



# **Life** & **DEATH**

**According to Buddha and Jesus**

*Written and Compiled by Patsy Oda  
Art work by Norma Bonds*

# **LIFE and DEATH**

According to Buddha and Jesus

*This booklet contains historically-documented information about the lives and teachings of Buddha and Jesus. Both men dedicated their lives on earth to their passionate beliefs concerning life, death and eternity.*

**Written by Patsy Oda  
Art work by Norma Bonds  
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# BUDDHA

## His Life and Death

- Born Siddhartha Gautama, a rich Hindu prince in India, 563 B.C.
- Grew up sheltered in the luxuries of his father's palace.
- Until age 29, he never saw a sick, elderly, or dead person.
- He left his wife, child and the palace in search of answers for life's suffering.
- He studied under gurus for six years and subjected himself to extreme disciplines.
- Through meditation, his mind was enlightened and awakened to the realization that *life is suffering* and *empty of any meaning*.
- Thereafter, Siddhartha Gautama became Shakamuni BUDDHA, the Enlightened One. He dedicated the rest of his life to teaching how to attain enlightenment.
- At age 80, he died of food poisoning.

# JESUS

## His Life, Death, Resurrection

- Born to poor Jewish parents in a stable in Bethlehem in 4 B.C.
- Grew up, experiencing challenges and sufferings of common people.
- As a youth, he amazed the religious leaders with his wisdom.
- At age 30, he started his ministry preaching about the Kingdom of God and Heaven, and he did countless supernatural miracles.
- At age 33, he was crucified on a Roman cross for claiming to be God's Son sent from heaven.
- Three days later, he rose from the dead. Hundreds of people saw him alive and talked with him after his resurrection.
- Forty days later, he returned to heaven on a cloud, as witnesses watched.
- Over 2000 years later, he is still alive today in vital communication with the hearts of people who believe in him as God and Savior.

## How Life Began

### BUDDHA

#### **Life always existed.**

Life never began. Life has always existed from "the beginningless past".

Buddha was an atheist. He did not believe in God, in creation, in miracles nor in anything supernatural.

### JESUS

#### **The eternally-living God created life.**

God alone has always existed. He was, is, and always will be eternally alive as the triune God:

God the Father  
God the Son Jesus  
God the Holy Spirit

God supernaturally created everything (visible and invisible) out of nothing. Every living thing receives life and daily breath and strength from God alone.

# What is Human Life?

BUDDHA

## **Human life is an illusion.**

Human life is an illusion of the mind. Every human mind has existed from the beginningless past in endless reincarnations from one impermanent body to the next.

Humans are karmic beings that generate good and bad Karma (action merits). Humans have NO SOUL and NO SELF that identifies them. Each human is like a drop of water in the ocean, with no identity of its own. "Self" and "soul" are *illusions* of the mind.

JESUS

## **Human life is an eternal spirit.**

God, who is an eternal Spirit, created humans to be eternal spirit beings like Himself, to be His spiritual children. Humans are God's created children who have a free will and have an individual SOUL with which to THINK, FEEL EMOTIONS, and CHOOSE.

God created a physical body for every person--each with their own DNA, fingerprints and personality. He loves and knows each person by name.

# The Truth about Life

## BUDDHA

### **The truth is: Life is Suffering.**

Human life has no meaning and no purpose. Life is suffering.

### **"The Four Noble Truths" of Buddha**

1. Life is suffering.
2. The cause of suffering is desire and attachment to impermanent things.
3. The end of suffering is attainable.
4. The path to end suffering is by gradual self-improvement.

## JESUS

### **The truth about life is in God's Book.**

Only the eternal Creator God knows all truth about everything. The Bible is "*God's Word of Truth*". It contains the prophetic history of the world from its creation to its final destruction.

The Bible explains that *suffering* entered the world when mankind chose to live independently from God. They sinned against God and fell into the hands of the devil (Satan), who seeks ways to destroy them.

The theme of the Bible is God's amazing love for His human children.

# The Worst Problems in Life

BUDDHA

## **Ignorance and Desire**

Humans are karmic beings, living in an abstract metaphysical universe. The worst karmic problems are **IGNORANCE** of the fact that life is a meaningless, empty illusion, and **DESIRE** for impermanent things that cause continued reincarnations into future bodies of suffering.

JESUS

## **Sin and the Devil**

**SIN** separated humans from God and put humans in bondage to the **DEVIL**. Sin and the Devil cause depravity, destruction, suffering and death. The penalty for sin is eternal death in hell.

