

A decorative graphic on the left side of the slide consisting of white and light blue lines that resemble a circuit board or a stylized tree. The lines are vertical and horizontal, with small circles at the ends, creating a complex, branching pattern.

# UNIT 3 REVIEW

## PANTHEISM

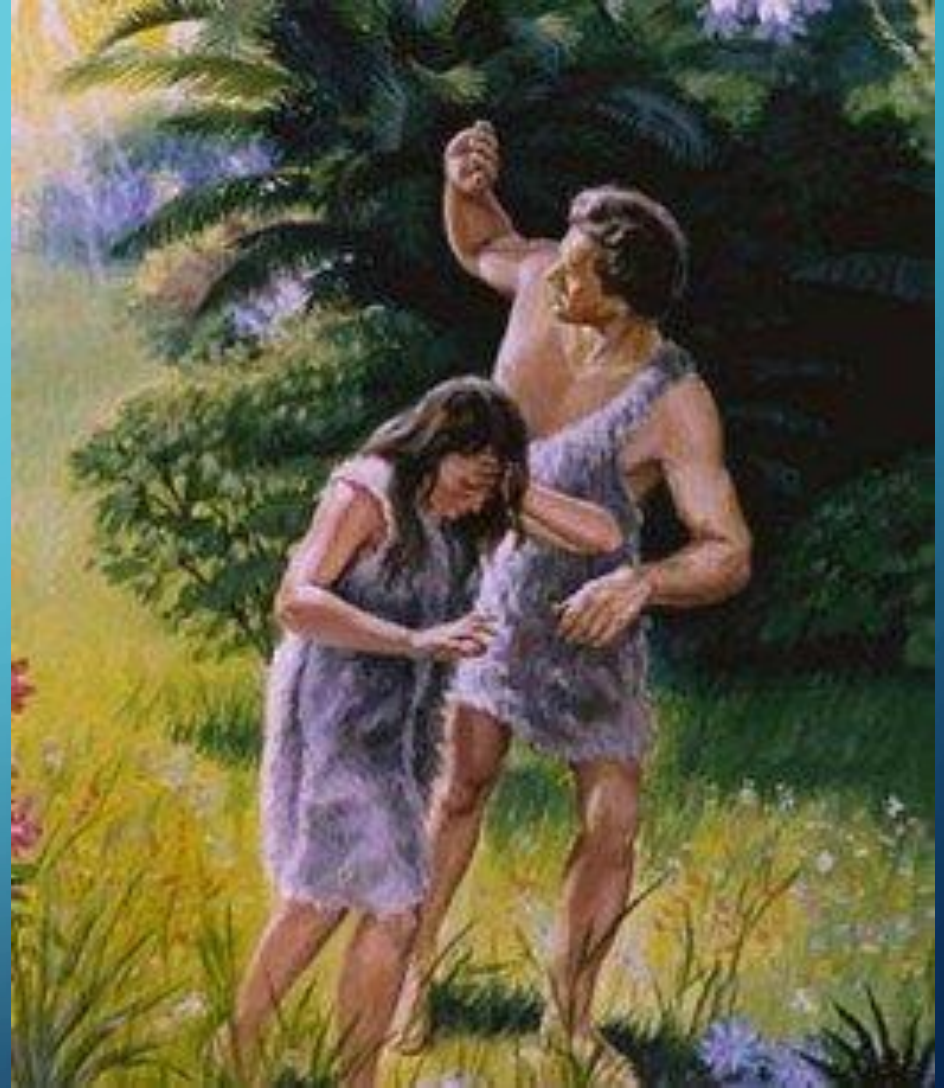
# CREATION

**How did I and  
everything else  
get here?**



# THE FALL

**What went  
wrong with the  
world?**





# REDEMPTIO N

**How can the  
world be fixed?**



# ETERNITY

**Where do I go  
when I die?**



# WORLDVIEW

The total set of beliefs a person has about life's biggest questions. (Jonathan Morrow)

A pattern of beliefs, convictions, and habits that help us make sense of God and the world

# HOW DOES NEW AGE ANSWER THE FOUR BIG QUESTIONS?

- **Creation:** I have always been; I am an expression of consciousness
- **Fall:** humans have failed to understand true consciousness
- **Redemption:** Humans must have indifference to suffering and live the cycle of reincarnation
- **Eternity:** we go on to our next life to relieve our journey of suffering. This is sometimes called nirvana or stream of consciousness.



# What does New Spirituality teach?

## 1. Everything is consciousness

- consciousness is usually defined in vague terms
- often defined as personal attributes such as peaceful, self-sufficient, blissful, knowing, whole
- consciousness is an impersonal force

*\*God is not an impersonal force; Exodus 3:14, Acts 17:24-25*



# What does New Spirituality teach?

## 2. Every person is God

- all is consciousness and all humans and things are part of this consciousness
- this “god” is actually a force
- “I am god, you are god, every person is god”

*\*This idea of “god” is vastly different from the Creator God who made us and desires a personal relationship with us!*

# What does New Spirituality teach?

## 3. Consciousness can be harnessed to achieve perfection

- everything is energy; thoughts are energy
- good thoughts produce good energy, bad thoughts produce bad energy
- NS believes Jesus was human who achieved perfection and godhead

*John 14:23 reminds us that Jesus is God; he was not a human who simply achieved perfection*

