

## ***Session 5 Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life (Jn. 14:4-6)***

*Tonight, we are looking at Session 5 of Intimacy with the Trinity in John 14. Our next semester is going to be Intimacy with the Trinity in John 15 and the semester after that Intimacy with the Trinity in John 16 and then on to John 17. Looking at it—as most of you know as you have been in this course—just verse by verse and line by line, not getting in a hurry.*

### **I. REVIEW: JESUS' COMMAND NOT TO ALLOW TROUBLE TO DOMINATE OUR HEART**

- A. Jesus commanded the disciples not to let trouble dominate their hearts (Jn. 14:1). John 14:1 is not a salvation appeal to become born again. Many in Israel, including the Pharisees, believed in the *God of Moses* without having seen His form (Jn. 5:37). They had *faith in an invisible God*.

*Jesus began with the very familiar commandment, “Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God. Now”—I am going to add the word, now—“now I want you to believe in Me this way as well.” Then He goes on in verse 27 and says, “I will give you supernatural peace. We looked at these verses, Philippians 4:6-7, in the last session where Paul said, “Peace will guard the heart and the mind.” What a glorious privilege that we have access to peace that guards the mind from rampant negative thinking and peace that guards the heart from the storm of emotions of anxiety which is so typical and easy for humans to get into. That frenzied mind and that stormy heart. As human beings, that is our propensity. Jesus said “I have peace that guards both of them.” However, He says, “but you have to believe in Me, and you have to not let trouble dominate your heart.” We have looked at this two or three times, and I just want to say it in one sentence. He is appealing to the human dynamics involved in resisting that onslaught of negative thoughts that leads to negative emotions. He says, “Resist it by believing in Me.”*

*In verse 1, as we said in the last session, when He said, “Believe also in Me,” it is not a gospel appeal that they would become born again. Sometimes you will read this, and people will say, “Just believe in Jesus; give your heart to Him and be born again.” He is making a very specific command here when He says “Believe in Me.” Many in Israel, including the scribes and the Pharisees, believed in the God of Moses. And Jesus said, “You have never seen Him with your eyes, and yet you believe him.” That is why they obeyed the sacrificial system with all its rituals. They believed it mattered to the invisible God of Israel.*

*They had faith in an invisible God. Jesus said, in effect, if you read it carefully, “You believe in the God of Israel, but you only believe in Me because you have seen Me in the flesh. I am going to be invisible after tomorrow. You do not really get that, but I am going to die, and now you need to believe My promises like you believe like you believe in My Father’s promises in the Old Testament. It is going to be different for you. You have only understood and believed Me when you saw Me and touched Me. It is all going to be different after tonight.”*

<sup>1</sup>***“Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God [a fact], believe also in Me [a command]...***

<sup>27</sup>***My peace I give to you... Let not your heart be troubled...” (Jn. 14:1, 27)***

- B. Jesus declared 4 core truths in John 14:2-3 in which they were to embrace in believing in Him.

*Then He gave them four, what I call, core truths. These are not random truths. These are strategic, significant truths that they were to believe in Jesus’ teaching. He said, as it were, “When I am gone, you need to believe these four things that I am telling you right now. It will not be natural for you to believe them. Your natural*

*mindset would be to neglect these and not work your spiritual muscle to align your mind to these four truths.” Then He goes on through the rest of John 14, 15, 16 and gives more truths, but He starts with these four core truths.*

*They would have said, “Sure, we believe it!” but He was implying “Yes, but when I am absent and I am invisible, will you lean on these four truths to resist trouble dominating your mind and your emotions?”*

***<sup>2</sup>In My Father’s house are many mansions...I go to prepare a place for you...<sup>3</sup>I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also. (Jn. 14:2-3)***

1. ***Truth #1—My Father’s house:*** The Father’s house is the New Jerusalem. The redeemed will live together with Him forever in His immediate presence as part of His family.

*Truth #1 – In My Father’s house are many mansions. That speaks of the New Jerusalem. And so, Truth #1: your heart will be troubled, but if you anchor it in the reality that you have access to the Father’s house forever; you can have peace. You are invited and have a secure place in the Father’s House that is the New Jerusalem. That is where it is going. Your story will not make sense, and you will not be able to interpret your trouble in a right way if you do not know you have billions of years in the Father’s house and in indescribable joy and pleasure. If you lose that anchor point, you are not going to navigate your troubled heart and your troubled mind in a right way.*

*And, of course, that is a point that has been referenced a little bit in the body of Christ over the generations, but the body of Christ in the earth today is not anchored in that truth. That is one reason—and I am not saying this negatively; I am just trying to be helpful—that is one reason our hearts are so easily troubled because we see our lives through the lens of several decades and what is happening over a few years or a few decades, and we interpret everything through that lens.*

*Jesus is saying, as it were, “If you do not see the Big Picture of your destiny where you are going to spend ninety-nine point nine, nine percent of your life forever in that House. If you do not see that, you are not going to interpret pressure in the right way, and it is going to sink you.”*

2. ***Truth #2—I am going to prepare a place for you:*** Jesus went to the cross to prepare our place in the Father’s house. He secured the way for us to enjoy the Father’s house forever.

