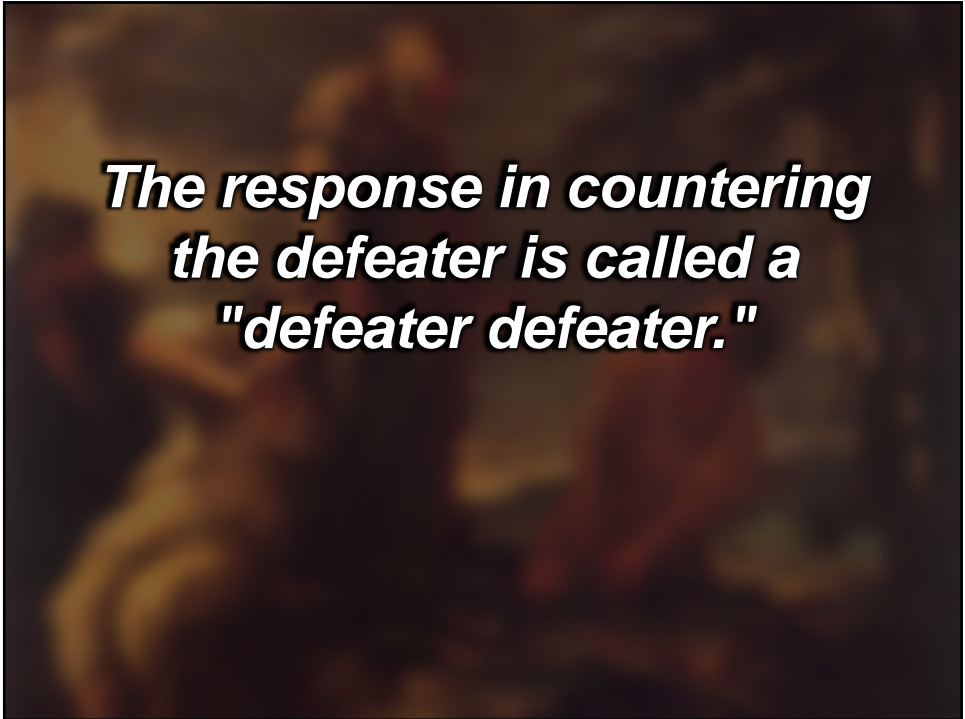
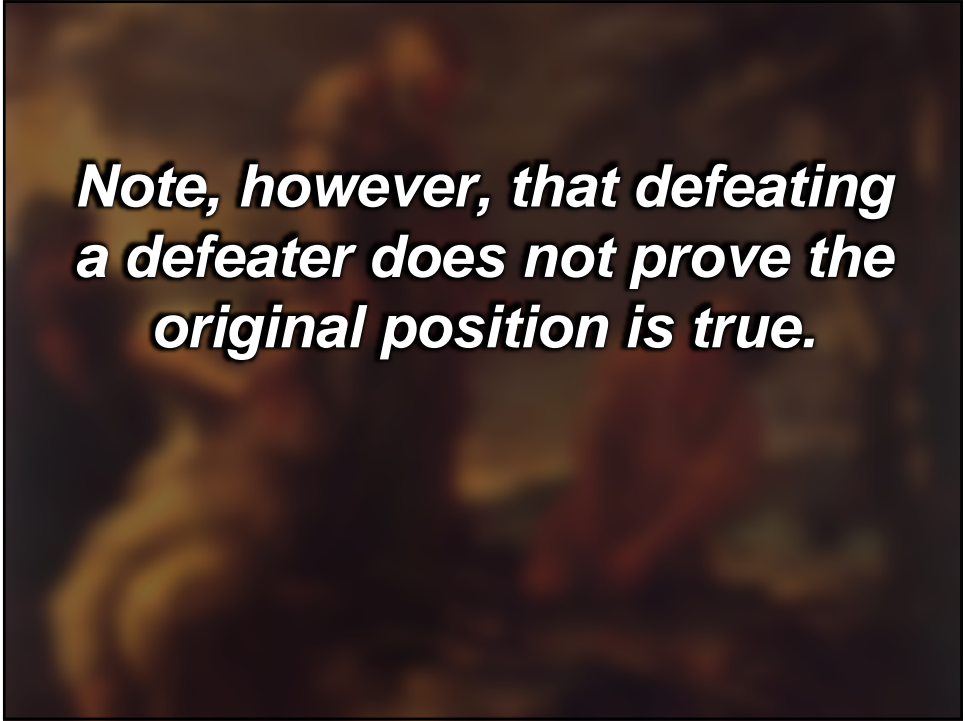


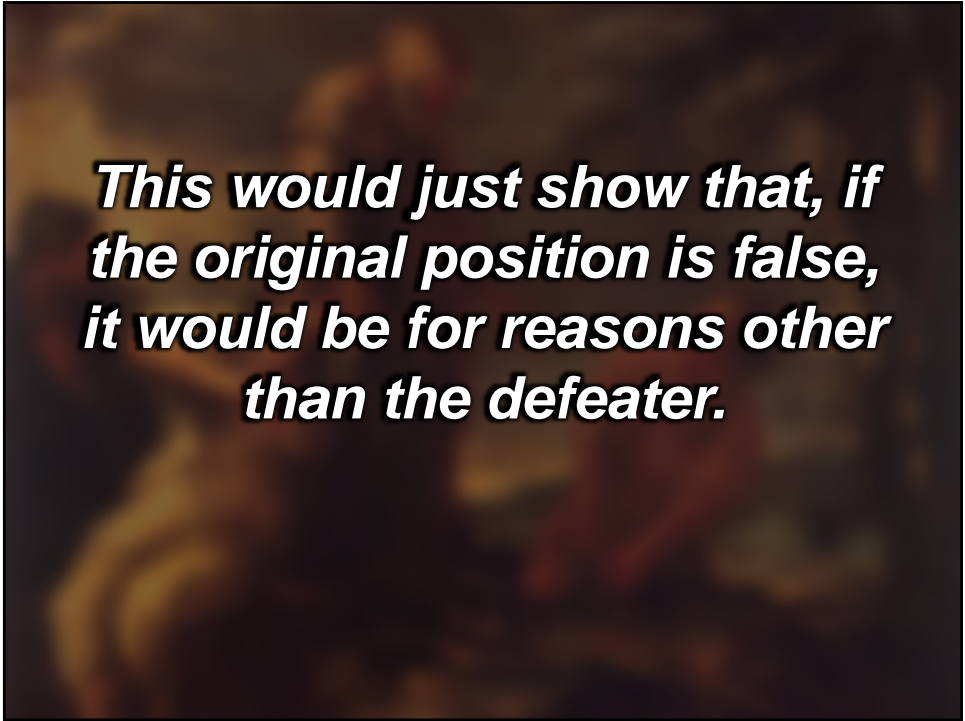
Offering an objection to a position is called offering a "defeater."



The response in countering the defeater is called a "defeater defeater."



