

# **Why God Allows Evil – Study Guide – (Session 5)**

## *Chapter 4: What is the Destiny of the Unevangelized?*

### **1. The Gospel Has Been Spread**

- a. Contrary to critics, Christianity is not white, male, Western
- b. Muslim world knows much of the Gospel message

### **2. The Word Is Suppressed**

- a. Persecution
- b. Suppression

### **3. God Gives the Gospel in Surprising Ways**

- a. “God will make sure that those who would repent will have the opportunity.”<sup>1</sup>
- b. Ethiopian eunuch
- c. Dreams and visions

### **4. Most Refuse the Gospel**

- a. Rejection of the Gospel message
- b. Soil where the seed is planted can change over time
- c. God is fair
- d. Natural Revelation – “they are without excuse”
- e. God knows with certainty who will accept the Gospel message

### **5. Children and Salvation**

- a. “Let the children come to Me”
- b. God may have good reasons not to reveal to us if children are saved

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<sup>1</sup> Clay Jones, *Why Does God Allow Evil?: Compelling Answers for Life's Toughest Questions* (Eugene, OR: Harvest House, 2017), 83.

## Study Questions: Chapter 4: “What is the Destiny of the Unevangelized?”

1. First of all, what is the problem?

Read John 14:6 and Acts 4:12. What is the main idea of these verses?

Our culture is correct when it says that Christianity is *exclusive*. But is Christianity the only religion that makes exclusive claims?

Now read Romans 10:5-21. How do you reconcile this passage (“*how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard?*”) with Acts 4:12 (“*no other name*”)?

Is it unfair that some people have not heard the name of Jesus?

2. Jones says, “skeptics often denounce Christianity as a primarily white, male, Western religion.”<sup>2</sup>

Read the first paragraph of p. 80. What surprises you most about this information?

Read Galatians 3:26-28, Revelation 5:8-10, and John 3:16-17. Who is in mind in each of these passages?

3. What are three of the reasons Jones says the Muslim world knows the basics of the Gospel? (see pp. 80-81)

a. \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_

c. \_\_\_\_\_

4. Jones says, “When I hear people complain about others not hearing the gospel, I think: The gospel message is getting out, but many cultures are killing the messengers.”<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> Ibid., 79-80.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid., 83.

What are some regional cases of persecution Jones cites ?

a. \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_

c. \_\_\_\_\_

5. Jones says, "God will make sure that those who would repent will have the opportunity."<sup>4</sup> How is this principle supported in Scripture?

6. Even after hearing the Gospel, most people refuse it. Jones says, "the soil upon which the gospel seed is sown can change drastically over time."<sup>5</sup> What are some factors that change receptivity to the Gospel:

- For individuals?
- For people groups/nations?

*(hint: last few lines of p. 85)*

7. Read Genesis 18:23-25.

Abraham asked,

*"Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?"* (Genesis 18:25)

Today, our culture asks,

*"How can God only save those who trust in Jesus? That's so exclusive!"*

How are both of these questions (apparently) skeptical of God's fairness?

8. Both children and the mentally infirm are people who may not have the capacity to understand the Gospel. What Scriptures can help us know the eternal destiny of the mentally handicapped and children who die before the age of accountability?

Jones says that God may *not* want us to know with certainty whether children are saved (p. 91). Why?

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<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid., 85.