Jesus was judged and crucified on the cross to pay the penalty for the sins of mankind. His death paid the ransom to free mankind from bondage to the devil, sin, death and hell. All who receive Jesus as Savior and ask forgiveness for their sins, will be forgiven and granted eternal life in heaven. All who reject Jesus as Savior will be judged for their sins at the final Judgment.



# The Ultimate Goal of Life

## BUDDHA

### **Eternal death is the ultimate goal.**

Buddha's ultimate goal was to teach humans how to attain "Nirvana" and save themselves from living endlessly in reincarnations. Nirvana is not a place, but the "extinguishing" of the mind into the Eternal Void.

Attaining nirvana requires the mind to diligently meditate on the emptiness of life, until it detaches itself from all desire of any impermanent things (good or bad), that would cause it to return in another body after death. It could take *countless lifetimes* of reincarnations to attain nirvana.

## JESUS

### **Eternal life is the ultimate goal.**

Jesus came to earth to die for the sins of mankind, because there was no other way to save humans from eternal death in hell. His ultimate goal was to give every person the free gift of eternal life in heaven. Jesus grants this gift *immediately* to anyone who asks him to forgive their sins and receives him as personal Savior.

# Path to Nirvana or Heaven

## BUDDHA

### **Right living is the path to Nirvana.**

"The Eightfold Path" taught by Buddha

1. Right view
2. Right intention
3. Right speech
4. Right action
5. Right livelihood
6. Right effort
7. Right mindfulness
8. Right concentration

## JESUS

### **Jesus is the way to heaven.**

God created humans to be *spiritually alive* to Him as their Father in heaven. But humans chose to ignore God, and even created other gods of their own. This sin of rejecting God caused humans to become *spiritually dead*, with *no way* to go to live in heaven.

(Read Romans 1:18-32 in the Bible)

But in love, Father God sent His Son Jesus to die to pay for mankind's sins. Believing in Jesus as Savior is "the way" through which humans can be forgiven and become "born again" and spiritually alive to go to heaven.

**I am the way, and the truth, and the life;  
no one comes to the Father but through me.**

**Jesus**

(John 14:6 - Bible)

# Heaven and Hell

## BUDDHA

### **Heaven and hell are not real places.**

Every person will experience heavenly or hellish lives on earth, as a result of their accumulated good or bad Karma from their current and past lives.

After each death, the natural Law of Karma (the law of cause and effect) reincarnates a person's mind into their next body.

## JESUS

### **Heaven and hell are literal places where people will spend eternity.**

Heaven is God's home. All who put their trust in Jesus as their personal Savior from their sins, are immediately born again spiritually as God's child. After death, they will go to live with their Father in heaven in their new eternal body. There is no suffering, sickness, death or sin in heaven.

Hell is a literal place of utter darkness, eternal suffering, and torment in the Lake of Fire. All who have rejected Jesus' sacrifice for their sins, will spend eternity in hell, without God and without hope.

# Choosing LIFE or DEATH

BUDDHA

## **Choose death.**

Buddha believed that human minds were caught in the endless suffering of reincarnations. He taught how the mind can die and *stay dead*. Buddha died in 483 B.C.

JESUS

## **Choose life.**

Three days after Jesus died on the cross and was buried, he resurrected himself from the dead, proving he is God. Jesus is alive today, and he promises that all who choose to believe in him will *live forever*.

**I am the resurrection and the life.**

**Whoever believes in me,  
though he die, yet shall he live.**

**Jesus**

(John 11:25 - Bible)

*Jesus, I believe that you died to pay for my sins. I trust in you as my personal Savior. Please come into my heart, forgive my sins, and grant me the gift of eternal life in heaven with you.*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## **Writings by Patsy Oda**

Heart's Desire *autobiography*

*also in e-Book*

Christianity Pure and Simple

Atheism: A World without God

God's Eternal Family Reunion

Out of the Darkness, Into the Light

Differences Between Buddhism & Christianity

Life and Death -- According to Buddha and Jesus

What Time is It?

Heaven is Free

With or Without GOD

Coming to God

Miracles for You

Flying with God

Growing Through Prayer

What Did God Say?

Resting in God

Simply Enjoy God

### **About the Author**

Patsy Oda invited Jesus Christ into her heart as Savior when she was eight years old. Miraculously, she became aware of God as her Heavenly Father and heaven as her eternal home.

But the religion of her Japanese ancestry, culture and family was Buddhism, which does not believe in God or in Heaven. Her family could not understand the invisible reality in her heart. But she could not deny the God who had become so real and precious to her.

Opposition to her faith challenged her to examine both Buddhism and Christianity for over 50 years. Part of God's plan and purpose for her life was to write what she learned about the eternal differences between Buddhism and Christianity. Her autobiography *Heart's Desire* tells about her life with God.