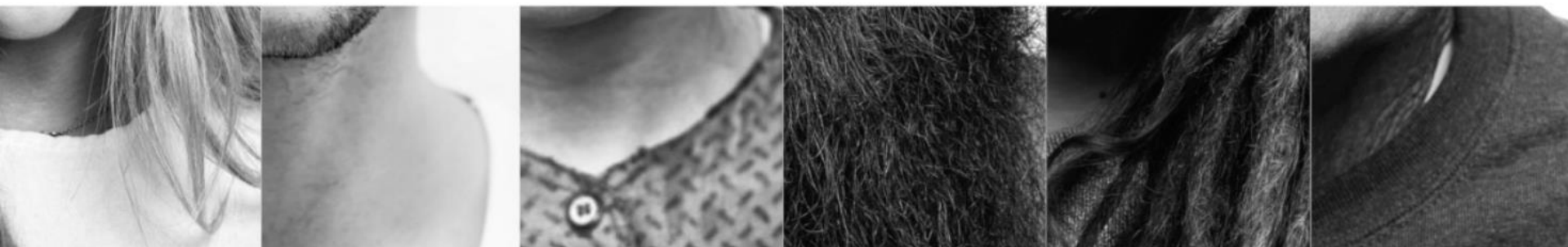


Brad Harper



I HAVE A FRIEND WHO...

J O H N 1 6 : 3 3



Why address the curious questions we have?

“Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect,”

1 Peter 3:15



I HAVE A FRIEND WHO...

J O H N 1 6 : 3 3

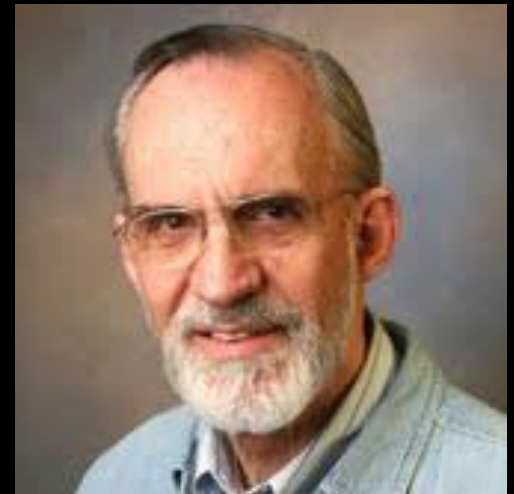


thinks all religions are the same.

thinks all religions are the same

“Is Jesus really the only way? In an environment of such plurality and tolerance this claim seems an implausible or even arrogant claim. When confronted with the exclusive claims of Christianity, non-Christians wonder how Christians can be so narrow minded. Aren't there plenty of good people who are not Christians?”