*Truth #2 – I am going to secure a place for you in My Father’s presence. Many of us in this room know that because we have heard that for many years, but this was a radical idea that a Jewish man could secure a place in the house of the God of Israel. They probably were thinking “Okay, prepare a place, secure a place....”*

*He said, “I am coming again to you,” and here is the point, “that where I am”—here is the thing—“I want you there. I want to be with you. I want you together with Me.”*

*Maybe they thought, “Well, we know that.” He could have said, “Well, you are not going to believe that so instantly when I am invisible.” Of course, they did not get it yet.*

*Truth #2 – I am going to secure a place for you by going to the cross. They did not understand that yet, though He has said it to them on three specific occasions on His way to Jerusalem. They still could not get it. And one of the reasons they could not get it is because they had a bias. They had a presupposition that the Messiah could not be killed “by His enemies,” so it could not happen. Thus, they did not have a grid for what He was telling them. Although He had told them over and over, their “biblical,” biased presupposition blocked their ability to grasp His death and that He was going to go to the cross to prepare a place for them. They thought, “No, the*

Messiah, when He comes, He defeats Rome, takes over the world, gives us thrones of glory, and we start ruling right away. That is our presupposition.”

3. **Truth #3—I will come for you:** He will come to His people *physically* at the end of this age, while He comes to them *spiritually* in this age by the indwelling Spirit (14:23).

*Truth #3 – He said, “I am coming for you,” and for a while they would be very troubled that He was not coming for them, very afraid. And then when He appeared to them, it was different, but then they had decades to go, and He might appear to them once or twice more. We don’t know, but it was very rare that He would appear in His resurrected body after those first forty or fifty days. It would have been very rare that He would do it, so, “You must believe that I am coming to you. I am going to come to you at the end of the age, but I am also going to come to you by the Spirit and touch your heart. And I am going to speak to you. And you are going to have to believe that when I am invisible.” Again, I am picturing them saying, “Yeah we got it,” and He is thinking, “You don’t have anything I am telling you yet.”*

4. **Truth #4—That where I am, there you may be:** Here, Jesus gave one of the reasons for going to the cross. He desires His people to be with Him even more than they desire to be with Him.

*Truth #4 – He gives the reason why He is going to the cross: “Because where I am, there you will be. I desire you to be. I desire you to be with Me more than you desire to be with Me” is the underlying truth. Because what the enemy tells us is that God has forgotten us and that He doesn’t desire to be with us. But Jesus said, “You are going to need to anchor your life in this truth: I actually desire it more than you do.”*

*And so, these are the four core truths. I do not want to give the whole message I gave in Sessions 2 and 3, but they are just huge, and we cannot move on in spiritual depth by neglecting these four truths. The disciples were just kind of casually interacting with the Lord, according to them.*

## II. THOMAS’ QUESTION ABOUT THE WAY TO THE FATHER (JN. 14:4-6)

- A. Jesus told them that they should know where He was going because He had just told them—the Father’s house. Earlier, He told them He would return to the Father (Jn. 7:33).

*Now we are going to the new material because we covered verses 1-3 over the first sessions. Thomas has a question. As a matter of fact, in John 14 there are three questions that are being asked by Thomas, Phillip, and Judas, another Judas, not the betrayer. There are three questions being asked which we will look at later.*

**<sup>4</sup>“And where I go you know, and the way you know.” <sup>5</sup>Thomas said to Him, “Lord, we do not know where You are going, and how can we know the way?” (Jn. 14:4-5)**

*So, Jesus starts off in verse 4 and gives them a tip-off that they have prejudices in their thinking. I am talking about biblical biases or biases about the Bible that are in their own agendas and imaginations, not that they got directly from the scriptures. They have biases; they have a slanted point of view already. Jesus is actually pointing this out to them, but they do not get it. The reason I am saying this is because we have a number of biases about the Bible, the grace of God, God’s judgements, leadership, and revival. We have strong biases—some of us have biases that are stronger than others—and Jesus is telling us through this very passage, “Make sure you are drawing it from what I said, not from the popular conversations even in the Christian community. Make sure it is what I said.” That is actually what He is telling them. He says, “Where I go you know, and the way you know.”*

*He said “I made it really clear. You don’t think you know, but your own presuppositions are blocking your understanding. I have told you clearly, and I am tipping you off right now. Go back to My words, not the words of others because you actually do know.”*

*And Thomas says, “Lord, we do not know!” and of course Jesus understood that. “We don’t know where You are going!” And so, “if we do not know the destination to where You are going”—because they are imagining that He is leaving maybe for a few weeks or a few months. They are not sure and—“so, how can we go and meet up with You in that city out in the wilderness or wherever You are going? We don’t even know where. We don’t have a map, or directions,” because they are imagining that He is going somewhere in Israel or somewhere in the area, and they are going to have to follow later, but they do not have any specific directions.*

*And Jesus is saying, without saying it, “Thomas, disciples, think, lay your biases aside. I have said really clearly where I am going. Think.” That is why this statement in verse 4 is so important. It is actually an alert statement that it is the propensity of the human heart to read the scripture according to our biases and our agendas. I do not mean wickedly. It is just human nature that it takes an intentionality to see what He says and to base our life on what He says.*

