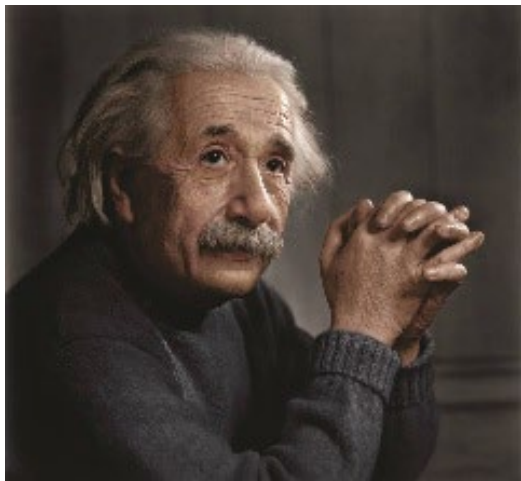


What Is God?

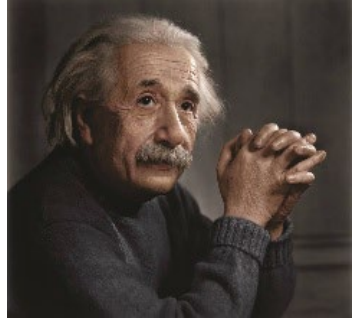
Einstein, Spinoza, Jung and Buddha



What Is God

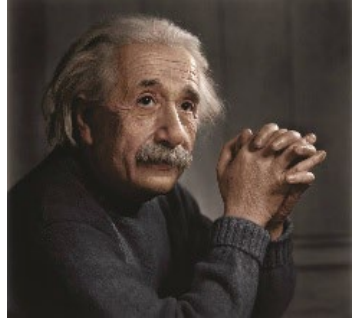
- Einstein
- Spinoza
- Jung
- Buddha

Einstein



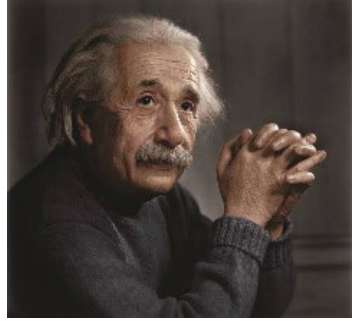
- Here are some insights from Albert Einstein that influenced him, take note all those who still believe that spirituality and science are incompatible ...
- “Concerning matter, we have been all wrong. What we have called matter is energy, whose vibration has been so lowered as to be perceptible to the senses. Matter is spirit reduced to point of visibility. There is no matter.”
- "Time and space are not conditions in which we live, but modes by which we think. Physical concepts are free creations of the human mind, and are not, however it may seem, determined by the external world."
- “Time does not exist – we invented it. Time is what the clock says. The distinction between the past, present and future is only a stubbornly persistent illusion.”

Einstein



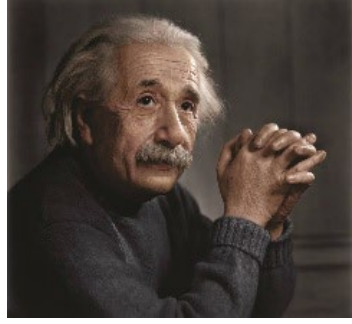
- "I think 99 times and find nothing. I stop thinking, swim in silence, and the truth comes to me."
- "The intellect has little to do on the road to discovery. There comes a leap in consciousness, call it intuition or what you will, the solution comes to you and you don't know how or why."
- "A human being experiences himself, his thoughts and feelings as something separated from the rest, a kind of optical delusion of consciousness. This delusion is a kind of prison for us, restricting us to our personal desires and to affection for a few persons nearest to us. Our task must be to free ourselves from this prison by widening our circle of compassion to embrace all living creatures and the whole of nature in its beauty."
- "Our separation from each other is an optical illusion."

