

14. IN BREAKING THE MORAL LAW MAN DISOBEYS GOD.

The son said, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you."

(Luke 15:21)

I acknowledged my sin to thee (God) and I did not hide my iniquity.

(Psalm 32:5)

O Lord, thou hast searched me and known me,

Thou knowest when I sit down and when I rise up

Thou discernest my thoughts from afar.

Thou searchest out my path and my lying down,

And art acquainted with all my ways.

Even before a word is on my tongue,

Lo, O Lord, thou knowest it altogether...

Whither shall I go from thy Spirit I

Or whither shall I flee from thy presence?

(Psalm 139:1-4,7)

Buddhist Teachings

15. DESIRE IS OVERCOME BY DETACHMENT AND DISCIPLINE.

And what, O monks, is the laying down of the burden ?
It is the complete absence of passion, the cessation, giving up, relinquishment, forsaking, and non-adoption of desire, This O monks, is called the laying down of the burden.

(Samyutta Nikaya 22:22)

Live as islands unto yourselves, brothers, as refuges unto yourselves; take none other as your refuge, live with the Dhamma as your island, with the Dhamma as your refuge, take none other as your refuge.

(Digha Nikaya. Cakkavatti-SihanadSuttanta 27)

Without covetousness, without deceit, without craving, without distraction, having got rid of passions and folly, biting free from desire in all the world, let one wander alone like a rhinoceros.

Having left son and wife, father and mother, wealth and grain, relatives, and the different objects of desire, let one wander alone like a rhinoceros.

(Sutta Nipata, Uruga Vagga, KhaggavisanaSutta 22)

Christian Teachings

15. GOD ADMINISTERS THE MORAL LAW WITH WISDOM, JUSTICE, AND MERCY.

For he will render to every man according to his work, to those who by patience in well-doing seek for glory and honor and immortality he will give life... there will be tribulation and distress for every human being who does evil ... for God shows no partiality.

(Romans 2:6,7,9,11)

Glory and power belong to our God, for his judgments are true and just.

(Revelation 10:2)

The Lord, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness... forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, but who will by no means clear the guilty.

(Exodus 34:6,7)

For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father also will forgive you; but if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

(Matthew 6:14,15)

Shall not the judge of all the earth do right ?

(Genesis 18:25)

Buddhist Teachings

IGNORANCE IS OVERCOME BY MEDITATION AND CONCENTRATION.

If cultivated and developed, mindfulness by breathing is very fruitful and profitable: it perfects the four bases of mindfulness, which being perfected, perfect the seven factors of enlightenment, which being perfected, perfect in turn deliverance by comprehension.

(Majjhima Nikaya, Anapana Sati Sutta 111:80)

Thus spoke the Exalted One: "Concentration, brothers, practice concentration. A brother who concentrates knows a thing as it really is. And what does he know as it really is? The arising of the body and the passing away of feeling, of perception, and the activities; the arising of consciousness and the passing away thereof."

(Samyutta Nikaya, part 3, Khanda Vagga 22:5)

Christian Teachings

16. THE BASIC SIN OF MAN IS SELFISHNESS, MANIFESTED AS SELF-WILL.

For men will be lovers of self, lovers of money, proud, arrogant, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, inhuman, implacable, slanderers, profligate, reckless, swollen by conceit, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God.

(2 Timothy 3:2-4)

"Obey my voice, and I will be your God, and you shall be my people...that it may be well with you." But they did not obey or incline their ear, but walked in their own counsels and the stubbornness of their evil hearts, and went backward and not forward.

(Jeremiah 7:23,24)

A dispute also arose among them, which of them (Christ's disciples) was to be regarded as the greatest.

(Luke 22:24)

Buddhist Teachings

ULTIMATE KNOWLEDGE (OR INSIGHT) IS ATTAINED
BY TRANCE (MEDITATIVE ABSORPTION, *dhyana*).

Then the Tathagata reached the first trance.

Rising from the first he reached the second trance.

Rising from the second he reached the third trance.

Rising from the third he reached the fourth trance.

