# FOURTH STREAM FINDING HOPE

# Why are there so many religious constructs?

#### **Psalms 2:1-3**

"Why are the nations in an uproar, and the peoples devising empty things? The kings of the earth take their stand, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD and against His Anointed, saying, "Let us tear their (shackles) apart and cast away their cords from us!"

## Here are a few:

- We want to *escape accountability* to the Living God the One True God the Father of everything.
- Our need for significance.
- Our desire to experience something *greater*.
- Our possible *escape* from human transient reality (and the inevitability of death).
- Our need to belong.
- Our propensity to adopt beliefs which allow us to be superior, establish *influence* and oppress others.
- Our deep hope to be able to find peace.

-

## How do we discover authentic God connections?

Search history to find evidence of a plausable, *non-man-centered meta story*.

Test it for *coherance* and *supernatural* components.

Look for the credible *eye-witness* accounts.

Observe to see if the beliefs are *trans-cultural/timeframe* and not designed for any one people group.

Fairly search past and current events to determine the *living nature* of the story.

Ask *fair* and *honest* and as *unbiased* questions concerning the tenants and outcomes.

When considering Genesis, the Law, the Prophets, the Psalms, the Gospels, and the letters...

Isaiah 9:1-7
2 Peter 1:16-21
Matthew 5:17-21
John 1:1-4
2 Timothy 3:10-17
1 Corinthians 15:1-11
Hebrews 4:1-16
Matthew 27:50-54
Acts 1:1-3