*Much of the gospel around America, I call it the gospel of the American dream and much of what has been promoted for decades is not actually found in clarity in the scripture. It is born out of the American soul that wants the American dream. It’s not bad that we want that, but when we read the Bible through the lens of that, we end up distorting verses and ignoring verses. That is the alert that He is giving them here. And, boy, it is very, very relevant for us today.*

*Earlier He had told them that He was going to the Father, three times just on the way to Jerusalem from Galilee! “I am going to Jerusalem to die, on the cross. I am going to suffer, rejection and death. I have told you.”*

*“No, no, Daniel 7, the Son of man comes on clouds, and He rules all nations. We are good. We are good. And He is going to involve all of the saints with Him. Hey, we are good!”*

*“I told you where I am going!”*

*“No, it cannot be that! Because we know everything is going to be amazing, and victory is right around the corner,” in terms of the outward circumstances.*

*Well, He would tell them many times throughout John 13 through 17, “I am going to the Father, the invisible Father, the Father in heaven. That is where I am going.”*

*They would say, “Okay, You are coming right back, right? I mean, okay, okay, but how long are You going to be there?”*

- B. **Where I go you know:** Jesus told them on at least three occasions that He would be killed (Mt. 16:21-23; 17:22-23; 20:17-19). However, they had a strong bias or presupposition that the Messiah could not be killed by His enemies. Jesus was alerting them that they had strong personal biases that hindered their ability to understand that He would die on the cross to prepare a place for them.
- C. Today, there are many in the body of Christ who have strong biases or presuppositions in their views of various truths such as the deity of Jesus, the authority of Scripture, grace, judgment, salvation, sexual purity, the end times, Israel, and more. We must be committed to receive Jesus’ teachings, even when they are challenging. The propensity of human heart is to read Scripture according to our biases. It takes intentionality to receive what Jesus says and to base our lives on it.

***<sup>26</sup>But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand; <sup>27</sup>and the rain descended, the floods came...great was its fall. (Mt. 7:26-27)***

- D. ***We do not know where:*** Thomas spoke for the others in saying, “We do not know where You are going” (14:5). Thomas’ question expressed the confusion that he and the others had about Jesus’ destination. Here, Jesus also addressed Peter’s question concerning where He was going (13:36). They were not sure what going to “the Father’s house” implied—a new temple? (Mt. 24:2). Without knowing where Jesus was going, Thomas was saying that he did not know the way to get there.

*Now Thomas is speaking for the others in verse 5. He says, “We do not know where You are going.”*

*I can imagine a couple of the other guys giving him a high-five, “Thanks for asking! We have this idea that He said that we know where He is going and the way and so we kind of have this idea that we **should** know where He is going in the way, so thank you, Thomas.”*

*And so he speaks up and says “We,” and of course he does not want to say “I,” so he brings them with him. And of course probably from their conversations just before that “We do not know where You are going, Jesus, to be straight-forward. We know You are going to the Father’s house, but Jesus, You told us recently” or in John 2, “The Temple is My Father’s house,” and then, this is Thursday before He dies on Friday. On the Tuesday two days earlier, He had said in Matthew 24 “The Temple is going to be destroyed.” And so maybe He was going to build a new one somewhere else! Maybe He was going to go where the tabernacle of Moses used to be in Shiloh or maybe to one of the locations where Moses’ tabernacle was. “We don’t know. Just tell us where and we can find the way if You give us a few hints.” Still, they were not accepting the fact that He was going to die and be absent from them physically, permanently! I mean minus the times when He appeared right after the resurrection but as a rule, He would be permanently gone from them physically.*

***<sup>21</sup>“I am going away...where I go you cannot come...” <sup>27</sup>He spoke to them of the Father. (Jn. 8:21, 27)***

*Earlier in John 8, He said, “I am going where you cannot come” and they are thinking, “Okay, You will be gone for a few weeks or a few months? Boy, that is going to be rough, but we will be fine. We can’t come, but we can come a little bit later, or are You going to come right back and then bring us there?”*

- E. Thomas asked for clarity on the destination and how He and they would get there. Thomas was saying, “We don’t know what happens to us if You leave for a while. We don’t have a map with directions to get to the Father.” How can they know the way if they did not know the destination?

*Thomas was asking for clarification on the destination because—and I am guessing. This is my interpretation, and I could be wrong with this—“The temple is going to be destroyed,” He said that on Tuesday in Matthew 24, “not stone will be on the other” So, okay, the temple is the Father’s house, and we are going to the Father’s house, okay, but where are You going? Is there a secret somewhere that we do not know about where the Father’s house already is? Are You going to build it? Are You preparing the lumber and construction for Your Father’s house? Is that what you are doing? Like Solomon got all of the construction material back in the Old Testament?*

*Thomas is saying, “We don’t know really what happens to us when You are gone. I mean, if you are gone a few weeks or a few months, what happens to us? I mean, we love You, and we are afraid to live life without You. We are so connected to You that we cannot even imagine it. And if we do not know what city You are going to in going to the Father’s house wherever it is, how on earth are we going to know the way?”*

- F. Jesus clarified “where” He was going—to the Father’s presence (13:1; 14:6; 14:28; 16:16-17, 28). The only “way” that they could go to the Father was through Jesus. Relating to the Father empowers us to overcome a troubled heart—this is another reason to trust Jesus and not let trouble dominate our heart. This is Jesus’ sixth “I am” statement (6:48; 8:12; 10:9, 11; 11:25; 15:1).

