

# I am the Way and the Truth and the Life | I am the Door I am the Good Shepherd

**John 14:6** Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

Specifically, Jesus is talking about heaven. How to get to heaven. And Jesus gives this message, which at the time probably seemed somewhat cryptic.

## The Way

Jesus is the way to eternal life. To heaven. To salvation.

- Was Jesus saying that Christianity is the only way to heaven, therefore abandon all other religions which have no hope?
- Yes. Absolutely. There is no place for universalism.
  - **Acts 4:12** Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."
  - Jesus is the only means to salvation

But – Jesus was speaking to His disciples at this point. In fact, at the last supper.

## Did Jesus really feel the need to convince those that gave up everything to follow Him that other religions would not work?

- It is important that Jesus did not say that He will show us the way. Or leave instructions on how to find the way. Yet, I believe that many people interpret this as just that, even if they do not want to admit it.
- Maybe believing the way to eternal life is through His commands, or knowing His teachings. Study enough, do enough and you will find it.

This brings a fundamental aspect about our faith that actually cannot be debated, although it often is. **Our salvation, our eternal life and security, is because of the life of Jesus in us – brought about by faith – and nothing else.**

- **Romans 5:1** Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,
- **Titus 3:4-7** But when the kindness and the love of God our Savior toward man appeared, <sup>5</sup> **not by works of righteousness which we have done**, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, <sup>6</sup> whom He poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior, <sup>7</sup> that **having been justified by His grace** we should become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

### **Jesus also put it this way, with another “I Am” statement:**

- **John 10:7&9** Then Jesus said to them again, "Most assuredly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep... <sup>9</sup> I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture.
- In those days, sheep pens did not have doors. They had a single entrance, and the shepherd would lay across the entrance, effectively becoming the door.
- What is the purpose of a door? To keep those out that do not belong. To keep those in that do belong.
- Jesus is saying that the only way to become one of His sheep is to actually use Him. Enter by Jesus.

### **Jesus gives another “I Am” statement in conjunction with this:**

- **John 10:11** "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep.

### **We looked at Psalm 23, so let's only look at what's in this part of John**

- **John 10:4-5** "And when he brings out his own sheep, he goes before them; and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. <sup>5</sup> Yet they will by no means follow a stranger, but will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers."
- The sheep of Jesus follow Him.

- This is the very definition of being a disciple.
- **Luke 9:23** Then He said to them all, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me.
- They know His voice
  - They know His voice because they have a personal connection with the shepherd.
  - Sometimes shepherds kept their flocks together with other shepherds in the same pen. When the shepherd went to leave, he called to his sheep and they all jumped up and followed him out. But the sheep that don't belong to the shepherd do not follow. They don't know His voice.
- They are not going to follow another

### Previously we read John 7 & 9. Now let's see vs. 8

- **John 10:7-8** Then Jesus said to them again, "Most assuredly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. <sup>8</sup> All who ever came before Me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not hear them.
- **Who are the thieves and robbers?**
  - **John 10:10** The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.
  - The thieves and robbers are those that try to present a way of salvation that is not true.
  - The end result of that is they steal our joy and our lives.
  - The way they operate is to try to deceive us by good sounding words, but they are lies.
- **2 Peter 3:3-4** knowing this first: that scoffers will come in the last days, walking according to their own lusts, <sup>4</sup> and saying, "Where is the promise of His coming? For since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of creation."
- **Matthew 24:24** For false christs and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect.

- **Acts 20:28-30** Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood. <sup>29</sup> For I know this, that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock. <sup>30</sup> Also from among yourselves men will rise up, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after themselves.

**So if people, even from within the walls of the church, will try to deceive you, how do we know what is true?**

### **I Am the Truth**

- **Jesus is not only the Way, He is also the Truth**
- **John 14:6** Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

What does it mean that Jesus is truth?

**First, in order to be truth, there can be no lies.**

- **Hebrews 6:18** that by two immutable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we might have strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold of the hope set before us.
- It is not that God will not lie. But rather that He is so powerful that His words create truth. He cannot lie because what He says becomes truth.
  - That is being the truth.

When Jesus said **John 8:32** And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." He was talking about knowing Him. Jesus sets us free.

- **John 17:17** Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth.
  - Jesus is the Word incarnate

**Knowing Jesus = knowing truth**

Outside of Jesus there is no truth. All of Jesus is God. All of God is Jesus. They are one. And in Him all truth is.

- There is no “my truth”
- Experiences must be interpreted through actual truth to understand them.
- When Jesus talked about building on the rock vs the sand, this is what He was talking about.

There are churches today preaching messages like: Drag is holy. God is transgender. Killing babies is righteous. You and I are actually God. Critical Race Theory is more important than the Deity of Christ.

And the amount of scriptures used to justify sin that are taken out of context in ways that I could never dream up is infuriating.

But all of this points to one fact – **These people do not know Jesus, because if they did, they would know the truth.** There are many pastors and church leaders out there claiming to be spreading the Gospel who do not know Jesus.

**2 Timothy 4:2-4** Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching. <sup>3</sup> For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; <sup>4</sup> and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables.

**Second, to live by truth, not only must we know Jesus, we must know what He says.**

That would cover a lot of ground. So specifically, since this started with a discussion of how to know the way to heaven, what does Jesus say about us?

- You are a child of God
- God is for you
- You will bear much fruit
- You are justified and redeemed

- You are set free
- You are united with Christ
- You are a co-heir with Christ
- You are accepted
- You are holy
- Your body is a temple and the Holy Spirit dwells in you
- You have the mind of Christ
- You have been made new and the old has passed away
- You are righteous
- You are blessed
- You have been sealed by the Holy Spirit
- You are complete, lacking nothing

**The Life – We will cover this next week**