

A Relationship with the Creator

"But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb, and called me by his grace..." Galatians 1:15

God decided He wanted a relationship with the Apostle Paul before he was born, while still in his mother's womb. Paul was born alienated from God because of the imputed sin of Adam. On the Damascus road, God established a relationship with him through the forgiving grace of Christ.

This grace is founded on the fact that God is a Person. You cannot have grace without God being a person. Most religions of the world do not believe their god is a person, but a force or power, and for this reason have no place for the doctrine of grace. You cannot have a relationship with a force! Thus, these people do not become alienated from a personal god. They may need to appease the gods in order to obtain what they want, but not so that they can be reconciled to a Person.

The uniqueness of Christianity can be seen in its teaching that people can have a relationship with the Creator. Islam and Judaism emphasize law, not relationship. Because God lives in the believer he can perpetually abide in Christ and Christ in him, resulting in his having perpetual fellowship with his God now and throughout eternity.