

I AM The Way, The Truth, The Life; John 14:6-7

I. Who

- A. The question of who to worship has been asked for many years
- B. Hinduism traces its origins back to (around) 1500 BC
- C. Buddhism and Islam date back to (around) 600 BC
- D. To put this in perspective:
 - 1. Adam and Eve worshiped God (around) 4000 BC
 - 2. Abraham worshiped God (around) 2000 BC
 - a) Some say Hinduism is the oldest religion
 - b) We can see the people worshiped God well before that
 - 3. Moses was given the Law around 1500 BC
 - 4. Israel's captivity was around 600 BC
- E. There is only one claim that has been proved
- F. John 14:6 (ESV); Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

II. The Answer to Sin

- A. The Way
- B. A course of travel — both behavior and direction, a way of life
 - 1. Christianity (followers of Jesus) was called "The Way"
 - 2. Acts 19:9 (ESV); But when some became stubborn and continued in unbelief, speaking evil of the Way before the congregation, he withdrew from them and took the disciples with him, reasoning daily in the hall of Tyrannus.
 - 3. Acts 19:23 (ESV); About that time there arose no little disturbance concerning the Way.
 - 4. Acts 24:14 (ESV); But this I confess to you, that according to the Way, which they call a sect, I worship the God of our fathers, believing everything laid down by the Law and written in the Prophets,
 - 5. By the time Luke wrote Acts, "The Way" had become the name of Christianity and Christians the name of the people
- C. It is the ONLY way
 - 1. Hebrews 10:10–14 (ESV); ¹⁰ And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all. ¹¹ And every priest stands daily at his service, offering repeatedly the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. ¹² But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God, ¹³ waiting from that time until his enemies should be made a footstool for his feet. ¹⁴ For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified.
- D. No other object or person of worship has ever claimed to cleanse humanity of its sinfulness
- E. No other object or person of worship has, as a basis of their deity, the love they have for their creation
- F. The answer to sin is love — the love that God has for us in the person of His son Jesus
- G. "No one comes to the Father except through" Jesus

III. The Answer to Ignorance

- A. The Truth
- B. To conform to reality or actuality; often with the implication of dependability
- C. Many say that the answer to ignorance is knowledge
 - 1. While I believe that is true we must clarify knowledge — Knowledge of the truth
 - 2. We can know all about Hinduism, Islam, and Buddhism and still not have the truth
 - 3. So the answer to ignorance is knowledge of the truth
- D. The Gospel is the truth
 - 1. Gospel means good news

2. Galatians 2:14 (ESV); But when I saw that their conduct was not in step with the truth of the gospel, I said to Cephas before them all, "If you, though a Jew, live like a Gentile and not like a Jew, how can you force the Gentiles to live like Jews?"
3. Ephesians 1:13–14 (ESV); ¹³ In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, ¹⁴ who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

E. Truth is not subjective

1. Andrew Lloyd Weber's *Jesus Christ Superstar*
 - a) "What is truth? Is truth unchanging law? We both have truths - are mine the same as yours?"
 - b) Truth does not change with the times, with shifting morals — truth is timeless
2. Our society has tried to change the truth — and even convinced a lot of people to agree with them
 - a) Physical intimacy used to be reserved for husband and wife
 - b) Society now tells us that it can be with whoever and whenever you want
 - c) The truth is — physical intimacy is for husband and wife
 - d) "Look out for number 1" (yourself) — God says seek Him first, and seek the good of others
 - e) Matthew 6:33 (ESV); But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.
 - f) 1 Corinthians 10:24 (ESV); Let no one seek his own good, but the good of his neighbor.
3. We either believe the Father or the father of lies

F. Jesus is the truth — and "No one comes to the Father except through" Jesus

IV. The Answer to Immortality

A. The Life

B. I view mortality (immortality) a little different than most people

C. We are immortal

1. Genesis 1:27 (ESV); So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.
2. John 4:24 (ESV); God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth."
3. If we are made in God's image, then we are spirit and immortal
 - a) Our human tent is not who we are
 - b) Last week I alluded to our soul being what makes us different from each other
 - c) Our soul (spirit) is what makes us — us
4. It isn't until the time of Noah that God puts a clock on our human form
5. Genesis 6:3 (NASB95); Then the Lord said, "My Spirit shall not strive with man forever, because he also is flesh; nevertheless his days shall be one hundred and twenty years."

D. When our human form gives out our spirit will depart to one of two places

1. 1 Peter 4:16–17 (ESV); ¹⁶ Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in that name. ¹⁷ For it is time for judgment to begin at the household of God; and if it begins with us, what will be the outcome for those who do not obey the gospel of God?
2. There will be one destination for those who obey and another for those who don't
3. 2 Thessalonians 1:5–10 (ESV); ⁵ This is evidence of the righteous judgment of God, that you may be considered worthy of the kingdom of God, for which you are also suffering— ⁶ since indeed God considers it just to repay with affliction those who afflict you, ⁷ and to grant relief to you who are afflicted as well as to us, when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with his mighty angels ⁸ in flaming fire, inflicting vengeance on those who do not know God and on those who do not obey the

gospel of our Lord Jesus. ⁹ They will suffer the punishment of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his might, ¹⁰ when he comes on that day to be glorified in his saints, and to be marveled at among all who have believed, because our testimony to you was believed.

- E. To walk in The Way (obey) of the truth (the Gospel) is life!
- F. To walk in any other way (not obey) other than the truth (the Gospel) is eternal destruction away from the presence of the Lord

V. Jesus

- A. John 14:6 (ESV); Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.
- B. The Bread of Life
- C. The Light of the World
- D. The Door of the sheep
- E. The Good Shepherd
- F. The True Vine
- G. The Resurrection and the Life
- H. The Way, The Truth, and the Life
- I. The Great I AM!