Reasons for the Development of Belief Systems

1. Protection and support, or security in an uncertain world.
2. Desire for a deeper sense of the significance of life.
3. Hope for existence after death.
4. Answers to eternal questions about existence
   - Where do we come from?
   - Why are we here?
   - What happens to us when we die?
   - What is our relationship to the physical world?

Five Common Traits of Belief Systems

- Sacred calendar/rituals
- Sacred spaces
- Sacred teachings/texts
- Sacred symbols
- Religious organization/hierarchy