*He clarified, “I am going to the Father’s presence.” He makes this really clear right through John 14 through 17. He says, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one goes to the Father except through Me.”*

*“Okay, so You are going to the Father. Yes, You have been saying that ‘going to the Father thing,’ but Jesus, there is a problem: the Father is in heaven. You are going short-term? How long?”*

*“No, permanently”—at least through the two thousand+ years before His return.*

*Now He said, “I am the way, the truth and the life.” This is the sixth time where Jesus gives one of the “I am” statements; there are seven that He gives in total. “I am, I am the way, the truth and the life.” We all know this passage so well, but this passage is absolutely filled with implications and truths.*

***“I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me. (Jn. 14:6)***

*Well, one thing that I do not want you to miss here is that He is saying, “I am going to the Father, and I am the way to the Father. I am the truth about the Father.” He is telling them that “By interacting with the Father is one of the ways you can overcome a troubled heart, by interacting with the Father.” He is saying that by implication there.*

*We want not just a one-liner statement, but we want to use that simple little prayer that I have applied to many, many truths, “Thank You. Show me more. Thank You, Jesus that You are the way. Show me more.” If you start like that—you might not even know much more than that—“Thank You that You are the truth. Show me more.” “Thank You are the life. I do not know but show me more.” And so you want to take that “Thank You. Show me more,” and apply it to every one of these promises in John 13 through 17.*

### **III. JESUS IS THE WAY (JN. 14:6A)**

- A. Jesus went to the cross to prepare or fully secure our place in the Father’s house forever (14:2).

*Let’s start with the first one. Jesus said, “I am the way.” Jesus’ death made a way for us to go to the Father right now. By the indwelling Spirit, we have access to the Father right now and then for billions and billions and billions of years we will live in the Father’s house physically with a resurrected body, but even now there is a way to the Father. Jesus’ death made a way by paying the debt of our sin on the cross. By His death He removed all of the obstacles that are in the way of the Father allowing us full access to His presence by the Spirit now. We have free access to His presence by the Holy Spirit now and then physically we live in His presence forever.*

***<sup>2</sup>“...I go to prepare a place for you...<sup>3</sup>I will come again and receive you to Myself...” (Jn. 14:2-3)***

- B. Many think Christ died as a martyr. They do not understand the purpose of His death as set forth in Romans 3:25-26 and 2 Corinthians 5:21. Jesus became sin and paid the debt of our sin before God. Jesus’ death made a way for us to relate to the Father by paying the debt of our sin on the cross. By His death, Jesus removed all obstacles keeping us from being accepted by the Father. He died as a righteous sacrifice for our sin. In God’s court of justice, He cannot overlook sin. He paid for it to remove it so that His people could live in His presence. Because He is loving, He found a way to pay for the sin to satisfy His justice and to make people righteous and holy as a free gift.

*Jesus went to the cross to prepare or to secure our place in the Father's house. We all know that, except for when we stumble. The enemy finds it so easy to get a stronghold of condemnation and accusation and shame in the lives of believers. So, we technically know that Jesus secured a place for us. We technically know it, but when condemnation hits us, or when shame hits us with the accusation that we are worthless hypocrites, saying, "Forget it! It's over!" the Lord says, "Do not let that trouble run rampant in your mind. Do not do that. I made a place for you! It is secure! It is prepared. It is final. It is free! Nobody can take you away from that place." That is what He is saying.*

*Many religious people in the earth think that Jesus died as a martyr, and so they honor Him as a martyr. He did not die as a martyr. That is not what He died as. He died as an innocent sacrifice for our sin. He went to the cross Himself. The Father sent Him, and He went. He said, "I am not going to the cross because the devil won or because I cannot overthrow you. I could call legions of angels to destroy you and the Romans." He could tell the Pharisees, "I am going to the cross, I am laying My life down Myself, not as a martyr, but as a sacrifice in the courts of God to pay the debt of your sin." The innocent One becomes guilty so that the guilty ones become innocent. The exchange in God's court. Some folks do not understand that.*

*Romans 3, 2 Corinthians, and many other verses make that very clear that in the court of God He cannot overlook sin. A holy God cannot overlook sin and just say, "Well you know, it is what it is." A holy God is also a just God and so He had to pay for the sin to remove it. Because in His courts there must be justice, and because He is loving, He found a way to pay for the sin so that His justice is satisfied, so that His holiness is not in any way infringed upon by unholiness. Unholiness cannot dwell in the presence of a holy God. So, He came up with a way to pay for the price of the sin. We do not understand the scales of justice in God's court, how one Man can die for billions, but it is clear in the scripture by the revelation of the Holy Spirit to the apostles that that is what has happened. Many people debate it. Many people do not like that, but that is the way of salvation and is what the scripture declares. He paid our debt because we could not pay our debt before God.*

