

Why is Jesus the Only Way?

Luke 16:19-31

Life Group Discussion – October 28th, 2018

When we are standing at death's door, there is nothing we can do. It does not matter how powerful you are, everyone is afraid. Queen Victoria once gave a challenge that if anyone could extend her life by only 6 more months, she would give him or her half of Great Britain, but no one could. This is the inevitability of death.

Before he died, the founder of Samsung, Byung-chul Lee, asked a Catholic priest 24 questions about God. He had achieved everything in life, but he was still afraid of death. So he asked these questions:

1. How do we know God exists?
2. Why doesn't God allow us to see Him?
3. If God loves us, why do we go through pain?
4. Why did God create bad people?
5. Why did God create in us a desire to sin?
6. How can we believe that there is a heaven and a hell after we die?

Even if you are the most successful and wealthy person in Korea or the poorest, everyone is scared in front of death. These questions and these fears will always persist, even when you gain everything this world has to offer. There are so many people who do not know where they are going after they die. But what does the Bible say? It says that we were made in the image of God. That we were not an accident or evolved from apes, but that God made us from dirt, and this is why when we die, we go back to the dirt. And we must all face judgment after our lives.

Just as people are destined to die once, and after that to face judgment. (Hebrews 9:27)

For Christians, we believe that there will be judgment on our lives after we die. Right now, there are two parts of us. The first is the flesh, where we can see. It is our bodies that grow older and weaker as time passes. The second is the spirit that is inside us. When we die, the flesh will go away, but the spirit continues to live. But before we die, there is pain and difficulty that we must face here. Our judgment will be based on how we live today. Why do we face judgment? Because of our sin.

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God (Romans 3:23)

The Bible says all have sinned and there is no one who is perfect. And because of our sin, there must be judgment.

If God pronounces judgment on our lives, and no one is perfect, then we all deserve to go to Hell.

But God loves us. So He made a plan, a way for us to be saved. That person is Jesus Christ. In order for us to go to heaven, someone had to take our sin; someone had to take our place. There is no one in this world that can take the place of our sin, so God sent His son, Jesus Christ, to live a perfect life and be punished for our sins.

For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Romans 6:23)

This is what we believe.

1. Jesus is the only way

Belief in Jesus is the only way to be saved. There is no other religion, no other god, and no other way for us to go to heaven. Our sin cannot be covered through any other way than the death of our God, Jesus Christ.

2. Jesus is the only truth

There is no compromise when it comes to believing what Jesus said is true or not. In other words, you either believe everything He says, or nothing at all, there is no middle ground. It says in the Bible that Jesus died on the cross, taking all our sins. He was punished in our place. But it also says that after three days, He was raised from the dead. Jesus overcame death, and he is waiting for us in heaven. This is why we can stand before God after the end of our life and go to heaven. We are not judged based on our actions or what we did, but on what Jesus did for us. All we need to do is believe in Him.

If we could live forever, there would be no need for a church. But death is inevitable and a judgment is waiting for us. But we have a savior who loves us, and died for us. All we must do is believe that Jesus Christ died for our sins and that He rose again defeating death. When we believe this, there will be no judgment waiting for us at the end of our lives.

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?" (John 11:25-26)

SHARING-----

1. Everyone will be judged at the end of their lives. What is the reason why? (Romans 3:23)
2. Someone must pay for our sins. How do our sins get paid for? (Romans 6:23)
3. When did you first experience Jesus Christ, and how has your life changed since then?