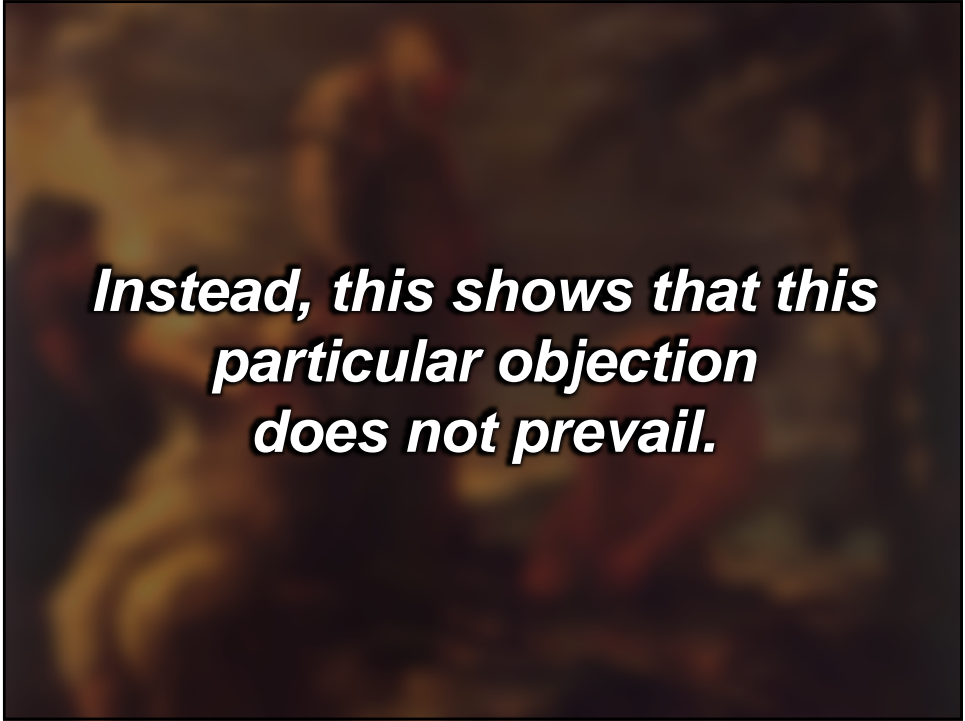
***Note, however, that defeating
a defeater does not prove the
original position is true.***



***This would just show that, if
the original position is false,
it would be for reasons other
than the defeater.***

Part of defending the truth of a position is showing that the position is internally consistent (i.e., showing that the position is not internally inconsistent).

Note, however, that showing that the position is internally consistent, is not the same as showing that the position is true.



***Instead, this shows that this
particular objection
does not prevail.***



***Some
Background
Doctrines***

What is the gospel?
What is General Revelation?
What is Special Revelation?



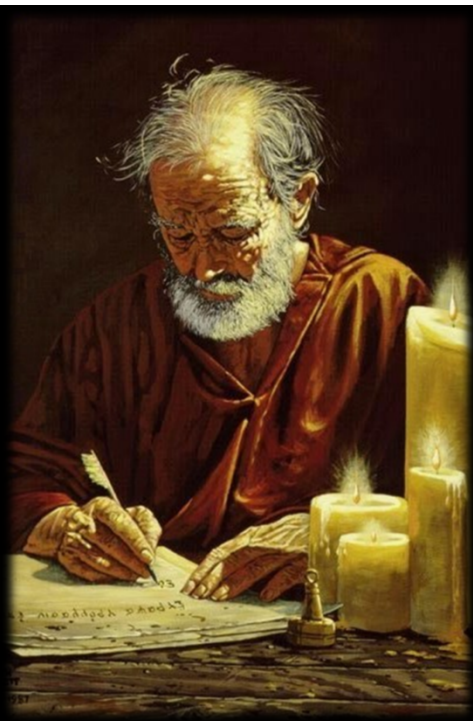
*Jesus said to him, I
am the way, the
truth, and the life.
No one comes to the
Father except
through Me.*

John 14:6



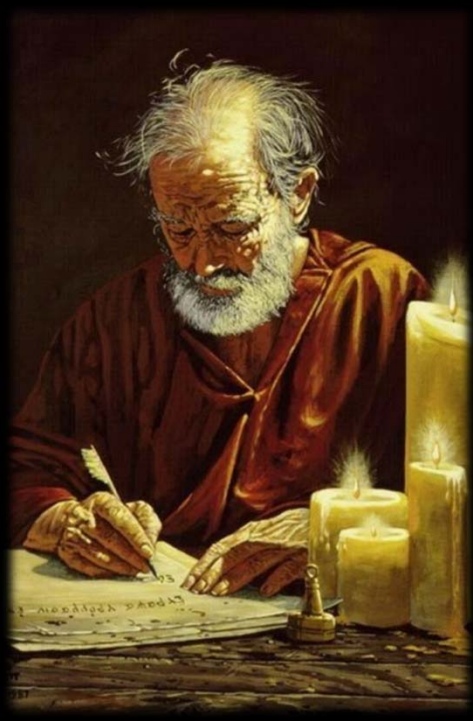
*For by grace you have
been saved through
faith, and that not of
yourselves; it is the
gift of God, not of
works, lest anyone
should boast.*

Ephesians 2:8-9



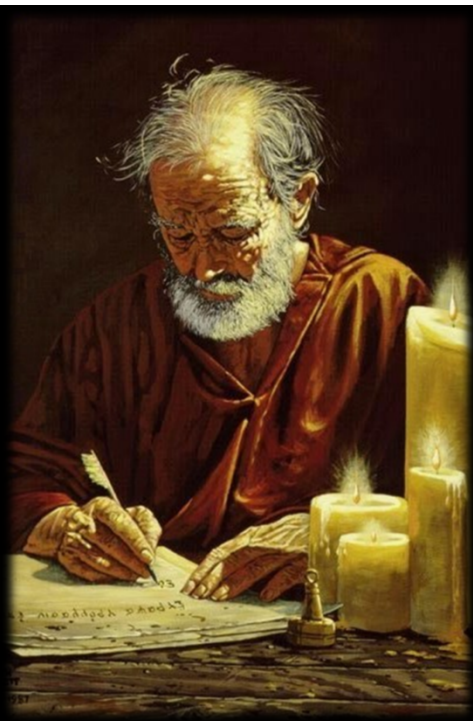
Now to him who works, the wages are not counted as grace but as debt. But to him who does not work but believes on Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is accounted for righteousness,

Romans 4:4-5



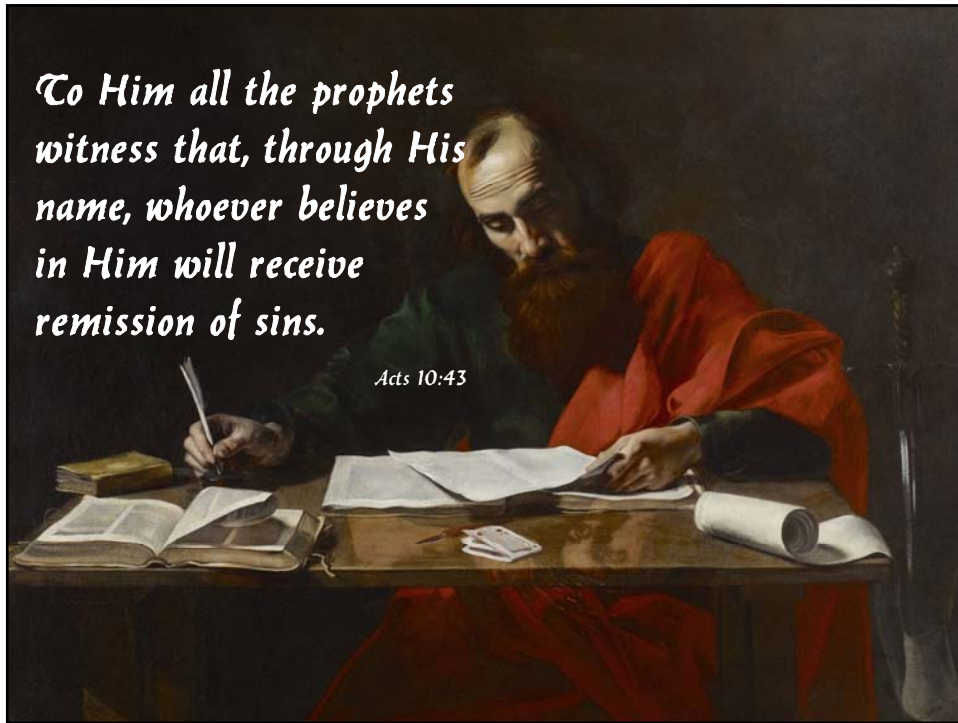
For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