*He says, "I am going to go and secure or prepare this place for you. I am going to come back for you, though. I am going to come to you by the Holy Spirit, but eventually, at the time of your death, I am going to come for you as well. I am not leaving you on your own so that when you die, your human spirit kind of floats in the sky searching for Me, asking 'Now, how do I get from here to there?'" He said, as it were, "When you die, I will actually see to it personally that you are escorted into My Father's presence. I will come to you even when you are alive, by the Holy Spirit and in my appearances after the resurrection. However, I am going to come to you and bring you to the Father's house."*

- C. ***I will come again:*** We don't need to know "how" to get to heaven when we die. Jesus comes for us (14:3)—for some He comes personally; to others He sends angels to escort the redeemed to God in His name. At His second coming, the body of Christ will be raptured. Don't worry about what will happen at death. Jesus will come back for you. When His people die, He sees to it that they are escorted into His Father's presence. Millions of believers who died over 2,000 years were escorted to the Father's presence by Jesus or by angels. Some have had death encounters; they tell story that Jesus stood at their deathbed. Most have an angel escort them as ambassador of Jesus.

*The millions and millions of believers who have died over the last two thousand years Jesus, personally, has seen to it that they are escorted to the Father's presence. Sometimes people have had near death encounters, and they come back and tell the story that Jesus stood at their death bed, and He brought them. Most death encounters that I have read—I have read quite a few over the years—for believers, an angel escorted them, and the angel is coming as an ambassador of Jesus. They are coming in His name to escort that believer. The*

believer may be asking, “Where are we going? Through that tunnel and through this and there? Okay, where now?” And the angel just says, “Keep coming.” We are not left on our own.

I mean, that is a strange thought, because some people think “Well, of course we are going to end up there. I do not know how.” However, some believers and many unbelievers are afraid and say, “When I die, if my spirit really is alive, how do I know where to go when I die?”

Now, I have said this a few times over the years, and I love bringing attention to this that I have read quite a few stories, and I have just loved death encounters and the stories of what happens. I mean, I have read lots of them for forty years. Whenever I would go somewhere in the 1970s, 80s, 90s, in another city I would always go to their bookstore if I could and ask for any stories about visions of heaven. I don’t believe every person who has a vision and put it into a book, but there are incredible repetitive points that are repeated over and over by people from different generations and from different parts of the earth.

And one of my favorites—and I will just give one example—the lady dies in a car wreck. Her spirit instantly leaves her body, and she is so alive, she does not know she is dead. I mean for real! This is very common. So, she looks over, and she thinks, “Oh man! That lady laying on the ground bleeding looks just like me! I wonder what happened?” and it takes her a few moments to realize, “Wait! That is me!” I mean, this is an interesting point, and it is an important point: death is really easy and really fast. I do not mean while they are alive and suffering. That is not the point, but the death process is instantaneous, and for the believer it is instantaneously glorious! Like, “Wow! That was easy. I thought it would be worse than this!”

They see relatives, and they see angels, and then they see the Lord, and they are thinking, “Wow! Wow! This is pretty amazing!” but it takes a few moments to acclimate, and then they might ask, “Where does this living spirit go?” Like, “Okay, I am standing here at the car wreck. The police are all coming. They are looking down at my body. Hey, everybody! I am here!” but nobody can hear. And sometimes the angel is instantly there, and sometimes even a family member who has passed before them is there. And they see how they are beckoning and waving. I have heard many stories like that, where a believer who died before them, has their arms open, they are smiling, and they are beckoning them to come, and sometimes it is the Lord Himself who is there.

And sometimes it is a few moments, and they are just looking around. They don’t know where to go or what to do, and the Lord is saying, “I am coming for you to take you to My presence. Do not worry. You are not going to get lost in the shuffle; it has all been taken care of, I have thought of every detail.”

We can trust Him that He will take us to the Father. I have a little analogy here. If you went to some large foreign city far away, and you were at the airport, you were standing there, and someone came by, and you said “Hey, how do you get over there, an hour away on the other side of the city I don’t know anything about?” The guy says “Well, you go here and there and then in a couple miles, turn there” and there are like thirty-eight steps in the directions.

Or he says, “Get in my car and I will just take you there!”

“Let’s do it that way! I will just get in your car, and you take me there!”

Jesus is saying, “Do not worry I have this covered. I am absolutely going to take care of getting you there! Securing the place, and then at the transition time I will be there and take care of every detail. Do not be afraid at all, you are going to be surprised how much you are going to enjoy even the transition.” There is absolutely zero reason for a believer to be afraid of death. I mean in our natural minds we might be, but not because of the word of God. In the word of God, death is easy, fast, and it is glorious for the believer. They are in a whole new world of glory that is indescribable. I have loved the stories that I have heard over the years.

