

Religious Pluralism

Question: Explain why all religions can not be true?

Answer: The idea that different religions can all be true is somewhat of a new development in Western thought. It is a result of post-modernism and of minds so wide open that people's brains have all but fallen out! There are many religions in the world. Yet, these religions are not in agreement on many issues. Even some of the most elementary beliefs of the world's religions are in opposition to one another. For example, Judaism, Christianity, and Islam are all monotheistic, while Hinduism and some sects of Buddhism are polytheistic. Christianity teaches that people cannot save themselves—that they must be saved by God's grace. Other religions teach that people can save themselves through chanting, meditation, or good works. These tenets are contradictory to one another. They all cannot be right. They all could be wrong, but not right. To say that each religion is as true as the other is to defy the law of non-contradiction. Of course, the simplicity of non-contradiction is a pitfall for many. They want to feel sophisticated and complex; and so they adopt a warm, cozy way of thinking about truth. Too bad it doesn't make a lick of sense! The idea that "all roads lead to Rome" is a farce. All telephone numbers do not lead to a particular telephone. All addresses do not lead to a particular house. And all religions do not lead to God. Truth is objective reality. It is true whether it is accepted as true or not. Truths cannot be invented. Truth is. Because of the nature of truth, it can either be adhered to or departed from, that is all. It cannot be molded to fit vogue ideas or whims. And so it is in religion. God is either personal or impersonal—but not both. People are either sinful worms in need of a rescue or they are potential "gods" awaiting enlightenment—but not both. Jesus is either the resurrected Lord of all or the dead Lord of none—but not both. Matters of such gravity demand decision. To deem every religion true is to commit the ultimate intellectual suicide.