

I AM THE WAY

April 10, 2016

John 14:1-21

**“Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life:
no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.” John 14:6**

Christ and the disciples had just celebrated the Passover. Jesus told them that one of them would betray Him, and that He would be crucified (13:21-38). He exhorted them not to be troubled regarding this news, for He was going to His Father to prepare a place for them, and would return to receive them into that place. Thomas inquired how they might know the way there. Jesus responded, “I am the way.”

Herein He reaffirmed His statements, “I am the door” and “I am the good shepherd” (John 10:7, 11), expanding the parable of the lost sheep whom the shepherd seeks, finds and carries on his shoulders into the fold (Luke 15:4-7). That fold is His “Father’s house,” where He has gone to prepare a place for His flock. Isaiah foretold this: “Behold, the Lord God will come . . . he shall gather the lambs in his arm, and carry them in his bosom” (Isaiah 40:10, 11). “An highway shall be there, and a way, and it shall be called The way of holiness” (Isaiah 35:8).

The writer of Hebrews spoke of Israel’s high priests—the only ones who could enter the most holy place of the tabernacle—as “signifying that the way into the holiest of all was not yet made” (9:8). But because of Christ’s death, God’s people have “boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us” (10:19, 20). Scripture unites around this truth: Christ is the one and only way unto God. Consider this sequence of biblical texts:

1. “For the LORD knoweth the way of the righteous: but the way of the ungodly shall perish.” Psalm 1:6
2. “There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.”
Proverbs 14:12; 16:25
3. “All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.” Isaiah 53:6
4. “Ye have sown much, and bring in little; ye eat, but ye have not enough; ye drink, but ye are not filled with drink; ye clothe you, but there is none warm; and he that earneth wages earneth wages to put it into a bag with holes. Thus saith the LORD of hosts; Consider your ways.” Haggai 1:6, 7
5. “Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.” Matthew 7:13, 14

“Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.”

Matthew 7:21-23

“Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.” Acts 4:12