

World Religions

Polytheistic

Hinduism
Buddhism
Universalist
Humanist
Greek
mythology
Ancient Egypt

Monotheistic

Muslim

Islam
Allah
Muham
mad
Mecca

Judaism

Torah
Rabbi
Synagogue
Traditions
Prophets
Festivals

Christianity

Catholic

(1 billion)
Pope's
authority
Apocrypha
Penance
Sacraments
Purgatory

Protestant

(1 billion)

Mainline

United Methodist
Lutheran
Presbyterian
United Church of
Christ
Episcopal
American Baptist

Evangelical

Assembly of God
Brethren
Christian Missionary
Alliance
Church of God
Nazarene
Evangelical Free
Free Methodist
Southern Baptist
Four Square
Open Bible
Mennonite Brethren
Salvation Army
Wesleyan
Non-Denominational

Occult

Church of Satan
Temple of Set
Wiccan
Divination
Palm reading
Astrology
Paranormal

Cult

Mormon
Jehovah's
Witness
Jim Jones
Heavens Gate
Branch
Davidians
Scientology

Other

Pantheistic
Atheistic
Agnostic

Druid Circle at Stonehenge



RELIGIOUS ASPECTS – PAGAN VS. CHRISTIAN

- Animism – "Spirit"; original, celtic religion
- fatalistic (meaning no afterlife) view of the world.
- "Wyrd" means fate. guided in all things.
- Christianity spread and unified the Anglo-Saxons.

Anglo-Saxon Religion

- Mix of pagan and Christian values--often in conflict.
 - Pagan (secular (non-religious) lineage vs. Christian lineage;
 - Eternal earthly fame through deeds vs afterlife in hell or heaven;
 - honor & gift-giving vs. sin of pride (hubris);
 - revenge vs pacifist view (forgiveness);
 - Wyrd (Anglo-Saxon "Fate") vs God's will, etc.

BOTH PAGAN SYMBOLS
BUT NOT THE SAME PRACTICES...

WICCAN

CELTIC



PENTAGRAM

TRISKELION

NOT ALL FORMS OF PAGANISM ARE THE SAME OR HAVE THE SAME SYMBOLS
EACH HAVE THEIR OWN SYSTEMS, TRADITIONS AND PRACTICES.

ONE PAGAN OR WITCH IS NOT THE SAME AS ANOTHER.

NOT ALL PAGANS OR WITCHES ARE WICCAN.

THE CELTS REMAIN VERY TRIBAL IN NATURE, AS OTHER FORMS OF
PAGANISM DO. IN TRIBAL CULTURES THE PEOPLE'S SPIRITUALITY IS
PART OF THEIR IDENTITY AND WORLD VIEW.

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RELIGIOUS ASPECTS – PAGAN VS. CHRISTIAN

Dual Authorship

Beowulf

Paganism

Christianity

Absence of Christianity

God

Animism

Christ-like figure

Worship of Natural or
Spiritual

Biblical Stories

Fate/Wyrd

Presence of Hell



The Beowulf poem presents a fascinating mix of Christian values and pagan traditions. It is generally assumed that the Beowulf poet was a Christian, since the Christian conversion of England was virtually complete by the time the poem is believed to have been created. Still, many of the poem's characters embrace pagan heroic ideals.

CHRISTIANITY VS. PAGANISM

Knowledge of the monster's heritage suggests a decidedly Christian symbolism of the fight between good and evil, God and the devil, in the combat between Beowulf and Grendel.



CHRISTIANITY VS. PAGANISM

Pagan vs. Christianity in *Beowulf*

The Anglo-Saxons mixed both pagan and Christian traditions. *Beowulf* contains traces of both beliefs.

Pagan

- Strong nature presence
- Strength of the warrior

Christianity

- God is mentioned by two of the main characters in the poem: Beowulf and Hrothgar.
- Grendel as Lucifer
 - Both are outcasts
 - Perform a task for God
 - Grendel is described as a son or descendant of Cain, a clear Biblical reference.



Contrary to what you may have been told, this religious symbol is used by a large number of people who share a common belief in the sanctity of life. They don't sacrifice living things for any reason. They do not worship the Christian Satan, nor do they revere any similar figure; most do not even recognize the existence of Satan. They do not cast spells to cause evil to befall others. They believe that causing evil will bring evil back to the one who causes it. Their religion is based on nature, and is founded on the belief that the whole world is interrelated, that everyone is responsible for their own actions, and that peace, love, and tolerance for everyone should be encouraged everywhere.

And yes, I'm one of them

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