CAN WE COEXIST?

* Ever seen a car similar to this?
* Coexist Bumper Sticker…
	+ Parody versions – Demonstrate popularity of original
	+ Meaning:
		- C – Crescent Moon: ISLAM
		- O – Peace symbol
		- E – Male/female symbol or scientific equation
		- X – Star of David: JUDAISM
		- I – Pagan/Wiccan symbol
		- S – Chinese yin yang; Taoism; Confucianism
		- T – Cross: Christianity
	+ History
		- Polish graphic designer – contest by The Museum on the Seam for Dialogue, Understanding and Coexistence in Jerusalem
		- Popularized by U2 in 2004, small Indiana company registered TM in 2005 & began suing websites & companies using image without permission
		- Legal battle between IN company and Israeli Museum
		- Now, Coexist is non-profit promoting “social cohesion”
* Positives?
	+ Love and Respect for others – Lev. 19:18; Rom. 13:8-10
	+ Support religious freedom, tolerance, understanding, & peace – Heb. 12:14
	+ While these mock Coexist images might make valid points, such attitudes will not help us relate to non-Christians, should such a one be interested in studying.
* Rebuttal – we must love our neighbor, but we cannot compromise the truth.
	+ Jn. 3:16 – IN HIM, not in any other.
* Israel’s example of Coexistence
	+ God’s commands
		- Ex. 20:3 – No other gods.
		- Deut. 7:1-4 – No covenants or marriage
	+ Israel’s punishment & consequences for disobedience
* Early church
	+ Heb. 6:1-6 – Go on to perfection… don’t backslide to something inferior.
	+ 1 Cor. 6:9, 11 – Corinthian Christians converted from idolatry
	+ Ax. 17:22-34
* Application
	+ We must coexist with others to have the opportunity to teach. Mt. 28:19-20
	+ But know your boundaries. 2 Cor. 6:14-18
	+ Heb. 10:23 – Stick to our faith, so we can “coexist” with the Father