

February 16 & 17, 2019



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

Why is John 14:6 so loved?

1. the assurance that Jesus is God
2. the assurance that heaven is real
3. the assurance of reunion
4. the assurance that Jesus is our Savior

Why is John 14:6 so despised?

1. "the way" conflicts with pluralism.

a. Empirical Pluralism

There are many races, languages, cultures, morals, interpretations, and religions.

b. Cherished Pluralism

All views are to be accepted and celebrated.

c. Philosophical pluralism

Any view claiming to be morally superior to another is morally wrong.

2. "the truth" conflicts with relativism.

Relativism is the belief that there are no absolutes.

But the statement that "there are no absolutes" is an absolute statement.

The law of non-contradiction:

"A" cannot equal "non-A" at the same time.

3. "the life" conflicts with tolerance.

For past generations, the worst thing to be called was a hypocrite.

For the present generation, the worst thing to be called is intolerant.

Oxford English Dictionary: “tolerance”

The ability or willingness to tolerate the existence of opinions or behavior that one dislikes or disagrees with.

a. The older meaning of tolerance:

accepting the existence of different views

Communists have the right to teach their beliefs.

The older view can be dramatically stated:

“I disapprove of what you say, but I will defend to the death your right to say it.”

b. The newer meaning of tolerance

accepting different views

We must accept the teaching of communists.

4. “except through me” is arrogant and offensive.

1. God designed His kingdom to be pluralistic.

There is national, cultural, racial and linguistical diversity in the Kingdom of God.

Revelation 7:9 After this I looked and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and in front of the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands.

2. But there is not plurality nor diversity in the means of salvation.

Revelation 7:10 And they cried out in a loud voice:

“Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb.”

Closing: