

## 39. Is Christ the Only Way?

Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.” [John 14:6]

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Is Christianity the only way to God? Aren't all religions ultimately the same? Aren't they all legitimate avenues to

God? We need to think about these frequently asked questions so we can give clear and compelling answers in defense of God's truth.

When we examine the content of world religions we see that, at cardinal points of values and truth claims, they are mutually exclusive. The New Testament tells us that justification is by faith, that there is a necessary content to that faith, and that if you reject that faith you cannot be justified.

For example, no religion except Christianity has an atonement. How

can a person believe that Christ's atonement saves, and yet also believe with all other world religions that the atonement is unnecessary? Let me be candid: **When people say that all religions are essentially the same, they are admitting they know little or nothing about world religions.** They are expressing a popular sentiment they haven't thought out to its logical conclusion.

The notion that all religions are valid is logically impossible. **If all are valid ways to God, then Christianity is necessarily valid and Jesus is simply**

**one of many ways to God. But we find that Jesus said he was the *only* way, and that no one can come to God except through him.** In so teaching, Jesus himself eliminated all other ways.

Thus, if Christ is one of the ways to God, he has to be the only way. If not, then this Jesus, who is one of the ways, is dead wrong when he claims to be the only way, in which case it would be foolish to think that he is even one of the ways.

**Christians did not come up with the idea that Jesus is the only way to God. That idea origi-**

nated with Jesus. If he was wrong, then Christianity has no validity at all. If he was right, then there is no other way to be saved.

3:15).

For further study: [1 Chronicles 16:23–36](#); [Isaiah 45:20–25](#); [Luke 2:25–33](#); [Acts 4:5–12](#)

### *Coram Deo*

If some other way of salvation were possible, God would not have sent his only Son to die in anguish. Learn the logic and rationale behind this and other explanations to be able to state clearly for those who ask you why Jesus is the only way to heaven. As Peter teaches, “always be prepared to make a defense ... for the hope that is in you” ([1 Pet.](#)