Now when Jesus says, “I am the way,” He is not only saying, “Through My death I made a way,” He is saying that “I made a way for you,” but He is saying more than that because He is saying, “I **am** the way! Because of Me! It is not just that I died, and you are going to get there, I am the way! I did not just make a way; I am the way and for billions of years you are going to be secure there because of Me. I **am** the way. I am committed to you, and I love you! I am taking care of every detail because that is who I am. I am the way. And you will be secure forever in My presence.” What a glorious reality!

#### **IV. JESUS IS THE TRUTH (JN. 14:6B)**

- A. Jesus’ life revealed the truth about the Father’s personality and how He relates to His people. He knows the truth about God, human beings, angels, demons, and the future and past of every person, city, nation. He knows the full truth about you, both negative and positive (1 Cor. 4:2).

*Jesus said, “I am the truth.” Well, Jesus revealed the truth about God’s personality. Jesus revealed the truth about how God relates to His people in this age. And in much of John 14, in the rest of this passage from verses 7 to 24, He is giving details concerning how God will relate to people. And these are details concerning which Jesus said, “I want you to believe these truths. God will relate to you this way.” We will look at those week by week. There are other core truths which are a part of those four core truths we started with in verses 2 and 3. These are details of these four core truths. They are more insight into each one of them.*

*He knows the truth about God. He knows the truth about human beings. He knows the truth about angels. He knows the truth about demons. He knows the truth about the past. He knows the truth about the future. He knows the truth about the past and the future of every person, every city, and every nation. He knows the full truth, the negative truth, the positive truth. He knows how God sees you through His blood and His cross. He knows what you look like to God through the lens of the grace of God. He knows that truth about you. He says, as it were, “I know the truth! I **am** the truth! If you interact with Me, truth will enter your heart.”*

- B. In the presence of Jesus, the truth is manifested because “He is the truth”—thus truth becomes openly manifested to all who come to the light of His presence.

*In the presence of Jesus, truth is manifested because He is the truth. And what I mean by that, as it may be a strange sentence to say, is when we stand before Jesus on that day, the truth will be known about anyone—demon, angel, believer, unbeliever, anyone—that stands in His presence because He does not just know the truth, He **is** the Truth. And so, anyone that stands in His presence, the truth about them will come out. There are plenty of verses where He says “Do not think that when you stand before Me you are going to present some spin about your life that I do not grasp. Who you are will be manifested openly to you. Maybe for the first time in clarity, it will be openly manifested because, in My presence, I am truth and deception cannot exist in My presence.”*

*I remember when I had, a long time ago in October 1978, a very dramatic encounter that changed my life. I was only twenty-three years old where I stood in the very presence of Jesus. And He looked at me, and the truth of everything about me came out! And the good news is that the truth about who you are in Christ comes out too, not just the negative truth. However, I remember the Holy Spirit—I do not want to get into the experience and the details, but it is something I think on—every day would be exaggerated but—probably every week or two for forty years I have thought about that encounter because it was that dramatic.*

*Maybe not that often, but nearly that often. I stood before Him, and the Holy Spirit made clear that “Nobody can manipulate the Man, Christ Jesus. No fact can be twisted. No argument can be made that is not based one hundred percent on truth because you are in the presence of Truth.” And, by the grace of God the truth of who*

*He is for us comes out too. He said, “If you will repent, I will forget that sin and take it out of My book, if you will genuinely repent. If you come up with some makeshift argument that is in the Christian culture and conversation that this is okay, and that is okay, and this is not true, and that is not true, and you buy into that, and then when you stand before Me, I will bear witness to the fact that you were in deception.”*

*I have ministered to people over these years. Some folks, especially with social media cluster together now, if you get fifty, or a hundred or a thousand or ten thousand believing the same idea and if you get a bunch of people believing it, they think it is okay. Strange, loose ideas about ideas about immorality, loose ideas about drunkenness, loose ideas about covetousness, about divisiveness, about slander. Loose ideas about many, many issues of life that they don't repent of them when we see them but say, “Well, you know, that is how it is.” We even have a lot of people saying that it is the glorious grace of God! None of those arguments will hold up when you stand before Him, none of them, only what He says in His word. And if you repent, He really does strike it from His book.*

*Any sin, that—even as a believer—that we are comfortable not repenting of is serious. We have heard the arguments, “No, I can do a little bit of this, little bit of that. Everyone else is doing it.” If we are comfortable not repenting of it, then it is in the conversation when we stand before Him. I am not saying that the believer is not in heaven, but Paul talked about believers who will suffer great loss though they will be saved as though by fire. However, they lost all of the potential reward that they could have had. So, if I can slander somebody over in the corner, “Well, the guy deserves it,” the Lord would say, “If you want that in the conversation, Okay!”*

*I say “No! Lord, You know I should not have said that.”*

*He says, “Come on, say a little bit more”*

*“No, no, that was a wrong spirit, and I need to stop that!”*

*“Good, it is out of the book now.” And it will not be in the conversation at all.*