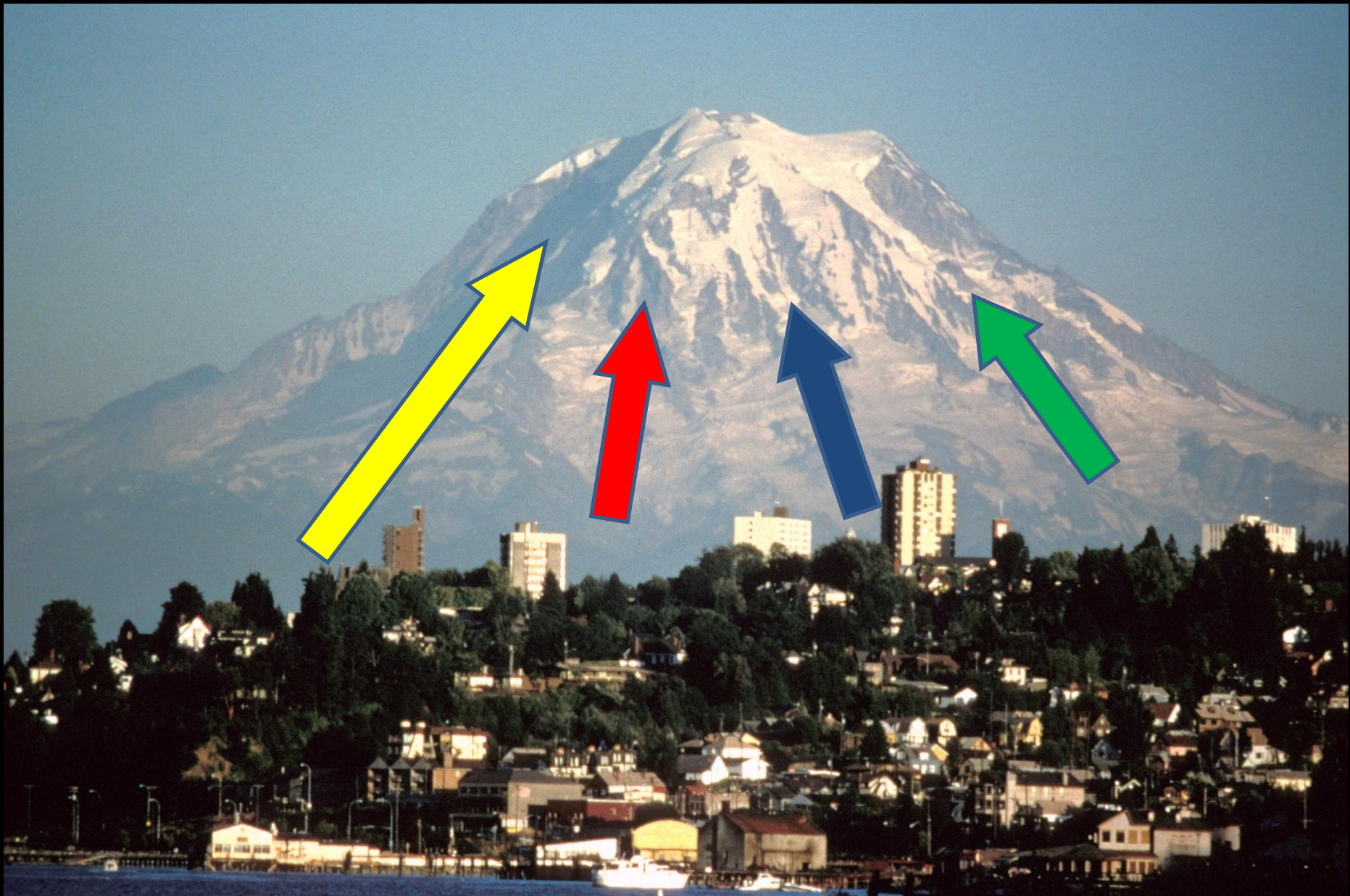
-Robert Mulholland



Why the tension?

We live in an age of pluralism!

“Your truth is your truth,... my truth is my my truth,... but nothing is absolutely true!”





“I am the way, the truth, and the life, no one comes to the Father but by Me!”

Jesus -John 14:6

Who is God?

In His holiness, He is “other”
than us!

Who is God?

“Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of His glory!” Isa. 6:3

“...and day and night the Elders never cease to say,

“Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!”

Rev. 4:8



“We cannot grasp the true meaning of divine holiness by thinking of someone or something very pure and then raising the concept to the highest degree we are capable of. We truly can't fully comprehend God's holiness. It stands apart, unique and **unapproachable**.”

- A.W. Tozer



Who is God?

In His holiness, He is “other”
than us!

“Oh, the depths of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and how untraceable His ways!”

Rom. 11: 33-34

Who are we?

In our **sinfulness**, we are
separated from God!

“So the LORD God banished Adam and Eve from the garden...He drove them out.”

Gen. 3:23-24

*“The **LORD** saw that the **wickedness** of man was great in the earth, and that **every intention** of the thoughts of **his heart** was only evil continually.”*

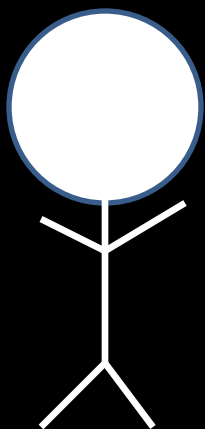
-Gen. 6:5

*“...for the intention of **man’s heart** is evil from his youth.”*

-Gen 8:21

*“What comes out of a man is what makes him **‘unclean.’** From within, out of **a man’s heart...**”*

-Mk. 7:20-21



God

Sin

Holy

Death

Who are we?

