



Relativism about "X" means that "X" or our knowledge of "X" is different for (i.e., relative to) different people.

Another word for 'relative' or 'relativism' one might hear is 'subjective' or 'subjectivism'.

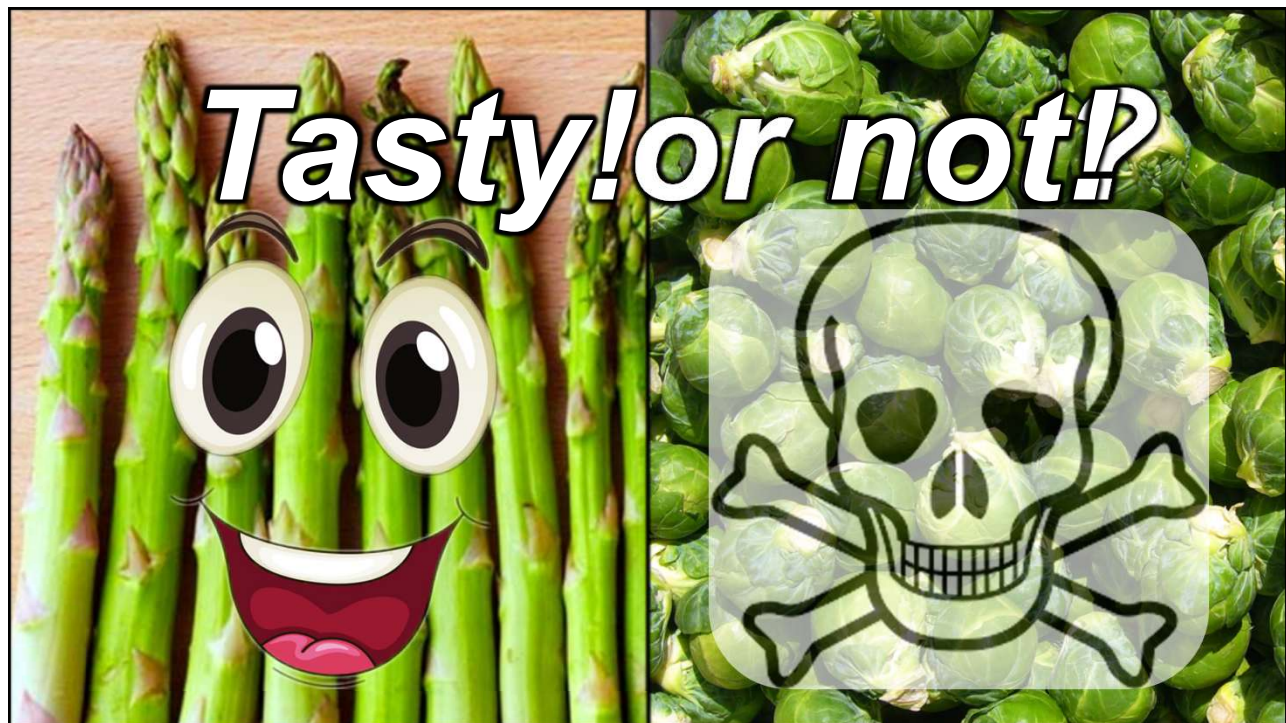
The opposite of subjective is objective.

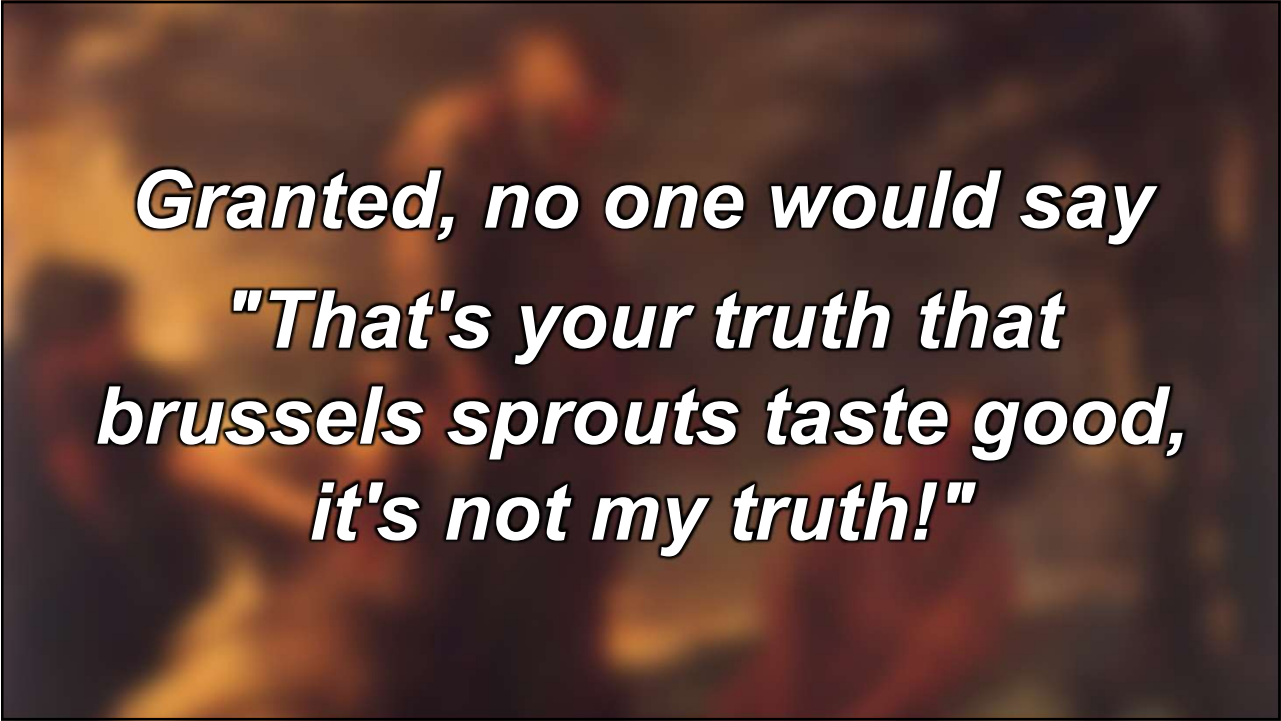
For something to be objective means that it is the same for everyone.

***Not all subjectivism is bad.
Some subjectivism is
completely normal.***

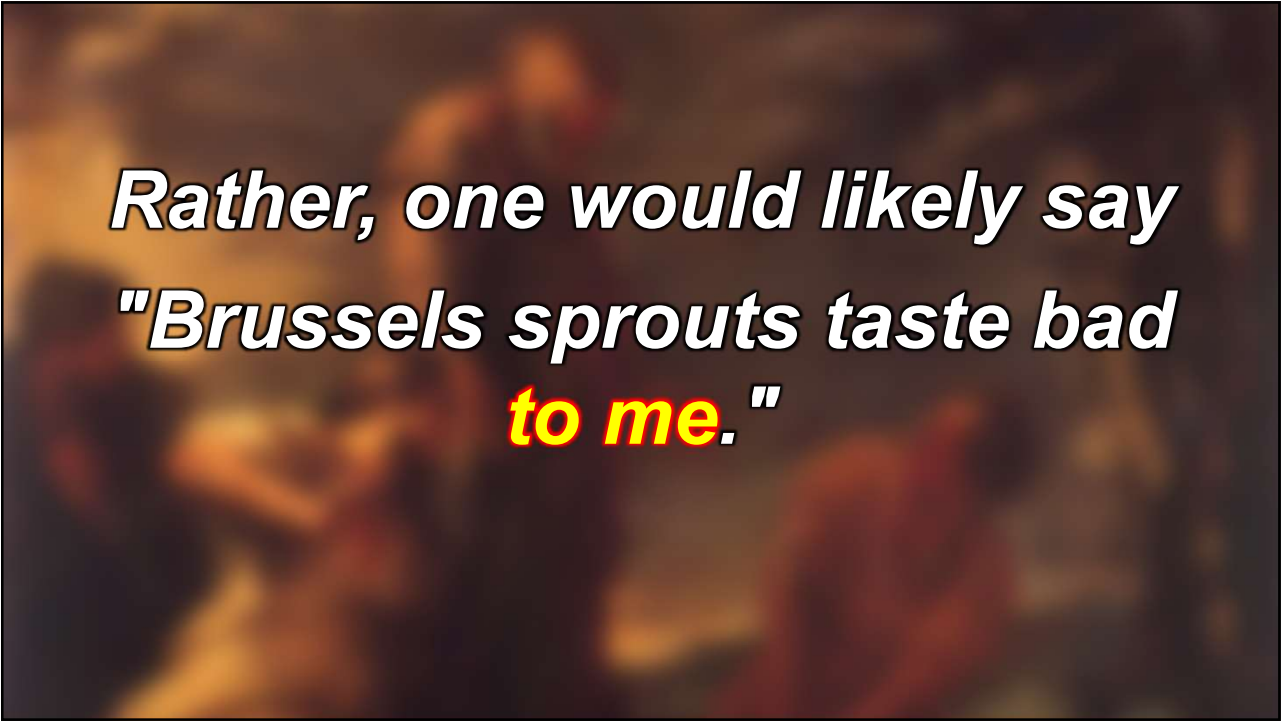
Deep or shallow?



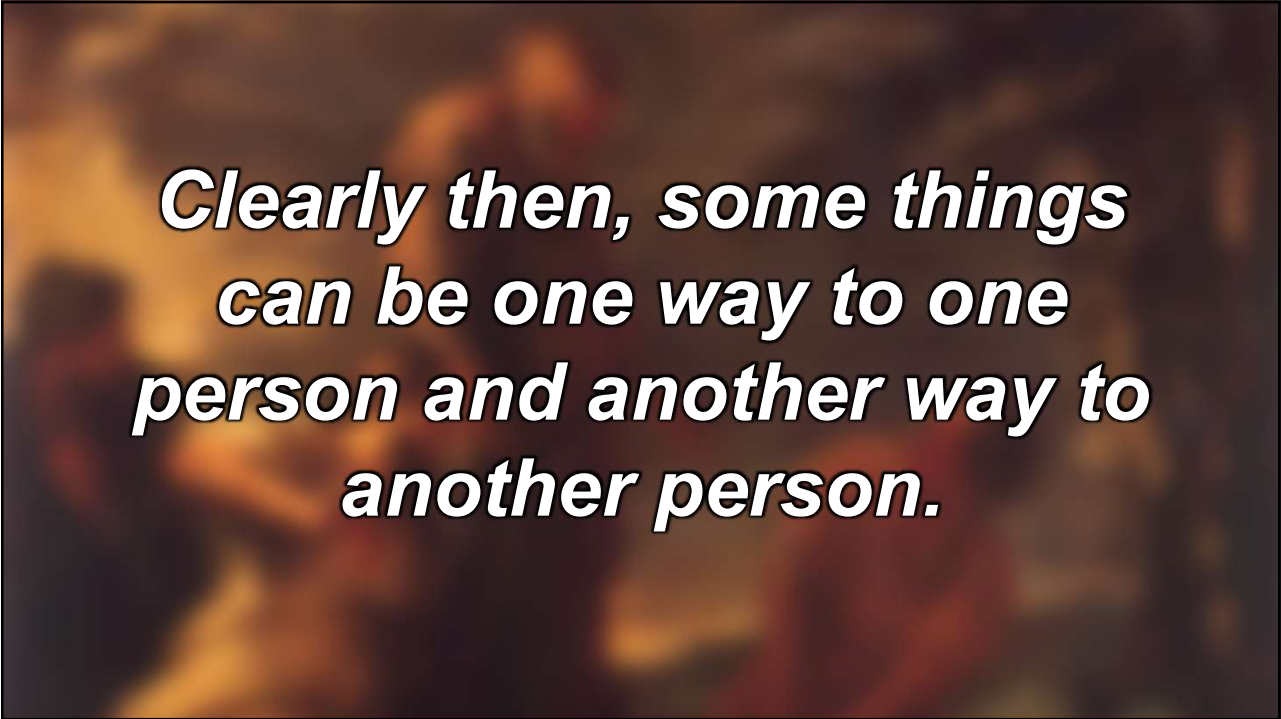




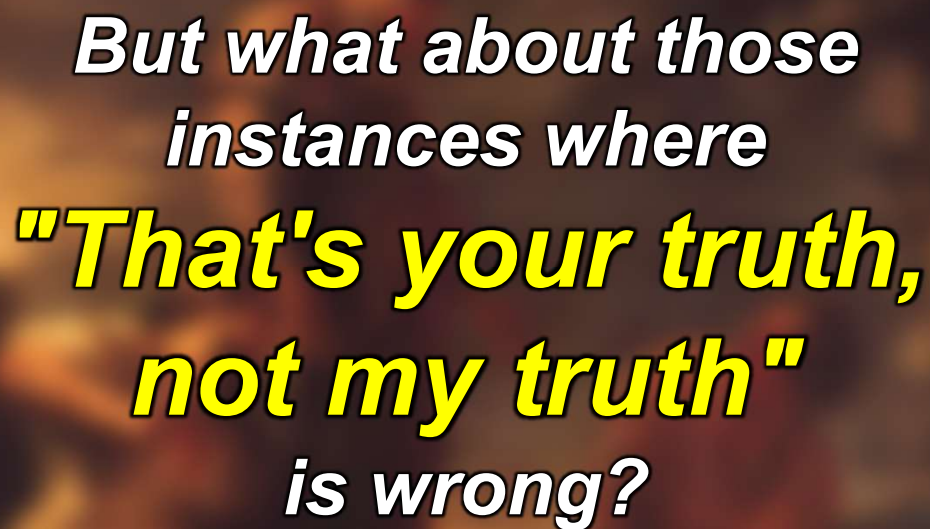
*Granted, no one would say
"That's your truth that
brussels sprouts taste good,
it's not my truth!"*



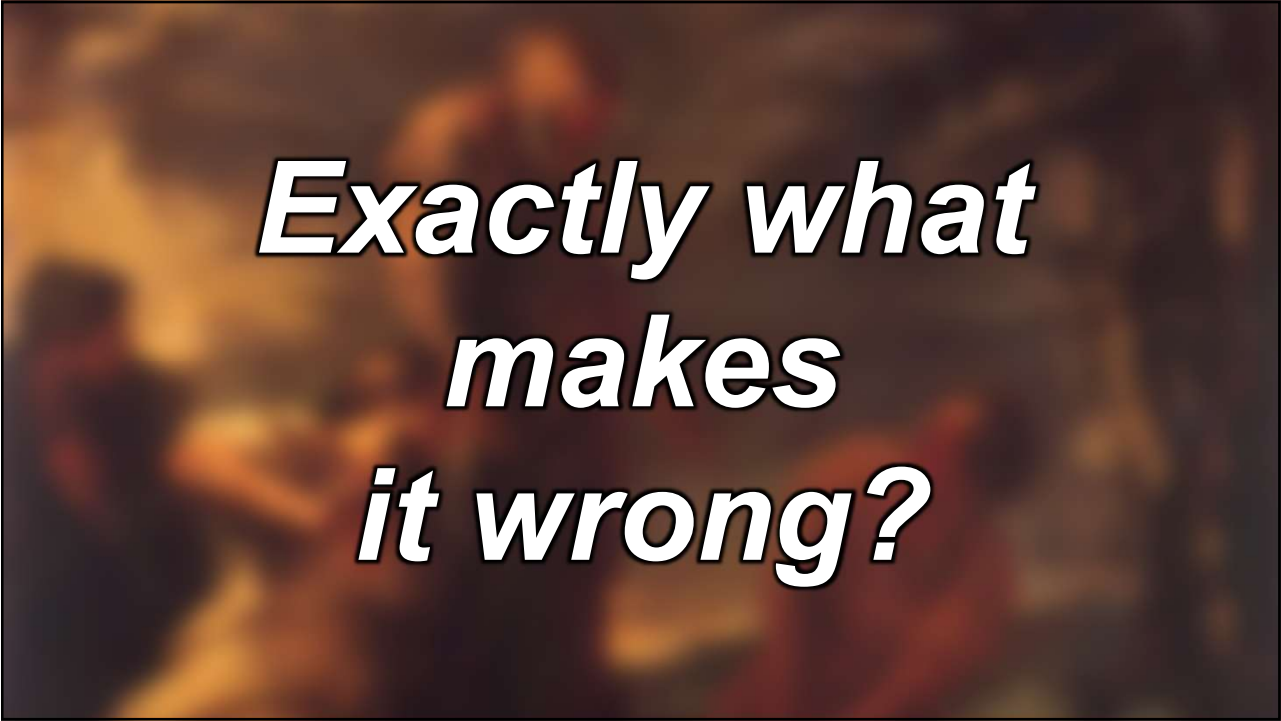
*Rather, one would likely say
"Brussels sprouts taste bad
to me."*



