

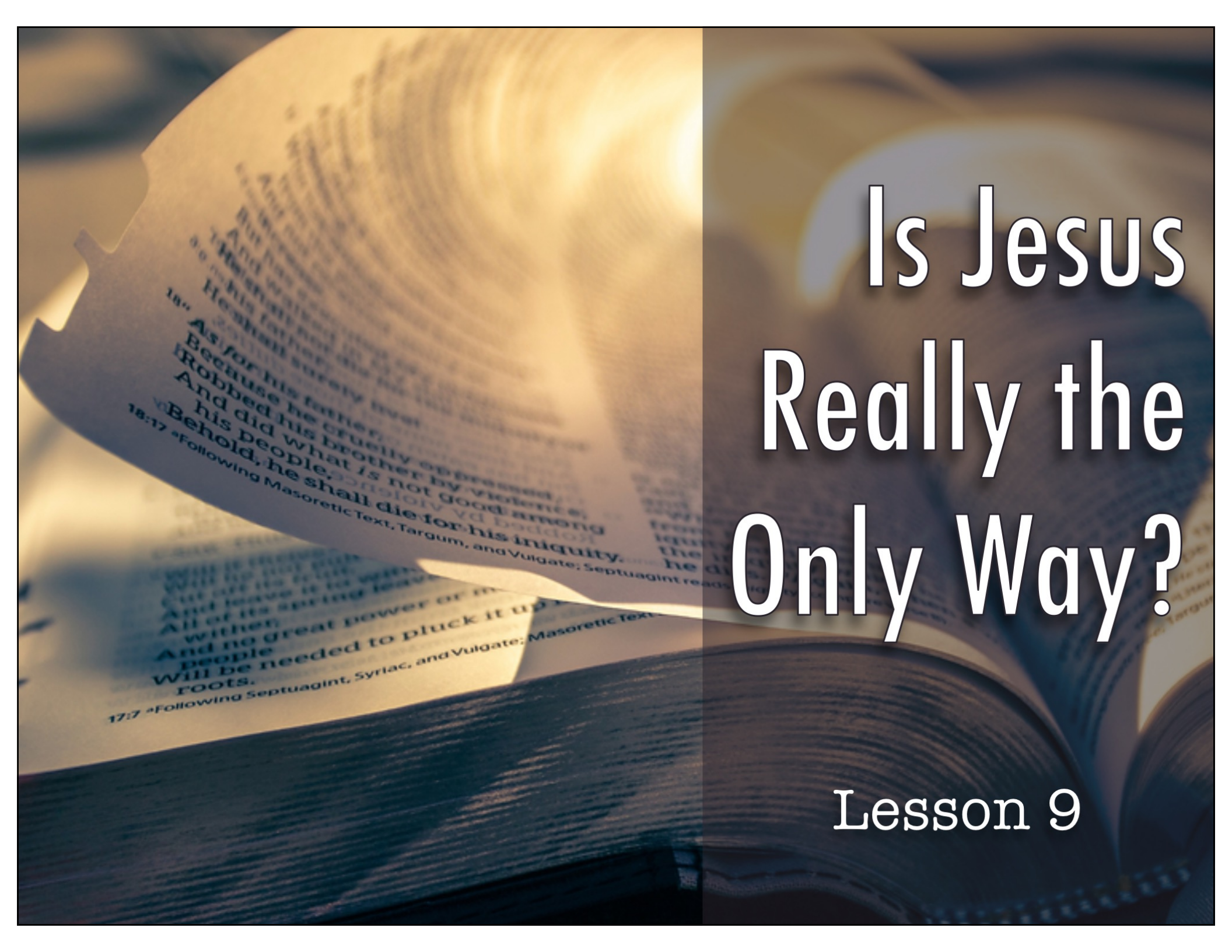
An open book is shown with a page being turned. The scene is lit with a warm, golden light from the upper left, creating a dramatic effect. The text on the page is partially visible and includes the following: "18:17 *Following Masoretic Text, Targum, and Vulgate; Septuagint reads in... As for his father, he cruelly oppressed, because he is not good among Robbed his brother, and did what is not good among his people, Behold, he shall die for his iniquity." The large white text "Why Should I Believe?" is overlaid on the right side of the image.

