



## The Uniqueness of Christ in a World of Competing Ideas

**Dr. Andy Bannister**

Solas Centre for Public Christianity

([www.solas-cpc.org](http://www.solas-cpc.org))

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*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)*

Many people think that all the religions are the world are *fundamentally* the same and just *superficially* different... when in fact the reverse is the case. But what is unique about Jesus and how can we talk about the uniqueness of Jesus in a world of competing faiths, religions, and beliefs?

**>> There are two types of people who tend to believe that all religions are the same:**

### **Atheists (who think all religions are equally wrong)**

*"What the world needs as an answer to violence and injustice, poverty and pain, is not a more politics, more money, more education, or more science ... what we need is something that will transform the human heart."*

### **Pluralists (who think all paths must lead to the same God)**

*"Christianity does not claim to be a set of vague ideas about God ... but rather the claim that God, in his love, has chosen to reach down to use."*

*For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not die, but have eternal life. God did not send His Son into the world to condemn it, but to save the world through Him. John 3:16-17 (NIV)*

## The unique and astonishing claims that Jesus made...

### 1. "I am the Way"

All other religions claim to be rooted in one of three ways: (a) knowledge (knowing the right thing); (b) experience (having the right mystical encounter); (c) action (doing the right thing). Christianity cuts right against this model.

*"The Incarnation reverses the traffic pattern of all other religions: it is not how we, by morality or enlightenment or some other means, mount the ladder to heaven, but God who comes to us in our weakness and unworthiness." (James Edwards)*

### 2. "I am the Truth"

Truth, by its very nature is exclusive.

The Greek word used for truth in John 14:6, *aletheia*, means to reveal. Jesus reveals two things:

First, Jesus reveals who God is and what He is like

Second, Jesus reveals what we are like.

### 3. "I am the Life"

*"Christianity says nothing we can do can fix the human heart. Human beings have been trying for millennia and it's gotten us nowhere. But God can bridge it from His side."*

*Jesus offers us something for nothing. He even offers everything for nothing. In a sense, the whole Christian life consists in accepting that very remarkable offer. (C. S. Lewis)*

## CONCLUSIONS

Ideas are equal, people are not.

*The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call Him Immanuel—which means, "God with us". Matthew 1:23 (Berean Study Bible)*