

**What is a religion?** the belief in and worship of a \_\_\_\_\_, especially a personal God or gods. A systematic set of beliefs, a \_\_\_\_\_, or \_\_\_\_\_ that generally relates humanity to supernatural, transcendental, & spiritual elements.

**What is a cult?** An ideology that requires \_\_\_\_\_; a religious group that \_\_\_\_\_ in a heresy or a heretical sec.

**What is a heresy?** Often taking a \_\_\_\_\_ issue of Christian doctrine and \_\_\_\_\_ it up as \_\_\_\_\_. Including but not limited to the doctrine of holy spirit/gifts of the spirit, belief in the \_\_\_\_\_, adding to the gospel, adding to the life or ministry of \_\_\_\_\_.

But why should Christians study other religions?

### **1 Peter 3:8-12**

### **1 Peter 3:13-17**

What's Peter saying in these verses about we should be ready to give? answers to non-believers? other people as a check

- 1) The \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) The \_\_\_\_\_ we should have when we give those
- 3) The \_\_\_\_\_ of

The keys to understanding why we should study other religions is found in verses v15 & v17

- 1) We should study other religions so. . .

- 2) Our lives including our suffering testify to the \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ of our beliefs. v17

### **Jude 3-4**

1) By studying other religions we \_\_\_\_\_ for the faith that was “once delivered to all people.” Jude then asked followers of Jesus to exert an intense effort to live out the gospel—to both tell others & live it out.

2) Understand that some people are \_\_\_\_\_ of God. They seek to pervert what the gospel says.

### **Matt 24:24-28**

Studying cults and other religions helps us to not be \_\_\_\_\_ of the enemy not to be \_\_\_\_\_ of the schemes of the world.

Study what other religions say about \_\_\_\_\_ because that will help you be ready to \_\_\_\_\_ your faith or \_\_\_\_\_ they might have; ultimately our goal is to share our faith in a godly way.

### **Acts 20:28-31**

Paul's warning to pastors helps us take God's word \_\_\_\_\_. Knowing God's word knowing the truth of who he is from the scriptures helps protect us.

### **2 Cor 11:3-4**

Keep your motives \_\_\_\_\_. Do not listen to anybody who preaches another \_\_\_\_\_.  
Don't listen if they \_\_\_\_\_ the Bible.

**Conclusion:** Why study other religions?

1) We study other religions to gain a better understanding of \_\_\_\_\_ own  
\_\_\_\_\_.

2) It also helps us to \_\_\_\_\_ better.

3) It also helps us to seek \_\_\_\_\_.

Any questions, concerns, thoughts?