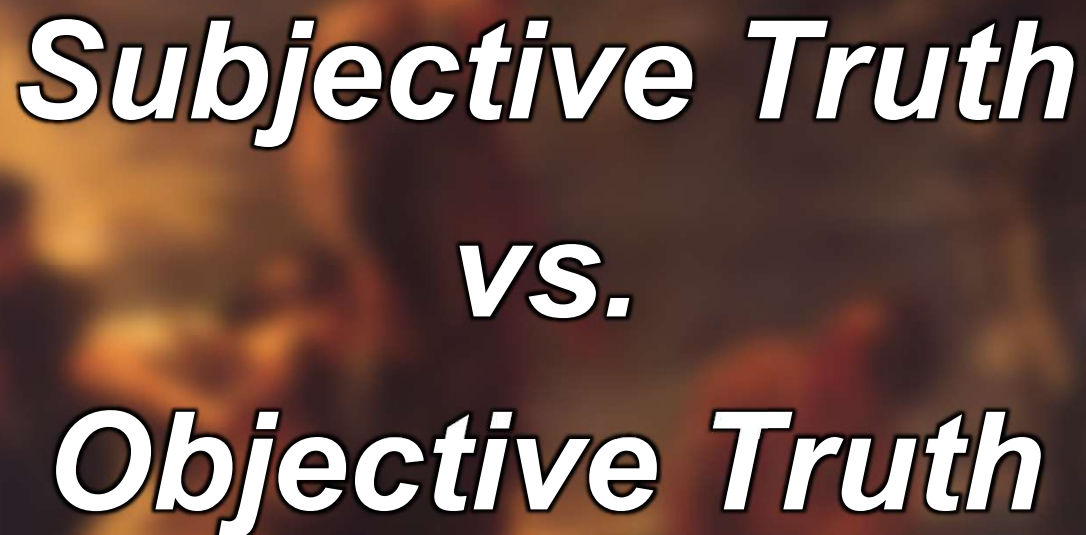
*Clearly then, some things
can be one way to one
person and another way to
another person.*



*But what about those
instances where
**"That's your truth,
not my truth"**
is wrong?*



***Exactly what
makes
it wrong?***



***Subjective Truth
vs.
Objective Truth***

Subjective Truth



*when something can
legitimately be true for
one person and not true
for another*

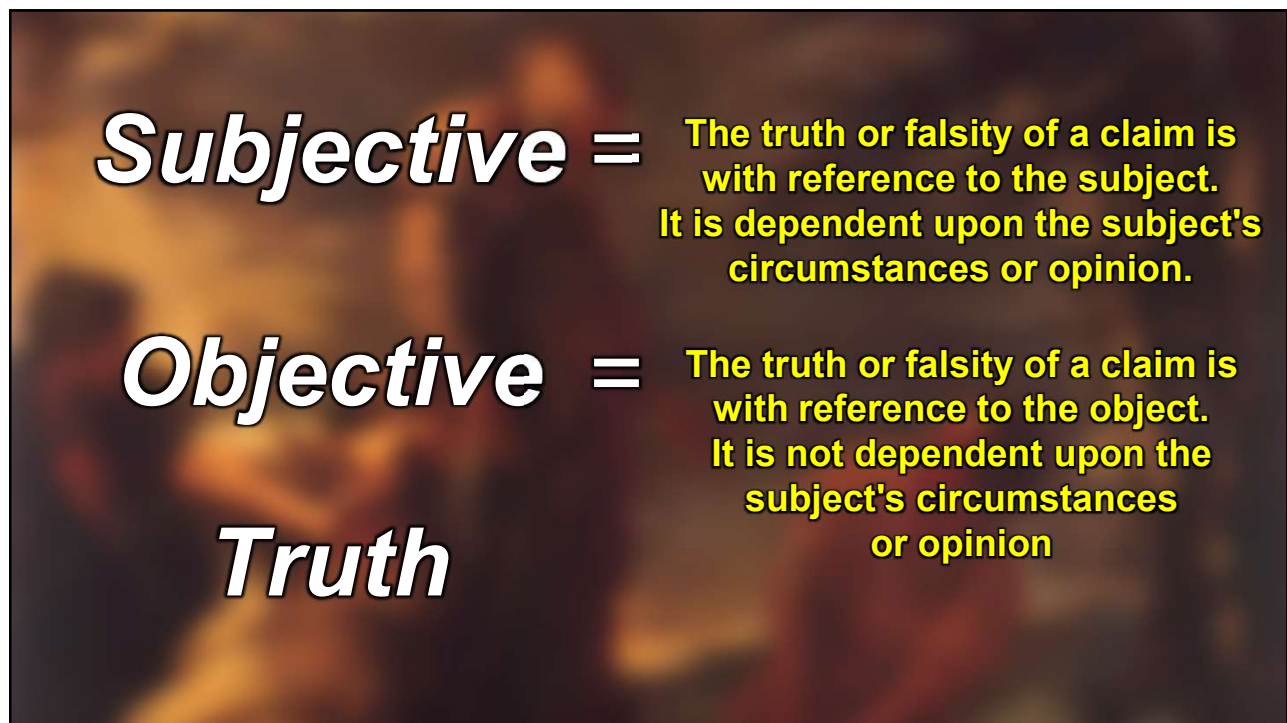
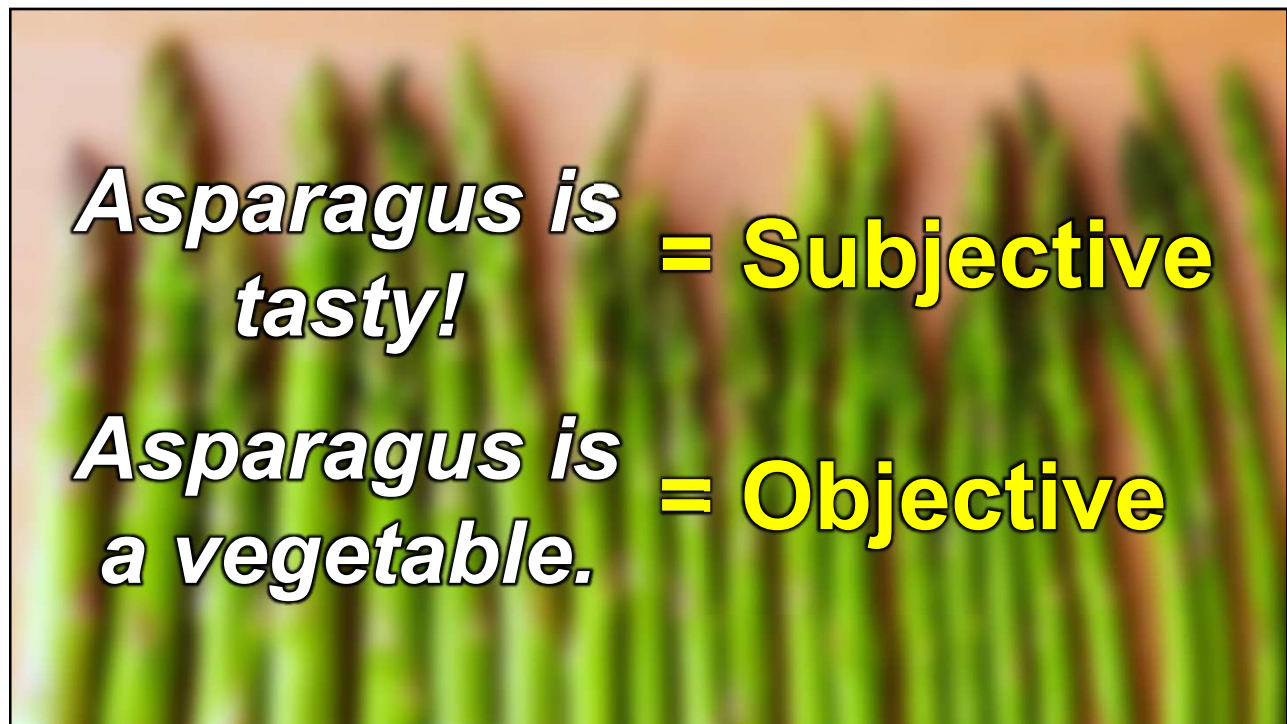
Objective Truth

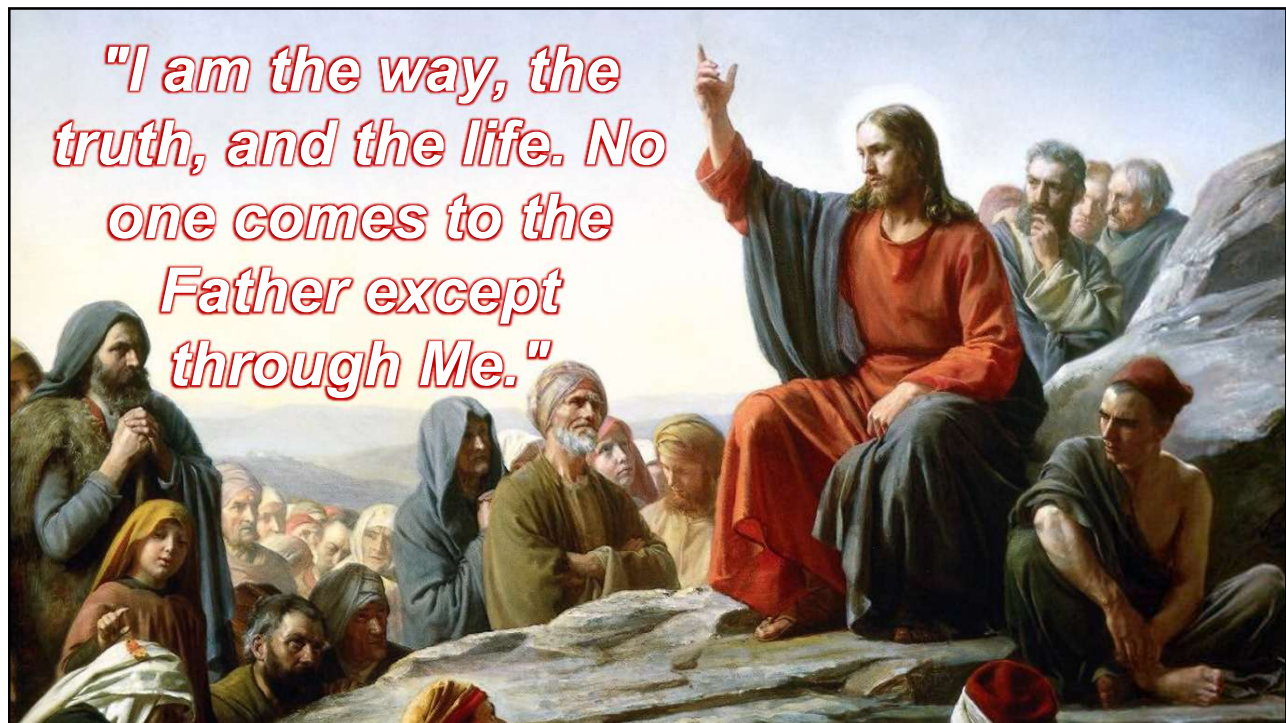
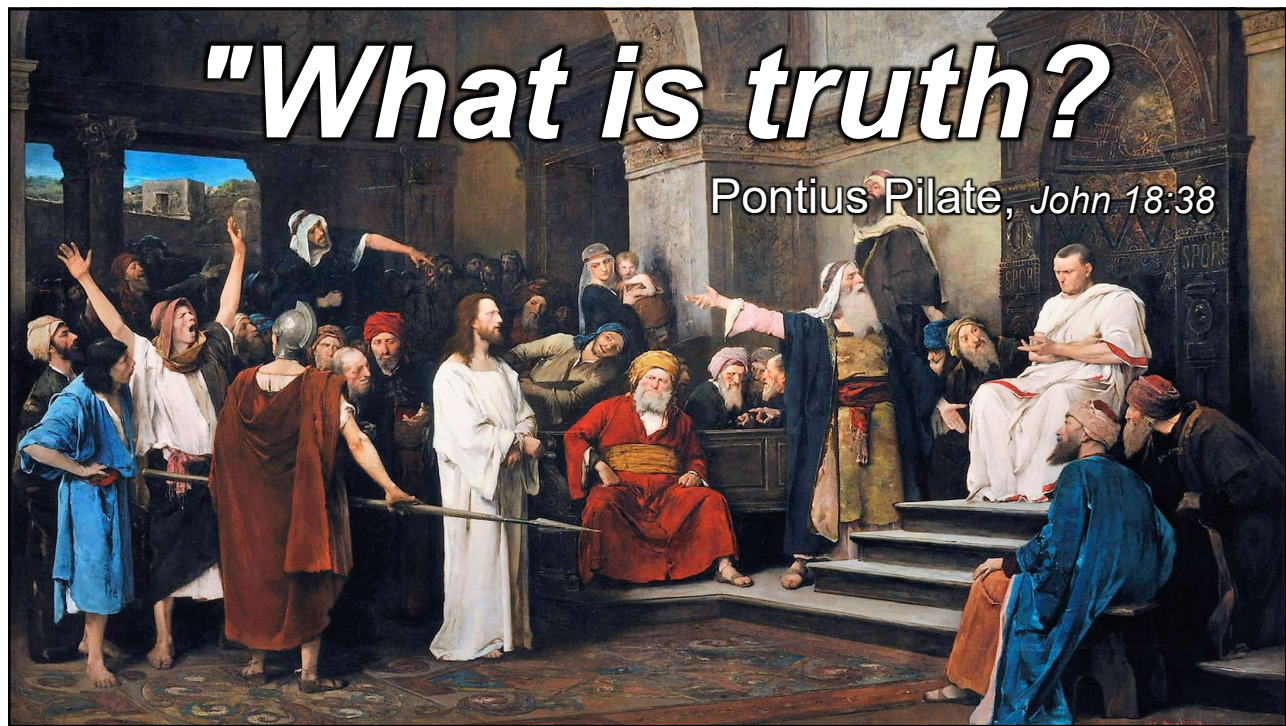