Rising from the fourth trance he reached the stage of the
infinity of space.

Rising from the attainment of the infinity of space he
reached the stage of the infinity of consciousness.

Rising from the attainment of the infinity of consciousness
he reached the stage of nothingness.

Rising from the attainment of the stage of nothingness
he reached the stage of neither perception nor non-per-
ception.

Rising from the attainment of the stage of neither percep-
tion nor non-perception he reached the stage of the
cessation of perception and feeling.

... (The above is repeated in reverse order back to the
first trance, then in the original order to the fourth
trance) ...

Passing from the fourth trance the Tathagata straightway
attained Nirvana.

(*Mahāparinibbāna Sutta* 5)

Christian Teachings

17. MAN'S SELFISHNESS NEEDS TO BE REPLACED BY A
NEW SELF, A NEW SPIRIT.

That he may grant you to be strengthened with might
through His Spirit in the inner man, and that Christ may
dwell in your hearts through faith; you, being rooted
and grounded in love... may be filled with all the
fullness of God.

(*Ephesians* 3:16,17,19)

Now the works of the flesh are plain, -immorality,
impurity... But the fruit of the spirit is love, joy, peace,
patience, kindness... Let us walk by the spirit, let us have
no self-conceit, no provoking of one another, no envy.

(*Galatians* 5:10,22,25,20)

Put off your old nature, which belongs to your former
manner of life, and is corrupt through deceitful lusts, and
be renewed in the spirit of your minds, and put on the
new nature, created after the likeness of God in true
righteousness and holiness.

(*Ephesians* 4:22-24)

Put to death, therefore, what is earthly in you: immorality,
impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness... But
now put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and
foul talk from your mouth... Put on then, as God's
chosen ones, holy and beloved, -compassion, kindness,
lowliness, meekness, and patience, forbearing one another
and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving
each other: as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also
must forgive. And above all these put on love.

(*Colossians* 3:5,8,12-14)

Buddhist Teachings

8. KARMA DETERMINES THE FORM OF REBIRTH.

Thus, O Ambattha... with his supernormal knowledge, surpassing that of men, he sees dying and being reborn: low and noble ones, beautiful and ugly ones, happy and unhappy ones.

(He) sees how beings are being reborn according to their deeds. These beings indeed followed evil ways in bodily actions, words and thoughts; insulted the Noble Ones, held wrong views, and according to their wrong views they acted.

At the dissolution of their bodies after death they have been reborn in the lower world, in painful states of existence, in the world of perdition, in hell.

Certain other beings have good actions, bodily, verbal, and mental, did not insult the Noble Ones, held right views, and according to their right views they acted. At the dissolution of their bodies after death, they have been reborn in a happy state of existence, in a heaven state. (*Dikha Nikaya, Silakkhandha Vagga, Ambattha Sutta 7*)

Truly, because beings, obstructed by ignorance and ensnared by desire, now here, now there, seek ever fresh delight, therefore does there continually come to be fresh rebirth.

(*Majjhima Nikaya 43*)

And the action (karma) that is done out of greed, anger, and delusion (*Lobha, dosa, moha*), that springs from them, has its source and origin there:-- this action ripens wherever one is reborn; and wherever this action ripens, there one experiences the fruits of this action, be it this life or the next life, or in some future life.

(*Anguttara Nikaya, 3:33*)

Christian Teachings

18. MAN CANNOT SAVE HIMSELF, HE NEEDS DIVINE HELP.

And you he (God) made alive, when you were dead through trespasses and sins in which you walked.

(*Ephesians 2:1,2*)

For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace.

For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law, indeed it cannot; and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

But you are not in the flesh, you are in the Spirit if the Spirit of God really dwells in you... If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Jesus Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit which dwells in you...

For all who are led by the Spirit of God are the sons of God. For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the spirit of sonship. When we cry, "Abba ! Father !" it is the Spirit himself bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God.

(*Romans 8:5-9, 14-16*)

Buddhist Teachings

WILLFUL ACTS RESULT IN THE GRAVEST CONSEQUENCES.