2 Corinthians 5:21



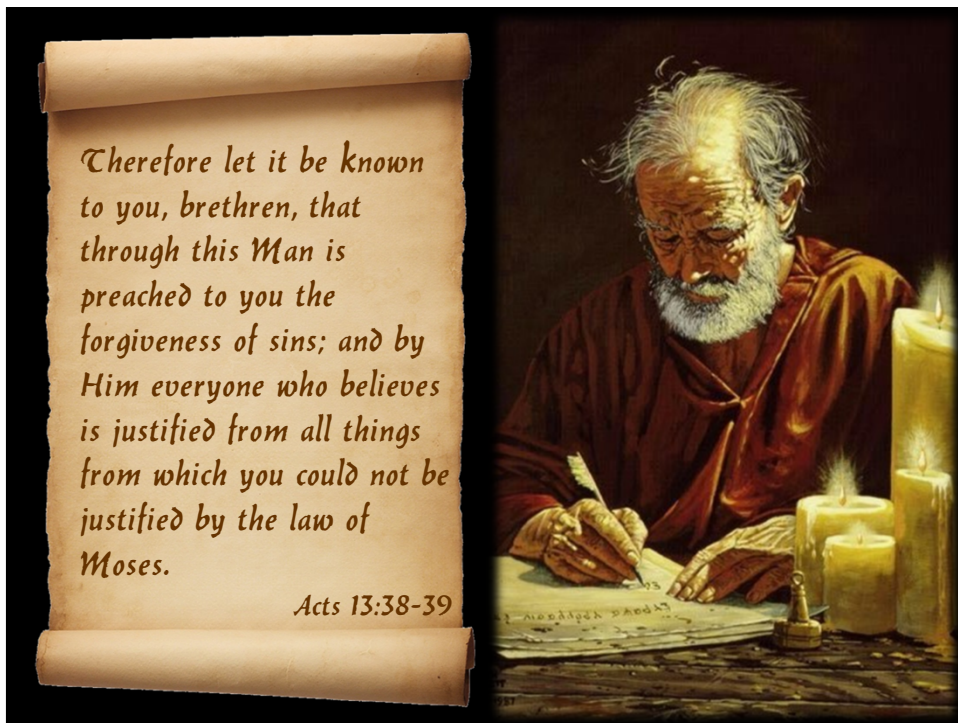
*To Him all the prophets
witness that, through His
name, whoever believes
in Him will receive
remission of sins.*

Acts 10:43



*Therefore let it be known
to you, brethren, that
through this Man is
preached to you the
forgiveness of sins; and by
Him everyone who believes
is justified from all things
from which you could not be
justified by the law of
Moses.*

Acts 13:38-39





*Revelation is God making
known to mankind His divine
person and divine truths that
would otherwise be
unknown; to unveil*



How Do Revelation and Inspiration Differ?

Revelation

God making known to mankind His divine person and divine truths that would otherwise be unknown

Revelation is giving of the truth.

Inspiration

God transferring His divine truths to mankind through human agency into written language form for mankind to understand

Inspiration is the recording of the truth.



What Is General Revelation?

General Revelation is God making known to mankind through His creation His existence, attributes, and goodness.

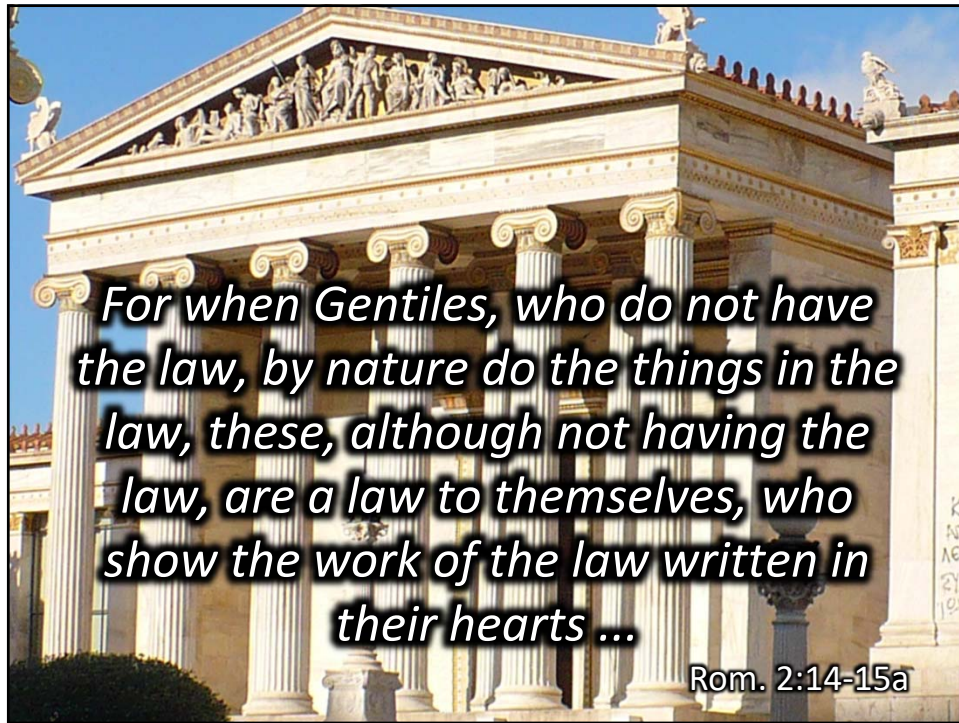
The heavens declare the glory of God; And the firmament shows His handiwork. Day unto day utters speech, And night unto night reveals knowledge. There is no speech nor language Where their voice is not heard. Their line has gone out through all the earth, And their words to the end of the world.

Psalm 19:1

For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being

understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead ...

Rom. 1:20a



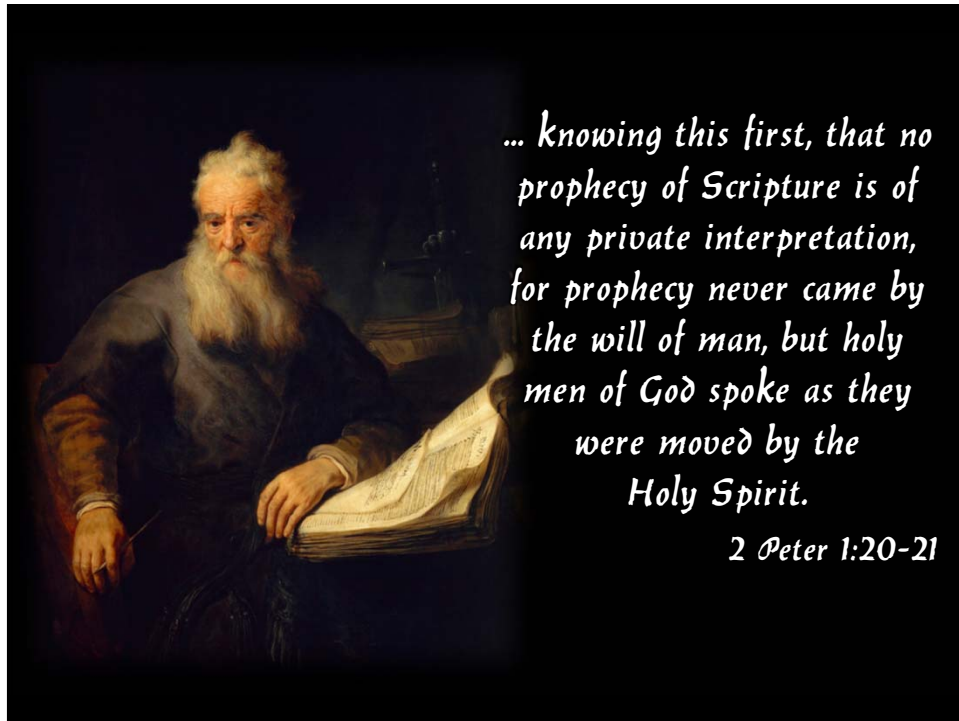
"... We also are men with the same nature as you, and preach to you that you should turn from these useless things to the living God, who made the heaven, the earth, the sea, and all things that are in them, who in bygone generations allowed all nations to walk in their own ways. Nevertheless He did not leave Himself without witness, in that He did good, gave us rain from heaven and fruitful seasons, filling our hearts with food and gladness."