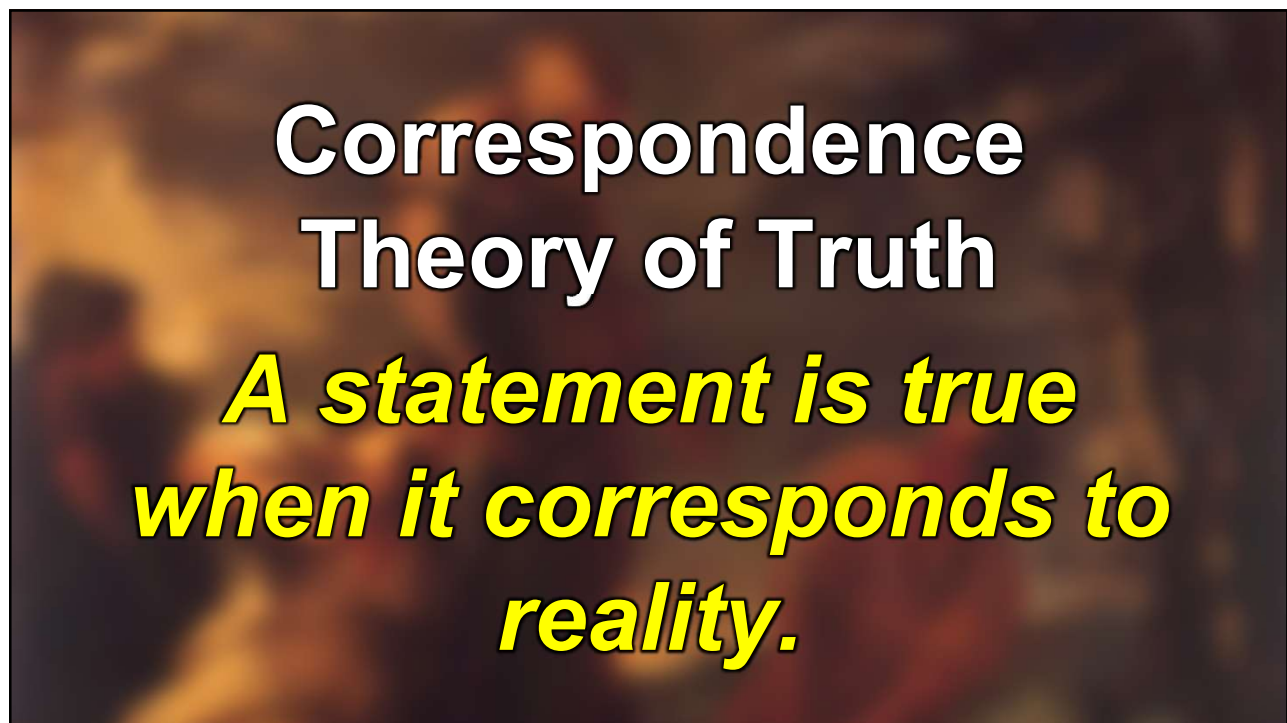
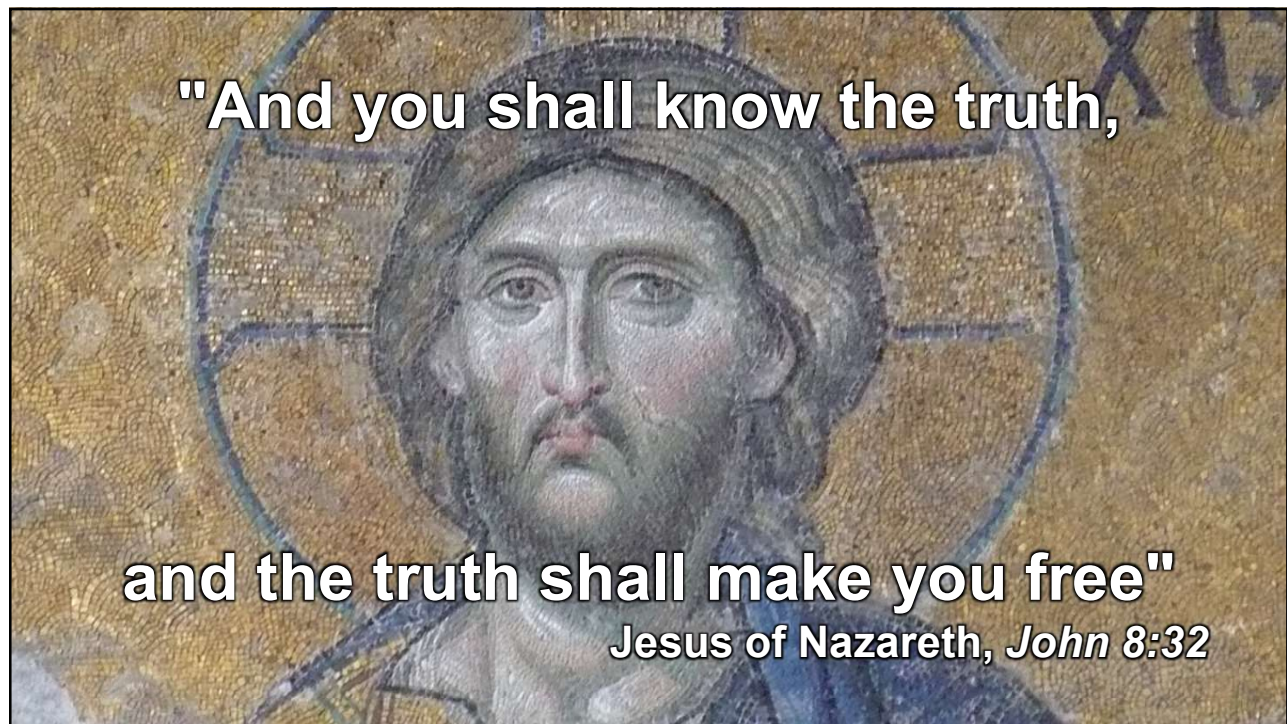
*when something cannot
legitimately be true for
one person and not true
for another*

Subjective = The truth or falsity of a claim is
with reference to the subject.
It is dependent upon the subject's
circumstances or opinion.

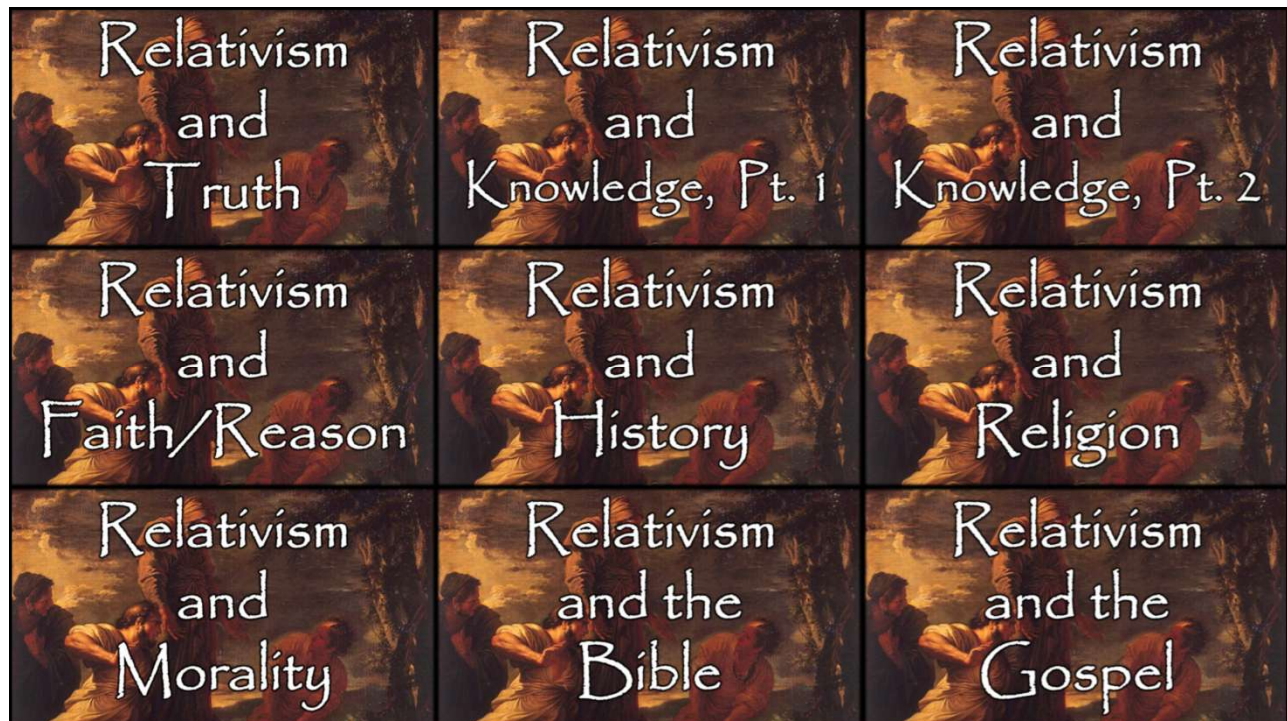
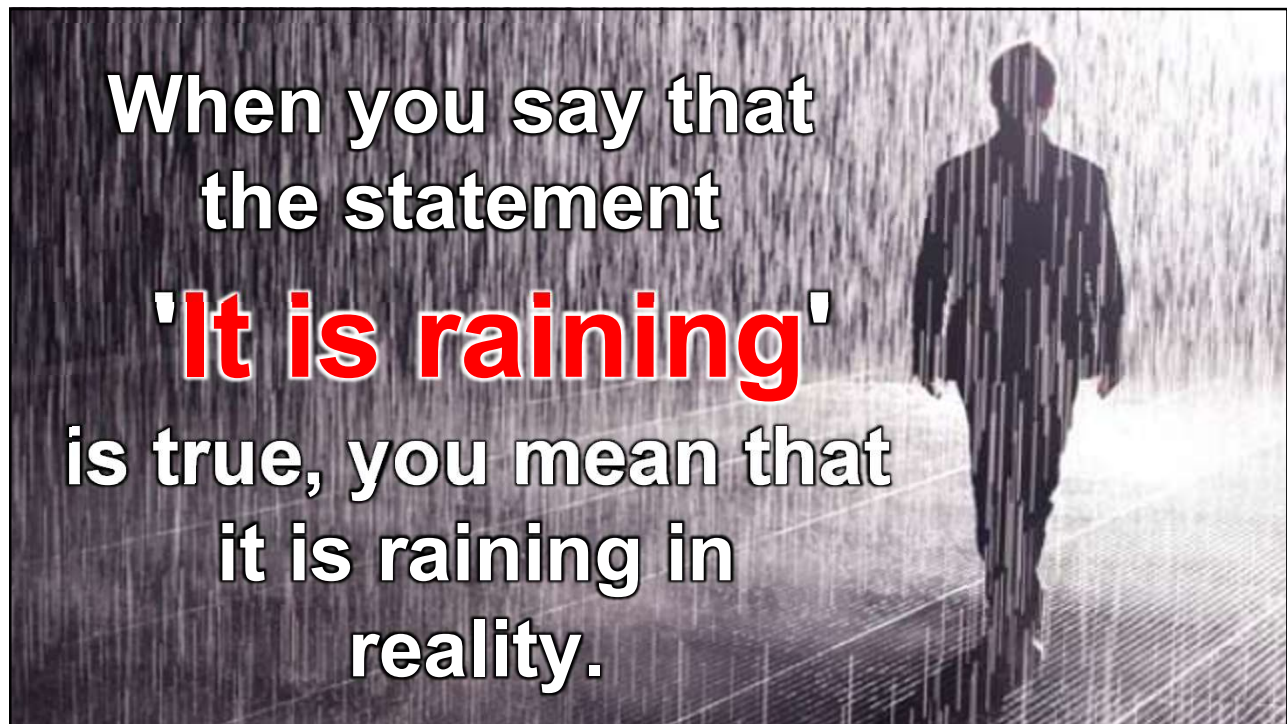
Objective = The truth or falsity of a claim is
with reference to the object.
It is not dependent upon the
subject's circumstances
or opinion
Truth

