

**Suffering** Pain or distress caused by injury, illness or loss. Suffering can be physical, emotional/psychological or spiritual.

**Case Study – The Holocaust**

- Systematic murder of around 11million people during WW2
- People murdered due to things such as disabilities, sexuality, nationality, religion
- Jewish population were the biggest victims – Hitler wanted to ‘eliminate every Jew in Europe’
- Prisoners kept in concentration camps, people selected were murdered in gas chambers, the rest had to carry out forced labour in awful conditions with little food



**Suffering Key Religious Points**

- Suffering is a test from God
- Suffering is part of God’s plan
- Story of Job shows that keeping faith through suffering will be rewarded
- God will not make us suffer more than we can cope
- Good can come from suffering
- Jesus and Muhammad both coped with suffering, their example should be followed
- We cannot understand good without suffering



**Forgiveness** To grant pardon for a wrongdoing; to give up resentment and the desire seek revenge against a wrongdoer.

**Attitudes to Forgiveness**



**Christian**

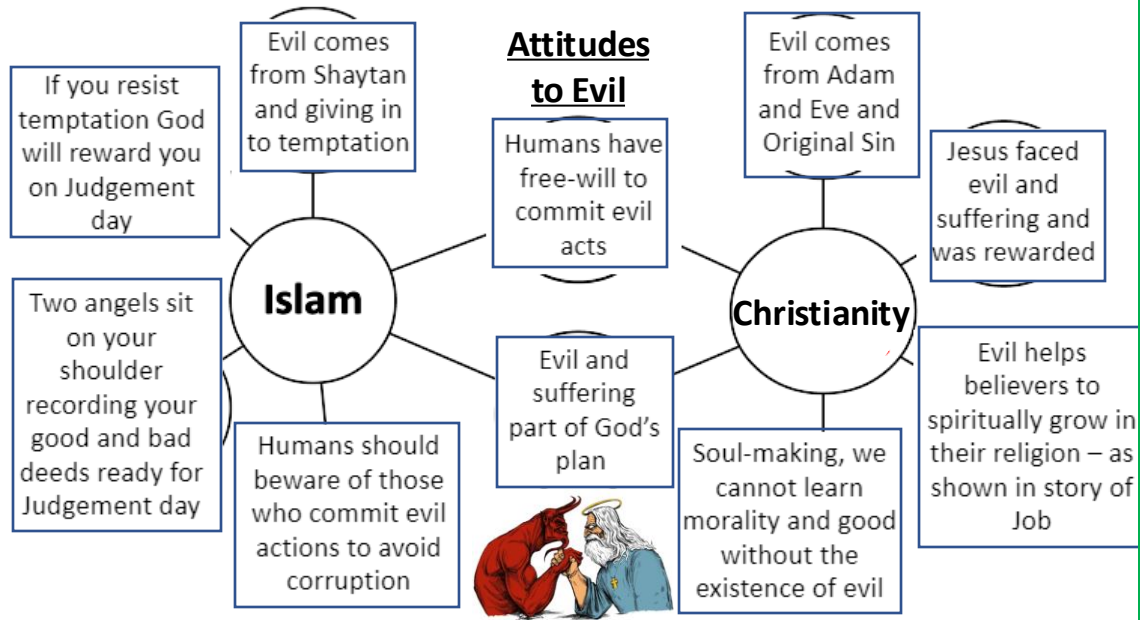
- Christianity is a religion of forgiveness
- Jesus demonstrated this through his actions “forgive and you will be forgiven”
- “Let he who has not sinned throw the first stone” – we all have made mistakes and should not judge others
- Jesus showed forgiveness on the cross “father forgive them”
- Parable of The Lost Son – example of how we should forgive no matter what



**Muslim**

- Qur’an says those who forgive will be rewarded by God ‘God is Oft-forgiving, Most Merciful’
- Forgiveness is the path to peace
- 2 types of forgiveness, God’s and human – both are needed
- There is no limit to God’s forgiveness
- Muslims should follow the example of the Prophet Muhammed who forgave the old woman who brushed dirt at him

**Evil** That which is considered extremely immoral, wicked and wrong.



**Case Study – Murder of James Bulger**

- Toddler kidnapped, tortured and murdered by 10 year old boys, Jon Venables and Robert Thompson.
- Boys were imprisoned from age 10-17 when they were released with new identities
- Venables re-offended twice, Thompson reformed.
- Raised the question of if boys were born or made evil



**Forgiveness Case Study – Gee Walker**

- Her son Anthony was murdered in a racial attack
- She is a practicing Christian
- Chose to forgive Anthony’s killers
- Said holding on to anger and bitterness and resentment is unhealthy
- Follows the teachings of Jesus to ‘forgive not 7 but 7x70’ times.

