

**"ONLY One Way!!"**

**John 14:1-6**

**Introduction:** Today we celebrate Independence Day in our Nation. It is a day that marks our freedom as a Nation. But there is a greater freedom to be experienced than what we experience here in the USA. What we have in our Nation is great, but the Bible tells us this will all go away as our world moves toward the Great Tribulation and the kingdom of the Anti-Christ. So we can experience the freedom of our Nation but what happens after you die? God offers a life that is far better than what we have here. He offers a new creation that is far greater than anything which we can experience here or that we can even imagine.

**Revelation 21:1-5**

*And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea.*

*<sup>2</sup> And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.*

*<sup>3</sup> And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.*

*<sup>4</sup> And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.*

*<sup>5</sup> And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful.*

Not everyone will get to see this place. As a matter of fact the Bible tells us very few people will make it to the new creation. This is only for those who are forgiven of their sins. If you die in your sins, you will go directly to hell when you die.

**Matthew 7:13-14**

*<sup>13</sup> Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat:*

<sup>14</sup> *Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.*

The end of verse 14 creates a problem in the mind of many people. Jesus was very clear in this verse and He said that the way to eternal life is through the narrow gate and there will be very few people out of all of humanity that will find the way. So the teaching of this passage is that there will be more people in hell than there will be in heaven. This is what many people have trouble with.

You see there are many who believe that God will accept all people into heaven and when someone proclaims the Truth of Matthew 7 then it upsets their personal theology.

Let me explain to you what many people have done and what it is that they are guilty of. They are guilty of idolatry. You see they have fabricated in their own mind a "god" whom they believe exists who will accept all people no matter what their belief is. This is a violation of the 1<sup>st</sup> Commandment.

### **Exodus 20:3**

<sup>3</sup> *Thou shalt have no other gods before me.*

The bottom line is they have created a god in their mind that is different from the God of the Bible. In all of this these people believe that there are many ways to heaven. They believe if you are RELIGIOUS and you are sincere then when you die God will surely accept you into heaven. **God has used these thoughts to bring a message on the ONLY WAY TO HEAVEN.** Let me take you to John 14 and it will be here that we will find the Truth.

### **I. The Comfort**

Before we get into this passage let me give to you the setting for these verses. We are stepping into the upper room in this text and it is the night of Jesus' arrest. After these words were spoken Jesus and His disciples made their way to the Garden of Gethsemane.

### **John 18:1**

*When Jesus had spoken these words, he went forth with his disciples over the brook Cedron, where was a garden, into the which he entered, and his disciples.*

So the setting before us is the upper room the night before Jesus was arrested and then he was taken to be crucified. Now there is something else which we need to keep in mind:

it is at this time the disciples of Jesus are beginning to understand that Jesus is going away. Their hearts are broken because this is the Messiah whom the prophets spoke of. This is the One whom Israel had been waiting for. He was the fulfillment of all the Old Testament prophecies.

But now there was something which was about to happen which the disciples did not understand. Their Messiah was leaving and their hearts were broken. So as He faced the cross that night instead of being consumed with what He was facing. He was more concerned about the broken hearts of His disciples.

**Notice John 14:1**

These men believed and trusted in the God of the Old Testament and they could also trust in Jesus because He was the very God of the Old Testament in the flesh.

**Notice John 14:2**

The word "mansions" here is the word "abode" which means "abiding place". Jesus then told them He was going to prepare a place for them.

**Notice John 14:3**

He was going to prepare a place for them and when the place was complete, He would then return for them so that where He was they could be. This is a reference to the rapture of the church.

**Notice John 14:4**

This could also read, "So to the place I am going you know the way." These statements made the minds of the disciples begin to churn and it caused Thomas to ask the most important question in the entire Bible.

**II. The Question**

**Notice John 14:5**

Thomas told Jesus they did not understand where he was going so how could they know the way?

**III. The Answer**

**Notice John 14:6**

This is the verse which I want us to focus on for the rest of the message. I want to break this verse down in sections.

**a. Jesus is the Way.**

This statement is so important. Jesus does not say that He is one of THE ways. He says He is THE WAY to the Father. This completely eliminates any teaching that says there are multiple ways to heaven. The Bible is very clear that there are NOT many ways to the Father but there is only ONE way to the Father and that is through Jesus Christ.

**Acts 4:12**

<sup>12</sup> **Neither is there salvation in any other:** for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.

