

CULTURAL INTERACTION AND THE CHURCHES OF ASIA (REVELATION 2-3)



Accommodationist

A pro-culture position that has made a decisive turn outward to non-Christians. This tends to create a high degree of enculturation, therefore causing one to avoid most persecution and marginalization. If a compromise has to be made to hold this position, it will be a compromise of doctrine and moral purity.

Culture-Shaper

A position that desires to be involved in a normative culture with the express purpose of offering God's way of life as an alternative to the norm. This will demand a degree of sacrifice and suffering, though these will usually be internal and personal not societal. Purity of both doctrine and attitude are deemed essential and compromise of either is frowned upon.

Isolationist

An anti-culture position that has made a decisive turn inward away from non-Christians. This tends to create a high degree of alarm with the cultural norm, and therefore an observably different lifestyle making persecution from outsiders easy. If a compromise has to be made to hold this position, it will be a compromise of attitude towards outsiders.