For the owners of their deeds are the heirs of their deeds. Their deeds are the womb from which they sprang. They are bound up with their deeds because their deeds are their refuge. Whatever deeds they do, good or evil, of such they will be the heirs.

Anguttara Nikaya 10:205

Then the robbers captured Moggallana and broke his bones into bits the size of rice grains ...

The bhikkhus raised a discussion, saying, "Moggallana the Great met with a death unworthy of him..."

"Bhikkhus," (said the Buddha) the death of Moggallana the Great was unsuited to his present existence, but suited to his karma of a previous existence..."

(In Moggallana's former existence he pretended to be a robber and slew his father and mother in a forest).

"Bhikkhus, the fruit of this one deed of Moggallana's was torment in hell for many hundreds of thousands of years, and death by pounding in a hundred existences, as suited the nature of his crime. Moggallana's death is, therefore, suited to his karma."

(Anguttara Nikaya 1:14)

Christian Teachings

19. THE TRAGEDY OF MAN IS HIS ESTRANGEMENT FROM GOD.

(Said Jesus) "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, killing the prophets and stoning those who are sent to you! How often I would have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you would not! Behold, your house is forsaken and desolate."

(Matthew 23:37,38)

Jesus said to the twelve (disciples), "Will you also go away?" Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life; and we have believed, and have come to know, that you are the Holy One of God."

(John 6:67-69)

(Jesus said) "I am the door, if any one enters by me, he will be saved... I am come that they might have life, and have it abundantly. I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for his sheep... I lay down my life for the sheep."

(John 10:9,10,11,15)

"As I live," says the Lord God, "I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn back from his evil ways and live. Turn back, turn back from your evil ways, for why will you die, O house of Israel?"

(Ezekiel 33:11)

Have those who work evil no understanding, who eat up my people as they eat bread, and do not call upon God? There they are in great terror... they will be put to shame, for God has rejected them.

(Psalm 53:1,5)

Buddhist Teachings

ONE WHO IS BORN IS DERIVED FROM, BUT IS NOT THE SAME AS, ONE WHO HAS JUST DIED.

"Bhante Nagasena," said the King "What is it that is born into the next existence?"

"Your Majesty," said the elder, "It is name-and-form that is born into the next existence."

"Is this the same name-and-form that is born into the next existence?"

"Your Majesty, it is not this same name-and-form that is born into the next existence; but with *this* name-and-form, Your Majesty, one does a deed-it may be good or it may be wicked-and by reason of this deed *another* name-and-form is born into the next existence."

"Bhante, if it is not this same name-and-form that is born into the next existence, is one not freed from one's evil deeds?"

"If one were not born into another existence," said the elder, "one would be freed from one's evil deeds; but, your majesty, inasmuch as one *is* born into another existence, therefore is one not freed from one's evil deeds."

(Milindapanha 46:5)

"Bhante Nagasena, does rebirth take place without anything transmigrating?"

"Yes, Your Majesty, rebirth takes place without anything transmigrating."

(Milindapanha 71:16)

Christian Teachings

20. GOD REVEALED HIMSELF THROUGH THE PROPHETS RECORDED IN THE BIBLE.

III

In many and various ways God spoke of old to our fathers by the prophets. *(Hebrews 1:1)*

The word of the Lord came to the Prophet Gad, saying . . .
(2 Samuel 24:11)

God also said to Moses, "Say this to the people of Israel, 'The Lord, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you!'" *(Exodus 3:15)*

And I (Isaiah) heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send . . .?"

Then I said, "Here I am, send me."

And he said, "Go, and say to this people . . ."
(Isaiah 6:8,9)

And he came to a cave, and lodged there; and behold the word of the Lord came to him, and said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?"

He said, "I have been very jealous for the Lord . . . and they seek my life, to take it away."

And he said, "Go forth, and stand upon the mount before the Lord."

And behold, the Lord passed by, and a great and strong wind rent the mountains, and broke in pieces the rocks before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake; and after the fire a still small voice . . .

