

# Is Jesus Really the Only Way to Heaven?

~ Outline of this message is taken from Ray Pritchard ~

## – John 14:6

### There's no room for error!

Is Jesus the Son of God? Yes, no problem there.

Did he die on the cross and rise from the dead? Yes, indeed.

Is he is the only way of salvation? We're not so comfortable with that idea.

### We Live in a Shrinking World

But when you hear people say, "All religions are equal," you can be sure of two things:

- A) They don't know what they are talking about, and
- B) They haven't really studied anyone's religion very closely.

### I. What Does the Bible Actually Say?

Consider the words of Jesus in [John 14:6](#). "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

*Without him, and apart from him, there is no way to the Father in heaven.* If you decide Jesus is not for you, God doesn't have a Plan B.

Add to that the words of Peter in [Acts 4:12](#). “Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved.”

Then you have the words of Paul in [1 Corinthians 3:11](#). “For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ.”

These three verses seem to be absolutely definitive.

No other way. [John 14:6](#)

No other name. [Acts 4:12](#)

No other foundation. [1<sup>st</sup> Cor 3:11](#)

Jesus didn't say, “I know the way” but rather, “I am the way.”

Consider [1 Timothy 2:5](#). “There is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus.” No other mediator is necessary.

No other mediator is possible.

*Only Jesus, the perfect Son of God, could offer himself for our sins.*

[1 John 4:10 NLT](#) “This is real love-not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as a sacrifice to take away our sins”

The issue is not our emotions or our preferences. The issue is truth.

*Sincerity in religious matters is never enough.*

The Bible is unique in its continuity

- 1) Written over a 1,500 year span
- 2) Written over 40 generations

**3) Written by over 40 authors from every walk of life**

- Moses – a political leader
- Peter – a fisherman
- Amos – a herdsman
- Joshua – a military general
- Nehemiah – a cupbearer
- Daniel – a prime minister
- Luke – a doctor
- Solomon – a king
- Matthew – a tax collector
- Paul – a rabbi

**4) Written in different places**

- Moses in the wilderness
- Jeremiah in a Dungeon
- David on a hillside
- Daniel in a palace
- Paul inside prison walls
- Luke while traveling
- John on the isle of Patmos
- Others in the rigors of a military campaign

**5) Written at different times**

- David in times of war
- Solomon in times of peace

**6) Written during different moods**

**7) Written on three continents**

- Asia, Africa, and Europe

**8) Written in three languages**

- Hebrew
  - 2 Kings 18:26-28

- Isaiah 19:18
  - Aramaic
    - The “common language”
  - Greek
    - New Testament language
- 9) Its subject matter includes hundreds of controversial subjects

## II. How Do We Communicate This to Others?

### PICTURES – Muslim Prayer in NYC

Too many Christians fit the stereotype of being all mouth and no ears.

## III. How Should We Live in an Increasingly Pluralistic World?

Here are three suggestions about where to begin:

### A. Ground Yourself in the Word of God.

Make sure you know what you believe.

Don't just read the Bible. Study it. Learn it. Memorize it.

**1 Peter 3:15**

Read some good books on Bible

## **B. Be Bold About Your Faith with a Smile on Your Face.**

If people get angry, let it be because of the truth we proclaim, not because of our angry words.

If they reject us, let it not be because we treated them rudely.

If sinners reject Christ, let it be because they truly reject him, and not because we lost our temper.

**(Proverbs 15:1).**

## **C. Realize that there is a tremendous spiritual hunger in our generation.**

There are two things we must not do:

- 1) Attempt to convert others by force or threat or intimidation.
- 2) Stand by and refuse to speak up for what we really believe.

If Jesus is truly the only way, the unkindest thing would be keep it to ourselves.

If Jesus is truly the only way, the most loving thing is to share it with others.

Only Jesus and Jesus only.