Why Should I Believe?

18:17 *Following Masoretic Text, Targum, and Vulgate; Septuagint reads in...
As for his father, he cruelly oppressed,
because he is not good among
Robbed his brother, and did what is not good among
his people,
Behold, he shall die for his iniquity.

www.teamagee.com/believe2024

Slides, Audio, and Video of all
"Why Should I Believe" Lessons



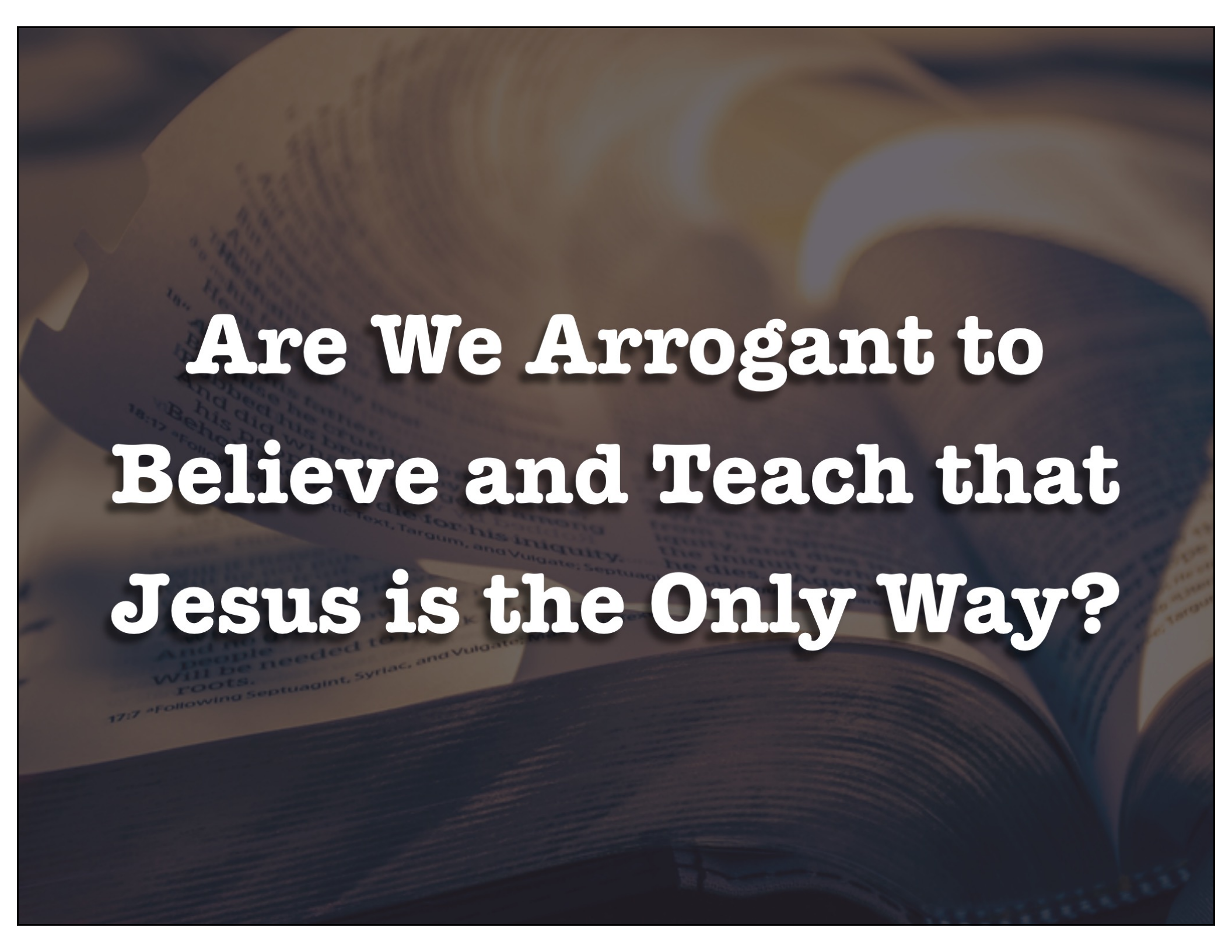
Is Jesus Really the Only Way?