And the Lord said to him, "Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus." *(1 Kings 10:0,10,11,12,15)*

Buddhist Teachings

KARMA IS TRANSMITTED TO THE ONE BORN VIA
CONSCIOUSNESS, *vinnana*.

"Therefore, Ananda...if no consciousness would descend
into the womb would...name-and-form in the womb
arise?"

"No, my Lord."

"If consciousness, after having descended into the womb,
were to withdraw itself again, would name-and-form be
conceived?"

"No, my Lord."

(Mahavidana Sutta, Digha Nikaya)

On karma depends consciousness,

On consciousness depends name-and-form; (name-and-form
= man)

On the cessation of karma ceases consciousness;

On the cessation of consciousness ceases name-and-form.

(Samyutta Nikaya 22:90:16)

Christian Teachings

21. GOD REVEALED HIMSELF MOST CLEARLY THROUGH
HIS SON JESUS CHRIST.

In many and various ways God spoke of old to our
fathers by the prophets, but in these last days he has
spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed the heir of
all things, through whom he also created the world.

(Hebrews 1:1,2)

~~And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, full~~
of grace and truth; we have beheld his glory, glory as of
the only son from the Father... For the law was given
through Moses, grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

(John 1:14,17)

And lo, a voice from heaven saying, "This is my beloved
Son, with whom I am well pleased."

(Matthew 3:17)

Buddhist Teachings

EXISTENCE (*bhava*. becoming) IS A CONTINUOUS PROCESS OF CHANGE.

Strictly speaking, the duration of the life of a living being is exceedingly brief, lasting only while a thought lasts.

Just as a chariot-wheel in rolling rolls only at one point of the tire, and in resting rests only at one point, in exactly the same way the life of a living being lasts only for the period of one thought. As soon as that thought has ceased, the being is said to have ceased.

As it has been said:- "The being of past moment of thought has lived, but does not live (now), nor will it live (in the future).

The being of a future moment of thought will live, but has not lived (in the past), nor does it live (now).

The being of the present moment of thought does live but has not lived, nor will it live." (*Visuddhi-magga:39*)

THERE ARE THIRTY-ONE PLANES OF EXISTENCE.

The realm of punishment, the realm of sensual bliss, the realm of form and the realm of formlessness-are the four realms.

The realm of punishment is fourfold:- hell, the animal kingdom, the plane of spirits or pretas, and the plane of demons or asuras.

The realm of sensual bliss is sevenfold:- the plane of human beings, the six *devalokas* or heavenly realms...

The realm of form, *rupalokas*, is sixteenfold:- being the realms of Brahma and other gods...

The realm of formless nesses fourfold:- being infinity of space, infinity of consciousness, the plane of nothingness, and that of neither perception nor non-perception.

(*Abhidhammattha-Sangaha 2-G, 10*)

Christian Teachings

22. JESUS CHRIST SUFFERED CRUCIFIXION: TO REDEEM MEN, and TO RECONCILE THEM TO GOD.

(Jesus said) "For the Son of man (Jesus) came not to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many." (*Mark 10:45*)

God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself... that is, God was in Christ reconciling the world to himself.

(*2 Corinthians 5:18,10*)

His (God's) beloved son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins... for in him all the fulness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of the cross. (*Colossians 1:13,14,10,20*)

But God shows his love for us in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us... For if, while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. (*Romans 5:8,10*)

23. JESUS CHRIST IS VICTOR OVER DEATH.

Jesus Christ, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light. (*2 Timothy 1:10*)

O death, where is thy victory?... But thanks be to God, who gave us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

(*1 Corinthians 15:55,57*)

Christ died for our sins... he was buried... he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, and he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve (apostles) then he appeared to more than five hundred brethren at one time... Last of all he appeared to me (Paul). (*1 Corinthians 15:3-6,8*)

Toward the dawn of the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the sepulchre... The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has risen, as he said... He is going before you to Galilee, there will you see him. (*Matthew 28:1,5-7*)

Buddhist Teachings

24. AN ARAHAT IS ONE WHO HAS ATTAINED ENLIGHTENMENT.

Thus the elder Sona, abiding alone, secluded, vigilant, ardent and resolute, in no time, with that purpose for which noble youths duly go forth from a houseless life, in this actual life himself realized by higher knowledge the supreme end of the religious life, and having attained it, abode in it.

