

“My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one. They are not of the world, even as I am not of it.”

JESUS

ROMANS 12:2 <sup>NIV</sup>

Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

## Northwest Arkansas Culture



ROMANS 12:2 <sup>NIV</sup>

Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

The image is a horizontal rectangular graphic. It features a background with a teal-to-black gradient. A diagonal line, starting from the bottom left and extending towards the top right, divides the image. The area to the left of this line is a lighter teal, while the area to the right is a darker, almost black teal. The words "COUNTER" and "CULTURE" are written in a bold, sans-serif font. "COUNTER" is positioned on the left side, within the lighter teal area. "CULTURE" is positioned on the right side, within the darker teal area. The two words are separated by the diagonal line, and their colors match the background they are on, creating a subtle, integrated look.

COUNTER CULTURE

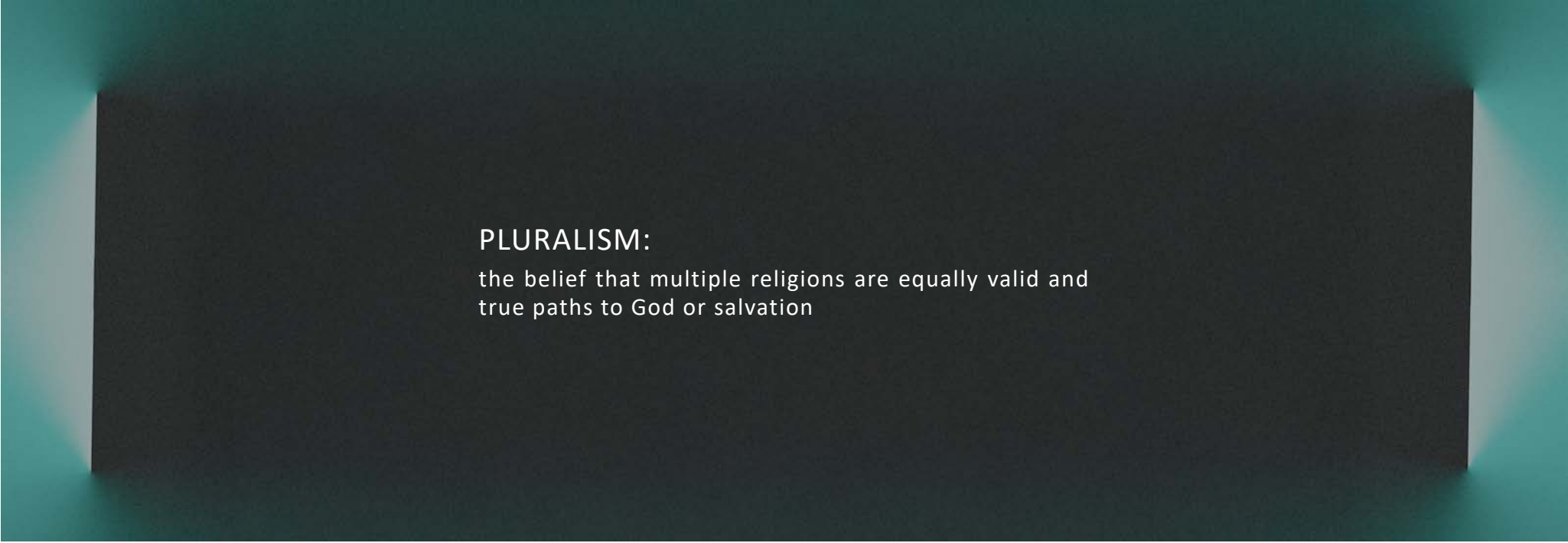
WEEK ONE  
**NIHILISM**  
Meaning of Life

WEEK TWO  
**PLURALISM**  
Exclusivity of Christ

WEEK THREE  
**EGOISM**  
Selflessness

WEEK FOUR  
**MATERIALISM**  
Generosity

WEEK FIVE  
**INDIVIDUALISM**  
Community



## PLURALISM:

the belief that multiple religions are equally valid and true paths to God or salvation