Lesson 9

“Christians are a small minority in the world. Approximately four out of every five people on the face of the earth believe in gods other than the Christian God. The more than five billion people who live on earth revere or worship more than three hundred gods. If one includes the animist or tribal religions, the number rises to more than three thousand. Are we to believe that only Christians are right?”

-Charles Templeton

Christian Evangelist who later became an Atheist
From his book "Farewell to God"



**Are We Arrogant to
Believe and Teach that
Jesus is the Only Way?**

1 Peter 3:15 (ESV)

...in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with **gentleness and respect,**

Ephesians 2:8-9 (ESV)

⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, ⁹ not a result of works, so that **no one may boast.**

Galatians 6:14 (ESV)

But far be it from me to boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.

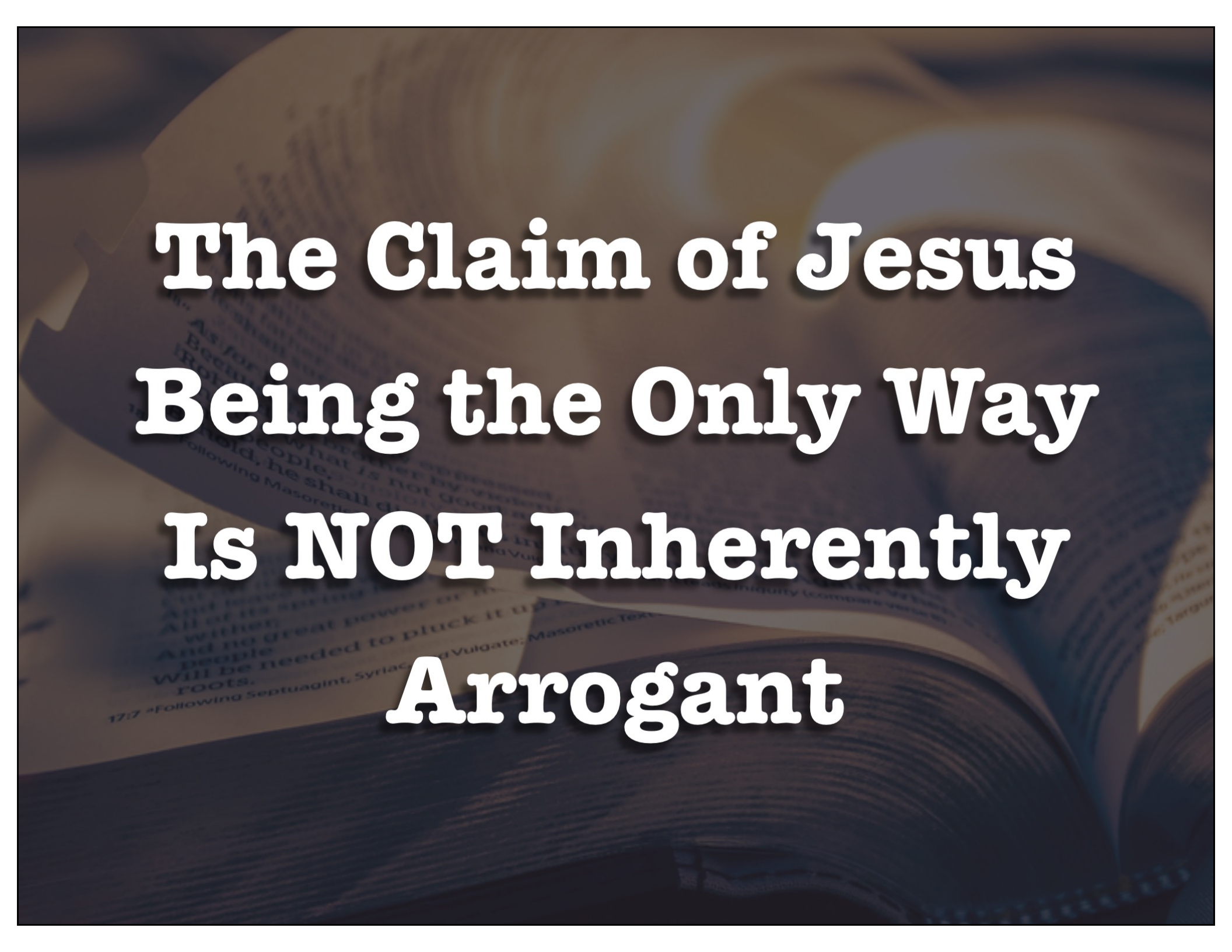
The background is a close-up, slightly out-of-focus image of an open book. The pages are a warm, aged brown color, and the text is in a dark ink. The word "TRUTH" is superimposed in the center in a large, white, serif font. The lighting is soft, creating a sense of depth and focus on the central text.

