

Is Christianity Too Narrow?

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Our Purpose: To be a community of believers where, no matter who you are, you can experience life change through Jesus Christ.

Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."
—John 14:6 (ESV)

16 Now while Paul was waiting for them at Athens, his spirit was provoked within him as he saw that the city was full of idols. 17 So he reasoned in the synagogue with the Jews and the devout persons, and in the marketplace every day with those who happened to be there. 18 Some of the Epicurean and Stoic philosophers also conversed with him. And some said, "What does this babbler wish to say?" Others said, "He seems to be a preacher of foreign divinities"—because he was preaching Jesus and the resurrection. 19 And they took him and brought him to the Areopagus, saying, "May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting? 20 For you bring some strange things to our ears. We wish to know therefore what these things mean."

—Acts 17:16-20 (ESV)

1. Christianity is **DIFFERENT**

2. Christianity is **INCLUSIVE**

22 So Paul, standing in the midst of the Areopagus, said: "Men of Athens, I perceive that in every way you are very religious. 23 For as I passed along and observed the objects of your worship, I found also an altar with this inscription, 'To the unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. 24 The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of

heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man, 25 nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything. 26 And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, 27 that they should seek God, in the hope that they might feel their way toward him and find him. Yet he is actually not far from each one of us,

—Acts 17:22-27(ESV)

3. Christianity is EXCLUSIVE

30 The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent, 31 because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

—Acts 17:30-31 (ESV)

“The early followers of Jesus were so convinced that Jesus was the only way to Heaven that they didn’t even call themselves Christians...they called themselves, Followers of the way”

—Steven James

“I have traveled the world. I have searched high and low. I have found nothing that satisfies my mind, my heart, and the deepest longings of my soul like Jesus does. He is not only the way the truth, and the life; He is personal to me. He is my way, and my truth, and my life - just as He can be for anyone who reaches out to Him.”

—Ravi Zacharias