

Early Christianity

30-130 C.E.

Occidental Christianity
Greco-Roman (Gentile)

Oriental Christianity
Syrian-Asian (Semitic)

Pauline Christianity
(Greek)

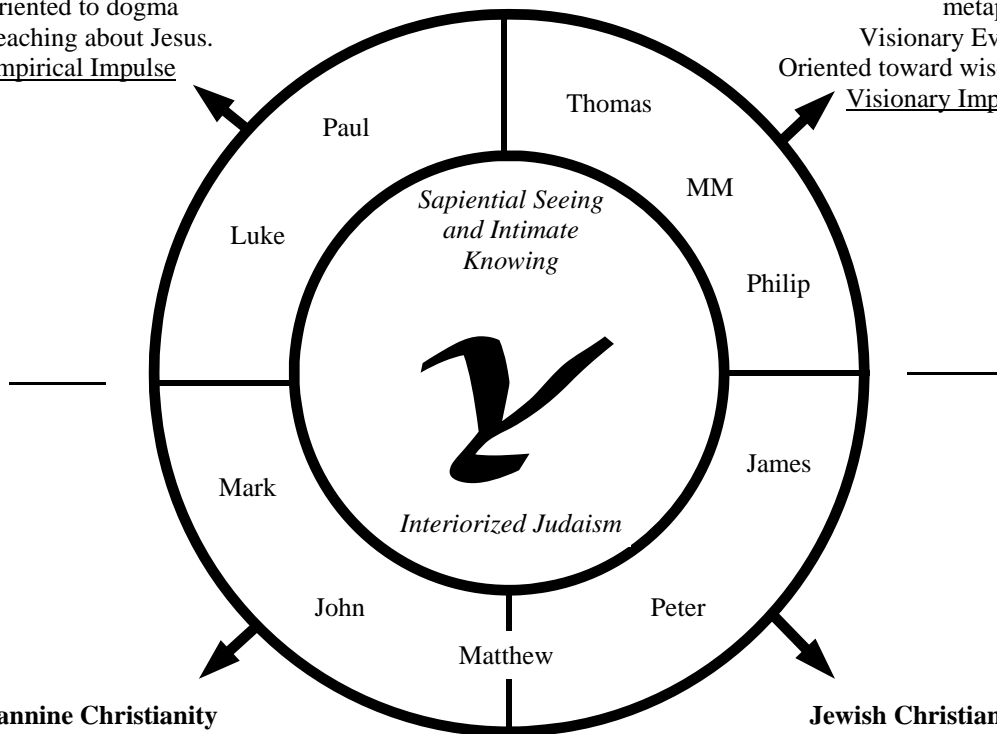
Theological
Propositional language
Concrete and Certain Historical events
Focus on the final Events of Jesus' Life and the doctrinal meaning of his death.
Oriented to dogma
Teaching about Jesus.
Empirical Impulse

Syrian Christianity
(Syriac)

Non-Torah Observant
Focus on the wisdom teaching of Yeshua
Inner Observance and Ascetical Ideal
Poetic and Imagistic
Use of symbol and metaphor
Visionary Events
Oriented toward wisdom
Visionary Impulse

Rational Thought
Linear
Logical
Rational
Propositional
Literal-historical realism
Monological
Prefers prose language to poetic speech
Pauline letters as example.

Symbolic Thought
Non-linear
Trans-logical
Non-rational
Metaphoric-symbolic
Image
Mythic
Narrative
Dialogical
Prefers poetic speech
Psalms and Proverbs, Aphoristic and Visionary.



Johannine Christianity
(Greek Coptic)

Sees Jesus as the Savior of all humanity
Experience Jesus as the Cosmic Christ.
Apocalyptic Seeing
Spiritual and inner orientation
Belief in Name of Jesus
Gnostic Impulse

Jewish Christianity
(Aramaic)

Torah-Observance
Loyalty to the Teacher
Emphasis on the Messiah
Ascetical Ideal
Practical Ethics
Real World Experience.
Law and Order Impulse

*The project of western Christianity is **salvation**.
The salvation of the soul based upon belief.
The focus of the East is upon **enlightenment**.
The journey toward Enlightenment based on inner revelation.*
*In the West: assistance comes from without—through the Savior.
In the East: assistance from within—the Teacher.*
Praxis: through the Church—West,
Through personal discovery—East.