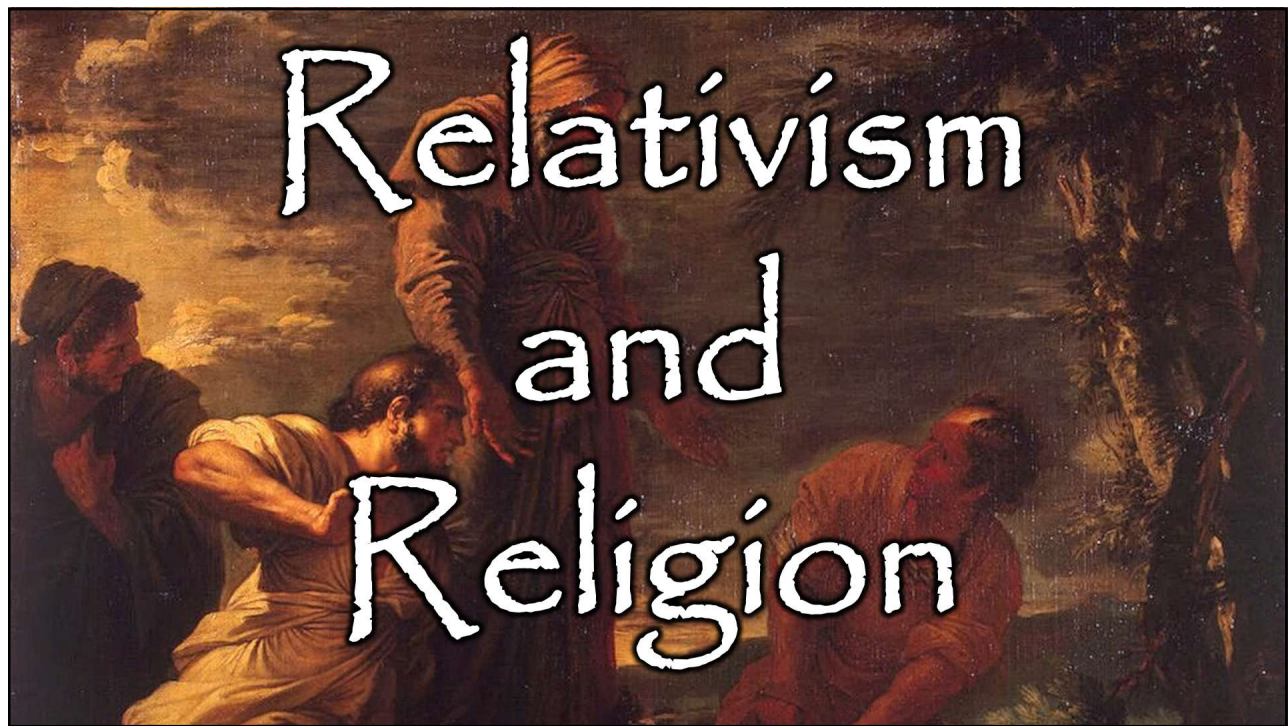




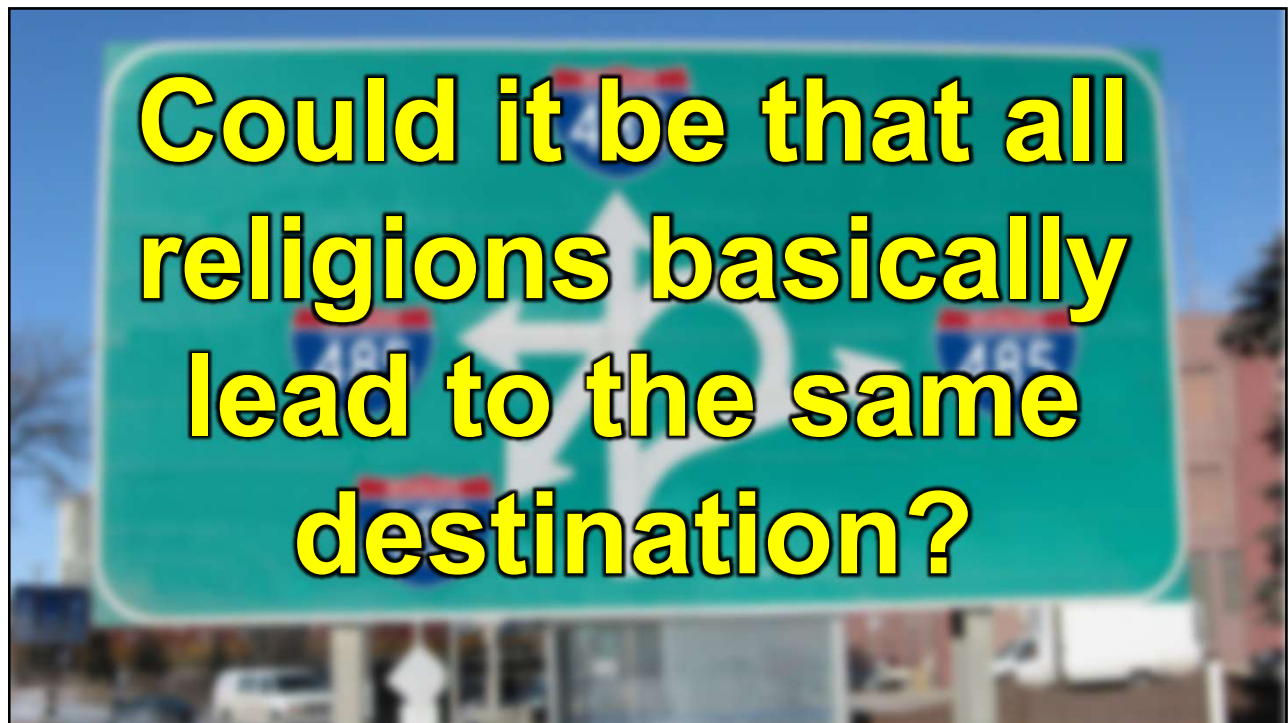
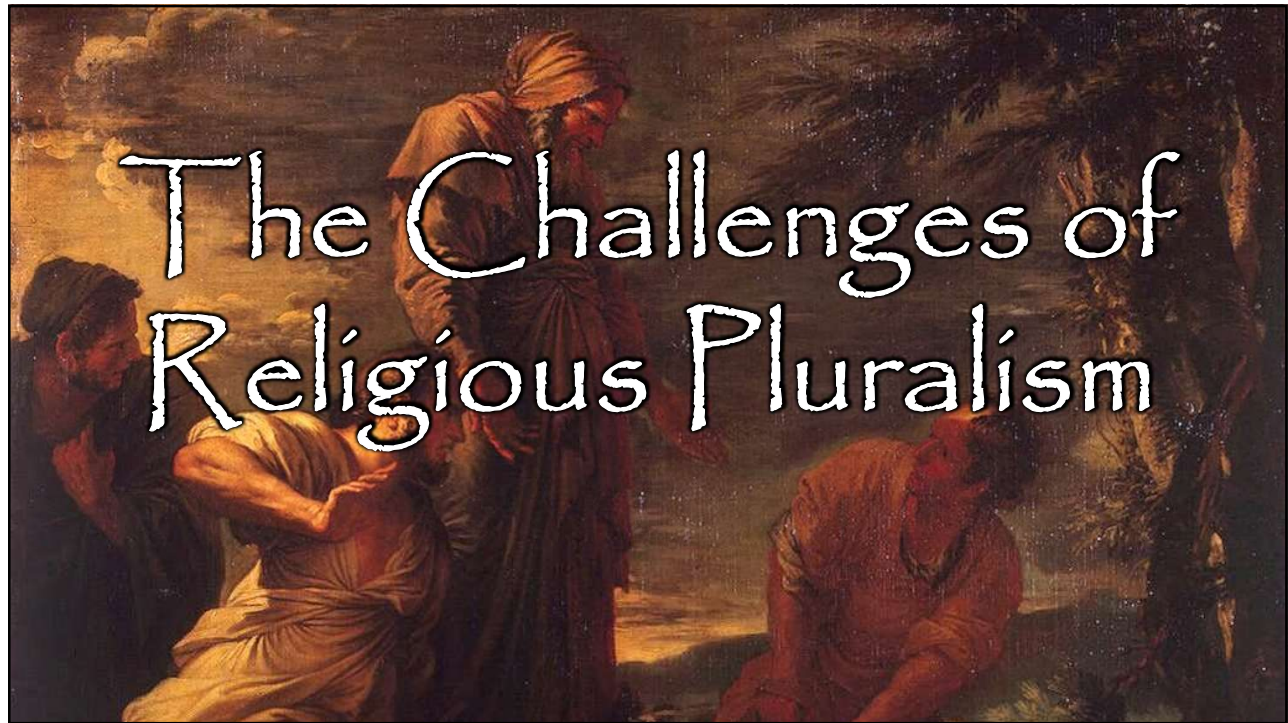






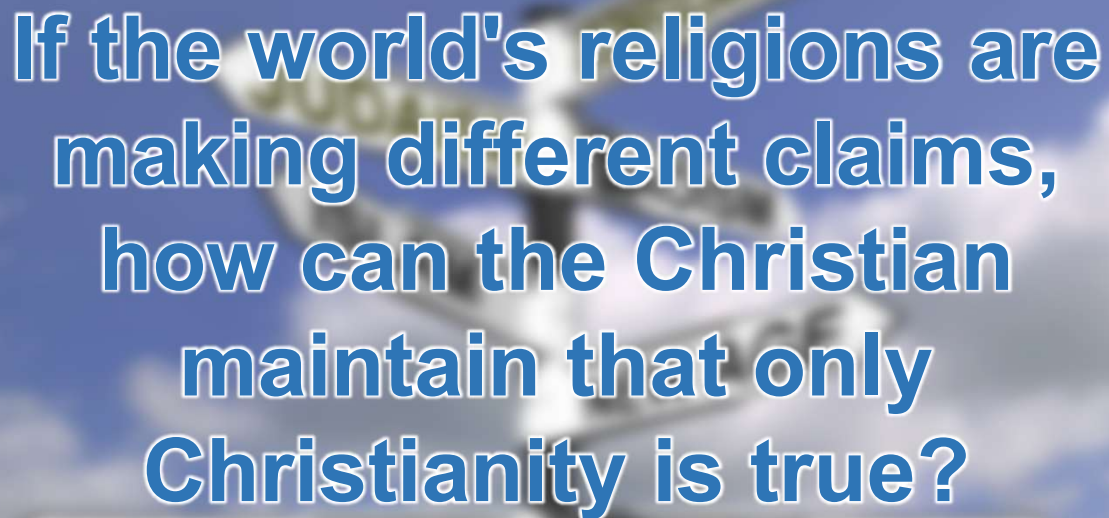


*Relativism regarding religion is more often referred to as **religious pluralism.***

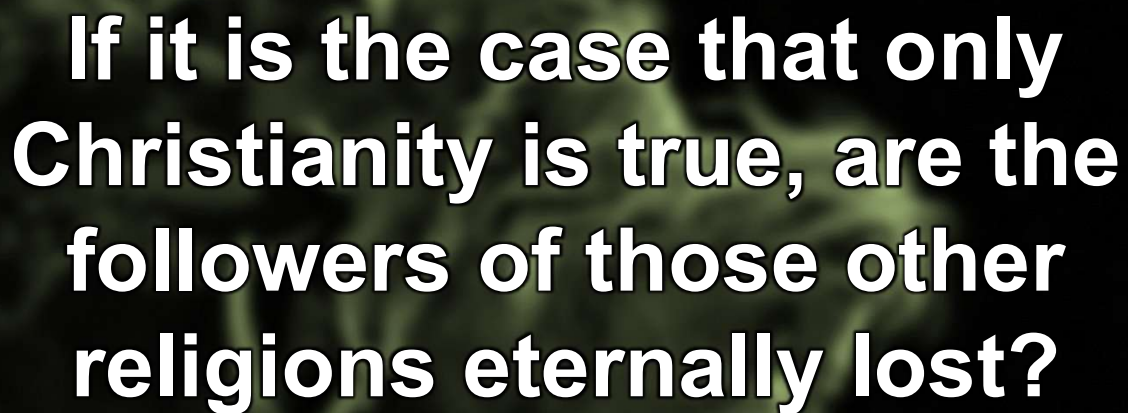


***Are Not All
Religions the
Same at the Core?***

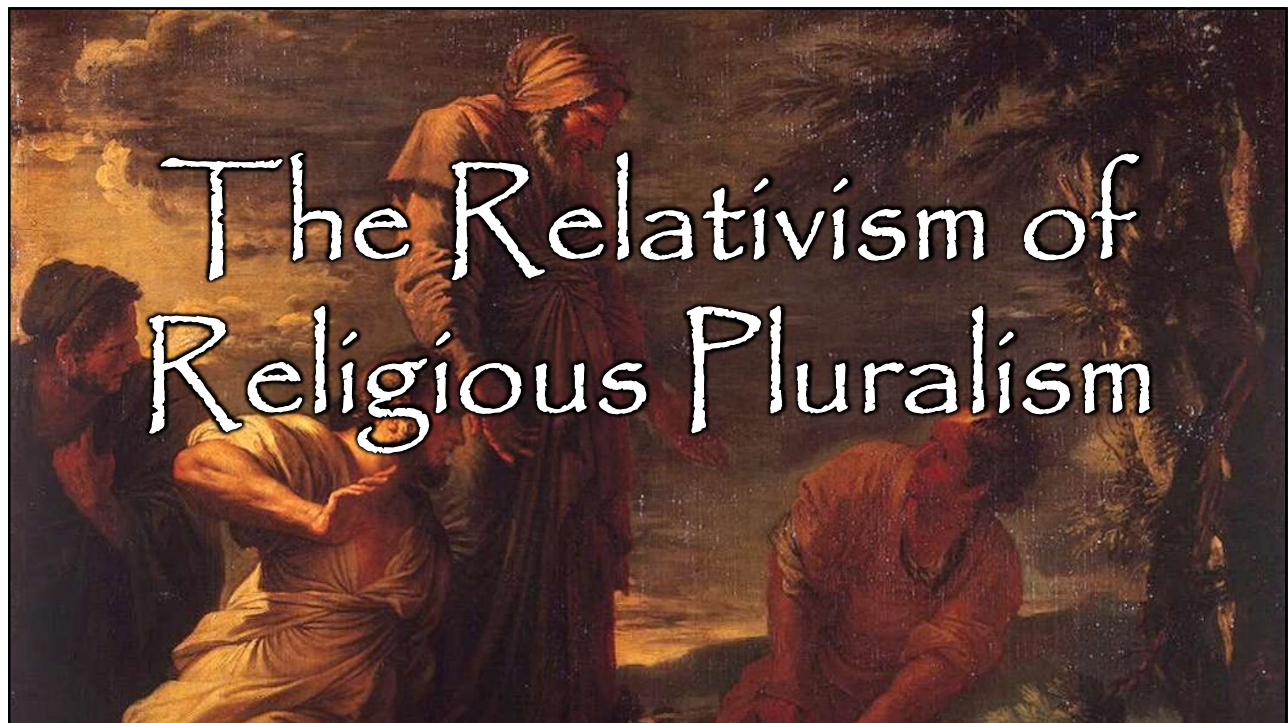
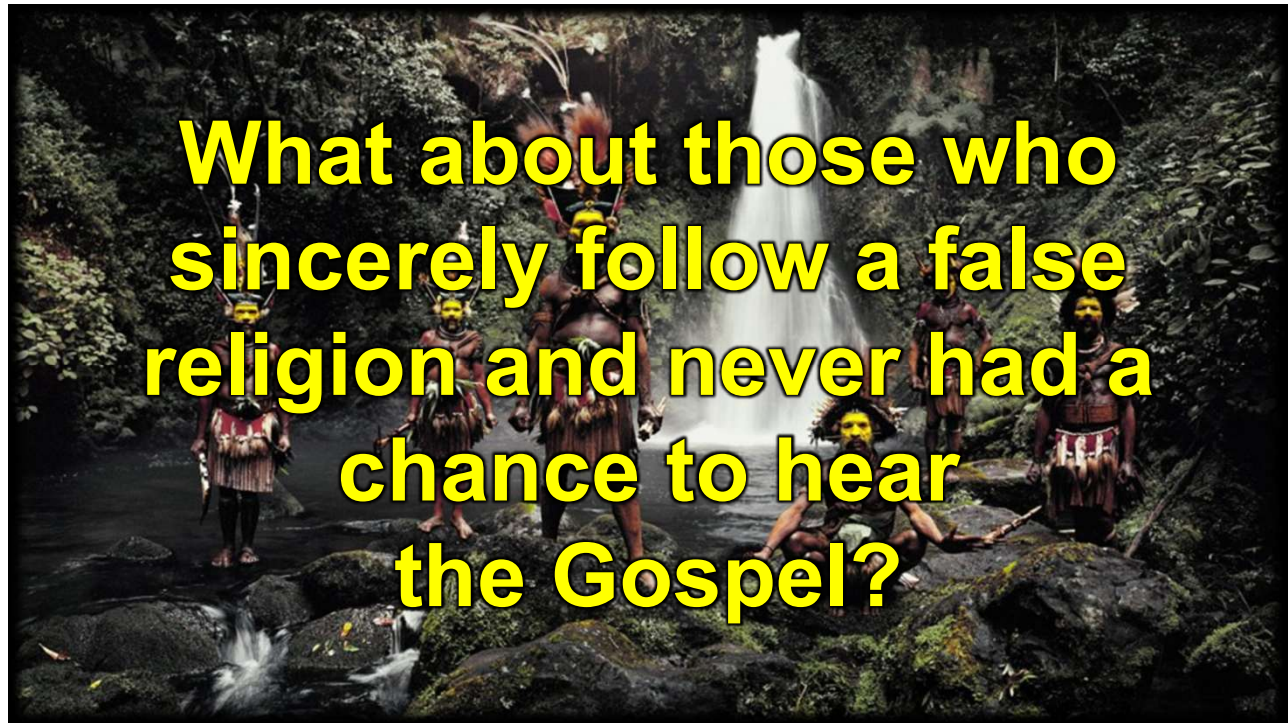
**Or is it the case that other
religions are making
claims that are
incompatible with the
claims of Christianity?**



**If the world's religions are
making different claims,
how can the Christian
maintain that only
Christianity is true?**



**If it is the case that only
Christianity is true, are the
followers of those other
religions eternally lost?**



Choosing My Religion

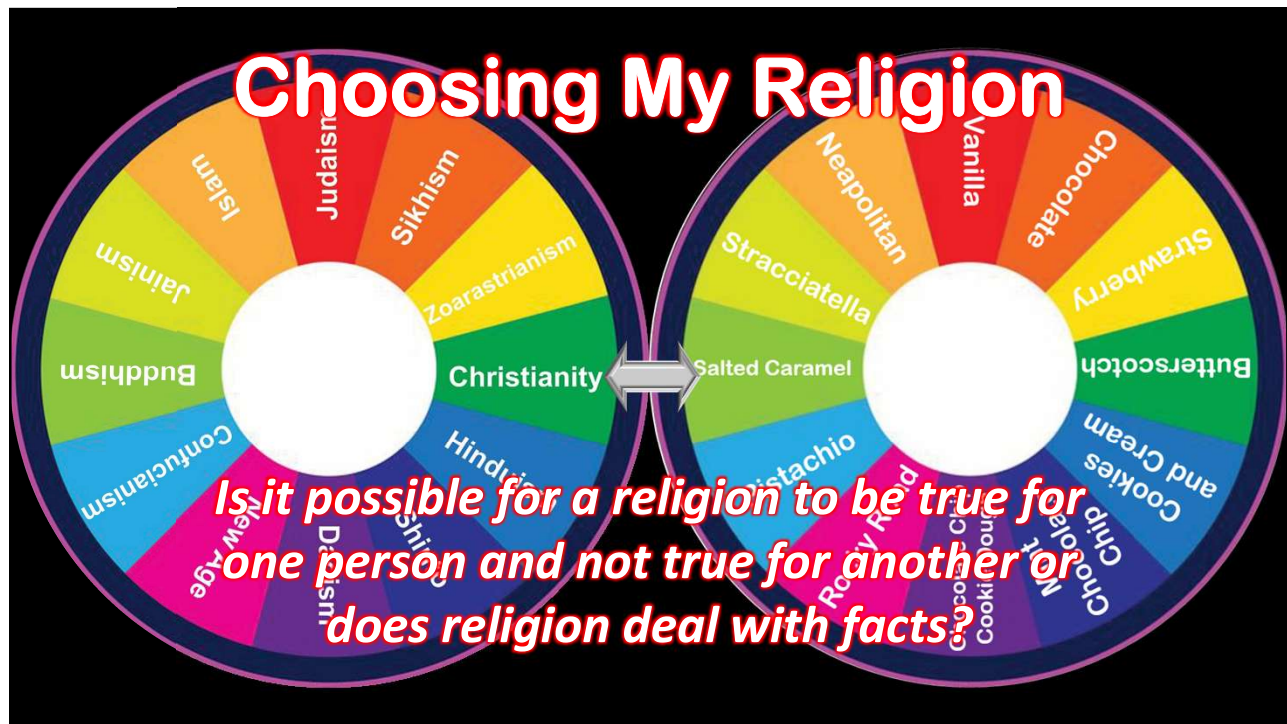
When choosing a religion, is it more of an issue of the truth of that religion...



