

# Week 7 Truth and Critique of Religious Pluralism

## 1. Lecture Objectives

- 1) Understand the nature of truth and its absoluteness
  - 2) Analyze the concept of religious pluralism
  - 3) Critically evaluate pluralism from a biblical perspective
  - 4) Affirm the uniqueness of Jesus Christ
- 

## 2. Key Topics

### 1) What is Truth?

- (1) Is truth relative or absolute?
  - (2) Biblical truth: grounded in God's revelation
  - (3) Key verse: John 14:6 → “I am the way and the truth and the life…”
  - (4) Conclusion: Truth is objective and revealed by God, not constructed by humans
- 

### 2) What is Religious Pluralism?

- (1) The belief that all religions are equally valid
  - (2) Different paths leading to the same ultimate reality
  - (3) Common claims:
    - ① “All religions are different paths up the same mountain”
    - ② “Truth is relative”
- 

### 3) Problems of Religious Pluralism

#### (1) Logical contradiction

Conflicting truth claims cannot all be true

#### (2) Relativism

Denying absolute truth undermines all truth claims

#### (3) Distortion of the Gospel

Denies the uniqueness of Christ and His atonement

---

### 4) Biblical Response

- (1) Acts 4:12 → “Salvation is found in no one else…”
  - (2) 1 Timothy 2:5 → “There is one God and one mediator…”
  - (3) Core message: Salvation is only through Jesus Christ
- 

### 5) Pauline Gospel Perspective

- (1) Religion = human effort to reach God
  - (2) Gospel = God reaching humanity through Christ
  - (3) Paul emphasizes:
    - ① By grace
    - ② Through faith
    - ③ In Christ alone
  - (4) Religion ≠ Gospel
- 

### 3. Application & Discussion

#### 1) Reflection Questions

- (1) Do I view truth as relative or absolute?
- (2) Do I firmly believe in the exclusivity of Christ?
- (3) How should I respond to pluralistic beliefs?

#### 2) Discussion Topics

- (1) “Are all religions the same?”
  - (2) “Does tolerance mean abandoning truth?”
- 

### 4. Conclusion

- 1) Truth is absolute and singular
- 2) Religious pluralism distorts truth
- 3) Jesus Christ is the only way to salvation