

# Answering The Religious Errors Of Our Family, Friends, and Neighbors 1

## “We Are All Headed To The Same Place, Just Going Different Ways!”

### Lesson 28

#### INTRO:

- A. When discussing religious matters and points of differences become apparent, people are often heard to say, “We are all going to the same place, we’re just going different ways”!
1. What this statement implies is that all religions lead to Heaven.
  2. This statement is also an admission and acceptance of all the confusion there is in the religious world. If it’s not, why is it not?
  3. However, a majority of people we are likely to come in contact will attach certain qualifications to this statement if pressed further. For example:
    - a. Most would not go so far as to include religions like Islam, Buddhism, Hinduism, and other similar religions.
    - b. Most would insist on this remaining in a contest of only those who believers in Christ.
    - c. Even at that, some might hesitate in making this statement in regards to Catholics, Jehovah’s Witnesses, Mormons, etc.
  4. With all this being said, most of the time this statement is made in an attempt to bring the conversation at hand to an end but it shouldn’t if we are Christians.
- B. If this statement is true, the way to Heaven would be a “*broad way*” for the simple reason that all the religions that profess Christ are teaching and practicing different things which, more times than not, contradict each other.

#### I. DO THE SCRIPTURES TEACH “WE ARE ALL HEADED TO THE SAME PLACE, JUST GOING DIFFERENT DIRECTIONS”?

- A. Jesus said in **Matthew 7:13,14**: “*Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. 14 Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it.*”
1. Jesus did not speak of many ways to Heaven/life but the exact opposite:
    - a. The gate is “*narrow*”, the way is “*difficult*”, and only a “*few will find it*”.
  2. The gate is not wide nor is the way broad as it seems most people would prefer for it to be!
- B. **John 14:6** “*Jesus said to him, ‘I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.’*”
1. Jesus is “**THE WAY**”!
    - a. Is Jesus saying:
      - 1) there are other ways? or...
      - 2) He is one of many ways?.

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2. Jesus is **“THE TRUTH”**!
  - a. How many ‘truths’ does Jesus say there are?
  - b. Does **“the truth”** allow for many truths when it comes to what we can believe and practice in the name of religion?
    - 1) **Psalms 119:30** *“I have chosen **the way of truth**; Your judgments I have laid before me.”*
    - 2) **2 Peter 2:2** *“And many will follow their destructive ways, because of whom **the way of truth** will be blasphemed.”*
  - c. Can there even be such a thing as ‘truth’ when two statements or two practices contradict each other?
- C. Notice what these verses say:
  1. **Acts 9:2** *“and asked letters from him to the synagogues of Damascus, so that if he found any who were of **the Way**, whether men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem.”*
  2. **Acts 16:17** *“The same followed Paul and us, and cried, saying, These men are the servants of the most high God, which shew unto us **the way** of salvation.”*
  3. **Acts 18:25** *“This man was instructed in **the way** of the Lord; and being fervent in the spirit, he spake and taught diligently the things of the Lord, knowing only the baptism of John.”*
  4. **Acts 19:9** *“But when some were hardened and did not believe, but spoke evil of **the Way** before the multitude, he departed from them and withdrew the disciples, reasoning daily in the school of Tyrannus.”*
  5. No mention of “ways” but only **“the way”**!
- D. The Scriptures teach *“So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.”* **Romans 10:17** and Jesus said, when He prayed to the Father,; *“Sanctify them through Thy truth: Thy word is truth.”* **John 17:17**; therefore there is *“one faith”* just like **Ephesians 4:5** teaches: *“One Lord, **one faith**, one baptism,”*.
  1. If *“hearing”* the *“word of God”* produces *“faith”* and God’s word is *“truth”*, how many ‘faiths’ does *“truth”* result in? **“ONE FAITH”**!
  2. We are all going to the same place if and only if there are ‘many faiths’!
  3. But there aren’t ‘many faiths’, there is only *“one faith”*!
  4. We can’t have it both ways and be in harmony with what the Scriptures teach!
  5. ‘Many ways’ means ‘many faiths’! How can it not?

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- E. ‘Many ways’ also means ‘many bodies/many churches’!
1. The Scriptures teach that the “body” is the “church”.
    - a. **Ephesians 1:22,23** “*And hath put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be the head over all things to **the church, 23 Which is His body**, the fulness of Him that filleth all in all.*”
    - b. **Colossians 1:18** “*And He is the head of **the body, the church**: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things He might have the preeminence.*”
    - c. **Ephesians 4:4** “*There is **one body**, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling;...*”
      - 1) The “body” and the “church” are one and the same thing.
  2. **Acts 2:47** “*And the **Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved.***”  
**Ephesians 5:23** “*For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and **He is the Savior of the body.***”
    - a. Those who were being saved were added to the church and Jesus is the “Savior of the body”.
    - b. Are the “saved” in two different things or the same thing?
    - c. All the above verses show the saved are in the same thing whether you call it the “church” or call it the “body”.

**CONCLUSION:**

- A. Those people who would believe ‘we are all headed to the same place, just going different ways’ could just as easily believe that ‘one church is just as good as another’ or visa versa.
  1. In reality, this is the consensus of a lot of folks.
- B. Here is what they and we must realize: All those who acknowledge Christ and call Him Lord are not going to go to Heaven.
  1. **Matthew 7:21-23** “***Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. 22 Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' 23 And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'***”
  2. The lesson of these verses is that religious people can and do engage in things for which God has given no command - that’s what “lawlessness” is!