reductio ad absurdum: refutation technique of showing how an opponent's position is contradictory on its own terms—or that one's opponent's position leads to absurdity when its logical implications are made clear.

relativism/relativistic: in the broadest sense, relativism in epistemology is the view that truth itself is relativized to an individual's thinking or to that of a group.   Truth becomes the hyphenated concept "truth-for".   For example, that the Great Pumpkin exists might be said to be *true-for* Linus, but not *true-for* me; or Christianity might be said to be *true-for* Christians, but fail to be *true-for* non-Christians.   When one is relativistic about knowledge and truth, there is no absolute truth.

semantics: logical and linguistic study encompassing meaning, reference, and truth.

"show the impossibility of the contrary":   Van Til's expression for applying a *reductio ad absurdum* procedure to non-Christian positions—showing, that is, that they entail a contradiction and so collapse of their own weight.   This technique, however, is not nearly as powerful as Van Til seems to think.   He seems to think that it's somehow possible to defeat *all logically possible contraries at once!*   It really isn't possible.   A religious system might, in principle, be flat out false but still be logically coherent.   Or, the paradoxes and logical dissonances of a false religion may bear a formal family resemblance to certain conceptual impasses in the Christian faith.   But whereas Christianity is true (is not done in by our intellectual difficulty in systematizing its truth), the non-Christian view is false notwithstanding its conceptually similar insolubilia.

The answer, I think, is rather than attempting to wield an argument that all "contraries to Christianity" are *impossible*, it's far better to show that the Bible has *the* factual account of human history on the planet, *the* factual account of the human condition, and *the* factual account of God's intervention in history for human salvation.   Showing the *impossibility* of false religions is a very tall order; far better to show that they are *false*, that their models of human and divine interactions on the planet are *factually wrong*.

soteriological: pertaining to salvation, or to the doctrine of salvation.