Reasonable Doubt: Real People...Real Questions! Do All Roads Lead To Heaven? (Don't All Religions Lead To God?) Acts 17:16-34 (page 770)

Sunday, April 6, 2008

Pastor Frank Mascaro

Do AII Paths Lead to the Same Destination? (Acts 17:16-21)

- Religious Pluralism: the differences between religions is superficial and they are overshadowed by their similarities.
- *Problem*: For the Christian, it means a <u>d e n i a l</u> of the uniqueness of <u>C h r i s t</u> and His claims.

Let's Consider... (Acts 17:22-31)

- the <u>Similarities</u> (Acts 17:22-23)
 - Moral and ethical similarities
 - > Theological similarities
- the <u>D i f f e r e n c e s</u> (Acts 17:24-31)

	Hinduism	Islam	Christianity
	<u>M a n y</u> gods	<u>O n e</u> God	One <u>triune</u> God
GOD:	<u>l m p e r s o n a l</u>	<u>Distant</u>	<u>Personal</u>
HUMANITY:	<u>Extension</u> of Brahman	<u>G o o d</u> by nature	<u>Sinful</u> by nature
JESUS:	<u>Irrelevant</u>	ls <u>n o t</u> God's <u>S o n</u>	<u>I s</u> the <u>S o n</u> of God
SOLUTION:	<u>Liberation</u> from <u>ignorance</u>	Good works vs. bad works	God's <u>g r a c e /</u> receive by <u>f a i t h</u>
OUTCOME:	Individuality <u>lost</u> in <u>universal</u> self	<u>J u d g m e n t</u> : Hell or heaven	Eternal fellowship with God

• **Issue**: If two religions make truth claims that <u>c o n t r a d i c t</u> each other, they cannot *both* be <u>c o r r e c t</u>.

Conclusion

• All paths <u>c a n n o t</u> lead to the same destination.

A final question...

So $\underline{w\ h\ a\ t}$ will you believe and $\underline{w\ h\ y}$ will you believe it?