

Both Christianity and Hinduism highlight an understanding for the need for peace through their associated sacred texts. Peace can be viewed as the opposition of war or can be seen as a state of tranquility that can be achieved. The Christian sacred text, The Bible focusing on the New Testament and the Hindu sacred text the Bhagavid-Gita expresses the ability for peace to be achieved through belief in a particular faith.

Hinduism expresses that a state of peace can be obtained by both individuals and in the world. The Bhagavid-Gita explains the occurrence of the Lord Krishna advising the warrior Arjuna. In chapter 8 verse 7 it states "Therefore Arjuna you should always think of me in the form of Krishna and at the same time carry out your prescribed duty

of fighting with you activities dedicated to me and your mind and intelligence fixed on me. You will obtain me without a doubt". This highlights that in fact an individual should conduct in war if it is outlined but Hinduism does highlight the war should be just with 1. Cavalry fighting cavalry 2. Infantry fighting infantry and 3. the wounded should be respected. It is further highlighted in chapter 18: 61, 62 "The Supreme being is situated in everyone's heart" and therefore all individuals have the ability to "surrender to him utterly." This highlights that peace has the ability to be obtained by all individuals if they commit their faith in Hinduism and follow and carry out their prescribed duty of fighting.

The Bhagavid-Gita outlines how

peace can be obtained both inner and world with other organisations supporting and using this evidence. Chapter 2.66 state "For the undisciplined there is no wisdom, no meditation for he who does not meditate there is no peace". Therefore an understanding is gained that for peace to occur an individual must undertake in particular action such as meditating and this is further stressed by the Ramakrishna Serada Vedanta society that offer Hindu's meditation days. The Bhagavid - Gita also stresses the importance of an individual conducting in acts of sacrifice, charity and penance in order for a state of peace to be obtained as seen in chapter 8 verse 5 "Acts of sacrifice, charity and penance are not to be given up, they must be performed. Indeed sacrifice, charity and penance purify even the

great souls." Therefore it is highlighted through the Hindu sacred text these actions that should be performed by an individual which will influence the expression of peace.

The Hindu Foundation of Australia uses such passages as they hold as one of their principles the need for a peaceful coexistence.

Further passages in the Bhagavid-Gita such as chapter 2:70 highlights the need for an individual to control all desires influenced by the outside world in order for a state of peace to be reached "he in whom all desires enter and yet remains unmoved has peace."

Therefore it is highlighted through the Bhagavid - Gita that peace can be obtained ~~with~~ if an individual participates and takes action by placing faith in the supreme being and controlling



desires. The principle ethical teaching of Hinduism remains ahimsa (non-violence) as all Hindus are inspired through their sacred text the Bhagavid-Gita to work to obtain both inner and world peace.

Within Christianity peace is seen as a state of tranquility that can be obtained with a large emphasis on peace with relationships both with God and between individuals. The Christian sacred text the New Testament has many references to peace such as Matthew 10:34 "Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the world, I have not come to bring peace but a sword" which emphasises the belief that only peace can occur when an individual has been made 'right' with God and committed their faith in Him. The Pax Christi movement



has a focus on the peace of Christ with the movement being founded in Christ's post resurrection promise in John 14:27 "Peace I leave you, my peace I give you I do not give to you as the world gives". This stresses that through Christianity a different form of peace can be obtained beyond what the world can deliver. The community of Christ International peace award is awarded each year recognising an individuals work to obtain peace through belief in God. This idea of individuals working for peace is highlighted in Matthew 5:9 "Blessed are the Peace makers for they shall be called the children of God." This highlights the importance of individuals working and taking action to achieve both inner and world peace.

This idea of what actions an individual is required to take is seen in 1 Peter 3: 8-11 "Finally all of you live in harmony with one another, be sympathetic, love as brothers be compassionate and humble. He must turn from evil and do good He must seek peace and pursue it". All of the passages in the New Testament reaffirm the need for Christians to take action in order for peace to be obtained. Christian Churches involved in the ecumenical body the National Council of Churches joined in the 'Decade to overcome violence' as they stressed the need for peace. This is seen in Colossian 3: 15 'Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts as members of one body you were called to peace. And

be thankful". This stresses the need for Christian churches to work together as they look and search for peace both in the internal nature of all individuals and in the world. The relational nature of peace is expressed in Romans 12: 18 ~~As for~~ "If it is possible as far as it depends on you live at peace with everybody". Through the New Testament it becomes evident that both ~~the~~ inner and then world peace can be achieved when an individual places faith in God and participates and takes action such as working for peace between all individuals.

Through the sacred texts of Hinduism and Christianity it can be understood that peace can be obtained if an individual commits their



actions in, their particular beliefs
of their religion and commits to their
faith. It is understood peace can
be obtained through the sacred texts
of Christianity and Hinduism.