

Why Jesus?



Why one way?

What Does Jesus Say?

- **John 10:9**

“I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture”

- **John 14:6**

“I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the father except through me.”

Jesus says He is the ONLY ONE way to God

What Do We believe?

- **The Bible is reliable, accurate, and historic**
 - Our beliefs are backed up by fact
- **Jesus is God**
 - We believe what the Bible says about God



FACT

Why Do People Have an Issue With This?

- Many people, including some Christians, have objections to this claim.
- People like to subscribe to religious *pluralism*
 - All roads lead to God

Why do people believe in religious pluralism?

**A study done by the Harvard Pluralism Project
in Austin, Texas (a very conservative area)
found three reasons people are pluralists:**

Pluralism is enlightened

Pluralism is humble

Pluralism is tolerant

Enlightenment

- **Claim: Accepting all religions means you are educated and equipped**
- **To verify/refute this claim, let's look at some aspects of other religions**

Religion	God(s)	Sin	Salvation
Islam	1	none	5 Pillars (self-achieved)
Buddhism	0	none	Reincarnation until Nirvana
Hinduism	0/∞	none	depends

Reality: Pluralism is accepting of contradictions

Humility

- **Claim: Pluralism is humble because of their acceptance and Christians are arrogant**
“Who am I to judge someone else’s religion?”
Many Christians are arrogant (which is a shame), but it doesn’t mean they are wrong. Christians are claiming God’s truth.
- **Reality: True arrogance is claiming that a question has a set of contradicting answers and accepting that notion**

Tolerance

- **Claim: We are tolerant by accepting all religions**

Misuse of definition of tolerance

- **Reality: Claim itself is intolerant by saying that no one religion can be right**



Proud Like the Devil

**You said in your heart,
I will ascend to heaven; above the stars of God.
I will set my throne on high;
I will sit on the mount of assembly in the far
reaches of the north;
I will ascend above the heights of the clouds;
I will make myself like the Most High.
(Isaiah 14:13-14 ESV)**

A person is shown from the chest up, wearing a black t-shirt. The t-shirt features a white graphic on the left side, which is a circular emblem containing a stick figure standing on a crescent moon. To the right of the emblem, the text "I am the center of the universe" is printed in a white, hand-drawn, cursive font. The background consists of bright yellow and white diagonal stripes radiating from the top left corner.

I am
the
center
of the
universe





From *They Like Jesus But Not the Church* by Dan Kimball (p. 181)

Jesus Paid the Price for Our Sins

For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died...

(2 Corinthians 5:14)



Jesus Came to Save Us From Ourselves

And he died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised.

(2 Corinthians 5:15 ESV)



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And he died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised.

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Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”

(John 14:6 ESV)

Jesus Came to Save Us From Ourselves

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(2 Corinthians 5:15 ESV)

For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

(Ephesians 2:8-10 ESV)

Put Your Pride to Death

Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.

For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

(2 Corinthians 5:20-21 ESV)

Put Your Pride to Death: Receive the Gift of Salvation in Jesus



Resources for Further Study

- *Solid* by John Myer
- *Is Jesus the Only Way?* by Jonathan Dodson (online)
- *What's So Great About Christianity?* by Dinesh D'Souza
- *They Like Jesus But Not the Church* by Dan Kimball
- *Vintage Jesus* by Mark Driscoll
- *Jesus Among Other Gods* by Ravi Zacharias
- *ESV Study Bible* (Articles and Resources)