Choosing My Religion

Or is it more like choosing a desired flavor of ice cream?

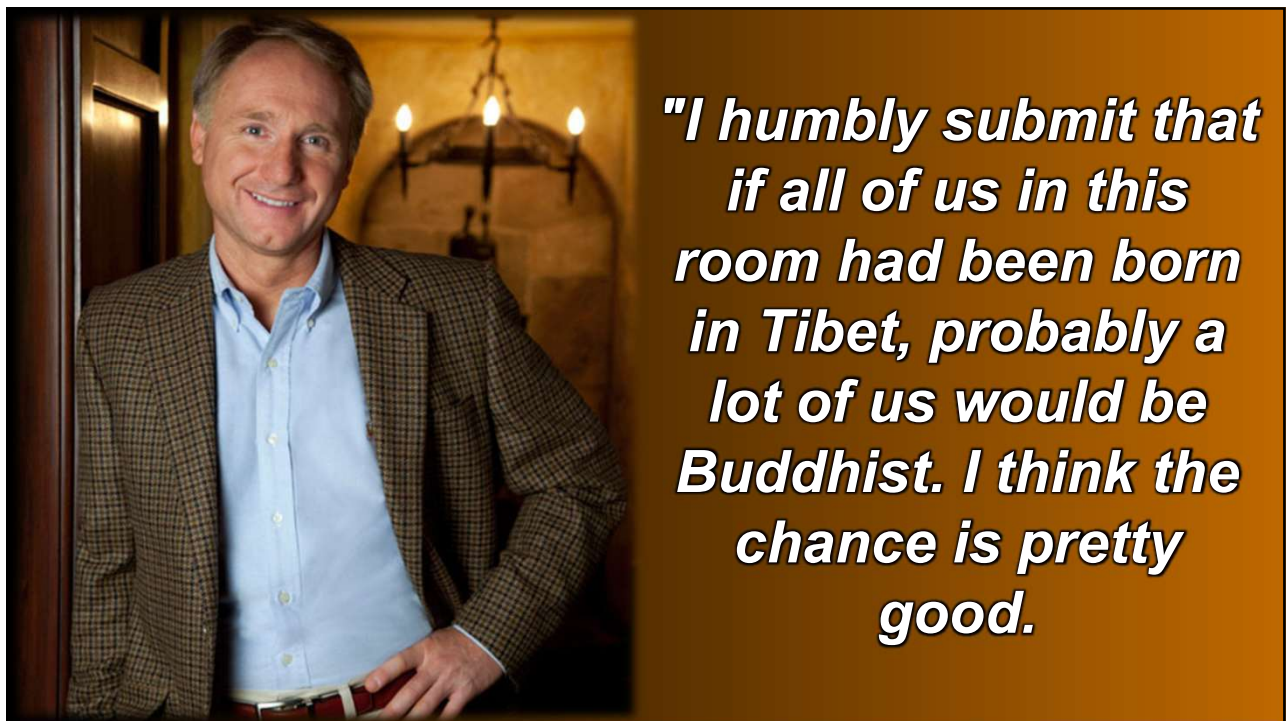
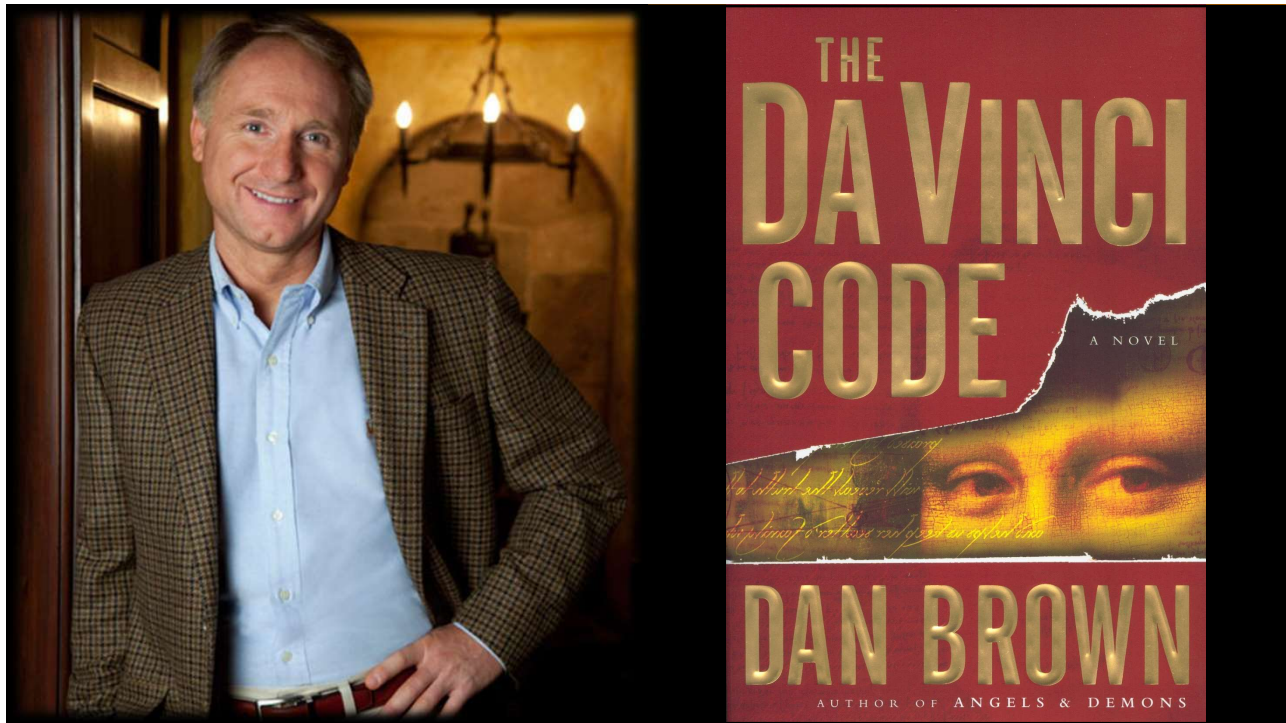


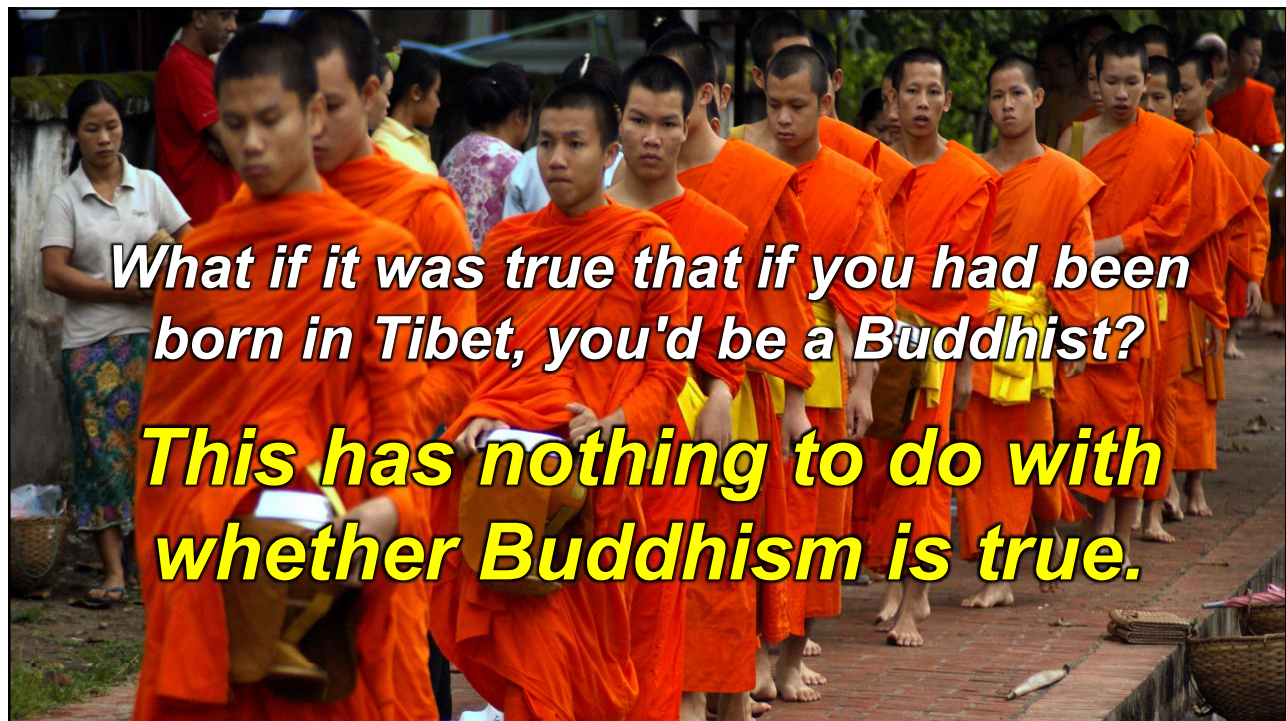
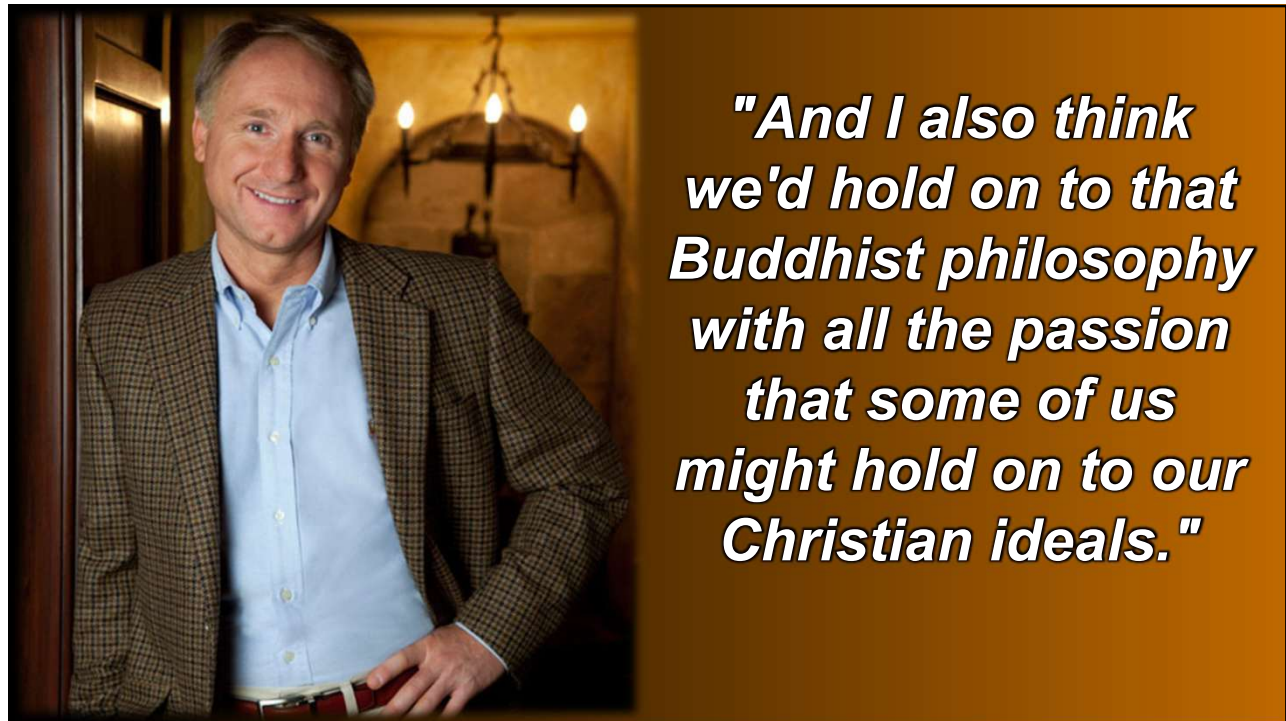


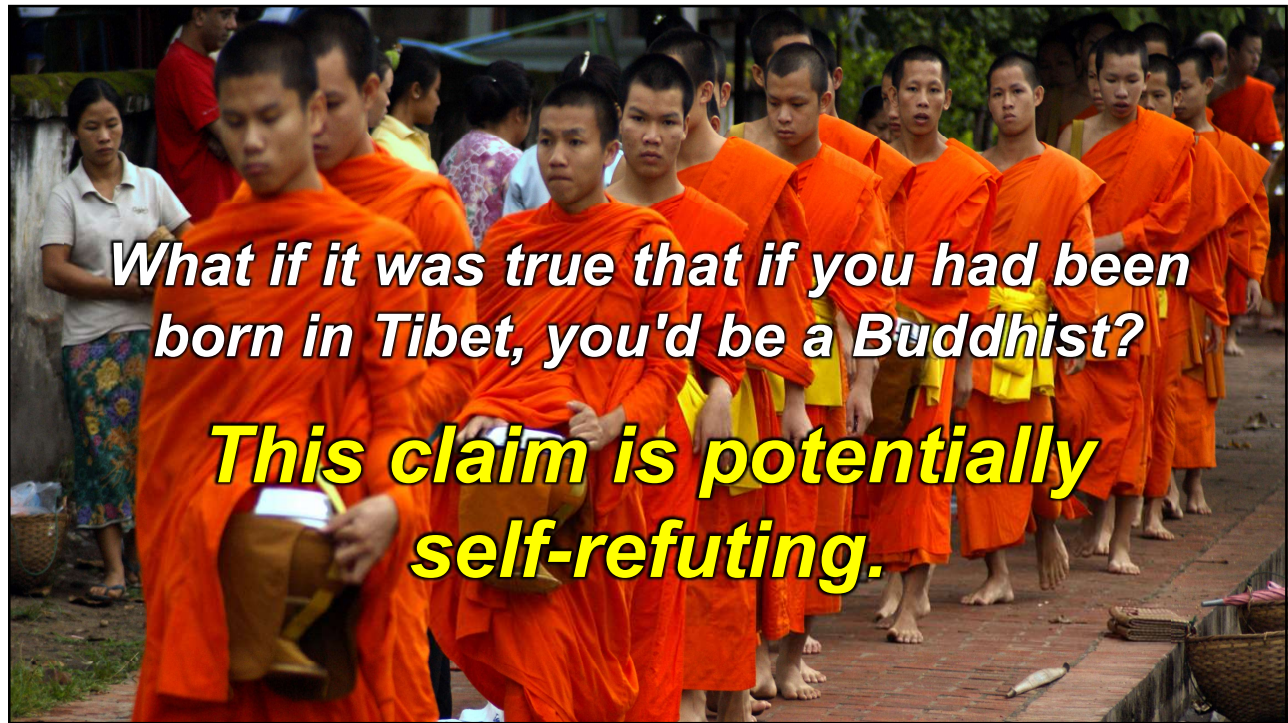


What about Christianity?