He realized that rebirth is destroyed, the religious life has been led, done what was to be done, there is nothing more for this existence. And the elder Sona was one of the arahats. (*Anguttara 3:374*)

25. BY MEDITATION AND CONCENTRATION THE MIND ATTAINS ENLIGHTENMENT.

The forty subjects for meditation are these:—

Ten *kasinas*— earth, water, fire air, blue, yellow, red, white, light, limited space.

Corpses in ten stages of decay:— bloated, livid, festering, cut-up, gnawed, scattered, hacked and scattered, bleeding, worm-infested, and a skeleton.

Ten recollections:— The Buddha, the Dharma, the Sangha, virtue, generosity, deities, death, the thirty-two parts of the body, breathing, and peace.

Four Brahma Vihara (divine abidings):— *metta* or loving kindness; *karuna* or compassion; *mudita* or sympathetic good will; and *upekha* or equanimity.

Four immaterial states:— infinite space, infinite consciousness, nothingness, and the state of neither perception nor non-perception.

Perception of the repulsiveness of food.

Analysis of the four primary elements.

(*Visuddhi-magga, part 2, chapter 3:104,105*)

Christian Teachings

24. MAN IS SAVED BY FAITH.

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whosoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. (*John 3:16*)

Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have boldness and confidence of access through our faith in him.

(*Ephesians 3:11,12*)

For by grace you have been saved through faith; and this is not your own doing, it is the gift of God.

(*Ephesians 2:8*)

25. TRUE SALVATION RESULTS IN OBEDIENCE TO AND LOVE FOR GOD.

For the grace of God has appeared for the salvation of all men, training us to renounce irreligion and worldly passions, and to live sober, upright, and godly lives in this world, awaiting our blessed hope,—the appearing of the glory of our Great God and Savior Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all iniquity and to purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

(*Titus 2:11-14*)

And by this we may be sure that we know him, if we keep his commandments. He who says, "I know him," but disobeys his commandments, is a liar... but whoever keeps his word, in him truly love for God is perfected.

(*1 John 2:3-5*)

There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. for fear has to do with punishment, and he who fears is not perfected in love. We love, because he first loved us. If any one says, "I love God," and hates his brother whom he has seen, cannot love God whom he has not seen... he who loves God should love his brother also."

(*1 John 4:18-21*)

Buddhist Teachings

20. ENLIGHTENMENT BRINGS AN END TO IGNORANCE AND REBIRTH.

In the same way, O Ambattha, the **bhikkhu**...applies and bends his **mind** to the knowledge **pertaining** to extinction of all **asavas** (mental impurities) ...

He knows as they really are: "These are the asavas."

He knows as it really is: "This is the origin of **asavas**, this is the extinction of **asavas**."

He knows as it really is:- "This is the path leading to the extinction of the asavas."

To him, thus realizing, thus seeing, his mind is set free from sensuous asavas, is set free from the asava of existence, is set free from the asava of ignorance. In him, thus **set** free, there arises the knowledge of his freedom, and he realizes: "Rebirth is no **more**, I have lived the pure life; I have done what ought to be done. I have nothing more to do for the realization of **arahatship**."

This is that bhikkhu's **knowledge**.

(*Digha Nikaya, Silakkhandha Vagga, Ambattha Sutta 8*)

Christian Teachings

- 2G. BY FORGIVENESS GOD RECONCILES MAN, BUT DOES NOT EXEMPT HIM FROM THE FRUITS OF SIN.

But when the time had fully come, God sent forth his **son**...so that we might receive adoption as **sons**... So through God you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son then an heir.

(*Galatians 4:4,5,7*)

Do not be deceived; God is not **mocked**, for whatever **a man sows**, that he will also reap. For he who sows to his own flesh, will from the flesh reap corruption; but he who sows to the Spirit, will from the Spirit reap eternal life.