TRUTH

“If **truth** does not exclude, then no assertion of a **truth** claim is being made; it’s just an opinion that is being stated. Any time you make a **truth** claim, you mean something contrary to it is false. **Truth** excludes its opposite.”

-Ravi Zacharias

Evangelical Minister & Christian Apologist

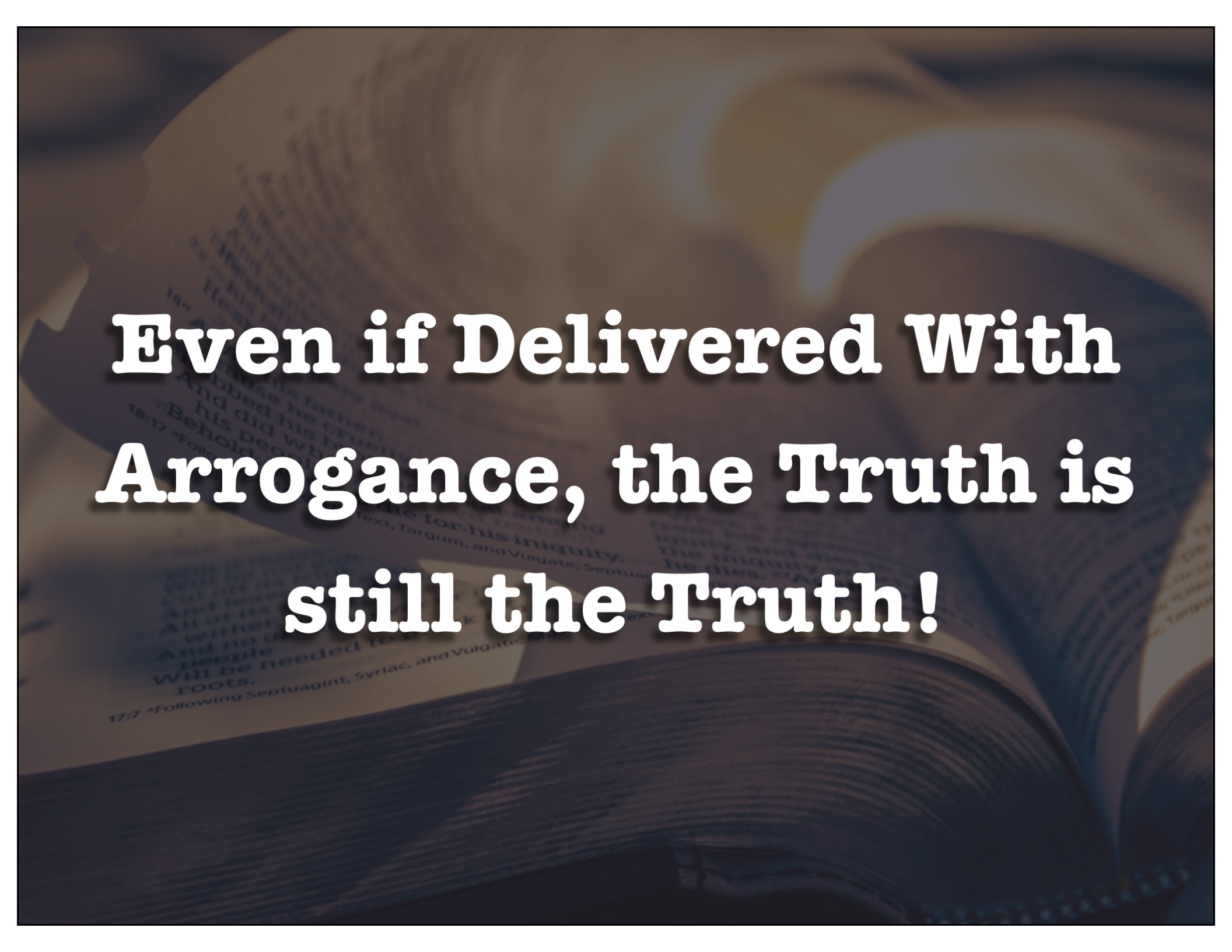


**The Claim of Jesus
Being the Only Way
Is NOT Inherently
Arrogant**



