

Jesus Is the Way

Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father, but by me" (John 14:6). Let us consider how Jesus is the way.

Jesus is **THE WAY OUT**. He is the way out of the Old Law (Acts 13:38-39), the way out of sin (1 John 3:4; James 4:17; Romans 3:23; 6:23; James 2:10; John 3:16), the way out of temptation (Matthew 4:1ff; 6:13; 1 Corinthians 10:13), and the way out of religious confusion (John 17:4,20-21; Matthew 16:18; Ephesians 4:4-6).

Jesus is **THE WAY IN**. He is the way in to a new covenant (Hebrews 7-10), the way in to forgiveness (Matthew 26:27-28; 1 John 2:2; 4:10; Matthew 28:19-20; John 8:32,36), the way in to a new and better life (Romans 6:4; 2 Corinthians 5:17; John 10:10; Luke 12:15; Titus 3:3-7).

Jesus is **THE WAY THROUGH**. He is the way through sorrow and suffering (John 14:1; 1 Thessalonians 4:13; 1 Peter 4:12-19) and the way through anxieties and cares (Matthew 6:19ff; John 6:33).

Lastly, Jesus is **THE WAY TO**. He is the way to God (John 1:1-2,14,18; 6:46; 14:7; Colossians 1:15; 2:9; Hebrews 1:3; 4:14-16) and he is the way to eternal life in heaven (John 14:2-3; Revelation 21-22; Matthew 7:13-14; Acts 17:30-31).

Will you let Jesus lead you in the way? The way out of sin, the way in to a new life, the way through troubles, and the way to heaven? - Chris Reeves

Sentence Sermons

- Eternity is a long time to think about what you should have done.
- God promises a safe landing, not a calm passage.
- If you suffer from truth decay, brush up on your Bible.
- Many people want to serve God, but only in an advisory position.
- Friends don't let friends die without Jesus.

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For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh, for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses.
- 2 Corinthians 10:3-4 -

What Is Man? - Part I

The psalmist asks, "What is man?" (Psalm 8:4). This is an important question. Many humans act like they don't know who they are! Others act like they know, but don't care! The view that we have of ourselves affects the way we live.

Where do we go for the answer? Fellow-man? Our self? No. Let's find God's answer to this question in Genesis 1-3.

What is man? **MAN IS A SPIRIT BEING** (Genesis 1:26-28). Man is a spirit being, contrary to "materialism" that says man has a body only. God is "spirit" without body (John 4:24). A fleshly form cannot reflect the image of God (Romans 1:23).

Man's spirit is eternal; it lives on after death (Matthew 22:29-32). "Materialism" says that man has a body only; no part of man lives on after death. This is the view of the atheist, evolutionist, Seventh-Day Adventist, Jehovah's Witness, World Wide Church of God, etc.

If man has no (eternal) spirit, then there is no resurrection. If there is no resurrection, then sin is of no consequence; both the righteous and wicked have the same fate - annihilation! If we are annihilated at death, then we can live

any way we want while we are alive (1 Corinthians 15:33).

However, Paul says that we cannot live any way we want in this life because there is a resurrection and we will face God in judgment (1 Corinthians 15:12-34; especially verses 33-34).

What is man? **MAN HAS A REAL BODY** (Genesis 2:7; 3:19). Man has a real body of flesh and bones, contrary to the Christian Scientist Church. Man can eat plants and animals, but not other humans; not the blood of humans because the "life is in the blood" (Genesis 9:3-4; Leviticus 17:11).

Christian Scientists (founded in 1879 by Mary Baker Eddy) dismiss the real world as illusion. Here is what they believe:

"Matter and its effects - sin, sickness, and death - are states of mortal mind which act, react, and then come to a stop. They are not facts of Mind. They are not ideas, but illusions" (Science and Health With Key to the Scriptures, page 283).

If the world is not real and there is no sin, then we are not held accountable for what we do in the body.

However, Paul says that we are held accountable for what we do in the body

(Romans 14:10,12; 2 Corinthians 5:10). John says that if we say that there is no sin we deceive ourselves (1 John 1:8-9). Death is real and we must prepare for it (Hebrews 9:27)!

What is man? **MAN IS CREATED** (Genesis 1:26-27; 2:7,18-23). Man had his beginning when he was created by God in one day, contrary to evolution. Plants, animals and man were created to produce "after its kind" (Genesis 1:11ff,21ff,28). There was no "transmutation of species."

The theory of evolution says that life came from non-life; animals from plants; man from animals (monkeys). Man is simply the highest form of animal in the evolutionary chain. If man "evolved" from animals, then his actions are simply the actions of animals. We can have "barnyard morality," "the law of the jungle" and "might makes right." Why not steal, kill, or have a sexual relationship with more than one mate? Animals do!

However, Paul says that we cannot act anyway we want (Romans 1:18-32; especially verse 32). We cannot live like animals. - *Chris Reeves*

(continued next week)