

Jesus the Way, the Truth, and the Life

John 14:6 New American Standard Bible (NASB)

⁶ Jesus *said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father except through Me.

Introduction

This morning, I invite you once again to ponder Jesus’ identity: Jesus the Way, the Truth, and the Life. No one comes to the Father except through Him.

Content

I am going to explain His statement in three parts: Jesus is the way to the Father, He is the truth, and He is the life.

1. **Jesus the Way to the Father:** There are many claims and teachings in the world today on how to get to Heaven—God’s abode. Some people in the world love the Buddhistic teaching: *our goal is the same to get to the same destination. Our ways are different. However, everyone will be there.* It sounds so welcoming and open-minded that some embrace Buddhism and reject Christianity. Why? Because to them, Christianity seems so narrow-minded and exclusive. *Why is Christ the only way to God? They argue. Why do I have to believe in Jesus to be in Heaven? I am a good person, that alone, should take me into Heaven.*

Even some people in the Church join them saying, “Yes, you’re right. You don’t have to believe in Jesus for your salvation and eternal destination. You’re a good person. Believe whatever ‘god’ you want. Worship and follow whichever ‘god’ you choose, and you too will be in the presence of God.” Some Christians even apologize for their excluding other religions in salvation.

By doing that, they cancel what Jesus has spoken. In fact, they are denying that Jesus told the truth about the way to Heaven and salvation. They openly admit that they are ashamed of Jesus their Lord who made such an exclusive claim. I wonder if the Lord Jesus would be ashamed of them as well: *For whoever is **ashamed** of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will also be **ashamed** of him when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels” (Mark 8:38).*

Once again, folks, we have two choices when it comes down to Christ's unequivocal claim that He is the only way to God the Father. No one comes to the Father except through Him. Accept it or reject it. Take it or leave it.

Father God vs. idols: nowadays, whenever we talk about God, we've got to be careful about which God we are talking about. We cannot simply assume that we talk about the same God. Whenever you are engaged with others in a conversation about God, always ask yourself: *Is my God same as theirs? Are we talking about the same God here?* You may be surprised that many a time you are not talking about the same God whom we honor and worship. One recent survey asked people "Do you believe in God?": 81 percent of US adults say they do (<https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2022/06/17/us-adults-believe-god-survey/7660590001/>).

Well, don't assume that they all believe in the same Christian God like you do. On the contrary, many believe other gods besides Jesus and His Father (for your information, there are 330-million gods in Hinduism--- (<https://www.hinduismfacts.org/how-many-gods-are-there-in-hinduism/>), and 8-million 'kami's (gods) in Shintoism--- <https://www.kanpai-japan.com/religion-and-spirituality-in-japan/the-main-shinto-gods>). Each person, the Bible says, believes and walks in the name of his own god. Listen to Prophet Micah: "**Though all the peoples walk, Each in the name of his god, As for us, we will walk in the name of the LORD our God forever and ever**" (Micah 4:5).

The LORD "I AM" Is the Only True God. None Other.

The God whom we worship and serve has a name: Jehovah, Yahweh, in Hebrew. The LORD in English. We serve and worship the LORD our God. The LORD our God makes it clear that He is different from and above all other gods. *There is no God besides Me*, He declares (Isaiah 44:6). All others are idols. He is the true God: "**But the Lord is the true God; He is the living God and the everlasting King**" (Jeremiah 10:10). Not just true, but He also is the **only true** God (John 17:3). That's the Father Jesus talks about.

The LORD Our God Is a Jealous God: Have you ever wondered why the LORD our God is so picky and jealous when it comes down to worshiping other gods? He doesn't hide what He hates. He is never shy in declaring that He is a jealous God when it comes down to idol worship: Remember the first Commandment of the Ten Commandments? "**You shall have no other gods before Me**" (Exodus 20:3). "**You shall not worship them nor serve them; for I,**

the Lord your God, am a **jealous** God, (Exodus 20:5). He also declares in Exodus 34:14: “—for you shall not worship any other god, because the Lord, whose name is **Jealous**, is a **jealous** God.

If non-believers say, there are many other ways than Jesus to approach their ‘gods,’ which is not Jehovah our God, yes, they are absolutely right. I have no issue with that. Neither does the LORD my God. Neither does Jesus. In fact, Jesus is glad that He is NOT the way at all to their ‘gods.’ However, if anyone talks about the access to the LORD our God, the Father of Jesus, the only true God, and if he insists that more than one way to the LORD God besides Jesus, he clashes with Jesus and the Bible which says that He is the only way to the Father. To me, His statement is an absolute truth. Know God’s Word and make up your mind.