*He is the truth. My point is not that it is great that it is out of the book, but that if we keep it, it is in the conversation. It is not about our salvation or not, meaning the point I am talking about right now. I mean, people can go too far and deny their faith. That is not what I am talking about right now. I am saying I do not want to be a believer who, when I stand before the Lord, it is 1 Corinthians 3:15, “I am saved as though by fire, but I have suffered loss.” I do not want to be that person. Jesus would say, “Well, then take My word at face value.” Do not believe the arguments in the Christian culture because many of them will lead us to a life of compromise, and to be comfortable with compromise.*

*Many will say, “Well, look, they are doing it! Hey, it is what it is!”*

*But the Lord says, “Well, My word says differently. I am the truth, and I am the truth about what love is.”*

*You know there are a lot of arguments about love in the culture. There is only one Man qualified to define love. The One who gave His life for love, though He did not have to. He is the truth about love. He is the truth about grace. He is the truth about mercy. And there are more arguments in the body of Christ. You know, again, the social media stuff where people are challenging His way of salvation, challenging His death on the cross, “That is not necessary. A God of love would not require that.” They have created a God in their own image and in their own imagination. Jesus says, “I want to assure you that I am the truth about all of these things.”*

*And so, I look at that, and I say, “Lord, I take this seriously.”*

V. JESUS IS THE LIFE (JN. 14:6C)

- A. Jesus is the life that enables us to relate to the Father and to experience the supernatural realm. Jesus alone is life, and He alone has the power to impart divine life (Jn. 1:4; 5:26; 11:25; 1 Jn. 5:20). Jesus elaborated on being the “life source” to our union with the Father in John 15:1-11.

***“I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me. (Jn. 14:6)***

- B. There are three words for “life” in the Greek—*bios*, *psuché*, and *zoé*. *Bios* refers to the physical life of the body (Lk. 8:14). The English word, biology, comes from *bios*. *Psuché* is translated as *soul* and refers to one’s psychological life—the mind, emotion, and will (Mt. 16:25). The English word psychology comes from *psuché*. *Zoé* refers to the uncreated supernatural life of God.

Jesus is the Life. Now, in Greek there are two words for life; well actually more than that, but there are two main words for life. “*Psuché*” life, which is animal life. The life that an animal has and that a human has as when you are born, you have life. You breathe, you have physical, animal life.

*Then there is “zoé” which is supernatural life; it is the God-quality of life. It is the life that comes from God. It is more than breathing, consciousness, and physical life. It is supernatural life. That is the life you get when you are born again and the Spirit comes into you. It is “zoé,” and Jesus is saying “I am the Zoé! I am more than just physical animal life. There is a God-quality of life that only God has. I am the Source of that life, and I will impart it to your heart.”*

- C. Jesus is our life—the source of supernatural power, and of our greatest pleasures, and rewards, etc.

***“In Him was life [zoé], and the life was the light of men. And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it [overcome it; ESV, NIV]. (Jn. 1:4-5)***

*In John 1:4, John declared “In Him was life, and life is in Him” This “zoé” life, this satisfaction in our spirit with supernatural peace that only comes from Him. In Him is life. There is not life like that outside of Him. And so, believers—and I do not mean this in a negative way just because we are humans, but—are always trying to find life outside of interacting with Him, even as believers. Like, there is satisfaction, there is a sense of reward, a sense of accomplishment, there is something I can get which answers the deepest things within me. Like, “I love You, Jesus, but I want to find life just by what I am doing, what I am achieving, and by who likes me.”*

*Jesus says, “There is no life, there is no zoé life in any of that. Only from Me does any of that come.” The sooner that we can conclude that and begin to intentionally look for zoé life in Him, we find the satisfaction of our heart. He is our great reward. That is where spiritual life and understanding comes from. That is where our primary identity comes from, having life from Him.*

*John said, “And His life was the light of men.” That life, that zoé life, that deposit of the Holy Spirit is the source of illumination. It is the source of light or understanding in us because we understand truth, we understand the Bible, we understand salvation, and we understand ourselves through that illuminating life, the Holy Spirit’s life in us. It is light; it gives us illumination and understanding. He says in verse 5. “When that light shines in the darkness. the darkness cannot comprehend it.” There are some translations say, “the darkness cannot win,” but other translations, when it says, “the darkness cannot comprehend it,” mean that darkness cannot overpower that light.*

*Beloved, there is darkness in our heart, our emotions, and in our mind, and this light is stronger than that darkness. If we give access to that light in our interaction with the Lord, it overpowers darkness. A lot of folks try to get rid of darkness by aiming at the darkness to try and expel it. Yes, we have to repent of it. but you*

cannot open a window out back somewhere and empty the room with buckets full of darkness. The way you get darkness out of the room is to turn the light switch on. A lot of folks attack darkness in their heart trying to repent more, and I believe in that, but at the end of the day, it is the light that overpowers darkness. And the light, that illumination, that inspiration comes from that life that is in Him. There is no reason to look for it outside of Him; it does not exist out there. In Him is life.

- D. In Jesus is found the fullness of our blessing forever and the total end of all our pain and trouble. Thank you, Jesus, that soon every area of my life will be brought to fullness of blessing in You.

