

## JESUS THE ONLY WAY

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*"But this I confess unto thee, that after the way which they call heresy, so worship I the God of my fathers, believing all things which are written in the law and in the prophets." Acts 24:14.*

The **way** was a description of what believers believed in the early days, up through the work of the apostles, and to the present. In Acts 9:2 they bound those who believed the **way**. In Acts 19:9 they spoke evil of those who believed the **way**. In the same chapter, verse 23, they stirred up trouble for Paul and followers who preached the **way**. In Acts 22:4 Paul, who was first named Saul, testified against those he had thrown into prison and persecuted those who believed the **way**. In our text above Paul, after conversion, said he worshiped the **way**. In Acts 24:22 He gained knowledge of the **way** and began preaching it. By now you should be curious of what the **way** really was. **Actually Christianity was once called the way.** Christ freely called himself that when He was speaking during His earthly ministry. With much study I found **Jesus had seven "I Am" sayings in the gospel of John.** If you have your Bible turn and look with me now. This **way** as it was called is all wrapped up in Jesus Christ, the way, who was very truth, and came to provide life to all believers. Let's consider these seven names Jesus gave Himself for us to believe. He called himself **(1). The Bread Of Life:** *"I am the bread of life."* John 6:48. He called himself the living bread which came down from heaven. His promise is that any that will eat of Himself by faith, they will have everlasting life. He spoke of His flesh which He would give on the cross to pay for all of our sins, even for the sins of the whole world. Jesus made reference to the

manna which God sent down to feed His wilderness children. Jesus is God's living bread, and whosoever believes in Him shall not die, but live forever. The bread served in our communion services speaks of Christ who gave His flesh for us on the cross. **(2). I Am The Light:** *"Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world; he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life."* John 8:12. Our world today is floundering in the darkness of sin. The latest figures show every faith man has established to be failing, and losing members. Man talks about seeking the light but it is the wrong light, and does not penetrate the darkness of sin which possesses every sinner. False religions present things for man to do, and rejects what Christ has already done. Every man made religion drops the adherents in a dark alley of despair, and false hope on earth, and no sure hope in eternity. They speak about Jesus in many ways, but never as Lord and Saviour upon whom they must trust. Not one religion can guarantee a sure home in heaven in the brilliance of everlasting life. **(3). I Am The Door:** *"I am the door; by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture."* John 10:9. How beautifully Jesus pictures himself as a door. We all understand the work of a door as an object that opens or closes. Our houses have many doors to shut out things or to gain entrance within. Many Bible artists have drawn and painted Jesus knocking at a door waiting for it to be opened He calls Himself the door and waits to enter your life and grant salvation to your soul. Only you yourself can shut Him out or allow Him to enter. The choice is yours and the only sensible decision is to let Him be your Redeemer and Lord as you welcome Him into your life. Why shut out your only hope of eternal life in glory? **(4). I Am The Good Shepherd:** *"I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine. As the father knoweth me, even so know I the Father; and I*

lay down my life for the sheep." John 10:14&15. The title of good shepherd with which Jesus labels Himself is another great truth. Repeatedly in the Bible sheep are mentioned, and were very important to man in that day. They grazed on the hillside, under the control and protection of the shepherd. They knew his voice, and would respond to his leading. At night he would lead them safely to the fold, and close the gate for their safety. They were protected all night, and knowing his voice were ready to go in the morning. Jesus wants to be the shepherd of all mankind. He knows His born again flock, and will lead us through life into the riches of glory. Dear believer listen for His call and direction, heeding the message of His Word. He will watch over you, and lead you, and protect you wherever His will leads on this earth. He has promised to be with us always and will lead us to Heaven. While other shepherds lead very wrong, He is the good shepherd, and as God, can make no mistakes. **(5). The Resurrection And The Life:** "*Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believeth thou this.?*" John 11: 25 & 26. Wow! That is great news. The cemeteries of the world testify to the reality of death, but Jesus did not stay in the tomb, and neither will we. Because the wages of sin is death we without Christ would have no hope, but if we are in Him by faith, then we in like manner will rise again. We have been given the gift of eternal life which is ours now and forever. He paid the price for our sin and death cannot hold us, but His eternal life rather possesses us forever. Remember "*For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.*" Rom. 6:23 Knowing and trusting Him gives you everything you need. **(6). "I Am The True Vine":** "*I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman.*" John 15:1. Once again Jesus

used a term they could all understand. I have been in Israel and beautiful vines grow everywhere. Jesus warns that His Father sent Him to our world, and He alone is the true vine. Man has named many vines. I think of the Kudzu vine in my wife's state of Alabama. It grows everywhere and tries to out do and take over everything. The vines of sin, unbelief, and false religion are everywhere, but Christ alone is the true vine. Live for Him, and He, your husbandman, will use you to help many others by His grace and mercy. Be sure to trust the true vine! **(7). The Way, The Truth, And The Life:** "*Jesus said, I am the way, the truth, and the life, no man cometh unto the father but by me.*" John 14:6. This is a favorite preaching verse of mine, and I have preached on it hundreds of times. The Bible warns there is a way that seems right unto man, but the end are the ways of death. Billions of souls have lived and died and gone to hell, for they were not told the way of truth. This is so very sad but true. Someone said, "You can bring a horse to water, but you can't make him drink." You can stubbornly refuse the Gospel but remember there is no other way. Then there is the word truth. If you know the truth and obey it, the truth will make you free. Every word from the mouth of Christ was true, and you must believe this to be saved.. Millions are deceived by the false religions of the day. You can do nothing in your own flesh to save your soul. No man made prayer, ordinance, nor way of works can save your soul. All religions are false, and further deceive the souls of their most diligent followers. Only Jesus alone, the true Son of God, has life waiting to give you as a gift. One of the greatest verses in the Bible says, "*For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.*" John 3:16. Praise Him if you have already been saved, and rejoice in all the wonderful things He is. Only Jesus Saves! Have you trusted Him?