18:17 - Behold
17:7 - Following 5

17:7 - Following 5

An open book is shown from a top-down perspective, with its pages slightly curved. The text on the pages is faint and mostly illegible, but some words like 'Behold', 'And did', and 'Will be needed' are visible. The background is a dark, textured blue-grey color.

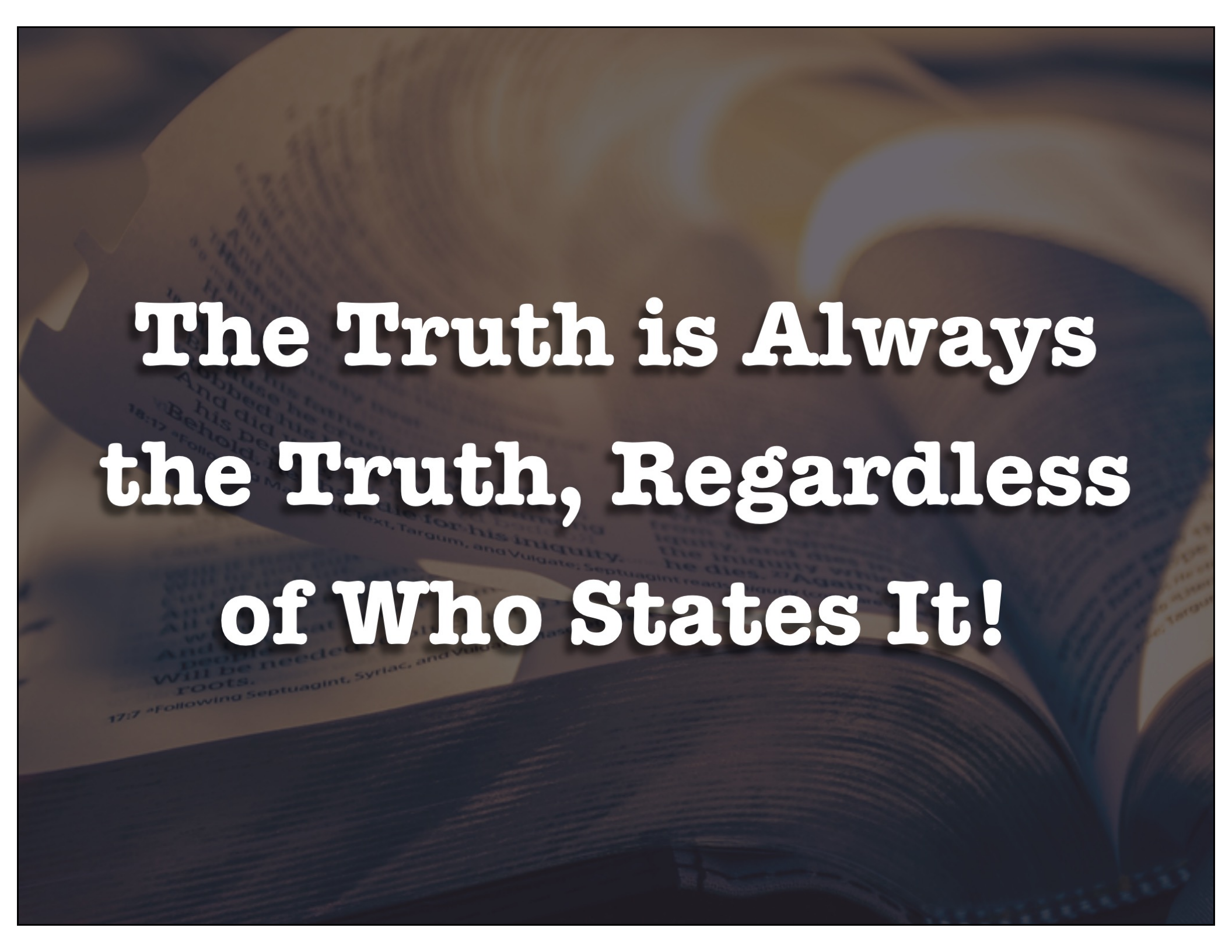
**Even if Delivered With
Arrogance, the Truth is
still the Truth!**



