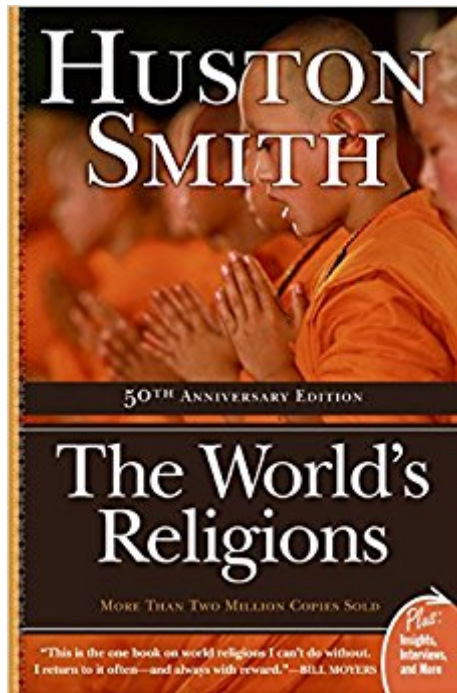




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The World's Religions (Plus)



Synopsis

The World's Religions, by beloved author and pioneering professor Huston Smith (Tales of Wonder), is the definitive classic for introducing the essential elements and teachings of the world's predominant faiths, including Hinduism, Buddhism, Confucianism, Taoism, Judaism, Christianity, Islam, as well as regional native traditions. This revised and updated edition provides sympathetic descriptions of the various traditions, explaining how they work "from the inside," which is a big reason why this cherished classic has sold more than two million copies since it first appeared in 1958.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Huston Smith's masterpiece explores the essential elements and teachings of the world's predominant faiths, including Hinduism, Buddhism, Confucianism, Taoism, Judaism, Christianity, Islam, and the native traditions of Australia, Africa, Oceania, and the Americas. Emphasizing the inner—rather than the institutional—dimension of these religions, Smith devotes special attention to Zen and Tibetan Buddhism, Sufism, and the teachings of Jesus. He convincingly conveys the unique appeal and gifts of each of the traditions and reveals their hold on the human heart and imagination.

Huston Smith is internationally known and revered as the premier teacher of world religions. He is the focus of a five-part PBS television series with Bill Moyers and has taught at Washington

University, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Syracuse University, and the University of California at Berkeley. The recipient of twelve honorary degrees, Smith's fifteen books include his bestselling *The World's Religions*, *Why Religion Matters*, and his autobiography, *Tales of Wonder*.

in 2009 I wrote a letter to Huston Smith telling him that in my teens I had taken a course on world religions at Boston University and the professor had used as textbook Smith's *The Religions of Man* (now titled *The World's Religions*). I told Smith that I had recently become an adjunct professor of world religions at FSU and that after examining a dozen textbooks I could not find one that came even close to the beauty and understanding Smith conveys in clear and eloquent prose in *The World's Religions*. Therefore, I chose to use his book as the textbook for all my comparative religion classes. Smith wrote back that my letter had arrived on his 90th birthday and he said, "I couldn't have asked for a better birthday present!"

Didn't read the book yet but I scanned through it and based on that I think it will give me what I want in terms of basic information about some of the world's religions.

It's what I expected. I wanted to learn about the world's religions other than Christianity and the book is providing me some understanding and appreciation of them.

This is a well-written book, easy to access. It is thoughtful and informative. It has added volumes to my understanding of the faith traditions.

No better source. This was required reading for my Comparative Religions class at Georgetown University in 1968. Has borne many re-readings since, most recently on a trip to Angkor Wat.

This book was a required purchase for my Introduction to World Religions course. It is a great book for the curious mind, searching for understanding of other cultures and religious beliefs. The book breathes no bias, but enlightens the willing to the true intention of religions that have been prejudiced in different areas of the world. You can learn a lot about yourself through the teachings of this book. It is a must read!

The section on Confucius is my very favorite. Should be required High School reading. Every US politician should be required to read this section. He professes that politicians must be "better" than their citizens if they want to be followed. More enlightening is the idea of social norm/morays are the only way to control the population. Nice summary of all religions, unbiased. I keep few book but this is on my shelf

I borrowed this book for 4 consecutive months from the library - kept renewing it because I'd keep picking it up and getting into another section. I find it more useful as a reference.... looking at a section on one religion when I have a question.... rather than reading cover to cover... though you could certainly do that too. I finally gave in and bought the book when the library said they wanted it back. :)

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