Act 14:15-17



What Is Special Revelation?

Special Revelation is God making known to mankind through His prophets, apostles, and His Son of His nature and will that could not be known through General Revelation.



All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.

2 Timothy 3:16-17

θεόπνευστος (theopneustos)

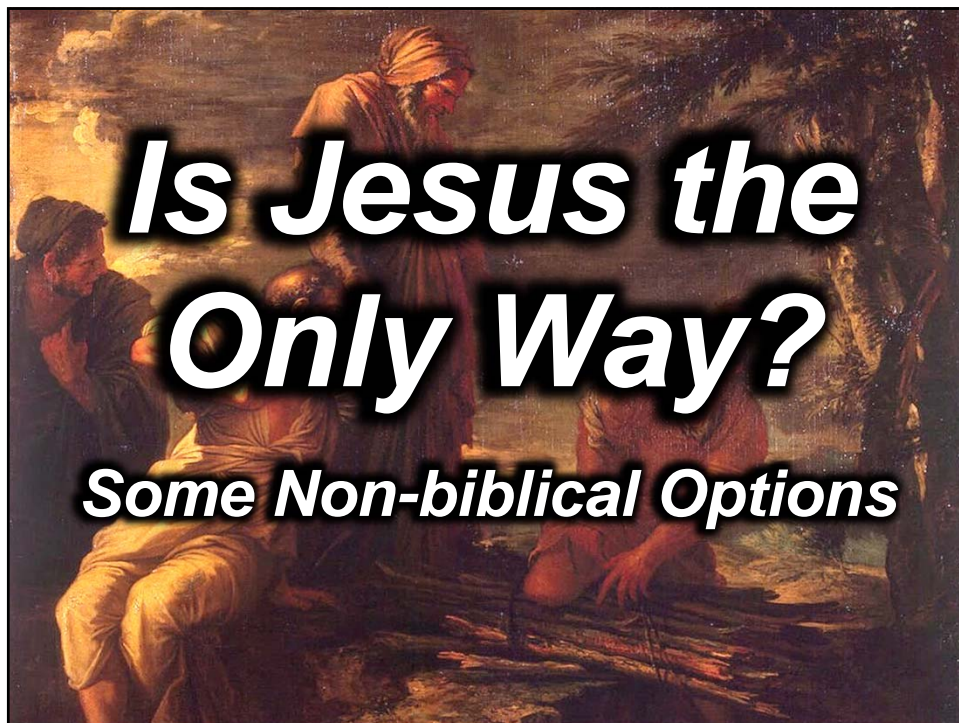
*All Scripture is given by inspiration of God,
and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for
correction, for instruction in righteousness,
that the man of God may be complete,
thoroughly equipped for every good work.*

2 Timothy 3:16-17

θεόπνευστος (theopneustos) = God breathed

θεός (theos) - God

πνέω, πνεῦμα (pneo, pneuma) - I breathe, breath, spirit



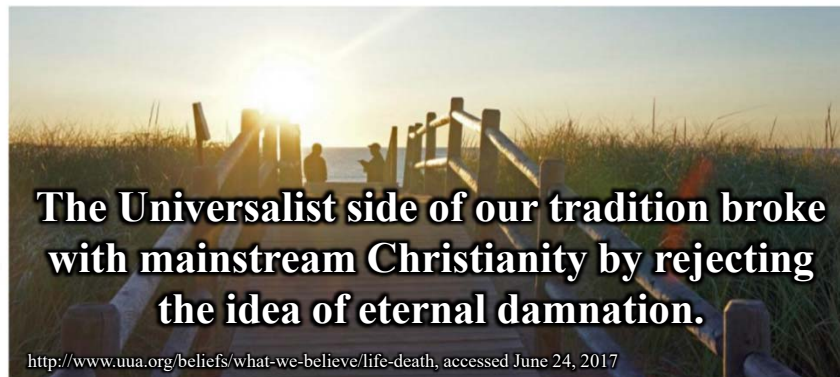
∞ Universalism ∞

*Everyone is ultimately saved
regardless of what they believe.*

*Universalists reject the notion of
eternal damnation.*



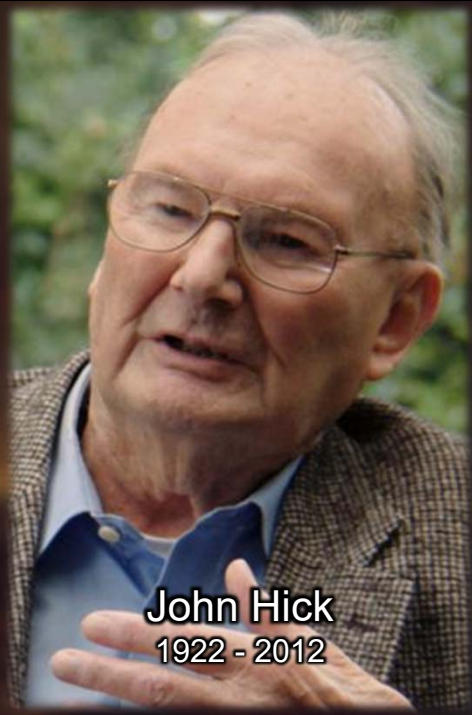
HOME > OUR FAITH > BELIEFS & PRINCIPLES > LIFE AND DEATH



BELIEFS ABOUT LIFE AND DEATH IN UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISM

"In my view, the cosmic optimism of the great traditions—their proclamation that a limitlessly better existence is available to all because it is rooted in the ultimate structure of reality—strongly suggests that all will in the end, perhaps after many lives in many worlds, attain to [universal salvation]."

["A Pluralistic View," in Dennis L. Okholm and Timothy R. Phillips, eds. *Four Views on Salvation in a Pluralistic World* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1996), 45]



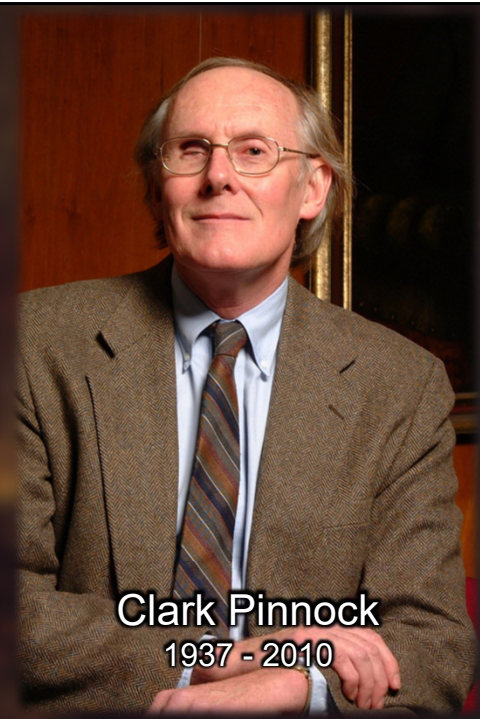
John Hick
1922 - 2012

∞ Inclusivism ∞

Christ saves not only those who consciously believe the gospel, but also all who never heard the gospel but fulfilled other requirements (e.g., responded to what they knew)

"Inclusivism believes that, because God is present in the whole world ..., God's grace is also at work in some way among all people, possibly even in the sphere of religious life ... It entertains the possibility that religion may play a role in the salvation of the human race, a role preparatory to the gospel of Christ, in whom alone fullness of salvation is found."