- ❖ It **proclaims** specific truths,
and, thus, obligates certain **beliefs**.
- ❖ It **proscribes** a way of life,
and, thus, obligates certain **behaviors**.

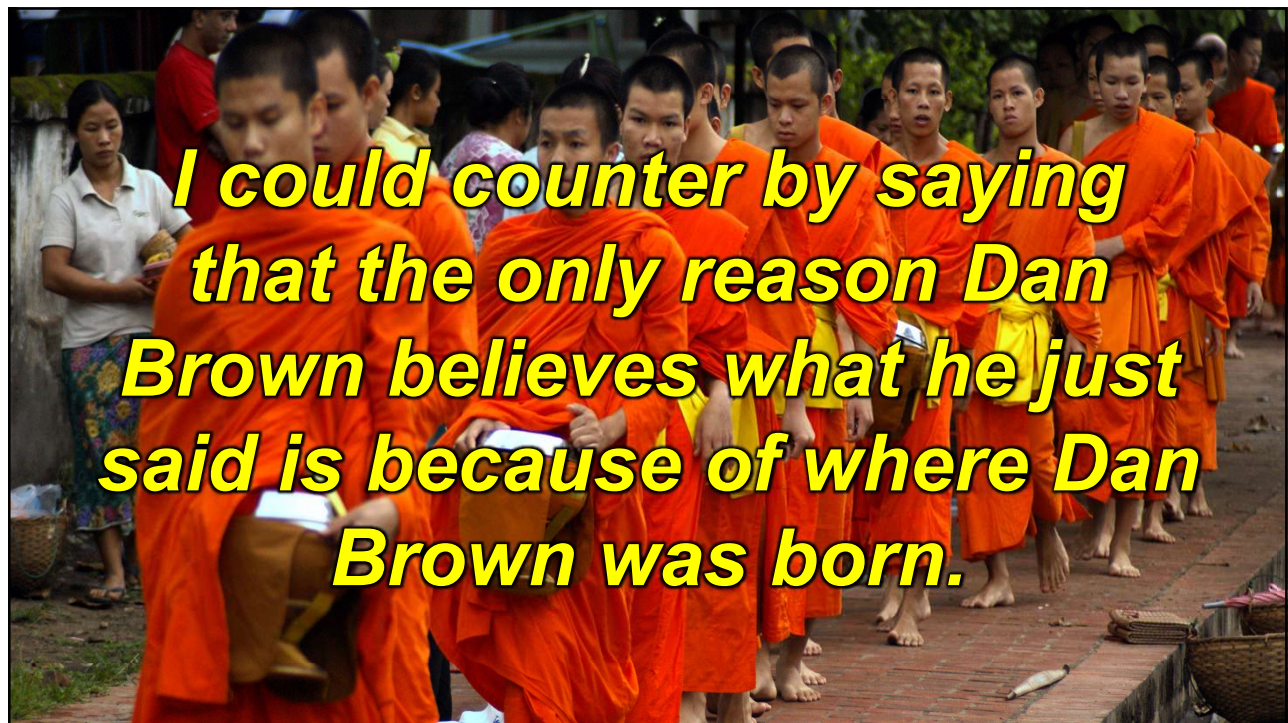






What if it was true that if you had been born in Tibet, you'd be a Buddhist?

This claim is potentially self-refuting.



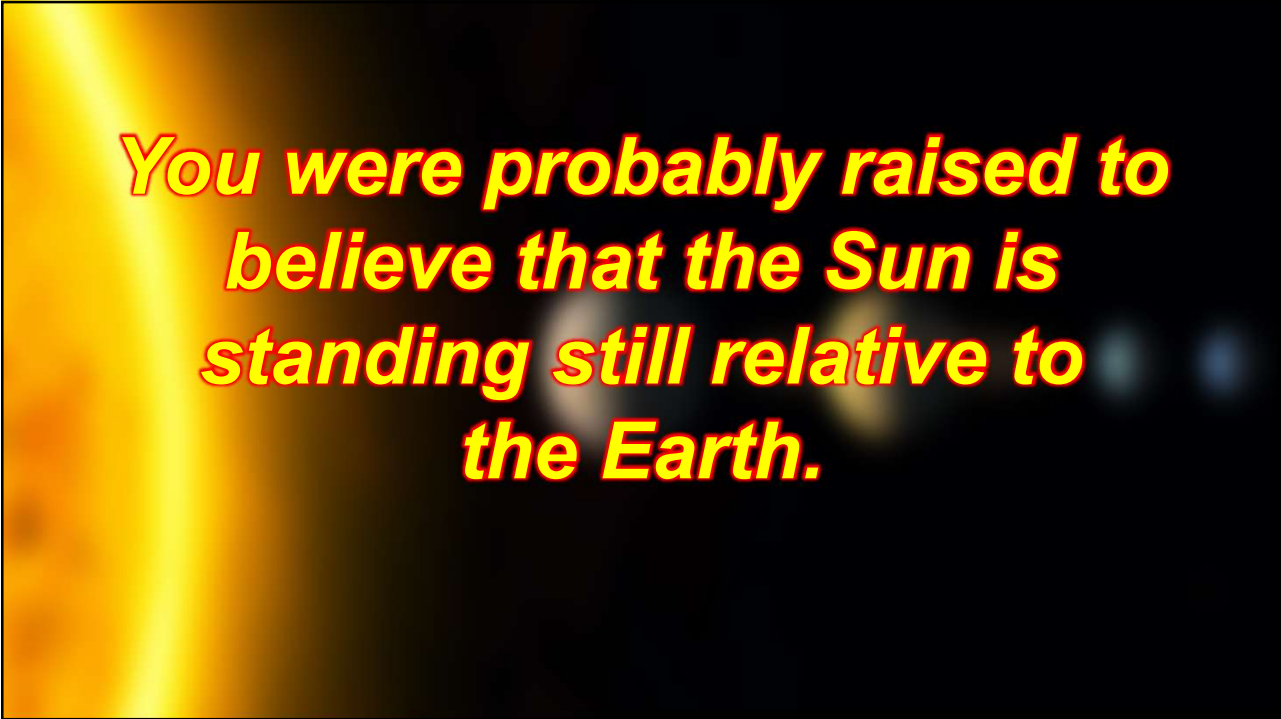
I could counter by saying that the only reason Dan Brown believes what he just said is because of where Dan Brown was born.



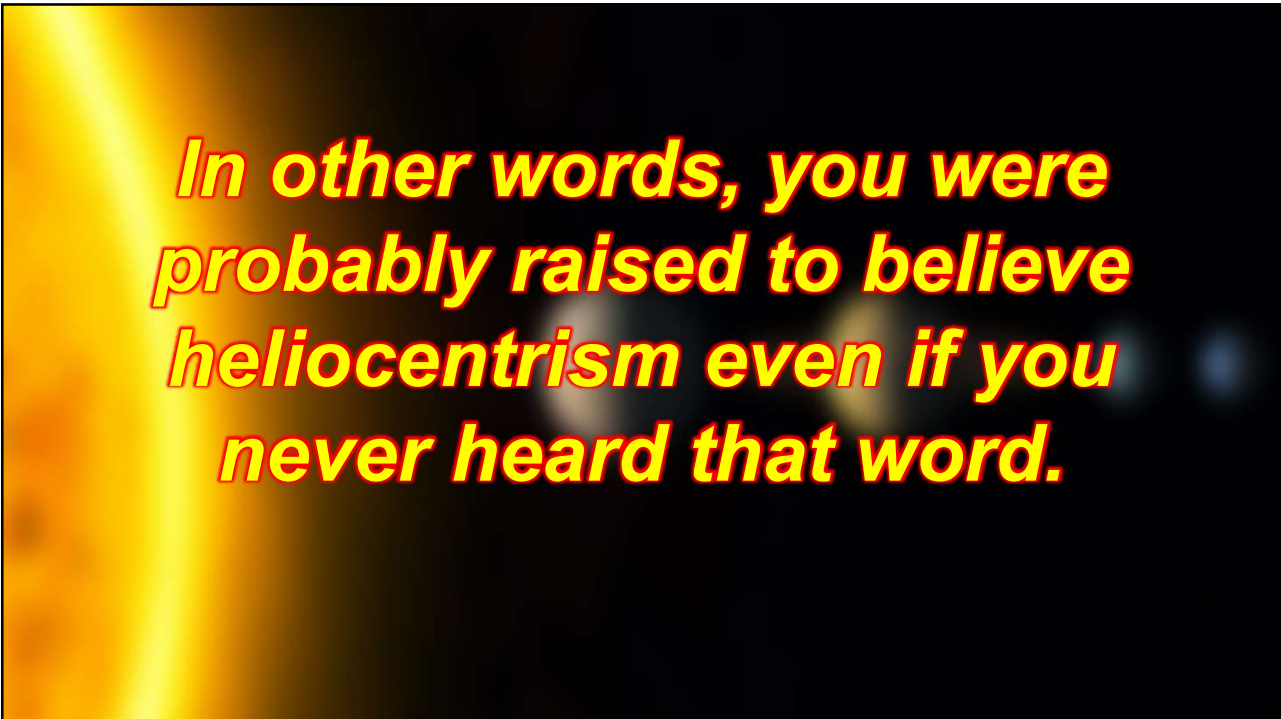
∞ Genetic Fallacy ∞

the fallacy of suggesting that the origin of a belief is relevant to the issue of whether the belief is true or false

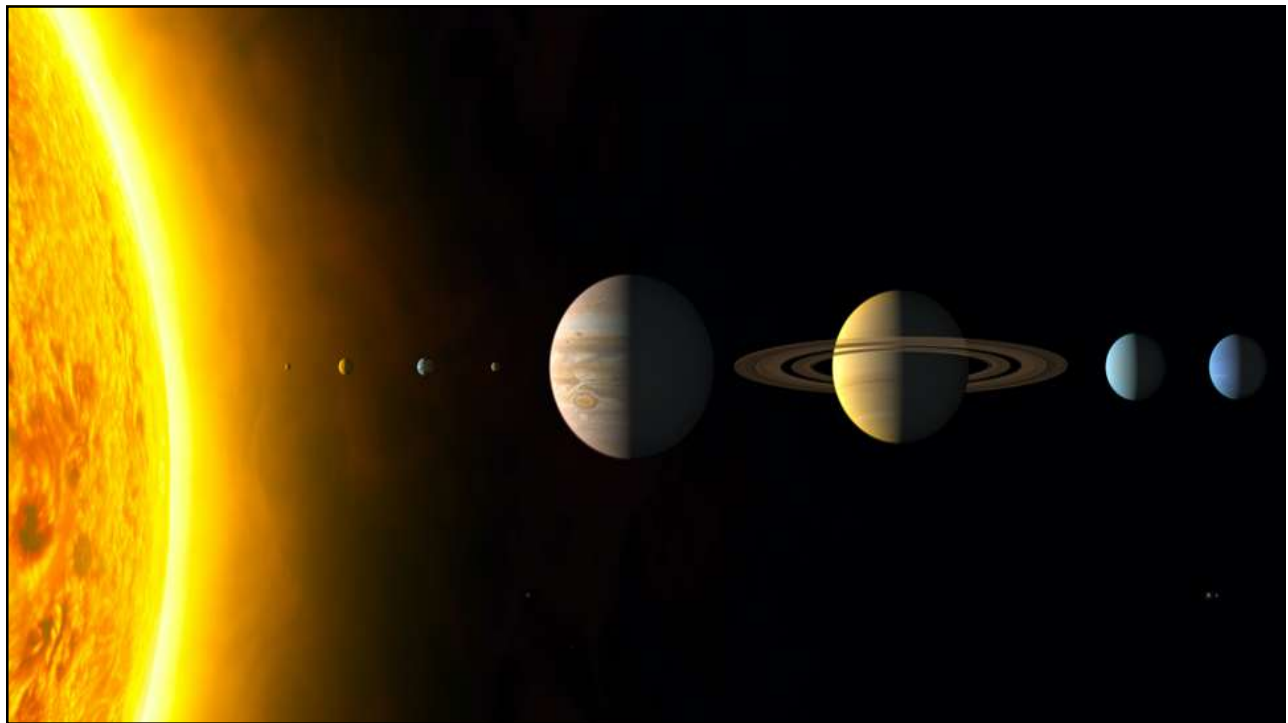
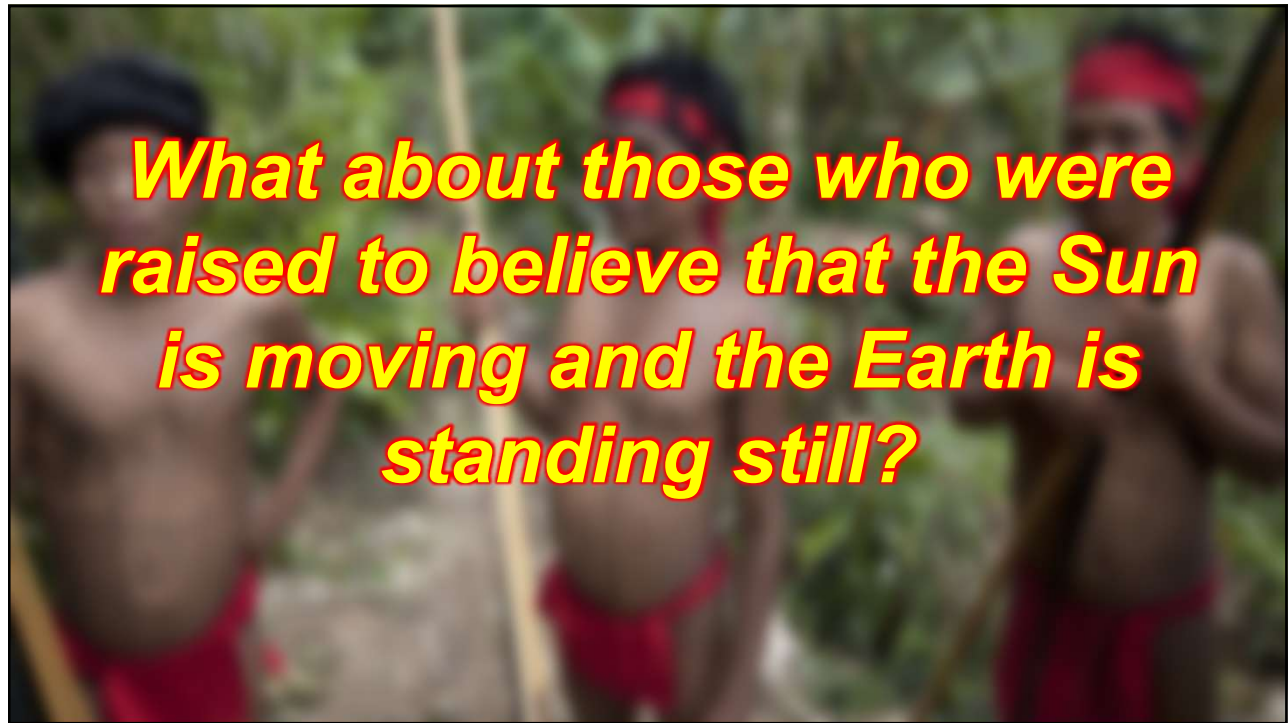
Geocentrism
VS.
Heliocentrism

