

# “AREN’T ALL RELIGIONS EQUALLY VALID?”: HOW CAN WE SPEAK HELPFULLY ABOUT OTHER FAITHS AND JESUS?

## Introduction:

- A key theological issue
- A key apologetics & evangelism issue

## I. THEOLOGY

**Exodus 20:** <sup>1</sup>And God spoke all these words: <sup>2</sup>"I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. <sup>3</sup>"You shall have no other gods before me.

**Isaiah 43:** <sup>10</sup>You are my witnesses," declares the LORD, "and my servant whom I have chosen, so that you may know and believe me and understand that I am he. Before me no god was formed, nor will there be one after me. <sup>11</sup> I, even I, am the LORD, and apart from me there is no saviour. <sup>12</sup> I have revealed and saved and proclaimed-- I, and not some foreign god among you. You are my witnesses," declares the LORD, "that I am God. <sup>13</sup> Yes, and from ancient days I am he. No one can deliver out of my hand. When I act, who can reverse it?"

**Isaiah 44:** <sup>8</sup> Do not tremble, do not be afraid. Did I not proclaim this and foretell it long ago? You are my witnesses. Is there any God besides me? No, there is no other Rock; I know not one."

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

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

**1 Corinthians 10:** <sup>18</sup> Consider the people of Israel: Do not those who eat the sacrifices participate in the altar? <sup>19</sup> Do I mean then that food sacrificed to an idol is anything, or that an idol is anything? <sup>20</sup> No, but the sacrifices of pagans are offered to demons, not to God, and I do not want you to be participants with demons. <sup>21</sup> You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons too; you cannot have a part in both the Lord's table and the table of demons. <sup>22</sup> Are we trying to arouse the Lord's jealousy? Are we stronger than he?

### *Discussion:*

What does the Bible say about the uniqueness of Christ and the exclusiveness of the Gospel?  
How does the Bible view other faiths?

## 2. UNDERSTANDING OTHER RELIGIONS

- Multi-faith culture
- Understanding world-views
- The Key questions:
  - Where do we come from?
  - What is the problem with the world?
  - What is the solution?
  - How can we know God(s) and/or meaning?
  - What is your authority?
  - What time is it?
  - What is your identity?
  - What is the future of the world?
- Muslims, Hindus, & Chinese will give different answers to these questions, so listen carefully (one size does not fit all)

## 3. SPEAKING ABOUT CHRIST

- Show how the Bible & Christ answers the key questions of world views.
- Just explain the Bible's narrative of Creation, fall, Promise of God in OT, Christ, the Church, and the End. Let them then ask their questions.

### *Discussion:*

If you were talking to someone of another faith and they asked you, "So you are a Christian, what do you believe and why?", how would you answer?

## CONCLUSION

Pray & allow the Holy Spirit to do his work & invite to Church, course, etc.