

Christian Beliefs: Knowledge Organiser

The nature of God	
Omnipotent	God is all-powerful.
Just	God is fair and judges people according to their actions.
Benevolent	God shows unconditional love to humanity.
The Oneness of God	God is one singular divine being.
The Trinity	Belief the one God is three persons.
- The Father	- Creator of the world - Judge on judgement day
- The Son	- God incarnate (made human) as Jesus - Sacrificed himself to remove sin
- The Holy Spirit	- God active in the world today - Present during sacraments e.g. baptism

Creation and Humanity	
Creation	God brought the universe into existence as an act of love.
The Word	In Genesis 1 in the Bible, God creates through his eternal Word (Jesus) by commanding things to exist.
Original sin	The belief that human nature is flawed due to Adam and Eve’s disobedience by eating the fruit in the Garden of Eden.
Sin	Behaviour that separates people from God.
Genesis story	Seven days of creation story in the book of Genesis, starting with God creating light and ending with him creating humans ‘in his image’ and a day of rest. - Understood literally: It really happened exactly as the story says, 6000 years ago. - Understood non-literally: It is a story with a message about God and his relationship with humans and the world, but isn’t factually correct.
Key Quote	“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God and the Word was God, He was with God in the beginning” Bible, John 1

Incarnation and Jesus	
Incarnation	The belief that part of God, The Word, became human in the person of Jesus.
Jesus / Son of God	Christians believe Jesus is God incarnate, the second Person of the Trinity.
Christ (Messiah)	The saviour promised by God to the Jews; Christians believe Jesus is the Christ.
Key Quote	“The word became flesh and made his dwelling among us” Bible

How does Jesus life influence (think, act, feel) Christians today?			
Incarnation	Crucifixion	Resurrection	Ascension
Christians feel cared for that God become a human to help them.	Christians feel loved that God would sacrifice himself for them.	Christians follow Gods rules as they think they can also be resurrected.	Christians think Jesus will be up in heaven, waiting for them.

Salvation and Atonement	
Crucifixion	The death of Jesus on the cross between two criminals, after being tortured and made to carry the cross.
Atonement	Jesus’ death paying the price for human sin and bringing people and God back together.
Salvation	Being saved from sin and able to enter eternal life with God. Through works: By doing good deeds Through grace: As a loving gift for those who follow God Through laws: By following Gods rules
Key Quote	“I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the father except through me” – Jesus in the Bible

Resurrection and afterlife	
Resurrection	The belief that God raised Jesus from the dead in his original body. - Some Christians believe this will happen to all Christians
Immortality of the soul	Belief some Christians have that after death the soul can live on and go to the afterlife, alternative to resurrection.
Ascension	Forty days after the resurrection, Jesus was taken up to heaven.
Judgement day	When God will judge people on their actions and they will go to either heaven or hell.
Heaven	A reward for following God after death.
Hell	A punishment after death for those who have sinned.
Purgatory	A Catholic belief where people go after death to have minor sins cleaned from their souls before heaven.
Key Quote	‘He is risen’ – Bible (said by the women who found Jesus’ tomb empty and met him)
Key quote	‘Whatever you did for the least of them, you did it for me’ -Jesus Quote from the ‘sheep and the goats’ parable, where Jesus tells people on judgement day some will go to heaven because they helped others by giving food, shelter etc.

Evil and suffering	
Evil	The opposite of good; a cause of suffering and against God’s will.
Suffering	Experiencing pain and hardship; often linked to sin or human free will.
Problem of evil	Problem of how God can be loving and powerful and yet still allow good people to suffer.
Theodicy	A possible solution to the problem of evil: - Adam and Eve broke Gods perfect world with original sin, and so evil and suffering is not Gods fault but human beings. - We need suffering so we can grow by helping others and become more like God to earn a place in heaven.