Einstein



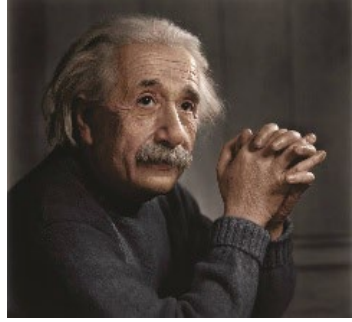
- “When something vibrates, the electrons of the entire universe resonate with it. Everything is connected. The greatest tragedy of human existence is the illusion of separateness.”
- “Reality is merely an illusion, albeit a very persistent one.”
- “We are souls dressed up in sacred biochemical garments and our bodies are the instruments through which our souls play their music.”
- “When you examine the lives of the most influential people who have ever walked among us, you discover one thread that winds through them all. They have been aligned first with their spiritual nature and only then with their physical selves.”

Einstein



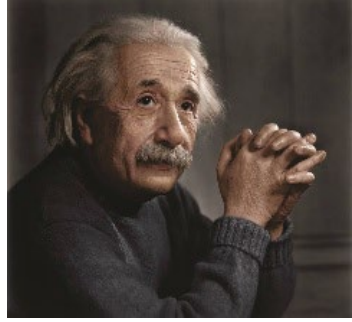
- “The true value of a human being can be found in the degree to which he has attained liberation from the self.”
- “The ancients knew something, which we seem to have forgotten.”
- “The more I learn of physics, the more I am drawn to metaphysics.”
- “One thing I have learned in a long life: that all our science, measured against reality, is primitive and childlike. We still do not know one thousandth of one percent of what nature has revealed to us. It is entirely possible that behind the perception of our senses, worlds are hidden of which we are unaware.”

Einstein



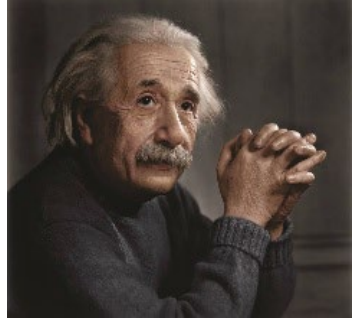
- “I’m not an atheist. The problem involved is too vast for our limited minds. We are in the position of a little child entering a huge library filled with books in many languages. The child knows someone must have written those books.”
- "The common idea that I am an atheist is based on a big mistake. Anyone who interprets my scientific theories this way, did not understand them."
- "Everything is determined, every beginning and ending, by forces over which we have no control. It is determined for the insect, as well as for the star. Human beings, vegetables, or cosmic dust, we all dance to a mysterious tune, intoned in the distance by an invisible piper."
- “The religion of the future will be a cosmic religion. It will transcend a personal God and avoid dogma and theology.”

Einstein



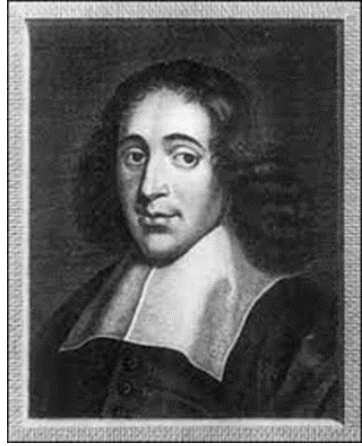
- “Energy cannot be created or destroyed, it can only be changed from one form to another.”
- “Everything is energy and that is all there is to it. Match the frequency of the reality you want and you can not help but get that reality. It can be no other way. This is not philosophy. This is physics.”
- "I am happy because I want nothing from anyone. I do not care about money. Decorations, titles or distinctions mean nothing to me. I do not crave praise. I claim credit for nothing. A happy man is too satisfied with the present to dwell too much on the future."

Einstein on God



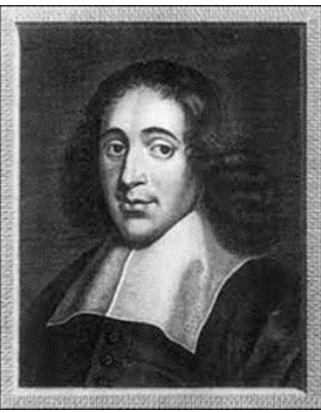
- When Einstein gave lectures at U.S. universities, the recurring question that students asked him most was:
 - – Do you believe in God?
 - And he always answered:
 - – *I believe in the God of Spinoza.*
- Baruch de Spinoza was a Dutch philosopher considered one of the great rationalists of 17th century philosophy, along with Descartes.

Spinoza



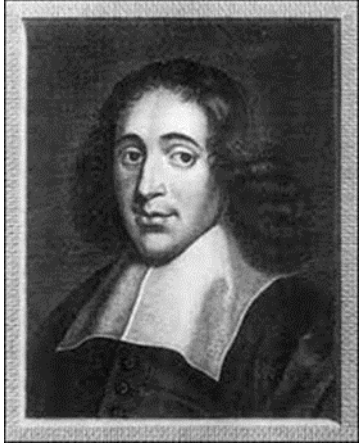
- Spinoza: God would say: Stop praying.
- What I want you to do is go out into the world and enjoy your life. I want you to sing, have fun and enjoy everything I've made for you.
- Stop going into those dark, cold temples that you built yourself and saying they are my house. My house is in the mountains, in the woods, rivers, lakes, beaches. That's where I live and there I express my love for you.
- Stop blaming me for your miserable life; I never told you there was anything wrong with you or that you were a sinner, or that your sexuality was a bad thing. Sex is a gift I have given you and with which you can express your love, your ecstasy, your joy. So don't blame me for everything they made you believe.
- Stop reading alleged sacred scriptures that have nothing to do with me. If you can't read me in a sunrise, in a landscape, in the look of your friends, in your son's eyes ... you will find me in no book!
- Stop asking me "will you tell me how to do my job?" Stop being so scared of me. I do not judge you or criticize you, nor get angry, or bothered. I am pure love.

Spinoza



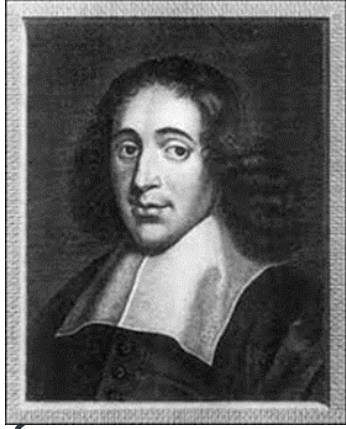
- Stop asking for forgiveness, there's nothing to forgive. If I made you... I filled you with passions, limitations, pleasures, feelings, needs, inconsistencies... free will. How can I blame you if you respond to something I put in you? How can I punish you for being the way you are, if I'm the one who made you? Do you think I could create a place to burn all my children who behave badly for the rest of eternity? What kind of god would do that?
- Respect your peers and don't do what you don't want for yourself. All I ask is that you pay attention in your life, that alertness is your guide.
- My beloved, this life is not a test, not a step on the way, not a rehearsal, nor a prelude to paradise. This life is the only thing here and now and it is all you need.
- I have set you absolutely free, no prizes or punishments, no sins or virtues, no one carries a marker, no one keeps a record.

Spinoza



- You are absolutely free to create in your life. Heaven or hell.
- I can't tell you if there's anything after this life but I can give you a tip. Live as if there is not. As if this is your only chance to enjoy, to love, to exist.
- So, if there's nothing after, then you will have enjoyed the opportunity I gave you. And if there is, rest assured that I won't ask if you behaved right or wrong, I'll ask. Did you like it? Did you have fun? What did you enjoy the most? What did you learn?...
- Stop believing in me; believing is assuming, guessing, imagining. I don't want you to believe in me. I want you to believe in you. I want you to feel me in you when you kiss your beloved, when you tuck in your little girl, when you caress your dog, when you bathe in the sea.

