

A  **CENTRAL** SERIES  
ASSEMBLY

# THE CASE FOR TRUTH

**AREN'T THERE MANY WAYS TO GOD?**





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# THE CASE FOR TRUTH

**DR. JIM BRADFORD**





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**DR. WAVE NUNNALLY**





## **JOHN 14:6**

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

## **1 TIMOTHY 2:5**

**5 For there is one God and one mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus.**



## **ACTS 4:12**

**<sup>12</sup> Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved.**

# Two Starting Perspectives...





# **Two Starting Perspectives...**

- **There is more than one way to access the spiritual realm**



## **1 JOHN 4:1-3**

**<sup>1</sup> Dear friends, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world. <sup>2</sup> This is how you can recognize the Spirit of God: Every spirit that acknowledges that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God,**

## **1 JOHN 4:1-3**

**3 but every spirit that does not acknowledge Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you have heard is coming and even now is already in the world.**



# **Two Starting Perspectives...**

- **There is more than one way to access the spiritual realm**
- **Claims of exclusivity**

- **Not unique to Christianity**
- **Jesus himself made this claim**
  - **“The Door of Jesus”**



**JOHN 10:1,7,9,11 (NASB '77)**

<sup>1</sup> "Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter by the door into the fold of the sheep, but climbs up some other way, he is a thief and a robber.















**JOHN 10:1,7,9,11 (NASB '77)**

7 Jesus therefore said to them again, "Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep.

**JOHN 10:1,7,9,11 (NASB '77)**

<sup>9</sup> "I am the door; if anyone enters through Me, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.



**JOHN 10:1,7,9,11 (NASB '77)**

**11 "I am the good shepherd; the good shepherd lays down His life for the sheep.**

“Then they said, “O Righteous One, whose word we are all obliged to accept, the people are going astray after Jesus who was crucified. So tell us what is meant by ‘the door of Jesus’?”

**-HEGESIPPUS IN EUSEBIUS’  
*ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY* 2.23**



**WHAT SETS  
CHRISTIANITY APART?**

## **TITUS 3:4-7**

**4 But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, <sup>5</sup> he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit,**



## **TITUS 3:4-7**

<sup>6</sup> whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, <sup>7</sup> so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life.



**CHRISTIANITY IS BASED ON THE  
HIGHEST OF HUMAN IDEALS –  
SACRIFICIAL LOVE**



## **TITUS 3:4**

**4 But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared,**



“Christianity is the only major religion to  
have as its central event  
the humiliation of its God.”

**-BRUCE SHELLEY, *CHURCH HISTORY IN PLAIN LANGUAGE***



“The greatest power in the universe is  
the weakness of sacrificial love.”

**-DARRELL JOHNSON, *DISCIPLESHIP ON THE EDGE***



**GRACE IS INCLUSIVE OF  
EVERYONE – IT ADDRESSES  
JUSTICE BUT IS NOT BASED ON  
OUR ABILITY TO BE GOOD**



## **TITUS 3:5A**

**5 he [Jesus] saved us, not because of  
righteous things we had done, but because of  
his mercy...**



JESUS GIVES US MORE THAN A  
BEHAVIORAL CODE – HE GIVES  
US HIS SPIRIT

## **TITUS 3:5B-6**

**<sup>5</sup> ...He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, <sup>6</sup> whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior.**



**THE GOSPEL ADDRESSES THE  
ISSUE OF ETERNAL LIFE – WITH  
AN ASSURANCE NOT FOUND IN  
OTHER RELIGIONS**

## **TITUS 3:7**

**7** so that, having been justified by his grace,  
we might become heirs having the hope of  
eternal life.



“Christian salvation lies not in an escape from this world but in the transformation of this world... You will not find hope for the world in any of the religious systems or philosophies of humankind...”

**-VINOOTH RAMACHANDRA, *THE SCANDAL OF JESUS***

“The Biblical vision is unique. That is why when some say there is salvation in other faiths too, I ask them – ‘What salvation are you talking about?’ No faith holds out a promise of eternal salvation for the world – the ordinary world – that the cross and resurrection of Jesus do.”

**–VINOOTH RAMACHANDRA, *THE SCANDAL OF JESUS***



**ALL MEN ARE CREATED EQUAL,  
BUT NOT ALL RELIGIONS ARE  
CREATED EQUAL.**



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