BUDDHISM

Primary Held Beliefs:

- There is no god. Problem is suffering caused by craving (desire) and attachment.
- No permanent self (anatta); Self is an illusion.
- Impermanence (anicca): all things are transient.
- Karma and rebirth: actions & thoughts shape cause and effect. If you have not been liberated, you go through cycles of rebirth as different people with different souls. When you die your illusion ceases to exist. (One candle lights another)
- Nirvana (liberation) is the goal: the extinguishing of craving and therefore suffering. No schools agree. Some say it is annihilation, others - one with universe. Most say only males can be liberated.
- Compassion (karuṇā) and wisdom (prajñā), Ethical living (Justice) & Meditation are means to reduce suffering and progress toward liberation.

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What the Bible Actually Says (Christian Worldview):

• ***If you are right… Who*** *is being freed and from what****? Why*** *have compassion or seek justice at all****? What*** *happens to your love or hope?* ***Why*** *do we seek to be known?* ***Why*** *does it hurt so bad when we lose someone?* ***What*** *if escape is not the answer but full restoration of what we were suppose to be? Your schools only tell you what enlightenment* ***is not...*** *God tells us plainly what he offers! Buddha was a man.*
• **The problem is *not attachment & suffering. Life it not transient or illusion.***
What if *we were created by a loving God who wants us to be fully known, fully loved, & live forever?*
• **The self/person is real and made in God's image.**
"Then God said, 'Let us make man in our image…'" — Genesis 1:26
The problem is disobedience and alienation from God. We walked away! We broke everything! *"All have sinned…" — Romans 3:23*
• **God is constant and unchanging;** creation is sustained by Him.
"Jesus Christ *is the same yesterday and today and forever." — Hebrews 13:8*
• **There is one life followed by judgement, not endless rebirth.**
"It is appointed for man to die once…" — Hebrews 9:27
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