# What does New Spirituality teach?

## 4. The purpose of life is overcoming self

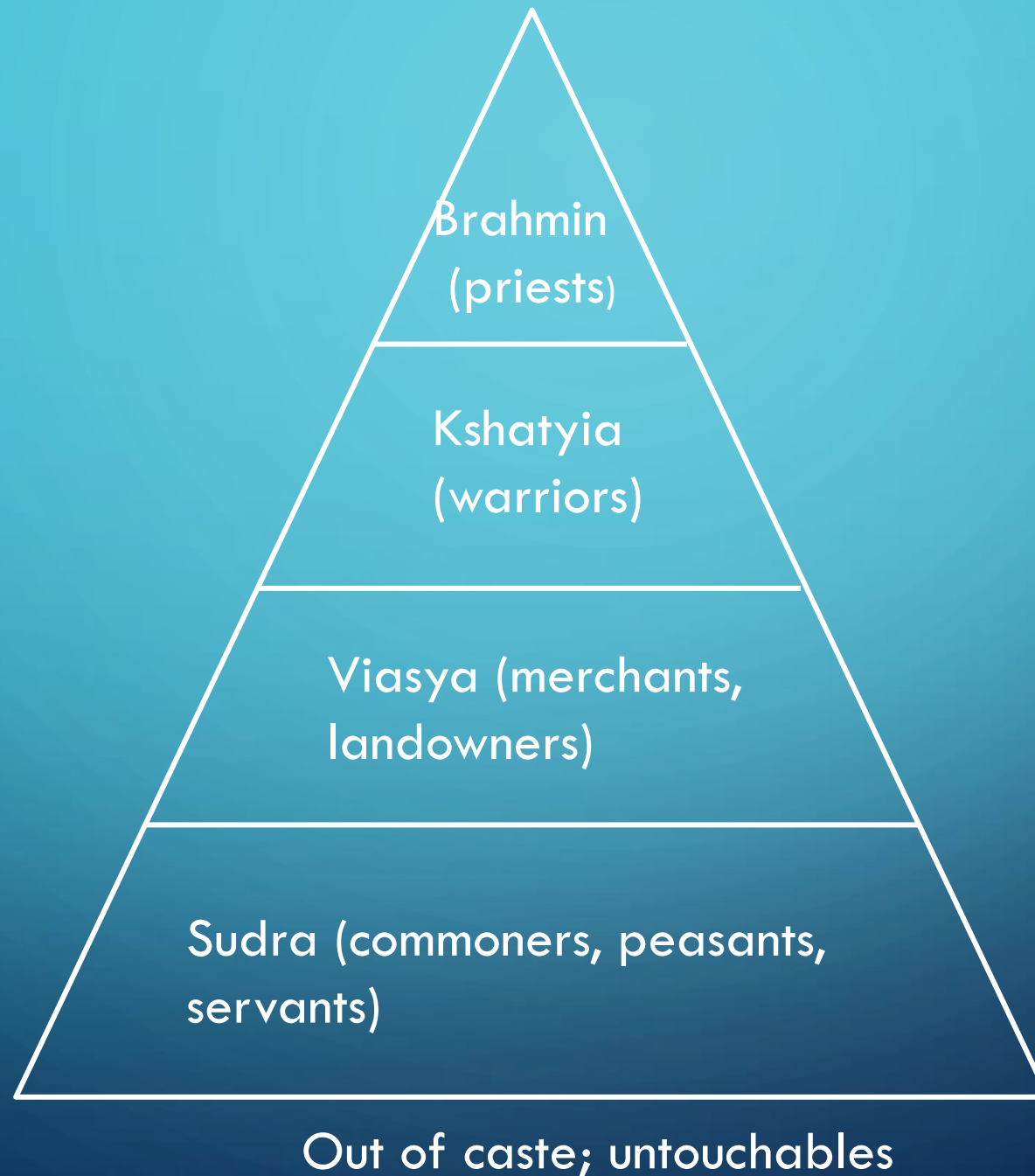
- we must be lost in the universal self in order to have meaning
- We free ourselves from self (selfishness and ego) through reincarnation
- reincarnation is the process by which the body passes away but the soul continues its quest for enlightenment

*How is the idea of reincarnation different from Christianity?*

# THE FOUR BIG QUESTIONS

- Creation: I have always been; I am going through a cycle of karma. The physical world was not created; it is an illusion
- Fall: Human sin is caused by ignorance of Oneness. Evil comes from failure to realize that what is seen is an illusion.
- Redemption: one must detach oneself from passion in action. One can burn off negative karma by work with a satgura (an advanced spiritual teacher)
- Eternity: The goal of life is liberation from samsara (the cycle of rebirths). Liberation can't be achieved unless a person rises above the law of karma.





# THE FOUR BIG QUESTIONS: BUDDHISM

- Creation: I have always been; I am going through a cycle of karma.  
The physical world was not created; it is an illusion
- Fall: Mara is the force of desire in the world, the root of all suffering.  
Dukkha (illusion) is the cause of suffering.
- Redemption: one must realize everything is an illusion and suffering comes from your desires produced by illusion. You must follow the eightfold path
- Eternity: achieve enlightenment and escape earthly desires; nirvana

# FOUR NOBLE TRUTHS OF BUDDHISM

- Existence is suffering and illusion
- Suffering is caused by earthly desires
- It is possible to escape earthly desires in nirvana
- To realize nirvana, one must follow the Eightfold Path.