

The Way - Week 4

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If Jesus is the only way to God, what about people who have never heard of Jesus?

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

1) The Bible says that God has revealed Himself to all people.

Romans 1:18 The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of people, who suppress the truth by their wickedness, **19** since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. **20** For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse.

2) The Bible says that God has made plans for how to judge people who don't have the Bible.

Romans 2:12 All who sin apart from the law will also perish apart from the law, and all who sin under the law will be judged by the law. **13** For it is not those who hear the law who are righteous in God's sight, but it is those who obey the law who will be declared righteous. **14** (Indeed, when Gentiles, who do not have the law, do by nature things required by the law, they are a law for themselves, even though they do not have the law. **15** They show that the requirements of the law are written on their hearts, their consciences also bearing witness, and their thoughts sometimes accusing them and at other times even defending them.) **16** This will take place on the day when God judges people's secrets through Jesus Christ, as my gospel declares.

Romans 3:9.... Jews and Gentiles alike are all under the power of sin. **10** As it is written: "There is no one righteous, not even one; **11** there is no one who understands; there is no one who seeks God. **12** All have turned away, they have together become worthless; there is no one who does good, not even one."...**19** Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world held accountable to God. **20** Therefore no one will be declared righteous in God's sight by the works of the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of our sin....**23** for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

3) The Bible teaches that Christ alone is the one who saves.

1 Peter 3:18 For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God.

Acts 4:12 Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved."

Revelation 20:11 Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it. The earth and the heavens fled from his presence, and there was no place for them. **12** And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Another book was opened, which is the book of life. The dead were judged according to what they had done as recorded in the books...**15** Anyone whose name was not found written in the book of life was thrown into the lake of fire.

3) The Bible says that there will be people from every tribe and nation in heaven.

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 before the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. **10** And they cried out in a loud voice: "Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb." **11** All the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures. They fell down on their faces before the throne and worshiped God.

Daniel 12:2 Multitudes who sleep in the dust of the earth will awake: some to everlasting life, others to shame and everlasting contempt. **3** Those who are wise will shine like the brightness of the heavens, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars for ever and ever... **13** "As for you, go your way till the end. You will rest, and then at the end of the days you will rise to receive your allotted inheritance."

Acts 17:26 From one man he made all the nations, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he marked out their appointed times in history and the boundaries of their lands. **27** God did this so that they would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from any one of us.

4) At the end of the day, God will judge justly.

Revelation 19:1 After this I heard what sounded like the roar of a great multitude in heaven shouting "Hallelujah! Salvation and glory and power belong to our God **2** for true and just are his judgments.

5) God wants the gospel to be shared in the whole world.

Matthew 28:18 Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. **19** Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, **20** and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Romans 10:13 for, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." **14** How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? **15** And how can anyone preach unless they are sent? As it is written: "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

Matthew 24:14 And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.