



ON PATHS AND DESTINATIONS

Are we all taking our own
journey to the same place?

A GENUINE DESIRE

- ❖ The statement comes from a place of compassion:
 - ❖ We should not desire anyone go to hell:
 - ❖ Matthew 25.30,41,46
 - ❖ Romans 6.23 – separation from whom?
 - ❖ An experience no human has ever known – utter separation from God
 - ❖ God has this same desire – 2 Peter 3.9
 - ❖ Our desires should not come at the expense of our submission to God:

AN OVERSTATED CASE

- ❖ The argument, especially from Bible-believers, is overstated and exaggerated.
- ❖ Is everyone going to be with Jesus?
 - ❖ Jesus would testify otherwise – Matthew 7.21-23
- ❖ Is everyone going to be saved?
 - ❖ If so, Paul spoke inaccurately in Acts 17.31
 - ❖ If so, Jesus was mistaken or deceived in John 5.28-29

DO WE ALL BELIEVE THE SAME THING?

- ❖ While Jesus is the means of salvation, He will save only those who come to Him.
- ❖ John 14.6; Hebrews 5.8-9
- ❖ I cannot be saved while rejecting Jesus – Hebrews 10.29
- ❖ We don't all believe the same thing if I reject Jesus.

DO WE ALL BELIEVE THE SAME THING?

- ❖ While we are all descended from Adam, we are not all tainted with his sin.
 - ❖ Romans 5.12; Matthew 19.14
 - ❖ How can I be guilty of someone else's sin? Ezekiel 18.20
 - ❖ What kind of God creates man sinful? What kind of God holds man guilty of something he has not done?

Article VII — Of Original or Birth Sin

“Original sin standeth not in the following of Adam (as the Pelagians do vainly talk), but it is the corruption of the nature of every man, that naturally is engendered of the offspring of Adam, whereby man is very far gone from original righteousness, and of his own nature inclined to evil, and that continually.”

DO WE ALL BELIEVE THE SAME THING?

- ❖ While we are all descended from Adam, we are not all tainted with his sin.
 - ❖ Romans 5.12; Matthew 19.14
 - ❖ How can I be guilty of someone else's sin? Ezekiel 18.20

10 — MAN

We believe that Man was created in the image of God and lived in innocence until he fell by voluntary transgression from his sinless state, the result being that all mankind are sinners.

<https://www.abaptist.org/beliefs>

DO WE ALL BELIEVE THE SAME THING?

- ❖ While we are all descended from Adam, we are not all tainted with his sin.
 - ❖ Romans 5.12; Matthew 19.14
 - ❖ How can I be guilty of someone else's sin? Ezekiel 18.20

OF MAN AND SIN

“We furthermore teach that sin came into the world by the fall of the first man, as described [sic] Gen. 3. By this Fall not only he himself, but also his natural offspring have lost the original knowledge, righteousness, and holiness, and thus all men are sinners already by birth, dead in sins, inclined to all evil, and **subject to the wrath of God**, Rom. 5:12, 18; Eph. 2:1-3. We teach also that men are unable, through any efforts of their own or by the aid of ‘culture and science,’ to reconcile themselves to God and thus conquer death and damnation.”

DO WE ALL BELIEVE THE SAME THING?

- ❖ While we are all descended from Adam, we are not all tainted with his sin.
 - ❖ Romans 5.12; Matthew 19.14
 - ❖ How can I be guilty of someone else's sin? Ezekiel 18.20
 - ❖ What kind of God creates man sinful? What kind of God holds man guilty of something he has not done?
 - ❖ We don't all believe the same thing if I believe children are born sinful.

DO WE ALL BELIEVE THE SAME THING?

- ❖ While salvation is by grace, that does not exclude personal involvement.
 - ❖ If salvation is by *grace alone* then all humanity will be saved – Titus 2.11
 - ❖ Is the objection truly to the concept of personal involvement?
 - ❖ Must I repent in order to be saved? Confess? Believe?
 - ❖ Acts 2.38; Romans 10.9; Mark 16.16
 - ❖ Two uncomfortable realities are left:
 - ❖ Either God does all these things for me (and not for others), or
 - ❖ The objection to personal involvement relates solely to baptism and godly living.
- ❖ We don't all believe the same thing if I exclude personal involvement from salvation by grace (Ephesians 2.8-9).

BELIEFS ARE IMPORTANT

"Jesus said to him, 'I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life; no one comes to the Father but through Me.'"

John 14.6

"For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek."

Romans 1.16

"On the day when, according to my gospel, God will judge the secrets of men through Christ Jesus."

Romans 2.16