Beta Forms of Christianity
The Christ-Movement

Alpha Forms of Christianity
The Jesus-Movement

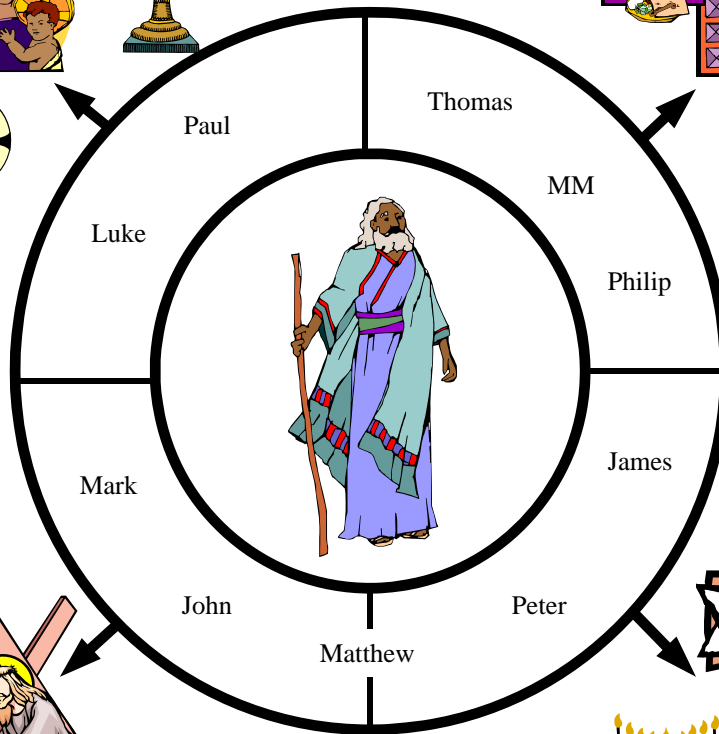
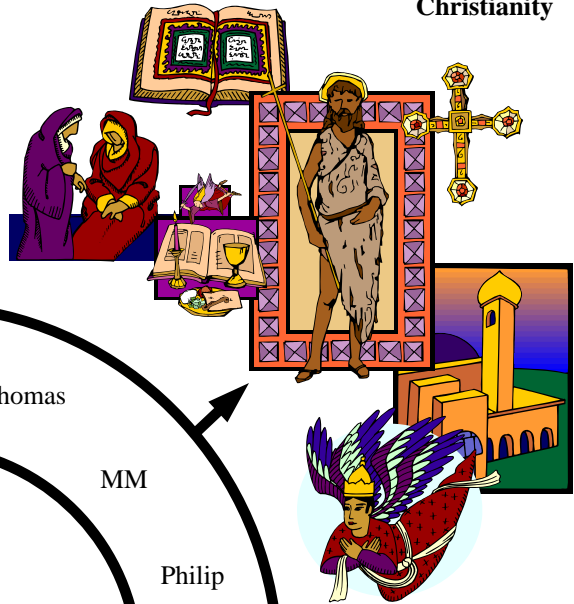
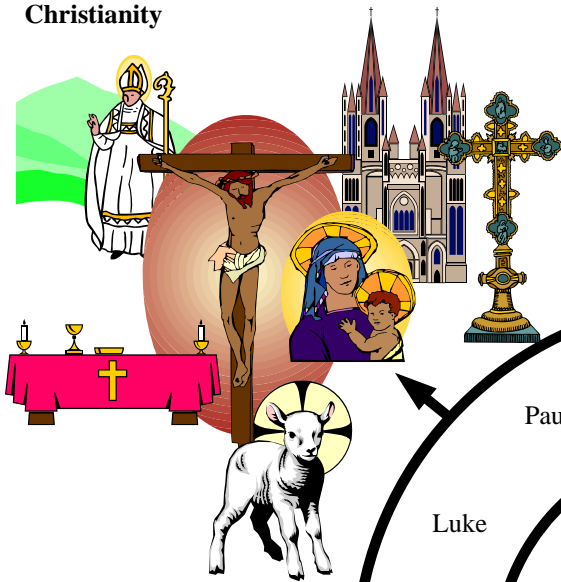
Culturally Interpretive Streams of Christianity

Occidental Christianity
Greco-Roman (Gentile)

Oriental Christianity
Syriac-Asian (Semitic)

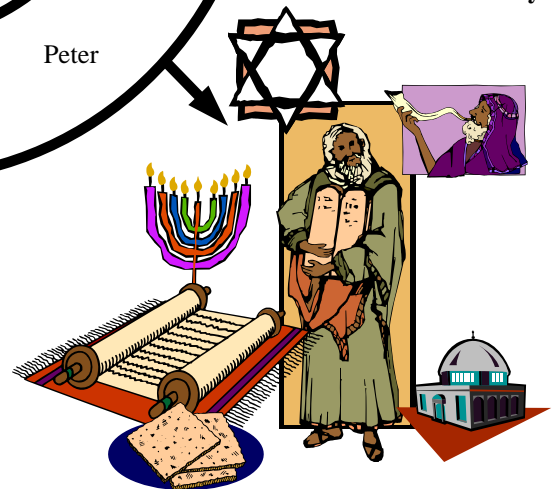
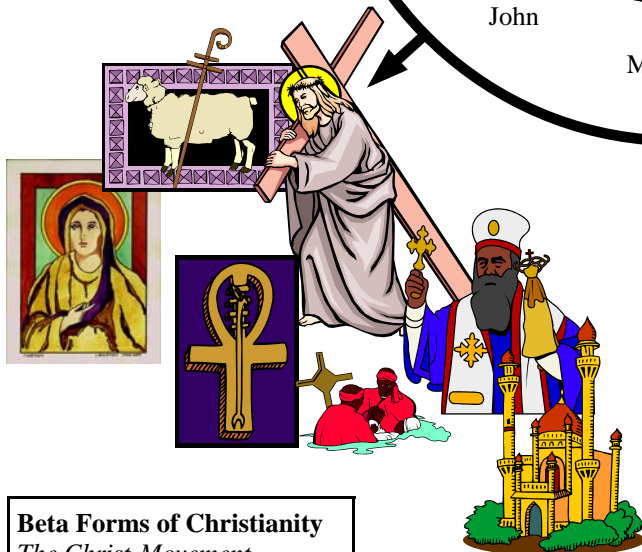
Greco-Roman
Christianity

Syriac-Persian
Christianity



Egyptian-Coptic
Christianity

Jewish –Aramaic
Christianity



Beta Forms of Christianity
The Christ-Movement

Alpha Forms of Christianity
The Jesus-Movement