Jainism

Selections from the
Tattvarthadhigama Sutra:

Chapter I
1. Right belief, right knowledge, right conduct—these together constitute the path to liberation.
2. Belief in things ascertainment as they are is right belief.
3. This is attained by intuition or understanding.
4. The categories are souls [or selves] (jīva), non-souls (ajīva), inflow of karmic matter into the self, bondage of self by karmic matter, stoppage of inflow of karmic matter into the self, shedding of karmic matter by the self, and liberation (moksha) of the self from matter.

Chapter VIII
1. The causes of bondage are wrong belief non-renunciation, carelessness, passions, and union of soul with the mind, body, and speech.
2. The soul, owing to its being with passion, assimilates matter which is fit to form karmas. This is bondage.

Chapter IX
1. There is stoppage of inflow of karmic matter into the soul.
2. It is produced by preservation, conquest of sufferings, and good conduct.
3. By austerities the shedding of karmic matter and [the stoppage of inflow].

Chapter X
1. Perfect knowledge is gained by destroying the deluding karmas and then by simultaneous destruction of knowledge- and perception-obscuring karmas and of obstructive karmas.
2. Liberation is the freedom from all karmic matter, owing to th non-existence of the cause of bondage and to the shedding of karmas.
3. After the soul is released, there remain perfect right-belief, perfect right-knowledge, perfect perception, and the state of having accomplished all.
Introduction to Asian Philosophy  Jainism

**KEY TERMS**

तीर्थन्करा  
Tirthankara  
one who has crossed over, the ford-maker

jīna  
Jina  
a Jain term for the liberated soul

(The word *jain* is derived from *jina*)

अहिंसा  
ahīṃsā  
on non-violence, non-hurting

one of the five primary virtues of Jainism

influenced both Hinduism and Buddhism

**QUESTIONS**

1. What is the Jain view of the soul? How is this view differ from the Ātman of the *Upanishads*?

2. What is the Jain view of *karma*?

3. How is liberation or *moksha* understood in Jainism?

4. What are the five primary virtues of Jainism?