18:17 - Following Maso
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17:7 - Following Septuag
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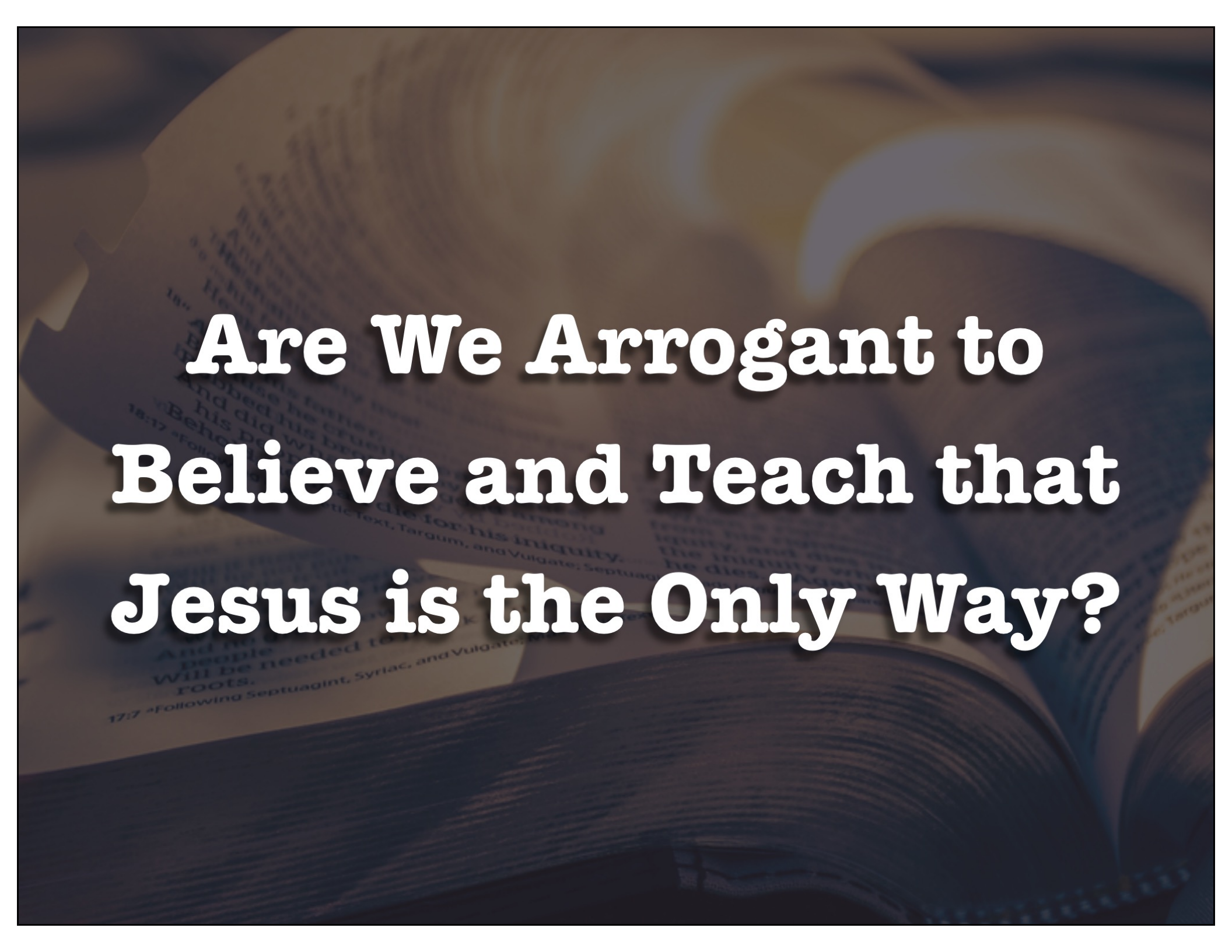
Argue
The
to know
the target



