

There are several ideas promoted as to how the unevangelized are handled in God's program. Following is a brief outline.

Outline of Approaches to Understanding the Fate of the Unevangelized

1. Eternal Punishment / Exclusivism.
All finally impenitent will suffer eternal punishment in hell. This includes the unevangelized. There are two views as to the nature of this punishment:
 - a. Physical and spiritual. The Biblical position.
 - b. Only spiritual. Some new-evangelicals take this position.
2. Annihilationism
All the finally impenitent will be reduced to non-being. Jehovah's Witnesses and others take this position.
3. Pluralism
All religions make it possible to be rightly related to God.
4. Universalistic Inclusivism
All will be saved through Christ, but there are various ways this can happen:
 - a. Implicit faith. General revelation and God's mercy are sufficient.
 - b. Anonymous Christians. Those who are Christians yet do not consciously know it. (This could be called the "unconscious faith" position.)
 - c. Universal election in Christ. All people are elect and will be saved eventually.
5. Universalistic Exclusivism
All will come to God through personal faith in Christ, usually with the proviso that there is an opportunity in the afterlife to exercise this faith.

Some of the Supposed Difficult Problems and Their Solutions

First, note the Purpose of General Revelation – Rom. 1:18-20. Next, note some texts or ideas that are brought up to support other ways of salvation.

1. The Problem of the Rom. 10:18 quotation of Psalm 19:4.
2. The Problem of Acts 10 and Cornelius.
3. The Problem of Mars Hill and the "Unknown" God in Acts 17.
4. The Problem of 1 Peter 3:19, 4:6 and the "Second Chance."
5. The Problem of God's "Obligation."
6. The Problem of Heathen "Ability" and Rom. 3:11.
7. The Problem of God's Foreknowledge.