

➤ **KEY QUESTION: Are all religions basically the same?**

“If God is the author of the various religions of our world, and these religions are inherently contradictory in their beliefs about God’s nature and the way of salvation, then God is the author of confusion and logically inconsistent. The question that needs to be asked is why would God present such confusion for people?”

REASON #2: If all Paths Lead to God, then Christian missions would be

_____.

➤ **Jesus taught that the whole _____ needs the gospel.**

Matthew 28:19: Jesus said, *“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations.”*

Luke 24:46-47: *“He told them, “This is what is written: The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.”*

Acts 1:8: *“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”*

➤ **The evidence of the early church is that they took the Gospel to the ends of the earth and people of various _____.**

THE GOSPEL WAS PREACHED TO...

- **Religious _____ in Acts 2.**
- **An _____ in Acts 8**
- **Half-breed Jews called _____ in Acts 8 and John 4.**
- **The _____ in Acts 17.**

Acts 17:22-23: *“Paul then stood up in the meeting of the Areopagus and said: “Men of Athens! I see that in every way you are very religious. For as I walked around and looked carefully at your objects of worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: TO AN UNKNOWN GOD. Now what you worship as something unknown I am going to proclaim to you.”*

➤ **The _____ in Acts 18-19.**

Acts 19:23-27: *“About that time there arose a great disturbance about the Way. A silversmith named Demetrius, who made silver shrines of Artemis, brought in no little business for the craftsmen. He called them together, along with the workmen in related trades, and said: “Men, you know we receive a good income from this business. And you see and hear how this fellow Paul has convinced and led astray large numbers of people here in Ephesus and in practically the whole province of Asia. He says that man-made gods are no gods at all. There is danger not only that our trade will lose its good name, but also that the temple of the great goddess Artemis will be discredited, and the goddess herself, who is worshiped throughout the province of Asia and the world, will be robbed of her divine majesty.”*

REASON #3: If All Paths Lead to God, then Christ’s _____ would be in _____ or at least severely _____.

KEY QUESTION: *If you were God would you execute your son on a cross if you didn’t have to?*

WHY DID CHRIST DIE?

John 3:16-18: *“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because he has not believed in the name of God’s one and only Son.”*

1 Peter 3:18: “For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God.”

1 Timothy 2:5-6: “For there is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all men—the testimony given in its proper time.”

REASON #4: If All Paths Lead to God, then God’s _____ would be in _____ and Jesus would be a _____.

Acts 4:12: “Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved.”

John 14:6: “Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”

FINAL THOUGHTS

As the only way to God and the only Savior of all humankind, Jesus lovingly _____ sinners to enter into a personal relationship with him.

TODAY’S MESSAGE: “Do All Paths Lead to God?” 09.06.09 / Pastor Cory Anderson / SMC

Introduction:

VIEW #1: _____ is the view that there are many paths to salvation and that Jesus is only _____ of them.

TWO ILLUSTRATIONS

- The Blind Men and the Elephant.
- The Journey to the top of the mountain.

VIEW #2: _____ is the view that salvation is found only by placing explicit faith in Jesus Christ because he is the only _____.

“Christianity is *inclusive* in that Jesus invites everyone to come to salvation, but it is *exclusive* in that only those who believe in Jesus Christ will be saved.”

4 REASONS WHY ALL PATHS CANNOT LEAD TO GOD

REASON #1: If all Paths Lead to God, then God _____ himself.