Is Christ the Only Means to Salvation?

There are those that will vehemently argue that Jesus Christ is not the only means to salvation. They argue that by making that claim, Christians are challenging the validity of all other religions such as the Islam, Judaism, Hinduism, Buddhism, Taoism, Confucianism, Shintoism, etc, etc. To be more politically correct, it is suggested that Christians change their belief that "Christ is the only means of salvation" to "Christ is the only means of salvation for Christians." In order to have that belief, one has to ignore the following Scripture verses in the Old and New Testaments of the Holy Bible:

• Isaiah 43:10, 11—"Before me no god was formed, nor will there be one after me. I, even I, am the Lord, and apart from me there is no savior."

The Matthew Henry Commentary says, "God had a being from eternity, before there were either idols or idolaters (truth is more ancient than error); and He will have a being to eternity."

• Isaiah 44:6—"I am the first and I am the last; apart from me there is no God."

The Matthew Henry Commentary says, "He is God from everlasting, before the world was and will be so to everlasting. If there were not a God to create, nothing would ever have been; and, if there were not a God to uphold, all would soon come to nothing again."

• Isaiah 48:12, 13—"I am the first and I am the last. My own hand laid the foundations of the earth, and my right hand spread out the heavens."

The Matthew Henry Commentary says, "He is the God that made the world, and He that did that can do anything."

• Acts 4:12—"Salvation is found in no one else (Jesus), for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved."

The Matthew Henry Commentary says, "As there is no other name by which diseased bodies can be cured, so there is no other name by which sinful souls can be saved. Our salvation is not in ourselves; we can destroy ourselves, but we cannot save ourselves. This is the honor of Christ's name, that it is the only name whereby we must be saved."

• John 3:17, 18—"For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through Him. Whoever believes in Him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because he has not believed in the name of God's one and only Son."

The Matthew Henry Commentary says, "He did not come to condemn the world. We had reason enough to expect that He should, for it is a guilty world; it is convicted.

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He came with full powers indeed to execute judgment, but put us on a new trial before the thrown of grace. God sent one (Jesus) to save us that was dearest to Himself; and shall not He (Jesus) be dearest to us?

• John 3:36—"Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life, but whoever rejects the Son will not see life, for God's wrath remains on him."

The Matthew Henry Commentary says, "The benefit of true Christianity is no less than everlasting life. True believers, even now, have everlasting life; not only shall they have it hereafter, but they have it now. They have the Son of God, and in Him they have life. Grace is glory begun. The wrath of God abides upon the unbeliever."

• John 14:6—"Jesus answered, 'I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."

The Matthew Henry Commentary says, "He is the true way to life. Other ways may seem right, but the end of them is the way of death."

The God of this world has the ability and the right to provide salvation to anyone he pleases, but the God of our Holy Bible clearly warns us that there is but one God and one way to salvation—Jesus Christ. However unfair that might seem to others, what God considers as being fair is the only thing that really matters. And if we truly believe that the God of our Holy Bible is the only true God and that Jesus Christ is the only means of salvation, then there should be an urgency within us to tell others about Him with gentleness and respect.