In our **sinfulness**, we are
separated from God!

“You were once alienated from God and were enemies of God.”

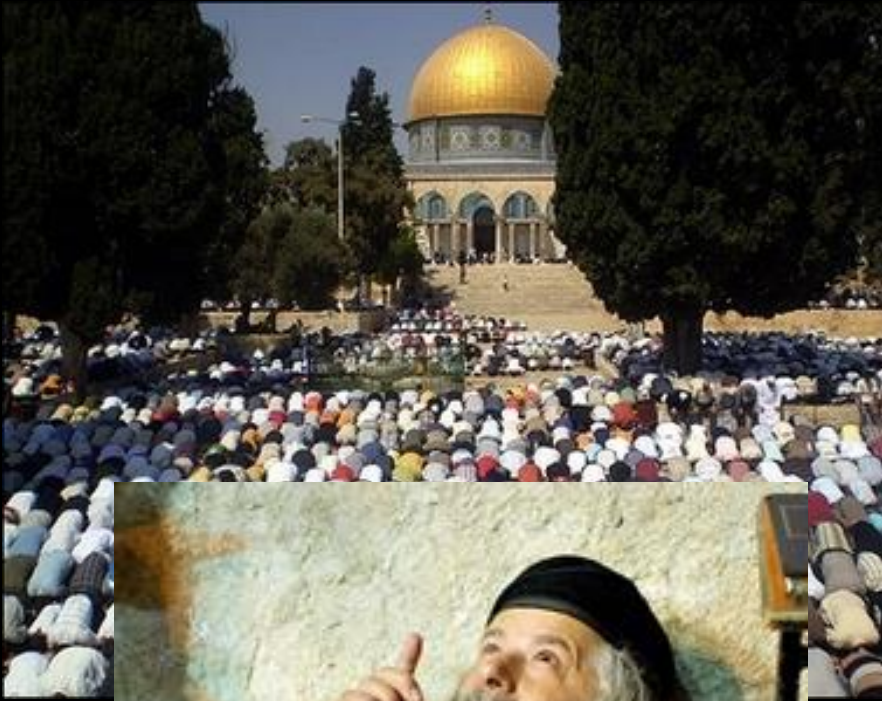
Col. 1:21

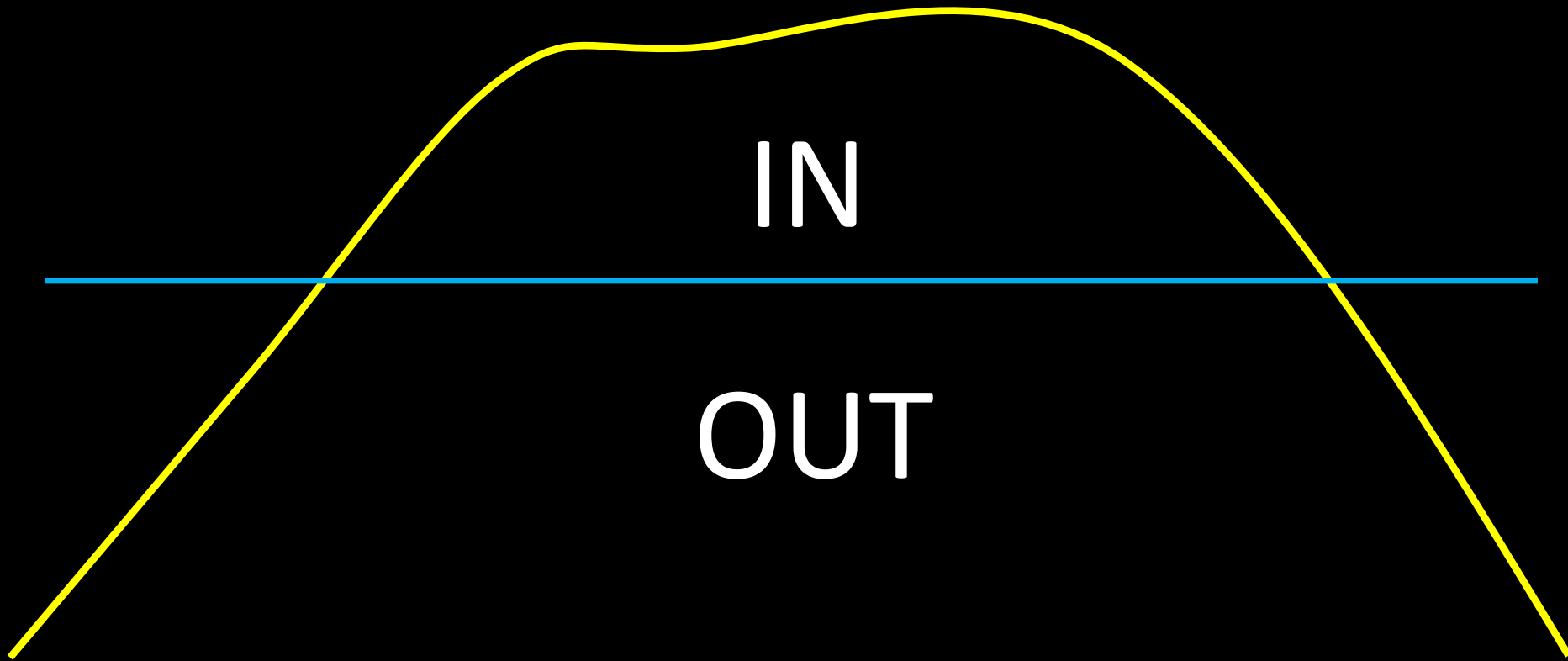
What we can't do:

We **cannot bridge** the
separation!

“all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.”

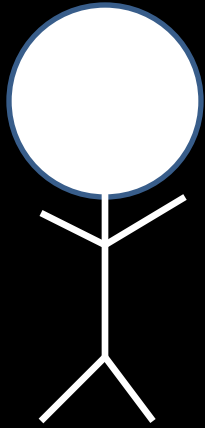
-Rom. 3:23





IN

OUT



Sin

Morality

Good Works

Religion

God

Holy

*“For whoever keeps the **whole law** but **fails** in one point has become accountable for all of it.”*

-James 2:5

*“Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world **held accountable to God**. Therefore **no one** will be **declared righteous** in God’s sight by the works of the law; rather, **through the law we become conscious of our sin.**”*

-Romans 3:19-20

What only He can do:

Only Jesus can bridge
the separation!

*“...the law was put in charge to lead us to Christ,
so that we might be justified through faith..”*

-Gal. 3:24

*“But now apart from the law the righteousness of God has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. **This righteousness is given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe.** There is no difference between Jew and Gentile.”*

-Romans 3:21

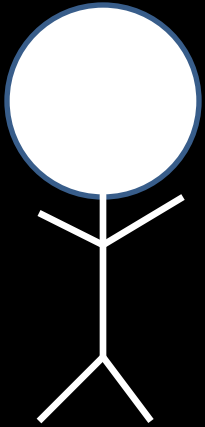
*“But now God has **reconciled you** by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in His sight, **without blemish and free from accusation—**”*

- Colossians 1:22

"...grace teaches us to say 'No' to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age."

-2 Tim. 2:2

God



God's

Jesus

Sin

Way!

Holy

The Welsh revivals of 1904-05

“Whole communities were turned upside down, and were radically changed from depravity to glorious goodness. The crime rate dropped, often to nothing. The police force reported that they had little more to do than supervise the coming and going of the people to the chapel prayer meetings, while attorneys turned up at courts to discover no cases to try.”

“For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through Him.”

-Jesus, John 3