**The Truth is Always
the Truth, Regardless
of Who States It!**

Templeton's challenge turns out to be nothing more than an **argumentum ad hominem**

An irrelevant attack upon a person to deflect an argument from the facts and reasons



**Are We Arrogant to
Believe and Teach that
Jesus is the Only Way?**

The Better Question:

**Is the Belief
True?**

John 14:6 (ESV)

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

John 3:16-18 (ESV)

¹⁶ “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷ For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. ¹⁸ **Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.**

Acts 4:10–12 (ESV)

¹⁰ let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead —by him this man is standing before you well. ¹¹ This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. ¹² And **there is salvation in no one else**, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”

Our pluralistic society likes to assert that all religions are one of many roads to the same destination.

This is not possible because many religions make contradictory claims.

Many Paths to the Same Destination?

Christians believe that Jesus is the Son of God. Jews believe that Jesus was a false prophet and not the Son of God. Muslims believe that Jesus was merely a prophet of Allah and not the Son of God.

Under **no circumstances** can Jesus be both the Son of God and not the Son of God, nor can he be a true and false prophet

Atheism vs. Theism

Atheism and theism both make a single contradictory claim. Atheism claims there is no God; theism claims that there is a God. One position has to be right and one has to be wrong. There is no third option. God exists or He does not.

"A student made this claim, that all religions are basically the same, at University of California, Irvine, when I lectured on campus. I remember turning around to the board behind me and drawing two small circles, and then asking the young lady, who had made this comment, if the circles, in her mind, were basically the same. They were about tablet size. And she looked at the circles. She said, 'Yeah, those are basically the same.' And then labeled one 'aspirin,' and I labeled the other 'arsenic.' Then I asked her the same question: 'Now do you think they're both basically the same?' And she said, 'No.' I said, 'The point is, it's the differences that matter. Saying that all religions are basically the same is like saying that aspirin and arsenic are basically the same because they both can come in tablet form. It's the differences that matter.'"

-Greg Koukl

Christian Apologist & Founder of "Stand to Reason"

“This particularistic doctrine of salvation through Christ alone was just as scandalous in the polytheistic world of the Roman Empire as in contemporary Western culture. Early Christians were often subjected to severe persecution, torture, and death because they refused to embrace a pluralistic approach to religions.”

-William Lane Craig

"On Guard: Defending Your Faith with Reason and Precision"

Why Should I Believe?

1. What if I Already Believe?
2. Holes in Darwin's Theory of Evolution
3. What About Dinosaurs?
4. Arguments for the Existence of God
5. Can We Really Trust the Bible?
6. Who Did Jesus Claim He Was?
7. The Resurrection of Jesus
8. Why Should We Go to Church?

*Next
Lesson...*

The Problem of Suffering

Lesson 10