

## “Does Absolute Truth Exist?”

While many hold that absolute truth claims create a religious exclusivity that is both dangerous and untrue, there is an absolute necessity for externally revealed truth due to the flawed and finite nature of man who neither can intuit truth within nor respond appropriately to truth seen in Creation. As a result, we have a responsibility to know His spoken word better and to proclaim it boldly.

“There is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men by which we must be saved.”

- Acts 4:12

“I am the way, the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me.”

- John 14:6

“Religious exclusivity is not just narrow – it’s dangerous. Religion has led to untold strife, division, and conflict. It may be the greatest enemy of peace in the world. If Christians continue to insist that they have ‘the truth’ – and if other religions do this as well – the world will never know peace.”

### **I. Objections to it**

#### A. It’s dangerous (ban)

“The 20th century gave rise to one of the greatest and most distressing paradoxes of human history: that the greatest intolerance and violence of that century was practiced by those that believed religion caused intolerance & violence.”

- Alister McGrath

#### B. It’s Untrue (blend)

- “All major religions are equally valid and basically teach the same thing.”
- “Each religion sees part of truth but none can see the whole.”
- “Religious belief is too culturally and historically conditioned to be ‘truth.’”

### **II. Necessity for it**

#### A. Nature of Truth

#### B. Nature of man

"For the wrath of God is ... against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who suppress the truth in unrighteousness ... For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made ... [Yet] they exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator."

- Romans 1:18-25

"Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and unfathomable His ways!"

### C. Nature of God

"The heavens are telling of the glory of God; And their expanse is declaring the work of His hands. Day to day pours forth speech, And night to night reveals knowledge."

- Psalm 19:1-2

"God, after He spoke long ago to the fathers in the prophets in many portions and in many ways, in these last days has spoken to us in His Son."

- Hebrews 1:1-2

"In the hope of eternal life, which God, who cannot lie, promised long ages ago."

- Titus 1:2

"The devil does not stand in the truth because there is no truth in him. Whenever he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own *nature*, for he is a liar and the father of lies."

- John 8:44

"Therefore having overlooked the times of ignorance, God is now declaring to men that all *people* everywhere should repent, because He has fixed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness through a Man whom He has appointed, having furnished proof to all men by raising Him from the dead."

- Acts 17:30-31

## III. Response to it

### A. Know the Truth

"Be diligent to present yourself approved to God as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, accurately handling the word of truth."

- 2 Tim 2:15

### B. Make it known