Concerning Absolute Truth: We need to touch this topic a little more here. In the past, I have spoken about this matter several times already, but it’s worth repeating, because we forget. We are living in an age and time where relativism is prevalent. Relativism is the belief that everything is relative. Such relativistic world view is rooted in naturalism. Naturalism is the belief that “*natural causes alone are sufficient to explain everything that exists.*” (How Now Shall We Live?, Charles Colson and Nancy Pearce, p. 20). It tries to explain everything in life in physical, materialistic, and tangible ways. Science is their god. For things visible, science can explain everything, it claims. For things invisible, however, naturalism either denies spiritual reality or simply cannot explain at all. Neither can it explain the purpose to our lives. No naturalist can explain the origin and destination of human life with a random chance of accidents, can he?! For instance, how did humans come into existence? Evolution, it says. Where are we heading to? No clue. It can’t explain beyond death or after life, because it is spiritual and invisible.

Anyway, relativism also says that “*there’s no transcendent source of moral truth, and we are left to construct morality on our own.*” (ibid., p. 21). It, therefore, treats all cultures, opinions, and beliefs as ‘morally equivalent,’ that no other culture or way is better than the others. For instance, if I call the color of this paper ‘black,’ and if you call it ‘white,’ neither of us is wrong. All of us are right. So, it is ‘white’ and ‘black.’ It all depends on whom you are asking. You cannot call me wrong, because that makes my judgment and value less worth than yours, therefore, we are no longer equal. To be equal among us, we accept everyone’s value and moral judgment right, therefore, there’s no single truth that transcends others—no absolute truth! E.g., A math teacher was fired after she tried to correct her student’s error on the sum of 2 plus 2 who insisted the answer is 22, not 4.

Through the Lens of Relativism: Look at Jesus' statement from relativistic perspective. *I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through Me.* How arrogant it sounds to the relativistic mindset! How intolerant we would be if we accept Jesus' statement as absolute truth! As I said before, sadly some Christians succumb to the social pressure to be nice and to the desire to be accepted by the rest of the world that they reject Christ's claim. Not only they reject it, but they also encourage others to reject it as well. It is happening in the Church. May it never happen to us! Now, let's move onto 'Jesus is the Truth' part.

2. Jesus the Truth: The sum of God's Word is truth (Psalm 119:160). The entire Bible points out and testifies to Jesus that He is the Truth: *For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.*" (Revelation 19:10). Why is Jesus the Truth? Because He is the God incarnate—God in human flesh. God is truth. So is the God in human flesh. Jesus is the embodiment of truth and grace. In Him, truth dwells. In Him, grace dwells. To John the Apostle, truth was more than an abstract concept. It was reality. It was tangible. This is what he wrote: Jesus the Truth, I have heard with my ears, seen with my eyes, and touched with my hands (1 John 1:1).

Now, this is what Jesus the Truth did and does for us.

1. He came to earth to witness to the truth: When Pilate the Roman governor asked Jesus what truth was, He answered, "... for this I have come into the world: to testify to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to My voice." (John 18:37)
2. Jesus spoke the truth. He taught the truth. He lived out the truth. Even His enemies acknowledged it saying, "Teacher, we know that You are **truthful** and teach the way of God in **truth**, and do not care what anyone thinks; for You are not partial to anyone (Matthew 22:16).
3. He set us free with truth: "³¹ So Jesus was saying to those Jews who had believed Him, "If you continue in My word then you are truly My disciples; ³² and **you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free**" (John 8:31-32),.
4. Jesus the Truth remains in us through His Spirit and leads us in truth: "¹³ But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth;" (John 16:13).
5. He is with us forever: "because of the **truth** which remains in us and will be with us forever" (2 John 1:2).
6. We are rooted and established in the truth: "... you already know them and have been established in the **truth** which is present with you" (2 Peter 1:12). We are called to live and walk in the truth. We speak truth in love (Ephesians 4:15).

The Bible warns us of the people among us who deny Jesus the Truth. Their minds are deprived of the truth (1 Timothy 6:5). They have gone astray from the truth and even jeopardize the believer's faith: "*men who have gone astray from the **truth**, claiming that the resurrection has already taken place; and they are jeopardizing the faith of some*" (2 Timothy 2:18).

3. Jesus the Life: I have already spoken about Jesus the Life. So, a quick recap. He is the Bread of Life. As the bread sustains our physical life, so does Jesus. He sustains us and provides us with meaning, purpose, and abundance to our life---'zoe' life not 'bios' life. We also inherit life everlasting in Jesus. He is the Resurrection life that destroyed the power of death and will raise us from the dead.

Conclusion

When everything is permissible, nothing is sacred. When everything is relative and subjective, nothing is absolute and objective. God's Word is the absolute truth that transcends all other truths in the world, because it is absolutely true and objective.

There's only one True God, the same Bible declares. It is the LORD our God. None other. That is an absolute truth. Jesus is the only way, truth, and life. That too is an absolute truth.

Let me read what He says to you one more time:

⁶ Jesus *said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father except through Me." Do you believe this? If so, let's say our heart-felt Amen.

Let us pray.