

Lighthouse Bible Church
July 1st, 2012 Morning Service
John 14: 1 – 6
‘Christ, The Only Way to Heaven’

Stand – Read – Pray Scripture reading Matthew 19: 16 - 26

If you were to ask people today if they were going to heaven or not, most of them would say that they would and they would say they would because:

The have been a good person, or not as bad as some
I have gone to church all my life
I have led a bible study and was a Sunday school teacher for years
I have been baptized
I try to help people whenever I can

What they all usually have in common is that they cite some type of religious works or their own works righteousness or goodness that qualifies them to be saved and to get to heaven.

They need to be reminded of what Jesus said in **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.** Because many, like today, will cite their good, religious works that they believe gains them entrance into the kingdom of heaven. **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.** And Jesus’ response to them will be the same as for those today **then I will declare to them, I never knew you...**

They need to be reminded of what **Ephesians 2: 8 – 9** says as well, **for by grace you have been saved through faith and that not of yourselves, it is a gift of God NOT OF WORKS...lest anyone should boast.**

And isn't that exactly what the rich young ruler did that Mike read about. He was citing all his good and religious works and he went away sorrowful which prompted the disciples to ask **who then can be saved** and Jesus response was **with men this is impossible...** they can't do it on their own.

What Jesus is saying is that people, on their own merit, goodness, or possessions can not save themselves, they can not get to heaven on their own.

Paul wrote in **Galatians 2: 16** that **a man is not justified** or declared righteous enough to get to heaven **by the works of the law BUT by faith in Jesus Christ..**

Look at how Paul described himself before he came to this understanding in **Philippians 3: 4 – 7, 9.**

So then, as the title of this message says, is Christ the only way to heaven. Let's see what God's word says.

Acts 4: 12 nor is their salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.

Colossians 1: 13 – 14 says He Christ, has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love, in whom we have redemption, through His blood, the forgiveness of sins.

John 14: 6 Jesus said **I am the way and the truth and the life, NO ONE comes to the Father except how, through Me.** And **John 6: 44** says that none one can come to Jesus except through the Father and then Jesus will raise them up on the last day.

John 10: 27 – 30 My sheep hear My voice and I know them and they follow Me and I give them eternal life and they shall never perish...

So why does it have to be Jesus and no one else that can get us to heaven

Because Jesus is the only one who **Mediates and Intercedes for us.**

He did it while on earth: look at **John 17: 20 – 24**

He does it while He is in heaven:

Romans 8: 34 it is Christ who died and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us. No one else can do that

Hebrews 7: 25 says therefore He is able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them. Why? Because **1st Timothy 2: 5** says there is one God and one mediator between man and God and it is Christ Jesus, right?

So our access to heaven is possible because we have someone who is there already on our behalf.

Secondly, it has to be Jesus alone because **He Rose from the Dead, because of His resurrection.** **1st Peter 1: 3 – 4** says he has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved for us (where) in heaven.

Thirdly, Jesus is the only way to heaven because He is coming back from heaven for us who are believers. Look at 1st Thessalonians 4: 15 – 17 read

Jesus said of His own return in Matthew 24: 31 that He would **gather His elect** and later in Matthew 25: 34 would say to them **come you blessed of My Father inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.**

Jesus said in John 14: 2 – 3 **in My Father's house are many mansion; if it were not so I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you and if I go and prepare a place for you I will (what) come again and receive you to Myself so that where I am there you may be also.**

Fourthly, the reason Jesus is the only way to heaven is because It was His mission to save us and take us to heaven. Luke 19: 10 says **for the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost.**

Matthew 20: 28 **The Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve and to give His life a ransom for many**

John 17: 3 **and this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God and Jesus Christ who You have sent. Why was Jesus sent? John 6: 38 For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me. This is the will of the Father who sent Me, that of all He has given Me, I should lose nothing, but should raise it up the last day.**

Because Jesus is the only way to heaven, we can know the way to get there. And it is through having our sins punished and cleansed and forgiven by Jesus Himself.

The Bible says that God is holy and perfect and in order for us to get to heaven we must be holy and perfect.

The Bible says all have sinned and fallen short of the standard God has set.

The Bible calls our falling short, sin and it says **the wages of our sin is death**. God, in His holiness, must punish sin and since we have all sinned we all deserve His punishment.

The Bible says that **God demonstrated His own love for us in that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us**.

The Bible says that **He who knew no sin, became sin for us that we might become the righteousness of God in Him**.

An exchange took place where we received Christ's righteousness or right standing before God. We couldn't and can't do that on our own. He took on our sin, removing our sin from us, cleansing us

It is like what **Isaiah 53: 4 – 6** says **He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows. He was stricken, smitten and afflicted by God and He was wounded for OUR transgressions and He was bruised for OUR iniquities ... and by His stripes we were healed ... the Lord laid on Him the iniquity of us all**.

He was the **lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world**, that sin we couldn't hide or minimize or be good or religious enough to cover or counter balance with good outweighing our bad.

And when we believe that and, by faith, receive His free gift of salvation, when we put our faith and trust in Christ's sacrifice for our sins that appeased God's wrath, and when we truly repent of our sin and recognize that we are not worthy of His love and grace and mercy,

Then as **Jude 24** says **He is able to keep us from stumbling and to present us faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy.**

Then as **Colossians 1: 22** says because of Christ's sacrificial death for us, **we become holy, blameless and above reproach in His sight.**

Because of God's love for you and me and because He demonstrated that love in the sacrifice of His only Son Jesus for our sins, we have the way to heaven opened for us. We have a future hope and an eternal destiny, which affects the way we live today.

Lighthouse Bible Church
July 1st, 2012 Morning Service
John 14: 1 – 6
‘Christ, the Only Way to Heaven’

Introduction:

Matthew 7: 21 – 23, Ephesians 2: 8 – 9
Galatians 2: 16, Philippians 3: 4 – 7, 9

Is Christ the Only way to Heaven?

Acts 4: 12, Colossians 1: 13 – 14
John 14: 6, John 10: 27 – 30

Why is Christ the Only way to Heaven?

Because He _____
John 17: 20 – 24, Romans 8: 34
Hebrews 7: 25, 1st Timothy 2: 5

Because He _____
1st Peter 1: 3 – 4

Because He _____
1st Thessalonians 4: 15-17, Matthew 24: 31
Matthew 25: 34, John 14: 2 – 3

Because _____
Luke 19: 10, Matthew 20: 28
John 17: 3, John 6: 38

How do we get to Heaven?

Isaiah 53: 4 – 6, Jude 1: 24
Colossians 1: 22

Lighthouse Bible Church
July 1st, 2012 Morning Service
John 14: 1 – 6
‘Christ, the Only Way to Heaven’

Introduction:

Matthew 7: 21 – 23, Ephesians 2: 8 – 9
Galatians 2: 16, Philippians 3: 4 – 7, 9

Is Christ the Only way to Heaven?

Acts 4: 12, Colossians 1: 13 – 14
John 14: 6, John 10: 27 – 30

Why is Christ the Only way to Heaven?

Because He _____
John 17: 20 – 24, Romans 8: 34
Hebrews 7: 25, 1st Timothy 2: 5

Because He _____
1st Peter 1: 3 – 4

Because He _____
1st Thessalonians 4: 15-17, Matthew 24: 31
Matthew 25: 34, John 14: 2 – 3

Because _____
Luke 19: 10, Matthew 20: 28
John 17: 3, John 6: 38

How do we get to Heaven?

Isaiah 53: 4 – 6, Jude 1: 24
Colossians 1: 22