["An Inclusivist View," in Dennis L. Okholm and Timothy R. Phillips, eds. *Four Views on Salvation in a Pluralistic World* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1996), 98]

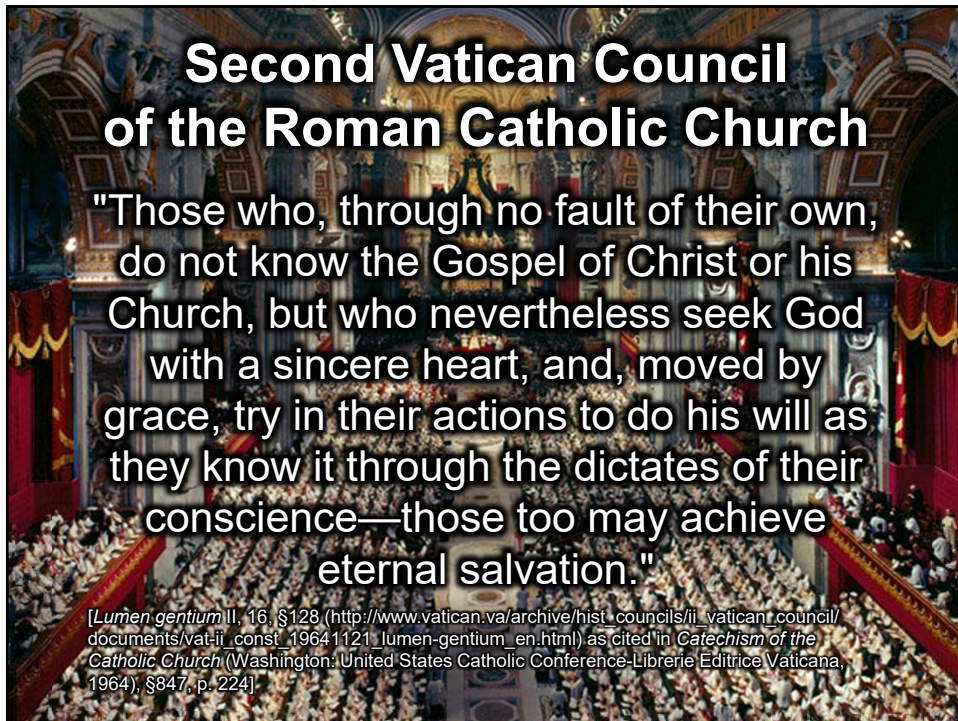


Clark Pinnock
1937 - 2010

Second Vatican Council of the Roman Catholic Church

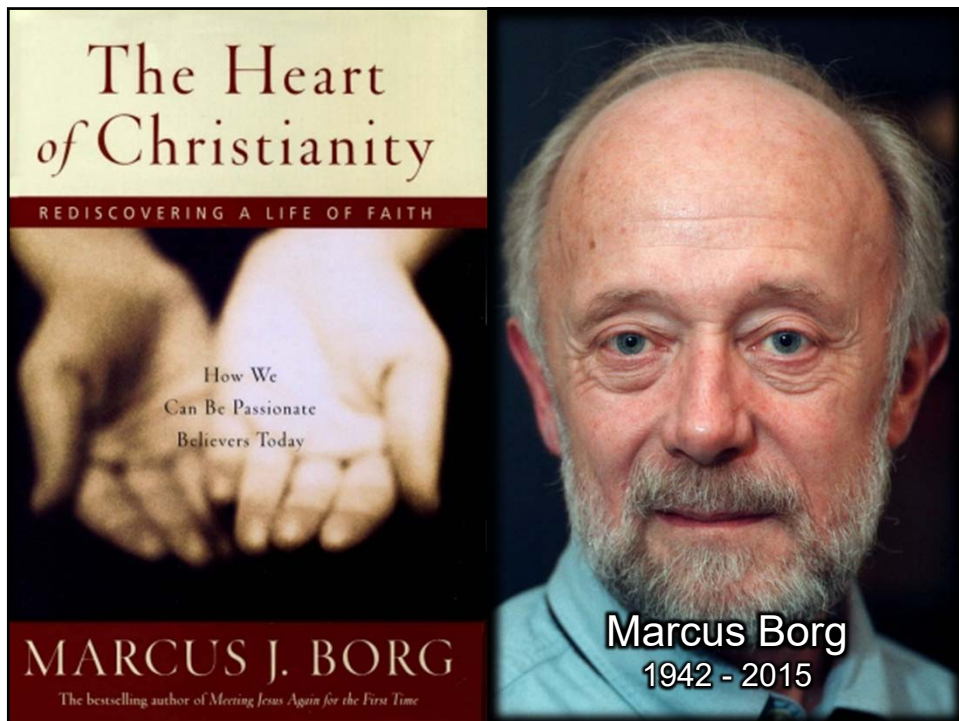
"Those who, through no fault of their own, do not know the Gospel of Christ or his Church, but who nevertheless seek God with a sincere heart, and, moved by grace, try in their actions to do his will as they know it through the dictates of their conscience—those too may achieve eternal salvation."

[*Lumen gentium* II, 16, §128 (http://www.vatican.va/archive/hist_councils/ii_vatican_council/documents/vat-ii_const_19641121_lumen-gentium_en.html) as cited in *Catechism of the Catholic Church* (Washington: United States Catholic Conference-Librerie Editrice Vaticana, 1964), §847, p. 224].



∞ Pluralism ∞

All religions can lead to God. Salvation is not necessarily based on Jesus Christ. For some, Pluralism is distinguished from universalism in that pluralism says that any religion can save but not necessarily all will be actually saved.



"[Religions] all affirm a way, a path; and the paths are all recognizable variants of the same path, the same way. ... The Way of the cross, the way of Lao Tzu, the way of the Buddha, the way of Islam, and the way of Judaism all speak of the same path: the path of dying to an old identity and way of being and being born into a new identity and way of being. All refer to the same transformation of the self."

[*The Heart of Christianity: Rediscovering a Life of Faith* (San Francisco: Harper Collins, 2003), 216]

The bestselling author of *Meeting Jesus Again for the First Time*



Marcus Borg
1942 - 2015



Is Jesus the Only Way?

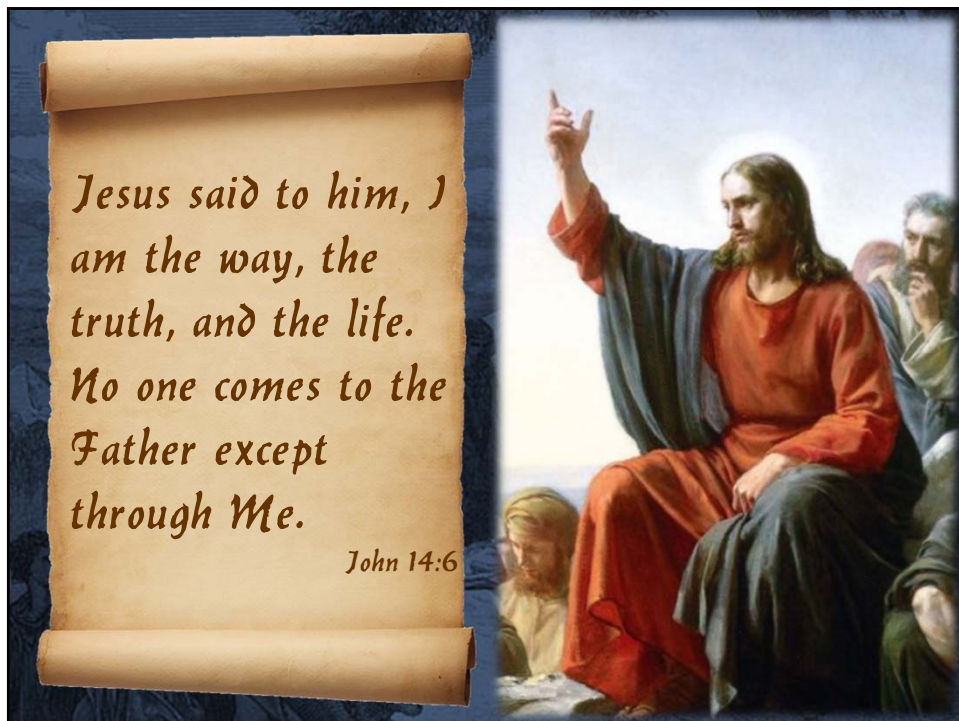
An Evangelical Biblical Proposal

∞ Exclusivism ∞

Also called Particularism, Exclusivism says that Christ saves only those who consciously believe the gospel that are mentally capable. Thus, all those who die without hearing the gospel (and thus without believing the gospel) are condemned.

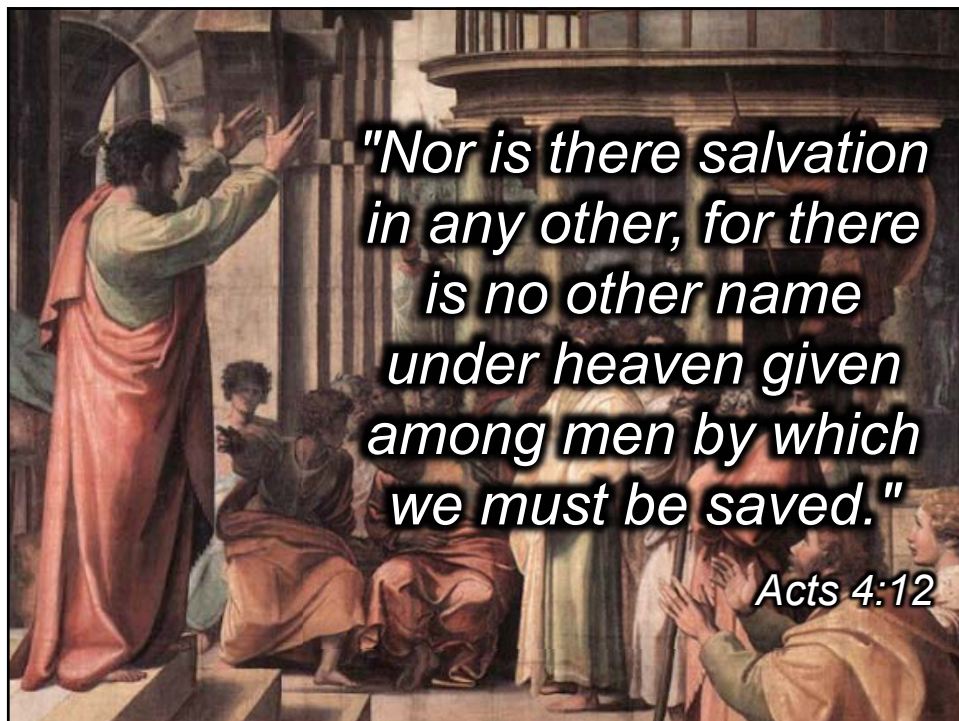
The Case for Exclusivism

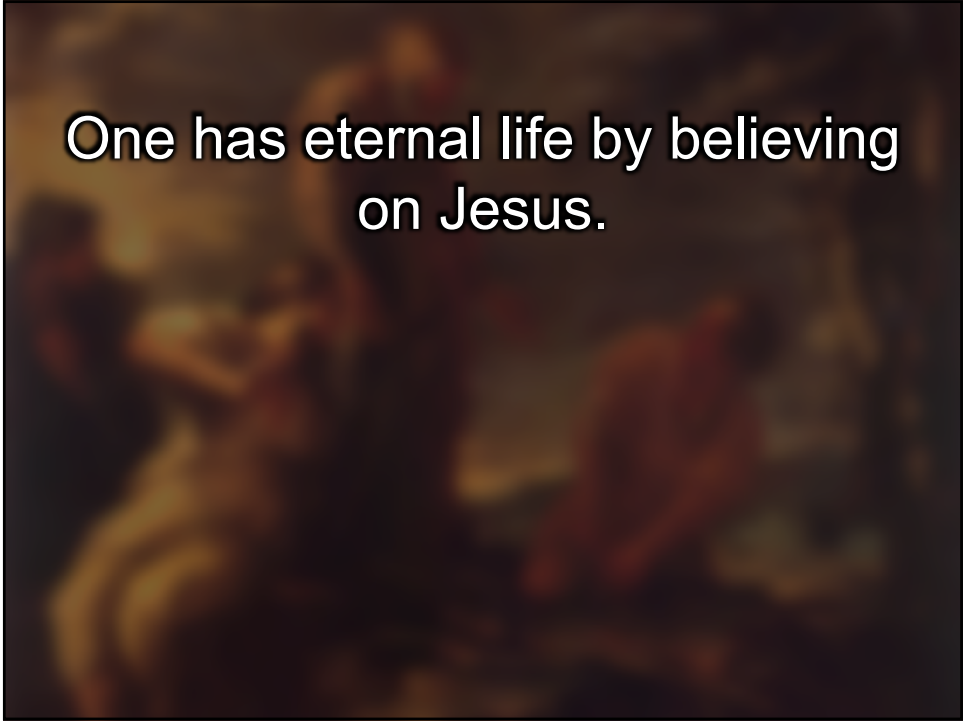
1. Jesus taught that He was the only way.



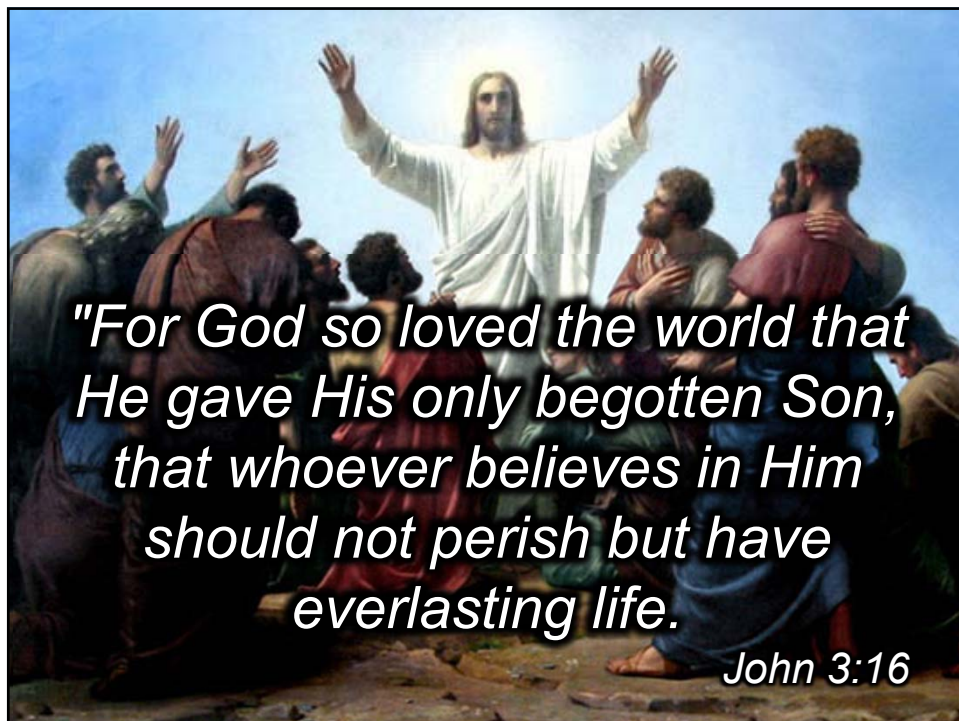
Jesus taught that He was the
only way.

