

AIM: HOW DID CHRISTIANITY DEVELOP AND WHAT ARE THE BELIEFS AND PRACTICES.

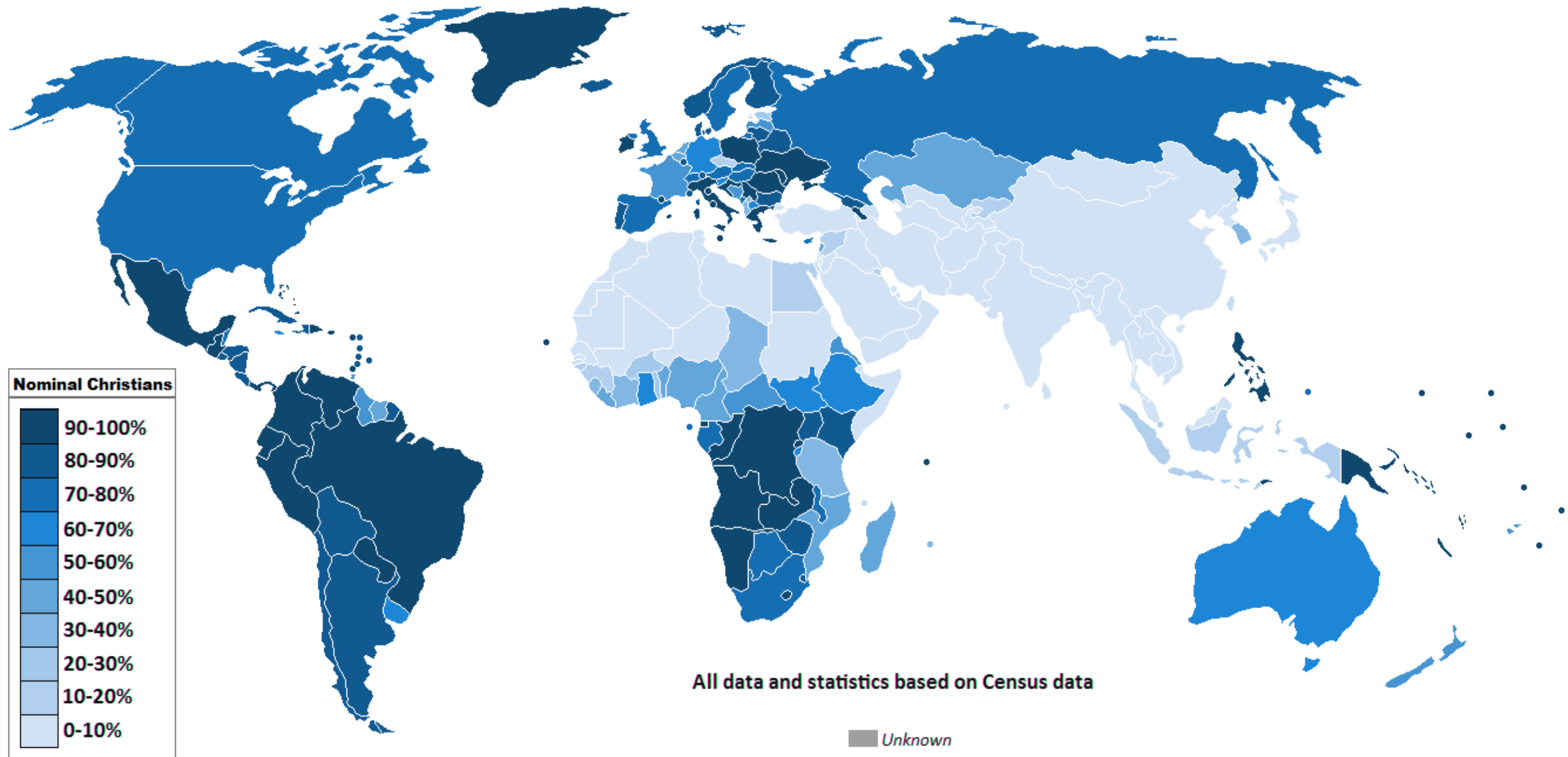
Do Now: Group Discussion: What are things you already know about Christianity?