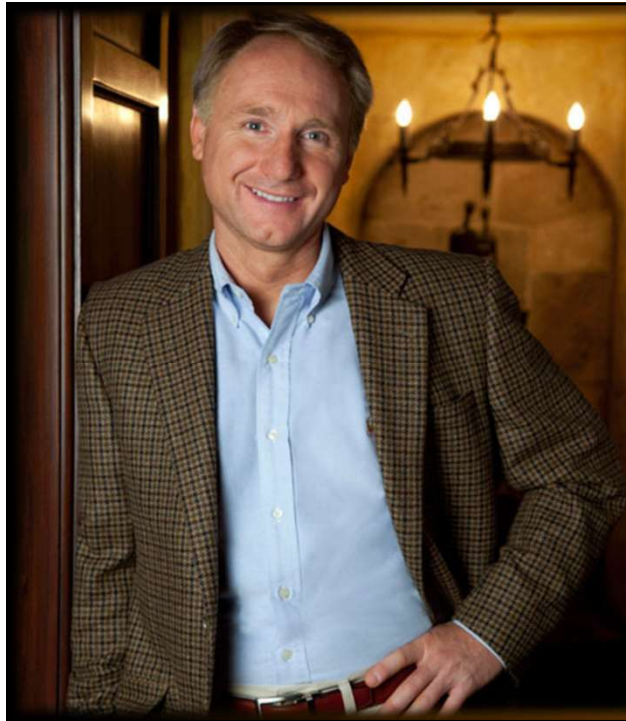


***You were probably raised to
believe that the Sun is
standing still relative to
the Earth.***

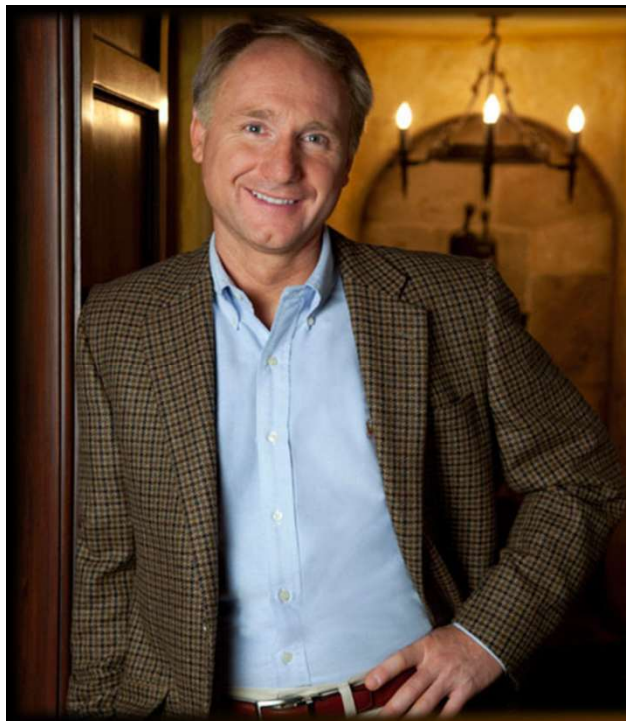


***In other words, you were
probably raised to believe
heliocentrism even if you
never heard that word.***

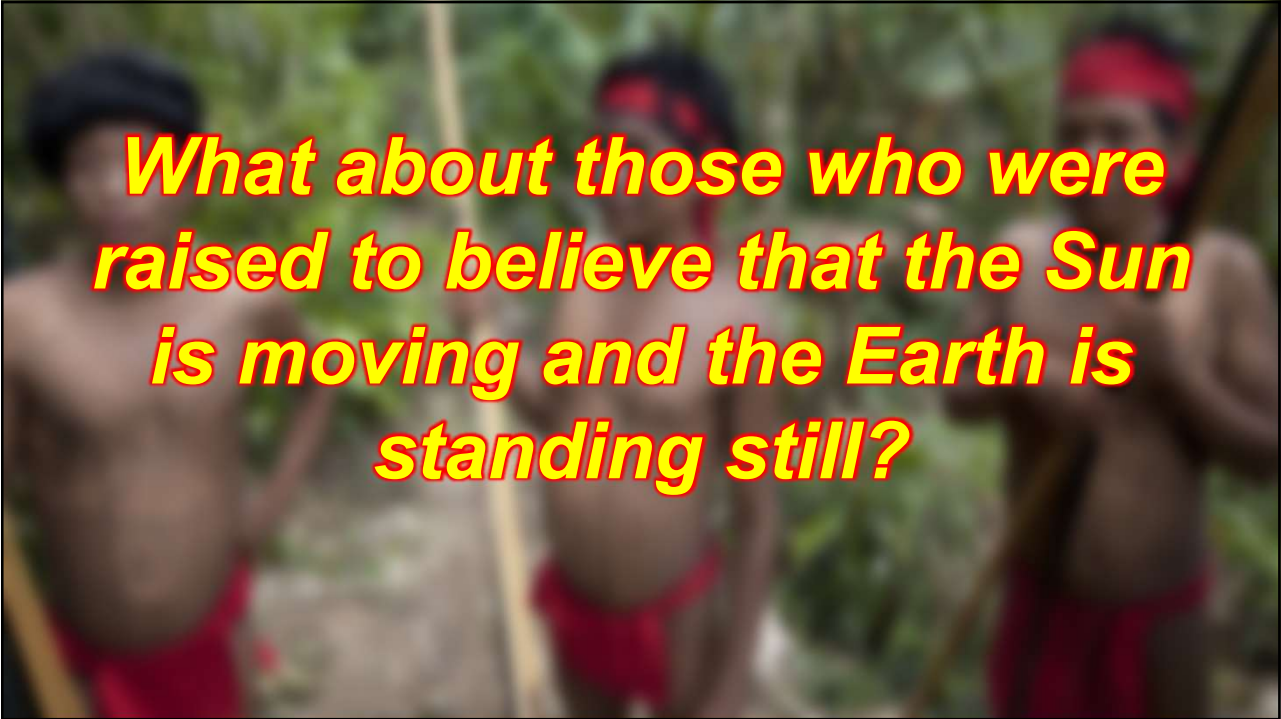




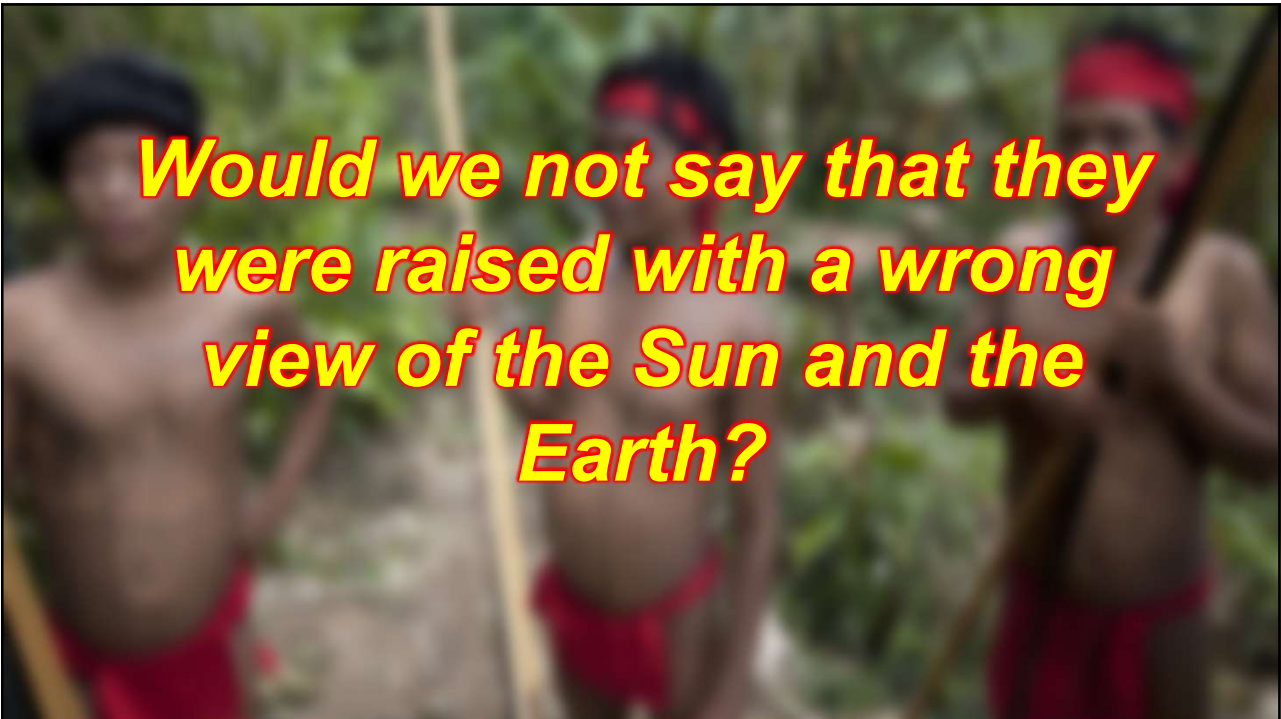
"I humbly submit that if all of us in this room had been born in the Amazon jungle, probably a lot of us would be Geocentrists. I think the chance is pretty good."



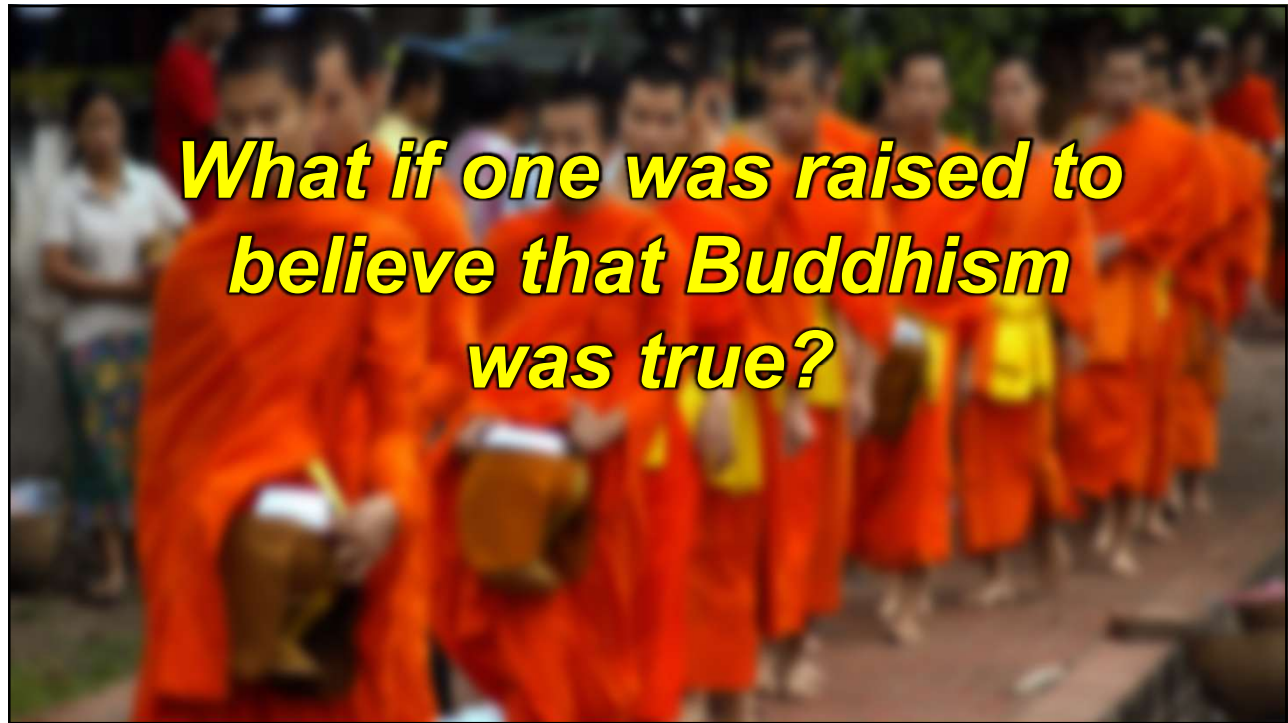
"And I also think we'd hold on to that Geocentric philosophy with all the passion that some of us might hold on to our Heliocentric ideals."

A photograph of three indigenous people, likely from a tribe in South America, standing in a forest. They are wearing traditional red and black clothing. The text is overlaid on the image.

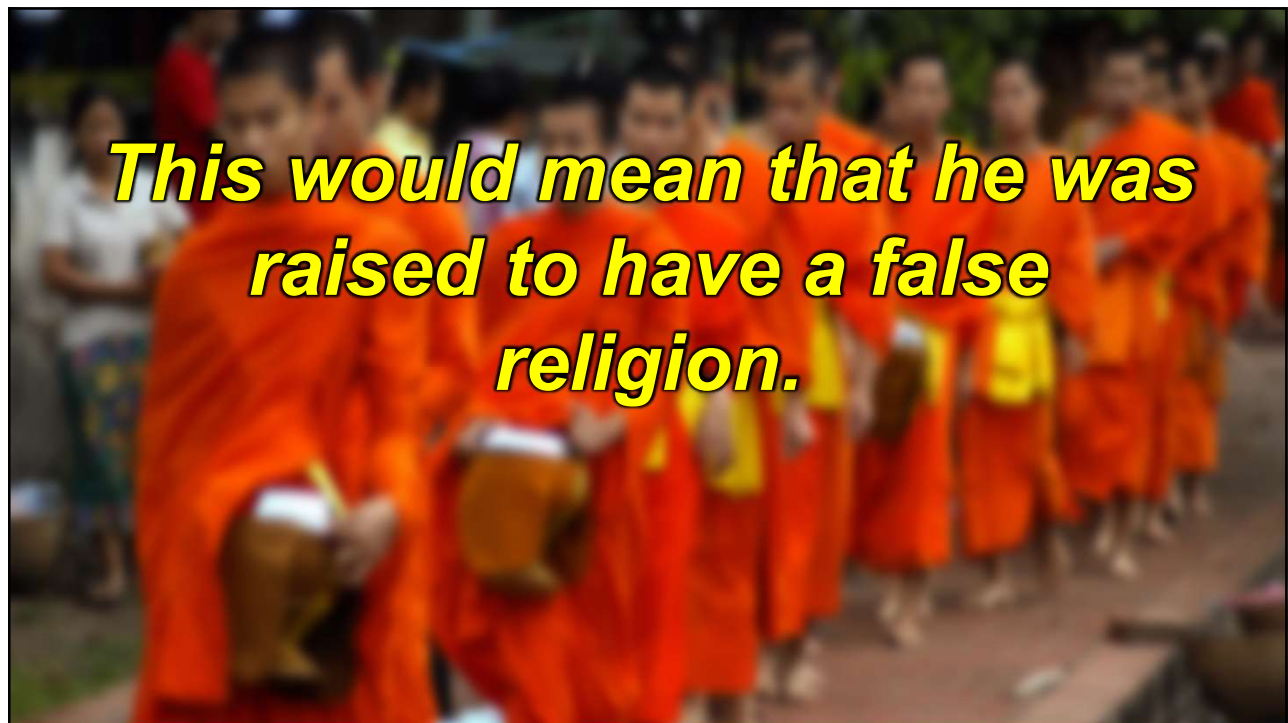
What about those who were raised to believe that the Sun is moving and the Earth is standing still?