**John 10:9**

<sup>9</sup> **I am the door:** **by me** if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.

**Matthew 7:13-14**

<sup>13</sup> Enter ye in at **the strait gate:** for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat:

<sup>14</sup> Because strait is **the gate,** and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.

Jesus is the GATE which leads to the Father. There are NOT MANY GATES but there is only ONE GATE. Let me take you to Genesis 6 where Noah gets instructions for the ark.

**Genesis 6:16**

<sup>16</sup> A window shalt thou make to the ark, and in a cubit shalt thou finish it above; and **the door** of the ark shalt thou set in the side thereof; with lower, second, and third stories shalt thou make it.

The ark is a picture of salvation and the ark had only one door. There was not a door for each kind of animal but there was ONE DOOR for all. Everyone person and every animal which entered the ark all entered through the same door.

**Application:**

The very same is true of salvation. There is not one door for the Catholics, and another for the Baptists, and another for the Methodists. There is ONE WAY to heaven and it is through Jesus Christ. NO ONE WILL ENTER INTO HEAVEN BY ANY OTHER WAY!!

Not only is Jesus the WAY but:

**b. Jesus is the Truth.**

**Notice John 14:6**

Jesus tells His disciples that He is also the Truth. What does this mean? We must understand that while Jesus walked the earth and after resurrection there were many false teachers. Some of them were the religious leaders of Jesus day who had taken the Scriptures and they had twisted them to fit their personal lifestyles. The Truth of God's Word had been distorted and so in Jesus day there were many who were very confused about the Truth. Notice the conversation between Jesus and Pilate.

**John 18:37-38**

<sup>37</sup> *Pilate therefore said unto him, Art thou a king then? Jesus answered, Thou sayest that I am a king. To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth. Every one that is of the truth heareth my voice.*

<sup>38</sup> *Pilate saith unto him, What is truth? And when he had said this, he went out again unto the Jews, and saith unto them, I find in him no fault at all.*

Pilate's question reflects the confusion of his day. His question also reminds me of the confusion of our society. There are so many false teachings that circulate in churches today.

**But the question is, "How do we know that we can trust the Words of Jesus?"**

The answer is this, "Because Jesus is God and it is impossible for God to lie."

**Hebrews 6:18**

<sup>18</sup> *That by two immutable things, in which it was impossible for God to lie, we might have a strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us:*

The 2 immutable things are the CHARACTER and the PROMISES of God.

**Numbers 23:19**

*<sup>19</sup> God is not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent: hath he said, and shall he not do it? or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good?*

**1 Samuel 15:29**

*<sup>29</sup> And also the Strength of Israel will not lie nor repent: for he is not a man, that he should repent.*

Now someone may push back by saying, "Do we really know that Jesus was God?"

**John 1:1-4**

*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.*

*<sup>2</sup> The same was in the beginning with God.*

*<sup>3</sup> All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.*

*<sup>4</sup> In him was life; and the life was the light of men.*

Now let me tell you what all of this means. These statements John 14:6 are statements directly from God. When Jesus says that He is the way this is the ABSOLUTE TRUTH. This is not a statement which is up for discussion.

There is yet another statement to consider.

**c. Jesus is the Life.**

**Notice John 14:6**

This means that those who come to Him are given spiritual life.

**Ephesians 2:1-2**

*And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins;*

*<sup>2</sup> Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:*

The word "dead" here means "separated from God". God is life and we are born in sin and so we are born separated from God. We are therefore born spiritually dead. Now when we come to Jesus Christ for salvation, we are then given spiritual life. We are BORN AGAIN.

**John 3:36**

<sup>36</sup> *He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life; and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.*

**1 John 5:12**

<sup>12</sup> *He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.*

Anyone who does not have Jesus does not have eternal life. They are spiritually dead.

Let me show you the conclusion of this verse.

**Notice John 14:6**

NO MAN CAN COME TO THE FATHER BUT BY JESUS CHRIST.

**Conclusion:**

God desires for all to be saved. Let me show you His will.

**2 Peter 3:9**

<sup>9</sup> *The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.*

This is the will of God but He will not force it on you. He has created us to be free moral agents. We have the ability to choose to accept Jesus Christ or to REJECT Him. I want you to listen to what I am about to say:

God's will is for you to be saved. If it is your will to reject Him and to live for the world then God says, "Your will be done!"

**John 1:12**

<sup>12</sup> *But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:*