Coe∃ist



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## RELATIVISM

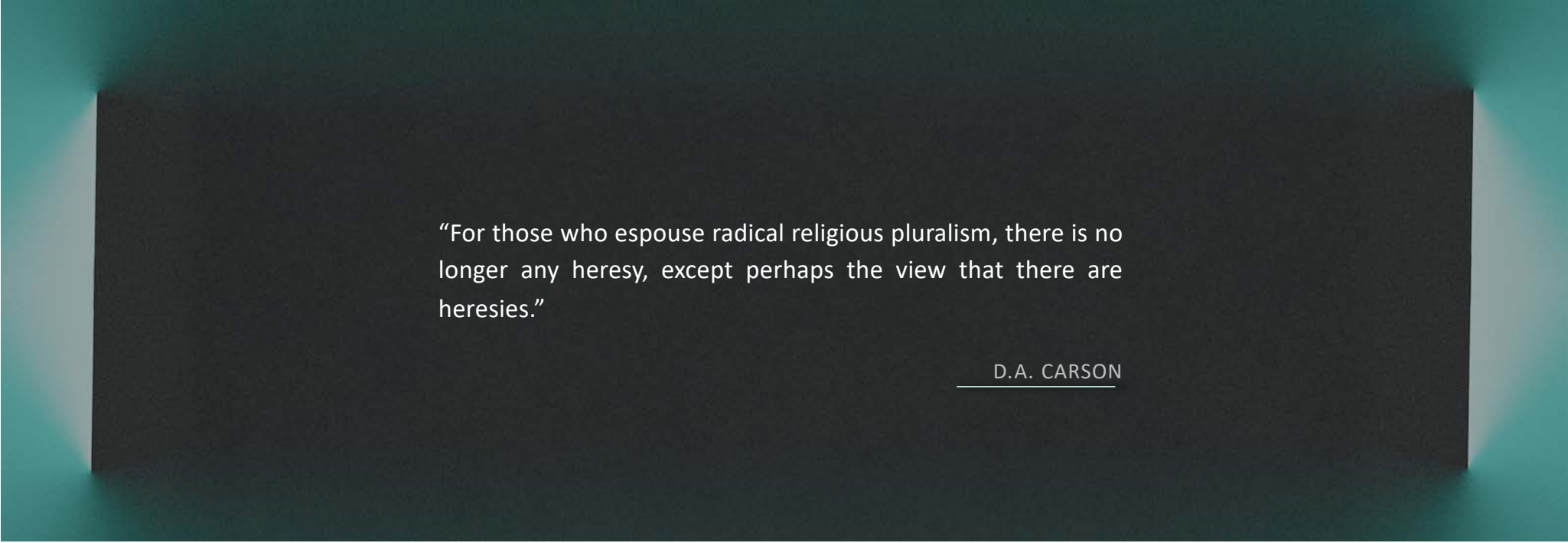
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the belief that truth is subjective and determined by each individual based on their culture, experiences, community, and preference

## TOLERANCE

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a fair, objective, and respectful attitude toward those whose opinions, practices, religion, etc., differ from one's own



“For those who espouse radical religious pluralism, there is no longer any heresy, except perhaps the view that there are heresies.”

D.A. CARSON

# THE BLIND AND THE ELEPHANT



EXODUS 20:3-5a <sup>NIV</sup>

“You shall have no other gods before me. <sup>4</sup> “You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. <sup>5</sup> You shall not bow down to them or worship them.”

ISAIAH 44:6 <sup>NIV</sup>

“This is what the LORD says— Israel’s King and Redeemer, the LORD Almighty: I am the first and I am the last; apart from me there is no God.”

ACTS 4:12 <sup>NIV</sup>

“Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved.”

1 TIMOTHY 2:5-6a <sup>NIV</sup>

For there is one God and one mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup> who gave himself as a ransom for all people.

“The exclusiveness of salvation through Christ is because Jesus is the only one who ever died for our sins or whoever could have done so.”

WAYNE GRUDEM



JOHN 14:1-6 <sup>NIV</sup>

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. <sup>2</sup> My Father’s house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? <sup>3</sup> And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. <sup>4</sup> You know the way to the place where I am going.” <sup>5</sup> Thomas said to him, “Lord, we don’t know where you are going, so how can we know the way?” <sup>6</sup> Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”

JOHN 14:6 <sup>NIV</sup>

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

# ~~PLURALISM~~

The bible explicitly and repeatedly denies this view.

It is not reasonable to claim equal validity of religions that make contradictory truth claims.

Claiming all religions to be equal robs them of their meaning and disrespects their distinct teachings.

Jesus taught and affirmed that He alone is the pathway to redemption.

JOHN 3:16 <sup>NIV</sup>

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.

INCLUSIVE


JOHN 3:16 <sup>NIV</sup>

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.

EXCLUSIVE

JOHN 3:16-18 <sup>NIV</sup>

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. <sup>17</sup> For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. <sup>18</sup> Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God's one and only Son.



GOD'S LOVE IS WIDE  
HIS WAY IS NARROW