Editorial

In our day the biblical doctrine that Jesus Christ is the only way to salvation is under fierce attack. This belief that Jesus is not the only Savior is called pluralism. Such claims are a part of postmodern thinking.

This issue, devoted to the topic of “Christianity and Religious Pluralism,” includes articles by exceptional contributors who engage and critique this thinking which is contrary to biblical teaching.

First, J. P. Moreland clarifies, distinguishes, and critiques four different forms of postmodernism in a helpful article titled, “Pluralism and Four Grades of Postmodern Involvement.” Moreland is Distinguished Professor of Philosophy at Talbot School of Theology, Biola University, in La Mirada, California.

Second, Ronald Nash evaluates John Hick’s thinking in “The Pluralism of John Hick.” He finds that the philosophy of this leading religious pluralist is not an intellectually responsible place to find an alternative to the Christian faith. Nash is Professor of Philosophy at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky.

Third, Win Corduan shows in “Congenial Pluralism: Why It Does Not Work” that two kinds of pluralism are advocated today, an aggressive kind and a congenial one. He concludes that neither option is legitimate. Corduan is Professor of Philosophy at Taylor University in Upland, Indiana.

Fourth, Steve Lemke critiques the philosophy of Richard Rorty in “Pluralism and Relativism in Richard Rorty’s Liberal Utopia.” He shows that Rorty’s relativism is fundamentally flawed and not a sound foundation for religious pluralism. Lemke is Provost and Professor of Philosophy at New Orleans Theological Seminary in New Orleans, Louisiana.

Finally, Timothy Jones contributes to the construction of a developmental model of Christian formation that is biblical and evangelical in “James W. Fowler’s Stages of Faith and Friedrich Schleiermacher’s Gefuehl as Spiritual Transcendence: An Evangelical Rethinking of Fowler’s Model of Faith Development.”

We pray that these articles assist you to defend and proclaim the biblical teaching that Jesus is the only Savior. For indeed, “there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men by which we must be saved” (Acts 4:12).

To God’s glory: enjoy!

Terry L. Wilder, Editor