The apostles taught that Jesus
was the only way.



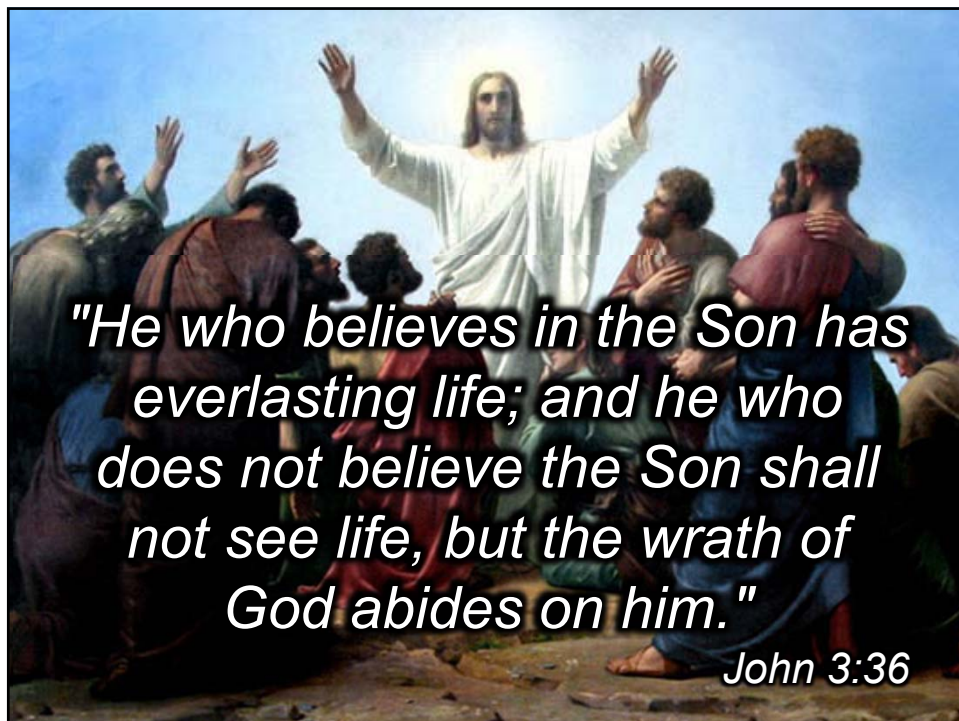


One has eternal life by believing
on Jesus.



One has eternal life by believing
on Jesus.

All those who do not believe are
condemned. (John 3:36)



*"He who believes in the Son has
everlasting life; and he who
does not believe the Son shall
not see life, but the wrath of
God abides on him."*

John 3:36

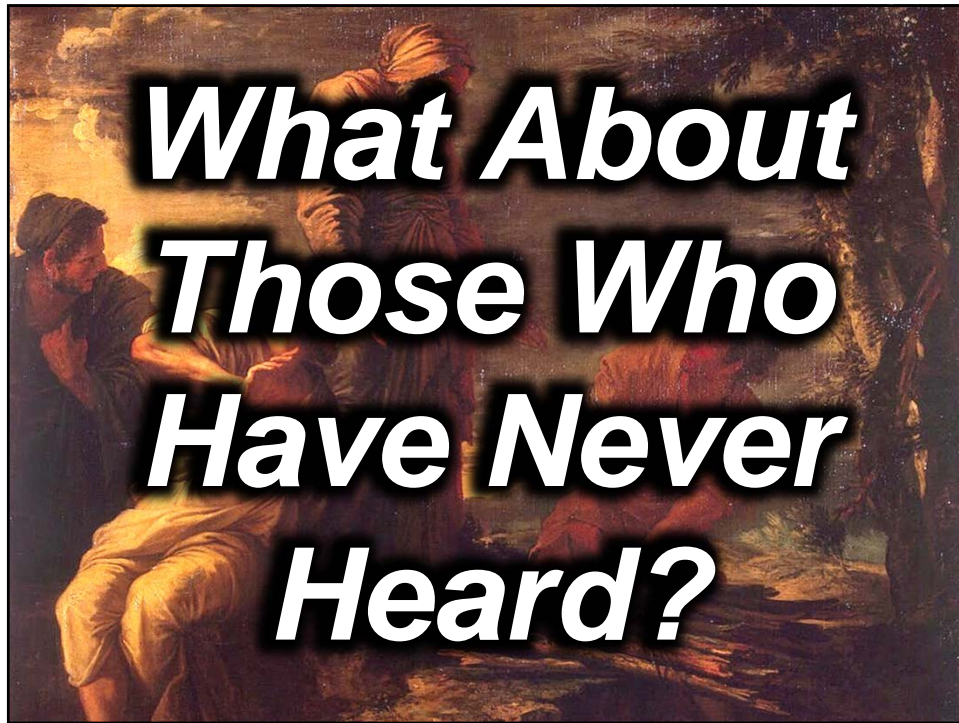
One has eternal life by believing
on Jesus.

All those who do not believe are
condemned. (John 3:36)

One can only believe the gospel
by hearing the gospel. (Rom
10:14)

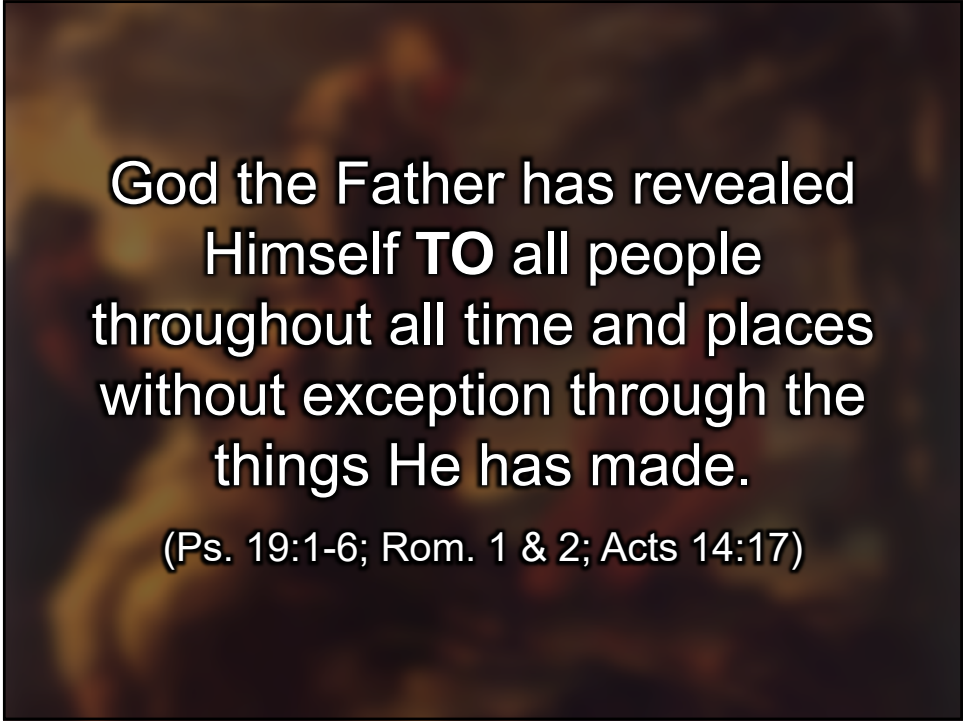
*For Whoever calls on the
name of the Lord shall be
saved. How then shall they
call on Him in whom they
have not believed? And how
shall they believe in Him of
whom they have not heard?
And how shall they hear
without a preacher?*