(*Galatians 6:7,8*)

Now the works of the flesh are plain: immorality impurity, licentiousness, idolatry, **sorcery**, enmity, strife, **jealousy**, anger, **selfishness**, dissension, party spirit, envy, drunkenness, carousing, and the like. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.

(*Galatians 5:19-21*)

And the son said to him, "Father, I have **sinned**... I am no longer worthy to be called your son." The father **said**,... "This my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found."

(*Luke 15:21,22,24*)

Buddhist Teachings

27. HUMAN SPEECH AND EXPERIENCE ARE NOT ADEQUATE TO DESCRIBE NIRVANA.

"As a flame blown about by the wind goes out, O Upasiva," said the Bhagavat, "and cannot be reckoned as existing, even so a *muni*, delivered from **name-and-form**, disappears and cannot be reckoned as existing."

Upasiva : "Has he only disappeared, or does he not exist any longer, or is he forever free from ills...?"

Bhagavat : For him who has disappeared there is no form; that by which they say he is, exists for him no longer, when all things have been cut off."

(Sutta Nipata, Upasivamanava-pukka, Parayana Vagga)

There is, O monks, that realm where **there** are neither earth nor water, nor fire nor air; where **there** is no realm of infinite space, no definite space; no realm of infinite **consciousness**, nor **realm** of nothingness; where there **exists** neither perception nor **non-perception**; where **there** is neither this world nor that world, nor both of them; where there is no sun or moon.

There, O monks, I say, there is neither arriving, going, nor standing; there is neither disappearing nor reappearing. **It** is without foundation, without action, bare of any support. Just this **is** the end of suffering.

(Udana 8:71)

Christian Teachings

27. GOD ALONE IS ETERNAL.

Lord...before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, from **ever-lasing** to everlasting thou art God.

For a **thousand** years in thy sight are but as yesterday when it is passed, or as a watch in the night.

(Psalm-90:1,2,4)

The eternal God is your dwelling place, and underneath are the everlasting arms.

(Deuteronomy 33:27)

God who gives life to all **things**...the King of kings and Lord of lords, who **alone** has immortality and dwells in **unapproachable** light, whom no man **has ever** seen or can see, to him be honor and eternal dominion.

(1 Timothy 6:13,15,16)

But the Lord is the true God; he is the living God and the everlasting King.

(Jeremiah 10:10)

Buddhist Teachings

28. SOME ULTIMATE QUESTIONS MUST BE LEFT UNSWHERED.

Thus I have heard: At one time the Tathagata was dwelling at Savatthi, in the Jetavana Monastery in the park of Anathapindaka. Now the elder Malunkya-putta had retired in meditation, and this thought arose in his mind:—

"These views have been left unexplained by the Tathagata, set aside and rejected,—that the universe is eternal, ~~that it is not eternal; that it is finite, that it is infinite;~~ that life is the same as the body, that life is one thing and the body is another; that a released person exists after death, that he does not exist after death;..."

(Buddha answered): "Therefore, Malunkya-putta, consider as unexplained what I have not explained, and consider as explained what I have explained."

(Majjhima Nikaya 1:426)

29. BUDDHA'S MISSION WAS TO PROCLAIM THE DHARMA.

He proclaimed the Dharma, making it clear with his own supreme wisdom. He taught this world together with all the devatas, maras, Brahmas... He proclaimed the Dharma.

(Buddhabhithuti)

The Dharma of the Great Teacher, that gives light like a lamp; the Dharma that is laden with the Way, the Fruit, and Nibbana, that Dharma transcends the world. It sheds light on the meaning of the Law. We devoutly bow to the highest Dharma.

(Ratanattayapanama Gatha)

Christian Teachings

28. TO DWELL WITH GOD IS THE HIGHEST GOAL OF MAN,

(Jesus said), "I am come that they might have life, and have it abundantly... And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish, and no one shall snatch them out of my hand." *(John 10:10,28)*

Thou dost show me the path of life;

In thy presence there is fullness of joy,

In the right hand are pleasures for evermore.

(Psalm 16:11)

~~So then you are no longer strangers and sojourners, but~~ you are fellow-citizens with the saints and members of the household of God. *(Ephesians 3:10)*

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?... No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

(Romans 8:35,37-39)

29. PEACE, JOY, AND ETERNAL LIFE ARE FOUND WITH GOD.

But now that you have been set free from sin, and become slaves of God, the return you get is sanctification and its end, eternal life. For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life. *(Romans 6:22,23)*

Then I saw a new heaven... and I heard a great voice from the throne saying, "Behold the dwelling of God is with men, he will dwell with them and they shall be his people, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning nor crying nor pain any more."

(Revelation 21:1,3,4)

Buddhist Teachings

30. THE MONASTIC ORDER OR SANGHA TRANSMITS THE DHARMA.

Now the Blessed One addressed the venerable Ananda and said, "It may be, Ananda, that in some of you the thought may arise, 'The word of the Master is ended, we have no teacher any more !' But it is not thus, Ananda, that you should regard it. Tho truths and tho rules of the Order which I have set forth and laid down for you all, let them, after I am gone, be the Teacher to you."

(MahaparinibbanaSutta 6:1)

31. MERITORIOUS IS THE WORSHIP OF THE THREE GEMS: BUDDHA, THE DHARMA AND THE SANGHA.

We worship the Lord Buddha with these offerings,

We worship the Dharma with these offerings,

We worship the Sangha with these offerings.

That moment, friend, in which you invited tho fraternity of bhikkhus with the Buddha at its head for the next day, that moment you acquired much merit. And the moment in which each bhikkhu received one lump of rice from you, that moment you acquired much merit. You gained the inheritance of heaven.

(Mahavagga 6:25:5)

Christian Teachings

30. THE TRIUNE GOD IS ONE, NOT THREE.

The Lord our God is one Lord.

(Deuteronomy 6:4)

(Jesus said), "I and the Father are one..."

(John 10:30)

Yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things.

(1 Corinthians 8:6)

The grace of our Lord Jord Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

(2 Corinthians 13:14)

31. TRUE PRAYER CONSISTS OF: THANKSGIVING TO GOD; CONFESSION OF SIN; APPEALS FOR SELF AND OTHERS; COMMITMENT TO GOD'S CARE AND DIRECTION.

Jesus lifted up his eyes and said, "Father, I thank thee..."

(John 11:41)

And Jesus said to them, "When you pray, say...forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive every one who is indebted to us."

(Luke 11:2,4)

Blessed be the Lord ! for he has heard the voice of my supplications

O save thy people, and bless thy heritage;

Be thou their shepherd, and carry them forever.

(Psalm 28: 6,9)

(Said Jesus) "My Father...not as I will, but as thou wilt."

(Matthew 26:30)

Then Jesus...said, "Father, into thy hands I comcit my spirit."

(Iatke 23:46)

Buddhist Teachings

32. WORSHIP • CONSISTS OF PAYING RESPECTS TO THE THREE GEMS.

Other refuge have I none; the Lord Buddha is my precious refuge. By reason of this true declaration may happiness come to me at all times.

Other refuge have I none; the Holy Dharma is my precious refuge. By reason of this true declaration may happiness come to me at all times.

Other refuge have I none; the Holy Sangha is my precious refuge. By reason of this true declaration may happiness come to me at all times.

(From the Uposatha service.)

33. THE LAST WORDS OF GOTAMA THE BUDDHA.

Behold. O disciples, I exhort you: subject to change are all composed things. Strive on with diligence.

(MahaparinibbanaSuta 5)

Christian Teachings

32. THE MORAL LAW IS SUMMED UP: "LOVE GOD, LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF."

"Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?"

And Jesus said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind... You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

(Matthew 22: 36,37)

Love does no wrong to his neighbor, therefore love is the fulfilling of the Law.

(Romans 13:10)

33. THE LAST WORDS OF JESUS CHRIST.

All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me...and lo, I am with you always, to the close of the age.

(Matthew 28: 18,20)