

## ALTERNATIVE THEORIES TO THE AFTERLIFE Part II

Reference: miscellaneous Scripture

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Historical evangelical Christianity teaches that at the precise micro moment someone dies, his soulish essence and personhood evacuates his material being and he goes on to continue to be himself somewhere else: in eternal conscious happiness in heaven or in eternal conscious torment in hell.

This multi-part message addresses some after death alternatives to that traditional evangelical position.

### ONE...purgatory

Definition: according to Catholicism purgatory is an intermediate spiritual state and possible location where Catholics in good standing are compartmentalized after death in order to prepare them for heaven.

### TWO...universalism or \_\_\_\_\_ universalism

Definition: Universalism teaches that \_\_\_\_\_ will ultimately have salvation.

This theory is also called \_\_\_\_\_ meaning that all people are ultimately restored to a right relationship to God so no one goes to hell and all people go to heaven.

This is also called the \_\_\_\_\_ gospel. Its basic tenets are:

- Jesus sacrifice for sins is automatically \_\_\_\_\_ to all people
- salvation is \_\_\_\_\_ and doesn't require someone to actually exercise repentance from sin and faith in Jesus
- the entire human race is destined to go to heaven if people are \_\_\_\_\_ of that or not
- someone's religious affiliation is \_\_\_\_\_ to someone's ultimate spiritual status and destination
- only those people that have made a conscious intentional \_\_\_\_\_ to reject salvation are separated from God

Some arguments against universalism and inclusion teaching:

- if repentance and faith aren't required to receive salvation then why is the New Testament full of \_\_\_\_\_ to exercise faith and repentance
- if heaven is inevitable then how about those people that **don't** \_\_\_\_\_ to be there
- how is someone's religious affiliation irrelevant if some religious systems are in \_\_\_\_\_ to one another

- if some that are adamant about rejecting Christianity are permitted to remain in that state then how is that \_\_\_\_\_?

The erroneous **emergent-emerging church movement** is based on the idea that since the culture has changed (post modernism) that a new church should emerge in response to that change in culture.

Emergent-emerging church movement personalities: Brian McLaren, Rob Bell, etc.

Hermeneutic principle: **Analogia Scriptura**, meaning Scripture cannot \_\_\_\_\_ itself.

Biblical passages that are sometimes misread and misunderstood to teach universalism:

Reference: **I Timothy 4:9, 10**

**verse nine**, "This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance."

**verse ten**, "For to this end we both labor and suffer reproach, because we trust in the living **God, who is the Savior of all men, especially of those who believe.**"

Question: How is God the Savior of all men?

- in the sense that he gives \_\_\_\_\_ to all men  
Reference: **Matthew 5:45** (see screen)
- in the sense all men are potentially \_\_\_\_\_ through Jesus' sacrifice

Reference: **Colossians 1:19 and 20**

**verse nineteen**, "For it pleased the Father that in Him (Jesus) all the fullness should dwell,"

**verse twenty**, "and **by Him (Jesus) to reconcile all things to Himself, by Him (Jesus) whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made peace through the blood of His cross.**"

Reference: **John 12:32**, "And I (Jesus), if I am lifted up from the earth (crucifixion), **will draw all peoples to Myself.**"

Reference: **II Peter 3:9** "The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, **not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.**"