

Three Ouestions in One

Lesson

"In our shrinking, pluralistc world, the belief that Jesus is the only way of salvation is increasingly called arrogant and even hateful. In the face of this criticism many shrink back from affirming the global necessity of knowing and believing in Jesus." ~ John Piper (Jesus: The Only Way to God, Must You Believe the Gospel to Be Saved?)

The increasing erosion and confusion over the reality of hell and the narrow road to salvation is leading to a lack of conviction and compassion in sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ with

Threats to Missional Living: 1) SPIRITUAL APATHY; 2) GROWING INCLUSIVISM, 3) INCREASING DISBELIEF IN HELL

What Is This Series All About?

Three Questions in One: Is Jesus the ONLY WAY to salvation?

Question #1 Will ANYONE experience eternal, conscious torment under God's wrath in hell?

Annihilationism Defined: The "It Will All Be Over Soon" View or the "Conditional Immortality" View

Those who are not saved do not receive the gift of immortality and eventually are annihilated; they cease to exist rather than be cast into hell for eternal torment.

Universalism Defined: The "Doomed to Be Saved" View or the "Good News for All in the End" View.

All people and all demons will be saved eventually, and that hell, if it exists at all, will lead to repentance, purity, and salvation in the end.

Question #2 Is the work of Jesus NECESSARY for salvation?

Pluralism Defined: The "Have It Your Way" (Burger King) View or the "All Roads Lead to God" View

All religions have the same moral and spiritual value, and offer the same potential for achieving salvation, however that "salvation" is defined.

Question #3 Is CONSCIOUS faith in Jesus necessary for salvation?

Inclusivism Defined: The "It-Will-All Work-Out-in-the-End" View or the "Sincerity Is Sufficient for the Savior" View

All who are saved are saved on account of the person and work of Jesus Christ, but that conscious faith in Jesus Christ is not absolutely necessary: some may be saved by Him who have never heard of Him, for they respond positively to the light they have.

Post-mortem Salvation Defined: The "Second Chance" View or the "Death Does Not Seal One's Destiny" View

Because conscious faith in the gospel <u>is</u> required for salvation, those who have never heard of Jesus Christ will get a second chance after they die, but before the final judgment to hear and choose Christ.

• Where Are We Going with This Series?

Create TENSION > Surface CONFUSION > Detect EROSION

- Clear away the confusion and replace it with <u>CONVICTION</u> and <u>COMPASSION</u> in Christ. Luke 19:10; John 20:21; Mark 10:45
- 2. Stop the erosion with a Christlike MOTIVATION to be on mission. Romans 10:8-15