

JESUS, OUR ONLY HOPE

December 3, 2017

Acts 1:8

Cultural Views of our Mission

1. PLURALISM.

“And there is no other god besides me, a righteous God and a Savior; there is none besides me. “Turn to me and be saved, all the ends of the earth! For I am God, and there is no other.” Isaiah 45:21b-22 (ESV)

2. UNIVERSALISM.

“No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish.” Luke 13:3 (ESV)

“Then he will say to those on his left, ‘Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels...And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.’” Matthew 25:41, 46 (ESV)

3. INCLUSIVISM.

“As we have already said, so now I say again: If anybody is preaching to you a gospel other than what you accepted, let him be eternally condemned!” Galatians 1:9 (NIV)

The Biblical View

4. EXCLUSIVISM.

“Jesus answered, ‘I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.’” John 14:6 (NIV)

“Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved.” Acts 4:12 (NIV)

The Gospel is not

- **Intolerant but an invitation.**

“For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.” John 3:17 (NIV)

- **Arrogance but love.**

“...in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.” II Corinthians 5:19b-20 (ESV)