Define suffering:

Case Study – The Holocaust



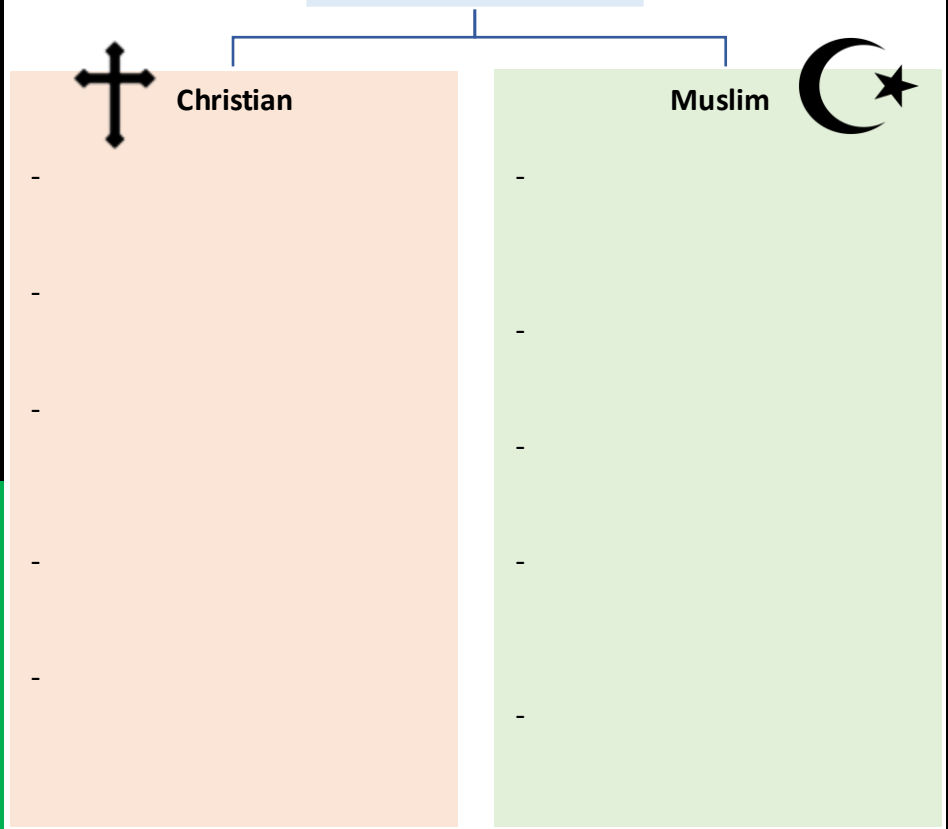
Suffering Key Religious Points



- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- 

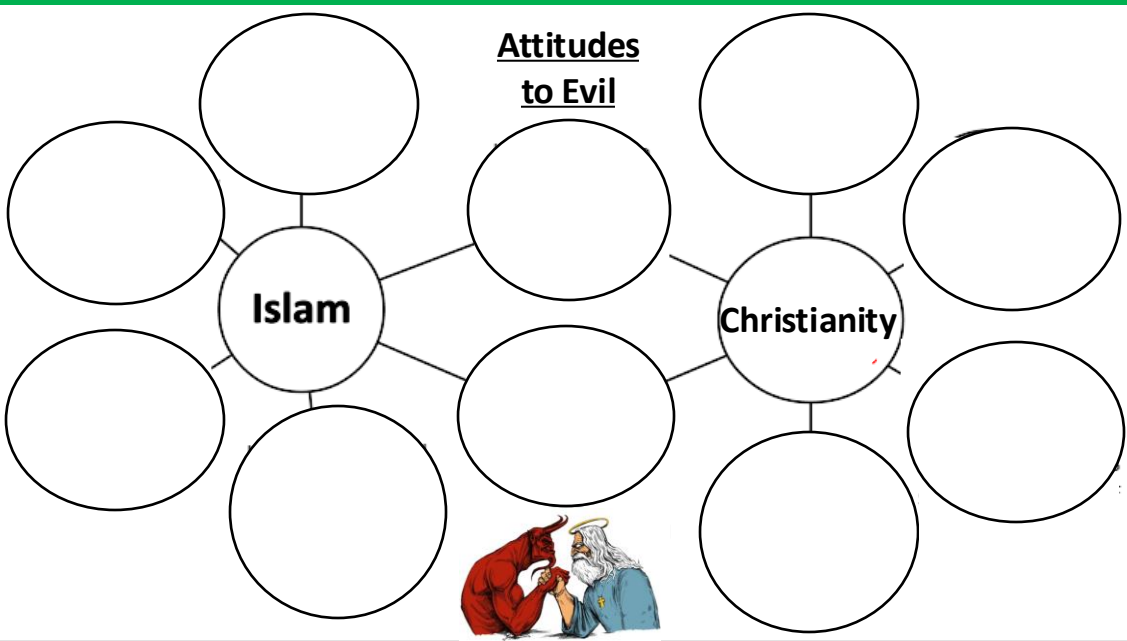
Define Forgiveness:

Attitudes to Forgiveness



Define Evil:

Attitudes to Evil



Case Study – Murder of James Bulger

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- 



Forgiveness Case Study – Gee Walker

- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
-

## Why could they lead to crime?

Do not know any better

Lack of guidance

Poor education

No choice

Poor parenting

Poverty

**Causes of Crime?**

Mental health

May not fully be in control of their actions

Peer pressure

Drug/alcohol addiction

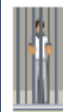
Want to fit in

Unemployment

No choice

**SIN**

Sin Deliberate immoral action, breaking a religious or moral law.



**Punishment** A penalty given to someone for a crime or wrong they have done.

Aims of Punishment

The reasons WHY someone is punished

Deterrent – put people off committing crimes e.g. death penalty

Protection – society should be protected from criminals e.g. prison

Reparation – criminals must fix the damage done, e.g. community service

Retribution – revenge, criminals must suffer for their crime, e.g. death penalty

Reformation – punishment must help change the behaviour of a criminal e.g. counselling

Vindication – society must see that the law is followed e.g. the justice system

## Those who work to improve lives in prison

Reformers – people who worked to improve prisoners lives

### John Howard

- Calvinist
- Improved prison conditions e.g. beds
- Abolished prisoner fees
- Separate gendered cells



### Elizabeth Fry

- Quaker
- Focused on reform
- Led Bible readings
- Gave education in prison especially to women



## Chaplains – spiritual or religious people who support prisoners

What do they do?

- Lead religious services in prisons
- Carry out religious or spiritual readings
- Support the families of prisoners
- Provide emotional support to prisoners
- Check on new prisoners when they arrive
- Provide counselling to prisoners
- Help with feelings of loneliness and to cope with situation



## The Death Penalty

### Christian Views

Against

- Life is sacred – only God can take it
- 'Thou shall not kill' killing is always wrong
- 'Blessed are the merciful' we should forgiveness as Jesus did 'forgive and you will be forgiven'
- 'God did not send his son to hurt the world' Jesus showed compassion, he did not judge.

For

- Catholics – ok if there is no doubt of guilt
- 'Eye for an Eye' Bible teaches you can take revenge if wronged.

### General Views For

- If you kill you give up your human rights to live
- Deterrent – puts others off crime
- Protects society from dangerous criminals
- Cheaper than life in prison – prison is already over-full

### Muslim Views

Against

- Life is sacred – only God can take it
- 'To take a life is as if you have killed all of mankind' killing is always wrong
- Forgiveness is the 'path to peace' we should forgive as Muhammed did.

For

- 'Do not take life except for just cause' if someone has murdered it is just cause.
- The Ummah (Muslim community) must be protected from violence and danger

### General Views Against

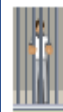
- Hypocritical killing because they have killed
- A very expensive process – can spend years on death row
- Does not always bring closure to the families as they expect

## Why could they lead to crime?



**SIN**

Definition:



Punishment Definition:

Aims of Punishment

*The reasons WHY someone is punished*



## Those who work to improve lives in prison

Reformers – people who worked to improve prisoners lives

**John Howard**  
- Calvinist



**Elizabeth Fry**  
- Quaker



## Chaplains – spiritual or religious people who support prisoners

What do they do?



