

DO YOU AGREE WITH JESUS?

QUESTION: Will we all get to heaven by different ways?

The consensus of those in our society would say that the vast majority of people will go to heaven when this life is over. Most seem to think that by living a good, moral life heaven will be their eternal residence. With the plethora of religious bodies that exists in our society and even throughout the world, myriads are under the impression that we are all trying to get to heaven, albeit by different paths. Is this idea born out in Scripture? Permit me to borrow an old adage: do all roads lead to heaven?

To answer the question, let us consult the words of Jesus. He spoke, "Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it" (Matthew 7:13-14). The words of our Savior make it abundantly clear that the majority will be lost. He himself said that few would be willing to walk the path that leads to glory. This truth from the lips of Jesus is a far cry from what we are hearing in the religious world around us.

Listen again as Jesus speaks: "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me" (John 14:6). Muhammad, or Vishnu, or Buddha will not lead a person to eternal life in heaven. Nor are Martin Luther, or John Calvin, or the Pope the way to everlasting life. Jesus is the one and only way, the one and only truth, and the one and only life. There is no other way to heaven! We cannot get there unless we are willing to follow him, and him alone. "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me" (Luke 9:23).

Are you following Jesus? Are you allowing his words to guide you through this life? Those who would teach you that we are all going to heaven by different ways did not find that teaching in the Scriptures. Do not follow the voice or the path of another. To do so is to miss heaven, and if you miss heaven, you have missed it all!

Do you have a question that you would like for us to consider together, or a comment regarding what has been written? If so, please contact us at sixthavenue@bellsouth.net, or write to us at the Sixth Avenue Church of Christ, 1501 Sixth Avenue, Jasper, Alabama, 35501.