

“DO YOU KNOW THE WAY TO HEAVEN?”

John 14:4-6

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INTRODUCTION

This is the Ways’ 60th anniversary—but they are not the “Way” to heaven! There is only one Way to heaven and it is not a dirt road, nor a paved two lane road, nor a divided highway, nor a multilane interstate. The Way to heaven is not found in some modern day New Age mystical religion, or in a recent cult like Jehovah Witnesses, Christian Science, nor Mormonism. The Way to heaven is not found in any of the non-Christian world religions, nor is it found in the teachings of classical Roman Catholicism. Nor is the way to heaven found in most of the large denominations of Protestantism that have largely departed from the faith once delivered to the saints. In fact, Bible churches and independent Baptist churches are not the Way to heaven. **Berean Baptist Church is not the way to heaven.**

There is only one Way to heaven and it is not a denomination or a church—it is a Person, Jesus Christ. **JESUS CHRIST IS THE WAY TO HEAVEN—AND THE ONLY WAY! You will not get there without having a personal relationship with Him by a living faith.**

This is the third reason why our hearts should not be troubled—1) There is plenty of room
2) He prepares a place for us and returns to get us. 3) We know the way to get there.

I. JESUS HAS TOLD US THE WAY (4)

He told His disciples that they know the way where He is going.

He has been giving them teaching for some time now—e.g. See 10: 7, 9, 37-38.

You might know if you took the trouble! It is really your fault that you have had so very little interest.

II. HUMAN IGNORANCE DOES NOT KNOW THE WAY.

Such ignorance is due to our depraved weaknesses. (5)

Note that Thomas speaks here: cf. chapter 20 at the resurrection.

Thomas is somewhat **dull**, he is **weak**, yet He is **honest, loyal and wanting help.**

Is Jesus going elsewhere on earth? Is He going to die—if so where? (11:16—die with Him) Is not Jesus going to reign from Jerusalem? Then why go somewhere else?

A. “We don’t know where you are going.”

B. “How can we know the way?”

It is true that we must know where someone is going before we can know the way!

Do you know that Jesus is in heaven? If so, do you know the way to get there?

Note Jesus’ answer; He does not give a detailed itinerary as to how to travel to heaven.

Illus: Our recent trip and AAA maps and directions. Nothing left to the imagination.

Rather He says that **both the destination and the route are found in a PERSON—Himself!**

III. JESUS IS THE WAY (6)

There are **three** items stressed here, all with articles: “THE *Way, Truth, Life*.”

The WAY is the key because it is the object of the question; the TRUTH and the LIFE are necessary in order to find the WAY. One cannot find the **way** without first knowing **the truth** and finding **the life**—all in Christ.

A. “I am the Way.”

The path to heaven, attaining that destination, is really a **PERSON**—Jesus Christ. Note that the earliest name for the church, NT Christianity, was “the Way” (See Acts 9:2; 19:9, 23; 22:4; 24:22; CF. 24:14 AND ii Pet. 2:2).

Christianity is the WAY because Christ is the Way.

By His incarnation, death, and resurrection, as based upon His perfect life and teaching, Jesus because the WAY to GOD!

He is not merely the Teacher of the Way—*He is the Way*.

We are persons and God is personal.

The way to God is found in a living fellowship with a personal God who is indissolubly united with His Father.

He is both the way from God to man (incarnation) and now the way from man to God (death, burial, resurrection, session).

Being the Way, He is of necessity also the TRUTH:

B. “I am the Truth.”

Yes, He is totally reliable and dependable, but this passage says much more.

Yes, He is reality in contrast with all of the shadows that preceded (1:14, 17).

But here the primary emphasis is upon Jesus as ABSOLUTE TRUTH—in contrast with everything else, every other claim or claimant, which/who is the lie. He is God who cannot lie (Phil. 2:6; Heb. 6:18).

He is the dependable source of *redemptive revelation*—He reveals the Father (v. 7; cf. Mt. 11:27). He represents a Sender Who is true (8:26).

TO KNOW THE TRUTH IS TO KNOW THE WAY TO GOD—WHO MUST BE WORSHIPED IN TRUTH (4:23).

Being the Truth, He is of necessity also the LIFE:

C. “I am the Life.”

He is ONE with the “living Father” who sent Him (10:30; 6:57).

See I John 5:11-12. Gal. 2:20.

To know the Life is to know the Way to God.

He is the Life as opposed to death.

*He is the source and giver of life for His own: **John 3:16; 6:33; 10:28; 11:25.***

He is “the light of life” (8:12) and has “the words of life” (6:68).

He gives us *abundant life* (10:10).

Death is separation from God; life is fellowship with Him (17:3).

Because Jesus is **the Way, the Truth, and the Life**, “**No one comes to the Father except through Him.**”

D. I am the ONLY WAY to the Father.

There is no other way to get there.

1. This shows the UNIQUENESS of Jesus Christ.

Acts 4:12—There is not salvation IN ANY OTHER.

2. This shows the SUFFICIENCY of Jesus Christ.

See Eph. 2:18—through Him we have access.

I Pet. 3:18—that He might bring us to God.

All of this shows us the absoluteness of the Christian religion.

All of this shows us the necessity of Christian missions.

IV. FAITH IS NECESSARY

Jesus speaks here on the eve of His crucifixion.

- He would hang impotently on the cross; yet, He is the Way.
- Many lies would be told about Him; yet, He is the Truth.
- His body will die and be placed in a tomb; yet, He is the Life.

CONCLUSION

- Yes, Jesus has told us the Way.
- Human ignorance and depravity cannot find the way.
- Jesus Himself is the Way.
- Faith in Him is necessary in order to find the Way.

You will never get to heaven apart from personal faith in Jesus Christ.