Spinoza



- Stop praising me. What kind of egomaniac God do you think I am?
- I'm bored being praised. I'm tired of being thanked. Feeling grateful? Prove it by taking care of yourself, your health, your relationships, the world. Express your joy! That's the way to praise me.
- Stop complicating things and repeating as a parakeet what you've been taught about me.
- What do you need more miracles for? So many explanations?
- The only thing for sure is that you are here, that you are alive, that this world is full of wonders.

Reverend Alan Taylor



- I like Spinoza's God, especially as a person of privilege. Spinoza's God would have been enough for me 15 years ago.
- And I have witnessed a faith in something more than Spinoza's God—something like love at the heart of the universe that makes grace possible—in the worship and faith of African American communities where their faith literally saves people from the challenges of poverty and great uncertainty.
- My engagement with these communities and their leaders opens me up to something I'd call "the spirit of life and mystery of God" but I may start calling it "mystery of the sacred."
- For me it's a both/and!

Carl Gustav Jung



- ***Answer to Job*** (German: *Antwort auf Hiob*) is a 1952 book by Carl Jung that addresses the significance of the Book of Job to the "divine drama" of Christianity.
- It argues that while he submitted to Yahweh's omnipotence, Job nevertheless proved to be more moral and conscious than God, who tormented him without justification under the influence of Satan.
- This scandal made it necessary for God to become united with man. Satan was banished from heaven and God incarnated as purely good, through a virgin birth, into the sinless redeemer Jesus Christ..

Carl Gustav Jung



- Eventually, however, God will incarnate his evil side as well. For this to happen, the [Holy Ghost](#) left by Christ on earth has to enter "empirical", sinful human beings in whom the divine can be realized completely. Jung turns to the [Book of Ezekiel](#), the [Book of Enoch](#), and especially the [Book of Revelation](#) to consider how this may unfold.
- He suggests that the [contemporary modern era](#), in which humanity possesses [immense technological power](#), is significant to this second divine birth. He interprets the [1950 papal dogma](#) of the [Assumption of Mary](#) as easing this transition towards completeness by re-emphasizing the [feminine dimension of God](#).

Do Buddhists Believe in God?



- In a word, no. There is no divine creator god or supreme being in the Buddhist teachings, so that Buddhism is often called a nontheistic religion. The historical Buddha began as an ordinary person, who gained awakening by training his own mind and apprehending the true nature of reality.
- His enlightenment wasn't bestowed through communion with a superior, external force but through his own efforts. And that's a major point of the Buddhist story. In a word, no. There is no divine creator god or supreme being in the Buddhist teachings, so that Buddhism is often called a nontheistic religion. The historical Buddha began as an ordinary person, who gained awakening by training his own mind and apprehending the true nature of reality. His enlightenment wasn't bestowed through communion with a superior, external force but through his own efforts. And that's a major point of the Buddhist story. From the Buddhist point of view, a personal god isn't necessary: we each have the raw material to achieve our own liberation.
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Do Buddhists Believe in God?



- Then again, most Buddhist traditions have a cosmology populated with deities and other supernatural beings. Even the earliest Buddhist texts refer to the Indian gods and metaphysical creatures who made up the spiritual milieu of the time.
- According to legend, the gods watched over the Buddha's path—from past lives to enlightenment—and rejoiced on the night of his awakening.
- But it's important to remember that in all these stories, the celestial beings themselves are caught up in the cycle of death and rebirth—they may have extraordinary powers, but they haven't reached the Buddha's level of attainment.

Do Buddhists Believe in God?



- Still, in many traditions, deities and other metaphysical beings offer significant help to practitioners. And in some branches of Buddhism, such as Japanese Pure Land (aka Shin or Jodo Shinshu) Buddhism, devotion to the “other power” of the Buddha Amitabha forms the heart of the practice.
- Tibetan Buddhism in particular developed a pantheon of vivid and elaborate deities that appear in scripture and iconography. Many of these are considered [Buddhas](#), and they are used for [visualization practice](#), in which meditators imagine themselves to be these deities in order to internalize their qualities.

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