

## Chapter 1 Rise and Spread of Christianity

### A. Understanding periods in history, Meaning of Christianity and birth of Jesus

1. Into how many periods is history divided? Name them.

History is divided into three periods. Namely:

- I. The Ancient period (earliest times to 8<sup>th</sup> century).
  - II. The Medieval period (medieval period is divided into two periods  
Early medieval – from 9<sup>th</sup> century to 12<sup>th</sup> century and  
Later medieval – from 13<sup>th</sup> century to 18<sup>th</sup> century).
  - III. The Modern period (19<sup>th</sup> century onwards).
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2. What is the meaning of Christianity? Who are Christians?

Christianity is a religion that is based on the teachings of Jesus Christ and the belief was that he was the son of God.

The followers of Jesus Christ are known as Christians.

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3. Who was Jesus? When was Jesus born?

Jesus was born in small village of Bethlehem, near Jerusalem. He was a Jew (a community whose traditional religion is Judaism).

The Christian calendar marks the birth of Jesus at 4<sup>th</sup> century.

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4. What do you understand by the term 'Bible'?

Bible is the holy book of the Christians. The bible has two parts. Namely:

New Testament – the New Testament describes the life and teachings of Jesus Christ in the four books called Gospels. The four gospels were written by Jesus' disciples named Mathew, Mark, Luke and John.

Old Testament – the Old Testament describes the religion of the Jews and their Gods before the birth of Jesus. It is the holy book of Jews and is also called Hebrew Bible.

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