A photograph of three indigenous people, likely from a tribe in South America, standing in a forest. They are wearing traditional red and black clothing. The text is overlaid on the image.

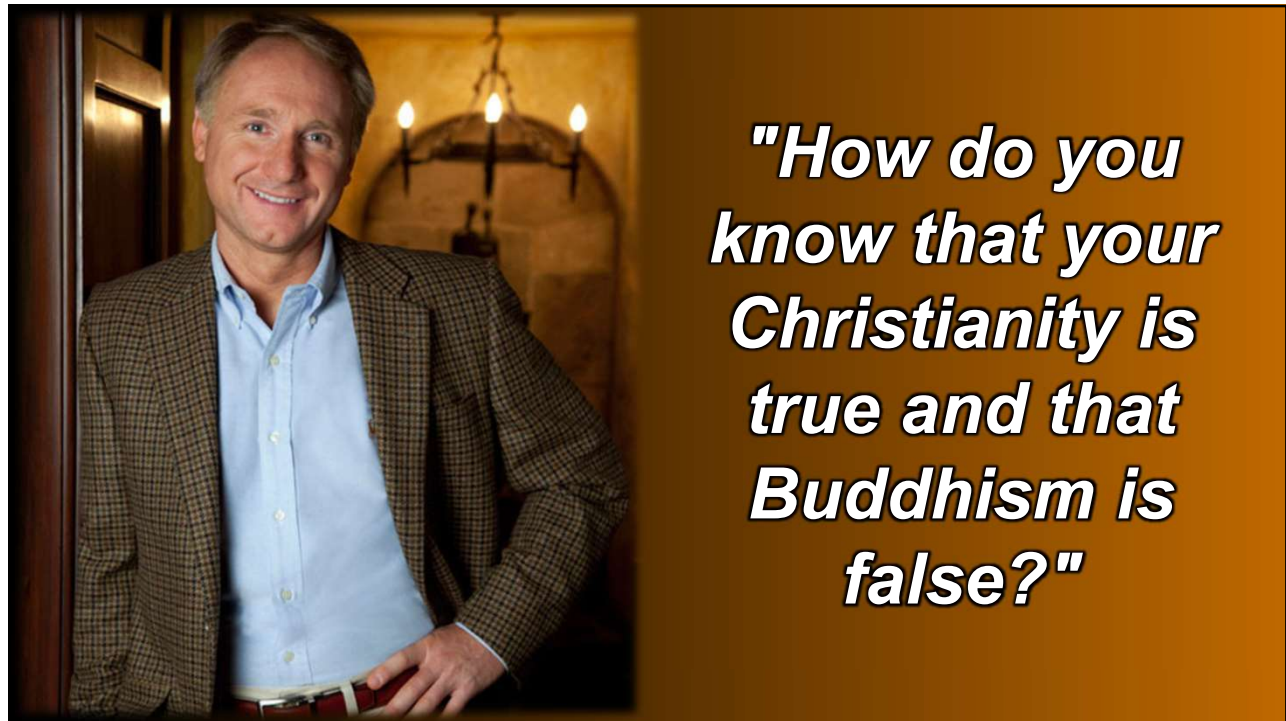
Would we not say that they were raised with a wrong view of the Sun and the Earth?



***What if one was raised to
believe that Buddhism
was true?***

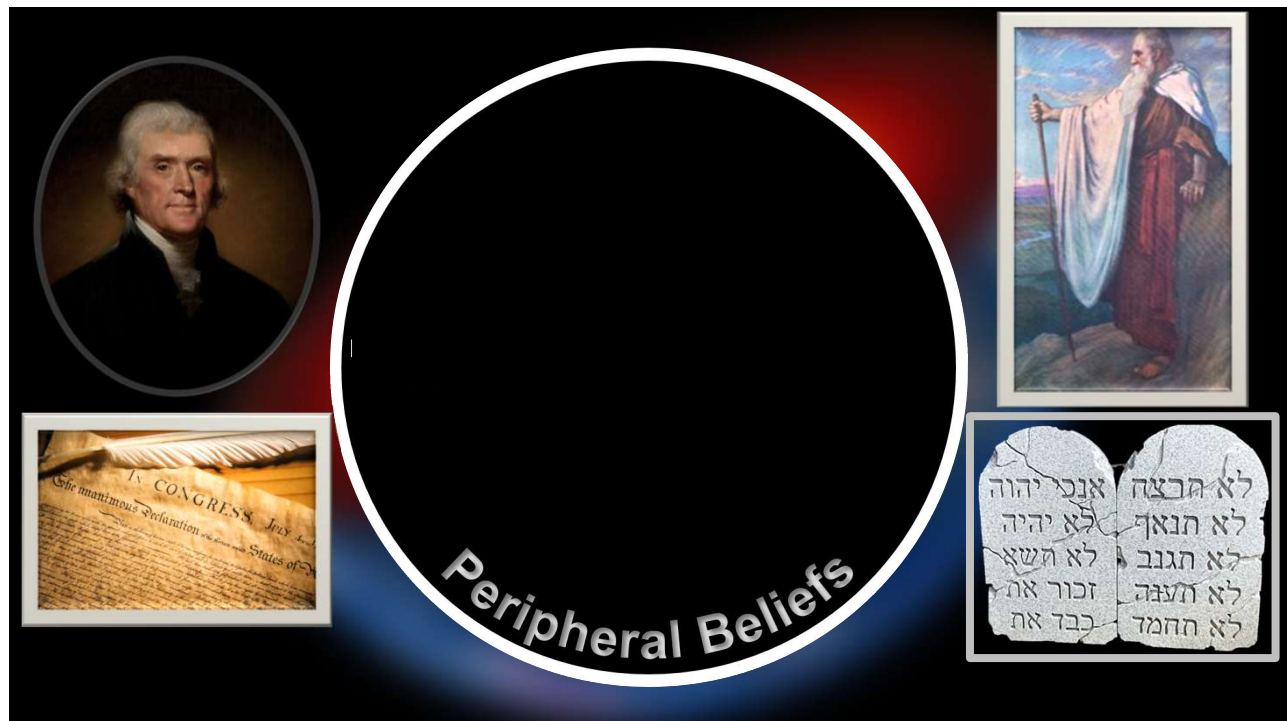


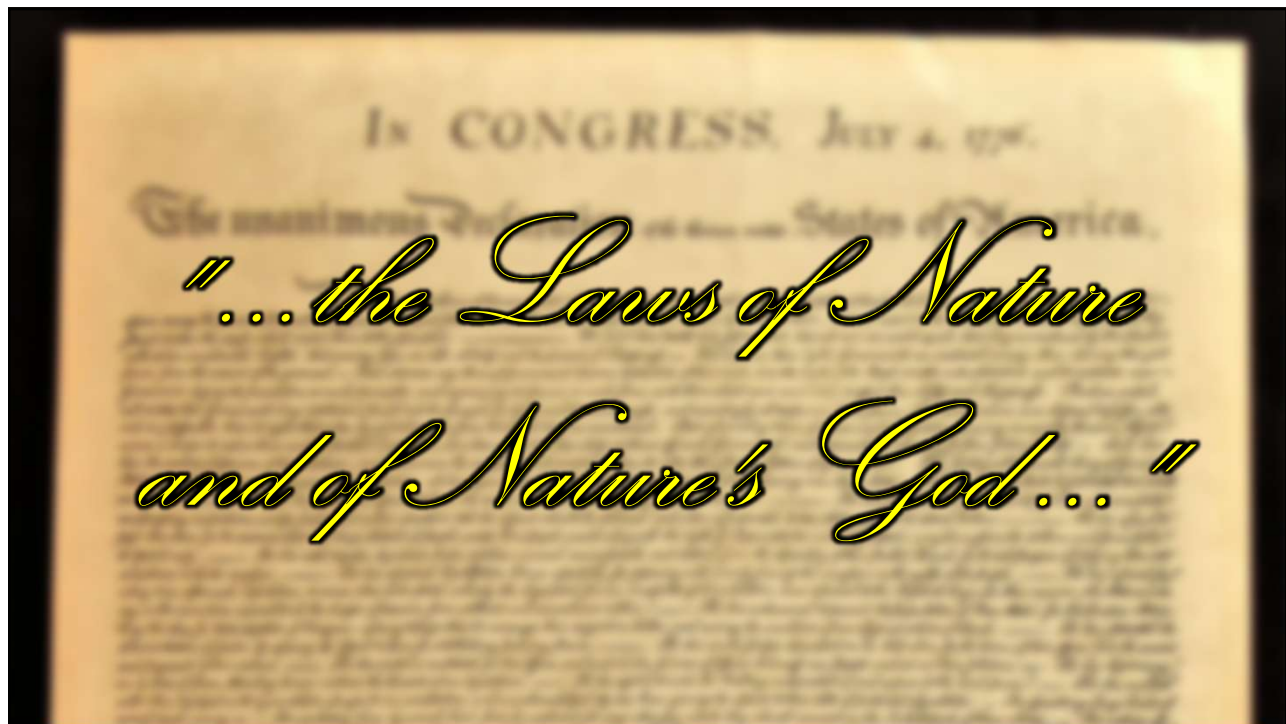
***This would mean that he was
raised to have a false
religion.***

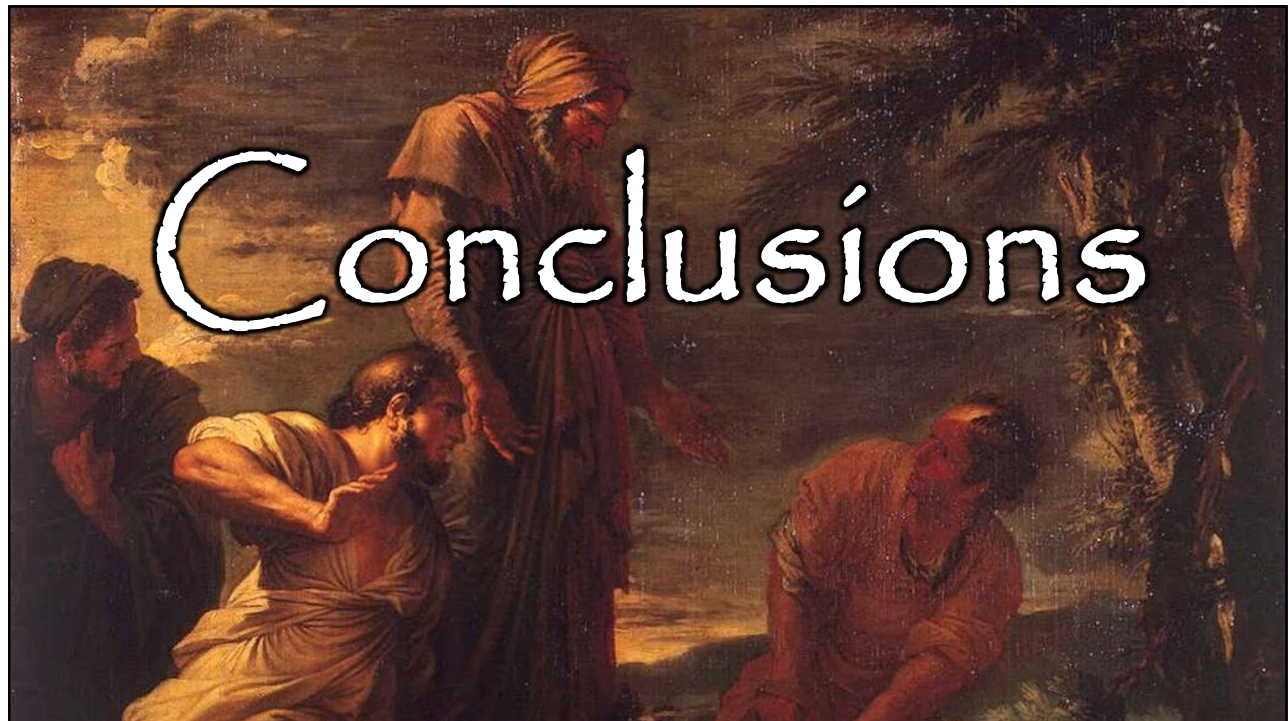
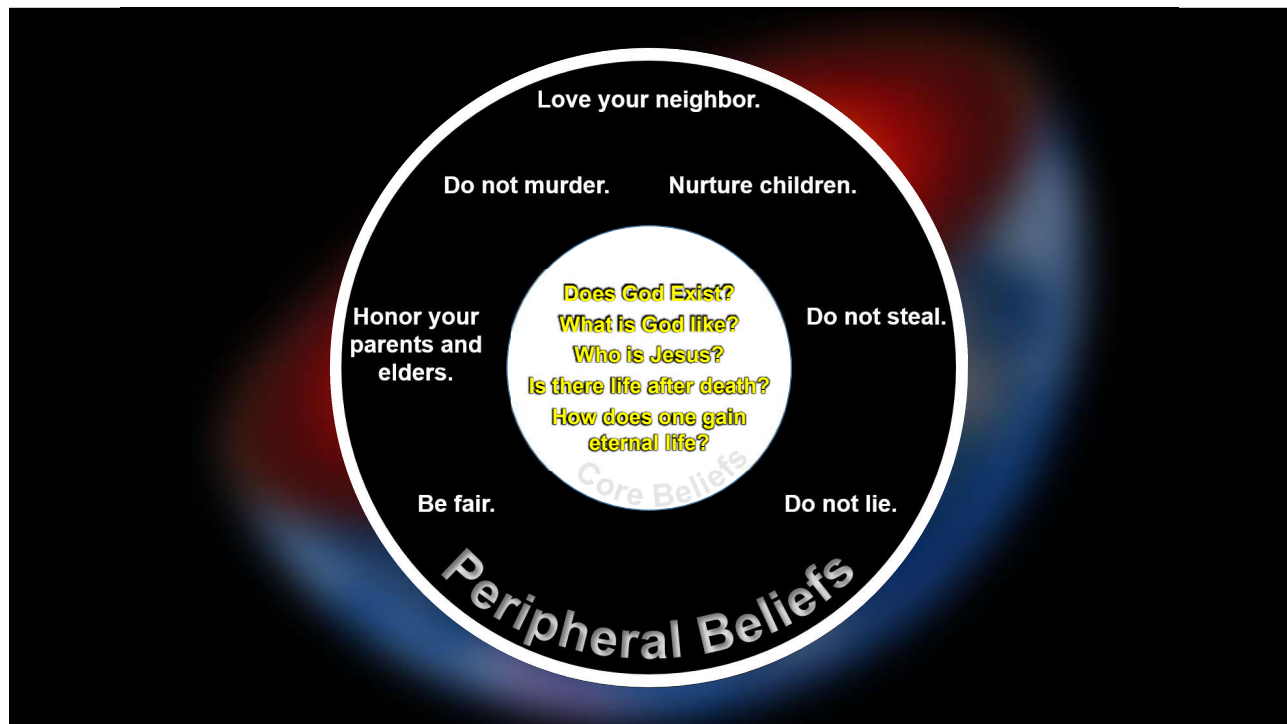


Are Not All Religions the Same at the Core?

Core Beliefs vs. Peripheral Beliefs







- ❖ *Some things are subjective and "relative" to the individual.*
- ❖ *But other things are objective and are the same for everyone.*
- ❖ *The claims of Christianity proposit to be objective claims about reality.*
- ❖ *While Christianity shares some truths with other religions, the core, defining truths of Christianity make it unique.*