WHAT IS CHRISTIANITY
AND

WHAT DO CHRISTIANS BELIEVE?



MAP ANALYSIS: WHAT ARE SOME OBSERVATIONS YOU CAN MAKE



- ▶ **Christianity – Born as a movement within Judaism**
- ▶ **Represented a more personal relationship with god than the gods that Romans worshipped**
- ▶ **Christos – is a Greek word meaning “messiah” or “savior.”**
The word Christianity was derived from “Christ”
- ▶ **Holy Bible - is the religious book for Christianity.** made up of two parts. The first section is called the Old Testament, which is based on Judaism’s sacred text, the Torah. The second section is called the **New Testament - which is made up of stories about the life of Jesus as written by his followers,** letters between his followers, and other writings by Christians early in the religion.

CHRISTIANITY

GROWING MOVEMENT

- ▶ The Gospels – The first four books of the New Testament are stories about Jesus. The first book written 40 years after Jesus' death
- ▶ Some are thought to be written by his disciples - the 12 men who would later be called his apostles
- ▶ History offers us little direct evidence about the events of this period,
- ▶ Christians were engaged in one of the most basic of human activities: story-telling. "They're passing on the tradition of what happened to Jesus, what he stood for and what he did, orally, by telling it and retelling it. And in the process, they are defining Jesus for themselves."
- ▶ These shared memories, passed along by word of mouth, are known as "oral tradition." They included stories of Jesus' miracles and healings, his parables and teachings, and his death. Eventually some stories were written down.

During the video answer the questions on the life of Jesus of Nazareth

1. Why do we know so little about Jesus?
2. What three things do historians believe they know for certain about Jesus?
3. "With so little evidence to go by, archeologist must sift the clues and scholars must decode stories told by his [Jesus'] first followers." What makes understanding the history of Jesus and Christianity difficult?
4. According to the historian, why weren't the details of Jesus' life written down during his time?
5. According to historians and archaeologists, under which empire was he born?
6. Jesus begins to preach his new ideas about ethics, morals and his Jewish faith after he is baptised by John the Baptist. When Jesus traveled to synagogues in Galilee, what are two things that he did?
7. Why does Jesus avoid the big towns and cities during his preaching?
8. To whom was Jesus preaching instead?
9. Jesus begins to perform healings. There were many healers during Jesus' time. What made Jesus' healing significant?
10. Why was death by crucifixion an awful experience?
11. Where do historians find most information about the crucifixion of Jesus?
12. Why was the crucifixion public?
13. What piece of material evidence exists to demonstrate that Jesus was crucified for political reasons?

- ▶ On an index card answer these 3 questions?
- ▶ 1) Why is it so hard to know if the things written in the Bible are true?
- ▶ 2) What is different according to the gospels about Jesus's message?

MID ASSESSMENT

THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT

1. In what ways was Jesus in support of the Ten Commandments?
2. In what ways did Jesus extend the Ten Commandments?
3. How did Jesus encourage his followers to treat their neighbors?



JESUS' DEATH

- ▶ Many believed that Jesus was the Messiah, the one that the bible (Old Testament/Torah) had told them would come and rescue them.
- ▶ Jewish priests did not believe that Jesus was the Messiah and the Roman governor Pontius Pilate had him crucified for defying the authority of Rome
- ▶ According to the gospels Jesus' body had been placed in a tomb and then 3 days later his body was gone, and a living image of Jesus told them he had ascended to heaven proving he was the messiah.



ROMANS PROSECUTE JEWS AND CHRISTIANS

Jews

In 70 AD the Romans destroyed the Jewish temple complex all that remains is the western wall (Which today is the holiest Jewish site)

Romans would kill hundreds of thousands of Jews who were fighting for freedom.

Diaspora – Jews being exiled out of their homeland over 1,800 years (Israel)

Christians

Were also killed for not worshipping Roman gods (Going against Roman rule).

Christians were executed, burned, or crucified.

Many were seen as Martyrs – Sacrifice life for the sake of beliefs

FINAL ASSESSMENT CRITICAL THINKING

- ▶ 1) How were Jesus's teachings at odds with the Romans?
- ▶ 2) Why would Romans and chief Jewish priests feel threatened by Jesus?

