

I AM: Who is Jesus & Why Does it Matter?

The Way, the Truth and the Life

John 14:6

God created this world in perfect fellowship & intimacy with himself. There was no death, destruction or disease...only perfect peace! But something happened to God's perfect world when human beings believed the lie that God was not good and rejected his authority by disobeying his law. From that point, to this one, we have been born separated from God by sin!

"For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." **Romans 3:23**

"For the wages of sin is death..." **Romans 6:23a**

Possible Solutions:

- **Medicine** - Trillions spent on medical advancements, but most completely ineffective at addressing the root of the problem.
- **Education** - Cannot solve the darkness that exists within the heart of people.
- **Government** - While there have been a few good things to come out of these efforts, they haven't solved our biggest problem.
- **Economics** - Addressing poverty is a priority, but it will never deliver a soul from its most pressing pain.

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

Main Idea: Jesus is the Way, the Truth and the Life

- Who is Jesus?** - *"Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life...'"* **John 14:6a**
- The Way:** Not a good way, not the best way, not our way...THE ONLY WAY!

"This is the way, walk in it." **Isaiah 30:21**

- **The Truth:** Jesus is the only one who claimed TO BE the truth, moral and spiritual truth that can be verified in Him.

"The tremendous thing about Jesus is not simply that the statement of moral perfection finds its peak in him; it is that the fact of moral perfection finds its realization in him." **William Barclay**

- **The Life:** Those with the right purpose in life know Jesus & make him known.

"You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet." **Matthew 5:13**

"Follow thou me. I am the way and the truth and the life. Without the way there is no going; without the truth there is no knowing; without the life there is no living. I am the way which thou must follow; the truth which thou must believe; the life for which thou must hope. I am the inviolable way; the infallible truth, the never-ending life. I am the straightest way; the sovereign truth; life true, life blessed, life uncreated." **Thomas a Kempis (14th Century)**

- Why Does it Matter?** *"...No one comes to the Father except through me."* **John 14:6b**

"And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved." **Acts 4:12**

Main Idea: Jesus is the Way, the Truth and the Life

"Jesus is the way, take Him. Jesus is the truth, try Him. Jesus is the life, trust Him. Then you will not only know the way to heaven, you will be on it." **James Merritt**

To the Non-Believer: Your sin has separated you from God, and you need to be saved. The only way to be saved is by faith in Jesus.

To the Believer: The last 12 months have been some of the most difficult times we will ever remember, but if you are a follower of Jesus, you know the way out...TURN TO THE WAY, THE TRUTH AND THE LIFE, JESUS CHRIST!

Sources and Further Reading Opportunities

- *Exploring the Gospel of John* - John Phillips (1989)
- *John: That you May Believe* - Kent Hughes (1999)
- *The Bible Exposition Commentary* - Warren Wiersbe (1996)
- *The IVP Bible Background Commentary: New Testament* - Craig Keener (1993)
- *The Gospel of John (Vol 2)* - William Barclay (1975)
- *Faithlife Study Bible* - J.D. Barry (2016)
- *John* - B. B. Barton (1993)
- *The Message of John: Here is Your King!* - B. Milne (1993)
- *John* - K. O. Gangel (2000)
- *The New American Commentary: John* - Gerald L. Borchert (1996)
- *Word Pictures in the New Testament* - A.T. Robertson (1933)
- *A Critical and Exegetical Commentary on the Gospel according to St. John* - A.H. McNeile (1929)
- *The Gospel According to John* - D.A. Carson (1991)
- *The Light of the World: A Sermon* - Charles Haddon Spurgeon (1916)
- *Do You Know the Way to Heaven?* - James Merritt (2021)