## The Death Penalty

Christian Views	Muslim Views
Against	Against
For	For
General Views For	General Views Against



**Fate**

A power or force that determines the future. The idea is that the outcome is predetermined or unchangeable – inevitable and irresistible

**VS**

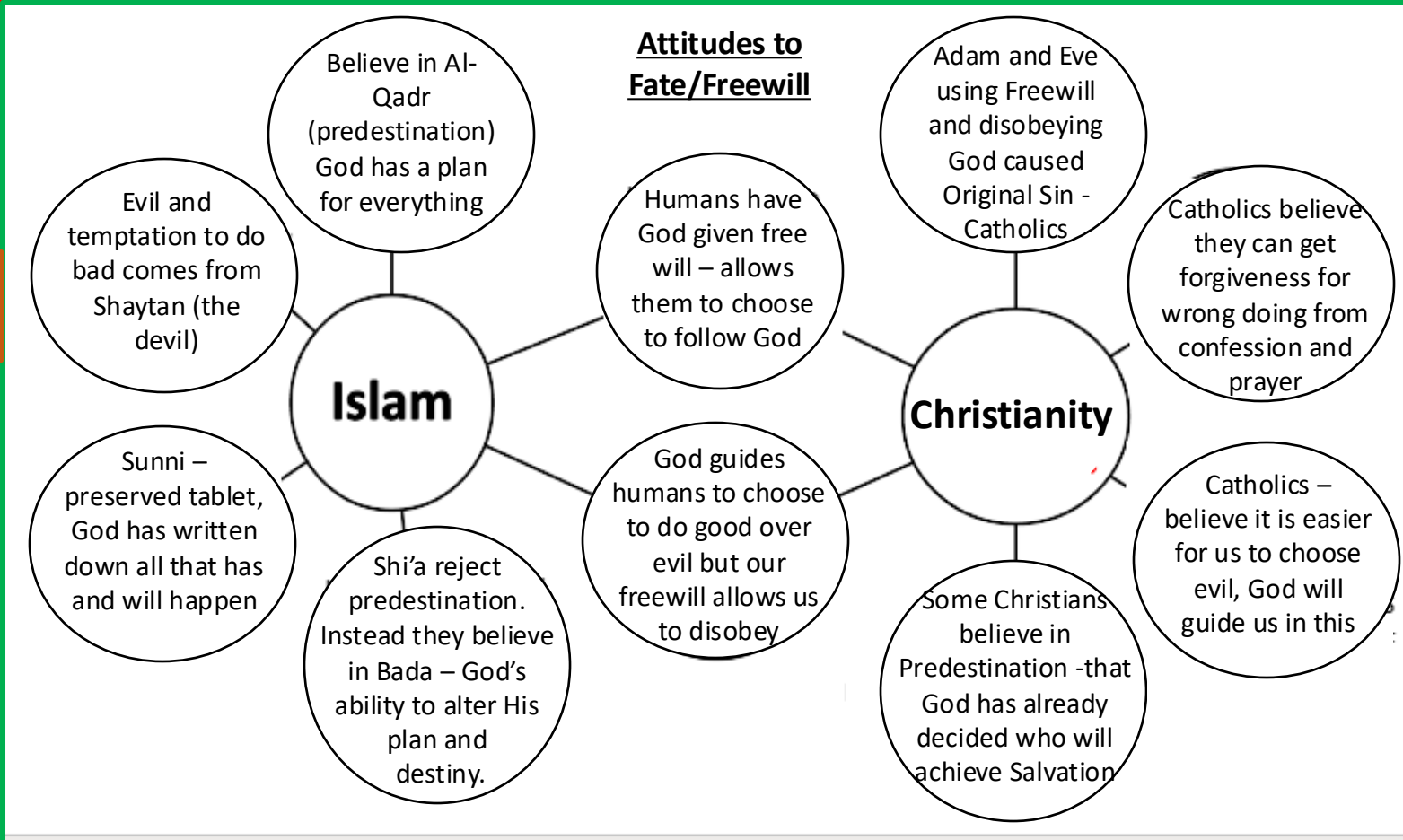
**Free will**

The belief that humans have free choices in life. We are created with the ability to obey or disobey God according to our own choices.

**Predestination:** the belief that all events have been willed or planned by God. He has already chosen who will receive salvation and enter heaven.

**Justice** Fairness; where everyone has equal provisions and opportunity.

Christian Views	Muslim Views
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Generally disagree with retribution</li> <li>- Punishment and forgiveness should work together</li> <li>- We should follow Jesus' example and forgive, like he did those who betrayed him</li> <li>- Many have been involved in prison reform – believe the cause of crime must be addressed to prevent it</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Forgiveness is important but so is the need to protect the Ummah</li> <li>- Punishment is central to justice and keeping people on the straight path</li> <li>- Shari'ah law details the punishments for straying and is designed to deter with its harsh punishments</li> <li>- Forgiveness comes from God</li> </ul>



How do they help us with decision making?



Fate

.....

.....

.....

.....

VS

Free will

.....

.....

.....

.....

Predestination: .....

.....

 Justice .....

Christian Views	Muslim Views
-	-
-	-
-	-
-	-