Romans 10:13-14



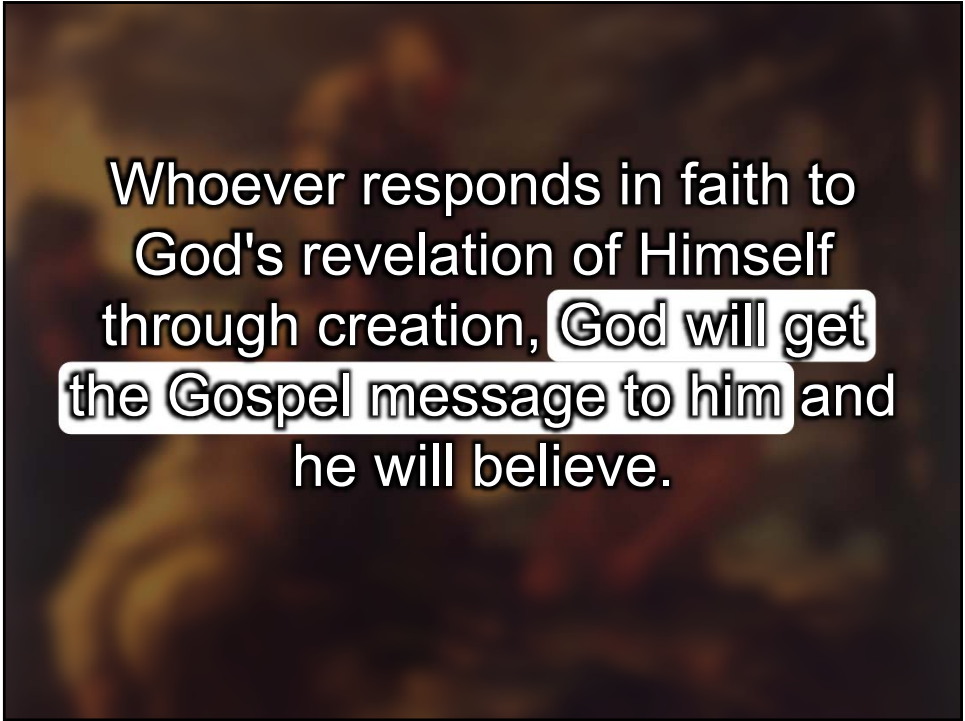
❧ The Acts Argument ❧

- ❖ Ethiopian Eunuch, Acts 8:27
a descendent of Ham
- ❖ Saul, Acts 9:1
a descendent of Shem
- ❖ Cornelius, Acts 10:1
a descendent of Japheth

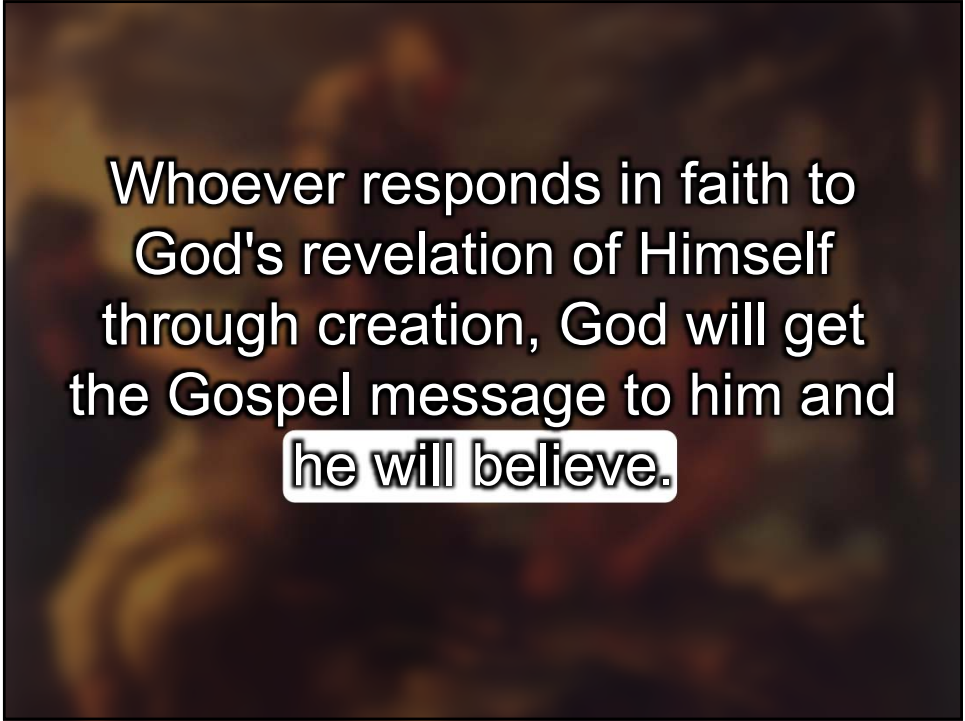


God the Father has revealed
Himself **TO** all people
throughout all time and places
without exception through the
things He has made.

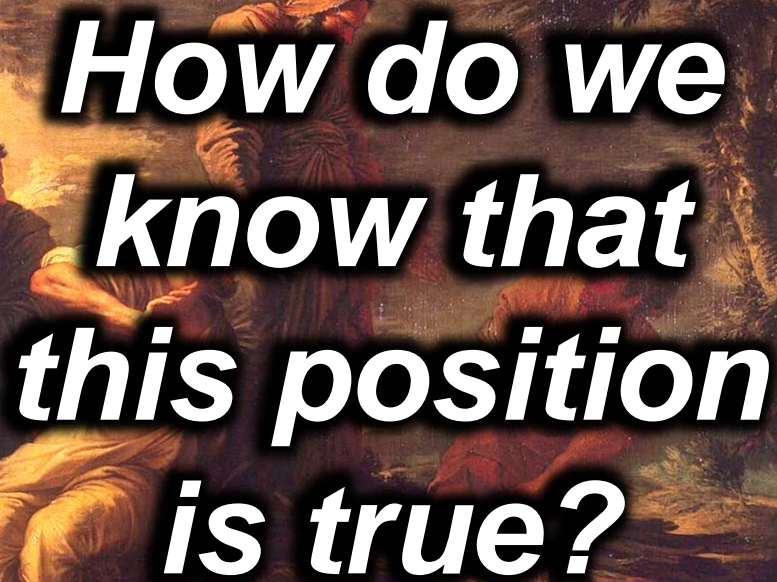
(Ps. 19:1-6; Rom. 1 & 2; Acts 14:17)



Whoever responds in faith to
God's revelation of Himself
through creation, **God will get
the Gospel message to him** and
he will believe.



Whoever responds in faith to
God's revelation of Himself
through creation, God will get
the Gospel message to him and
he will believe.



***How do we
know that
this position
is true?***

General Revelation	Special Revelation
<i>Given through creation (Creation is known through simple apprehension)</i>	<i>Given through Prophets (Prophets are read by their Scripture)</i>
<i>Reveals God's existence and attributes</i>	<i>Reveals God's gospel and will</i>
<i>Given TO all people All people have it</i>	<i>Given FOR all people Not all people have it</i>
<i>Some accept, some reject</i>	<i>Some accept, some reject</i>
<i>Sufficient to condemn if rejected</i>	<i>Sufficient to save if accepted</i>
<i>Acceptance is necessary but not sufficient for eternal life</i>	<i>Acceptance is necessary and sufficient for eternal life</i>