***<sup>4</sup>God will wipe away every tear...there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain...<sup>5</sup>He who sat on the throne said, “Behold, I make all things new... (Rev. 21:4-5)***

*In this life, I love this sentence, “In Jesus is found the fullness.” The fullness of Your blessing is in that Man. The totality of your pain is removed forever because of that Man. This Man is remarkable beyond what we grasp. Beloved, you may live on the earth 70 years, 80 year, 90 years, and you may have physical pain, financial pain, relational pain, rejection, failures, and all these things, the pressures in the twenty-some categories. I want to promise you one thing: in one minute it will be over forever! For billions of years because of Him. And this Man loves you. He has done it all. He is the life.*

*John saw it in Revelation 21: “Every tear, no more death, no more sorrow, no more crying, no more pain.” I don’t like physical, emotional, financial pain, the pain of shame, I do not like any of that stuff for one year, ten years, or twenty years. However, one thing I know for sure: in a minute every single negative issue is settled forever, in a minute. As believers, we are anchored in that. And it makes us look at it with hope. I do not like to endure anything negative, but I know one thing, it is over in a minute either way it goes. That Man is the fullness of everything that you long for in your heart.*

1. The Lord has planned indescribably glorious things for His people (1 Cor. 2:9).

***<sup>9</sup>...Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him. (1 Cor. 2:9)***

*It has never entered into the heart of a man; no eye has seen; no ear has heard; it has never entered the imagination which has never been big enough to grasp how glorious it is. If you take Steven Spielberg and Walt Disney, put them together times a thousand, it has never entered into the heart of a man, ever. Paul said “It is so far beyond! It is worth it!”*

*“Yeah, but I feel lonely right now, so I have to go do this because I am lonely.” I do not like lonely, and I do not like the pain of loneliness, but you do not want to cast off Jesus’ leadership. Trust me! He is life! And in a minute, He is the fullness of everything that you want. Just keep steady with Him.*

***<sup>34</sup>“Then the King [Jesus] will say..., ‘Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world...’” (Mt. 25:34)***

2. Many say, “I can’t take it anymore.” We must resist that lie and not let trouble dominate our heart. There is no temptation greater than our ability to endure it in the grace of God.

*“Augh, it is not worth it anymore! I cannot take it!” Number one, it is worth it, and you can take it actually! I have heard that for years and years and years. “I cannot take it any longer!” I say that the options are really bad because you cannot take it staying in the relationship and in the reach, there is only darkness outside of*

that. Only darkness. “I cannot take it!” I say that actually you can. I promise you, you can. Get it out of your mind that you cannot take it. Do not let trouble dominate your heart!

<sup>13</sup>...***God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.***  
(1 Cor. 10:13)

Paul said in 1 Corinthians 10:13 “There is no temptation, there is no pressure greater than God has given you grace to endure.” 1 Corinthians 10:13, nothing will come to pass that He will not give you sufficient strength to stand in obedience in it if you want it.

“I cannot take it anymore. It is too hard.”

Jesus would say, “Actually, it is not. You are sad and hurting. I am with you. You despise what you are going through; I am with you. I am totally with you, but you can’t take it? That is not true, and it is going to be over in a minute no matter what the pressure is.” That is who we have in Him.

- E. ***Jesus can be our “holy daydream”***: Thoughts of Jesus and conversation with Him can be the place “we escape” in our mind (the sweet place we go to in our mind)—He can be our “great getaway!” This is not a retreat from real life, but a retreat from fear, lust, and anxiety by living in His presence.

Now this is kind of strange language, but I just love it anyway. It is coming out of my journal. Our holy Jesus is our holy daydream. Now, that is a weird term. It is not a biblical term. It is just a weird term, and that is all I am going to say. What do I mean by that? Thoughts of Jesus and conversation with Him is that place where we escape. You know how the pressures and rigors of life, and finally the guy says, “Oh, I have to go here and there to escape.” The place of escape, the great get-away for the human spirit is in that conversation with that Man. That is the sweet place where we can escape the hold and the domination of pressures and troubles.

*A lot of people want to escape it through human relationships that are outside of the will of God. They want to escape it through sensual pleasures, and there are various kinds, not just sexual, sensual pleasures to escape. Others want to escape through entertainment. Others want to escape by just getting so busy that they escape the pressure, or they use opioids which are mind-altering, both legal and illegal. The human spirit wants to escape the pressure bearing down, and—this strange language I am using—the sweet place, the great escape, the great get-away is actually in that interaction with that Man. That He could be our first thought. I don’t mean that every minute our first thought, but under pressure He would be our first thought: Him, who He is, who we are to Him and who He is to us! And what we are in our relationship with Him. Beloved, that is the glory of the Christian life. Because Christianity is not just escape from hell. It is not just a mandate and a mission to go do something. Christianity is the interaction with a Person, forever.*

*Paul talked about this and used biblical language. Holy danger is not really biblical language, but it is kind of the language in the culture. He was just daydreaming. I am just thinking about those four core truths—not “just”—I do not want to give the idea that I just think about that. That is not true at all. However, those four core truths and these other truths, and interacting and talking about Him and thinking about Him. I can escape all kinds of pressures in part, the pressure on my emotions of a troubled heart. I am not talking about retreating from real life. I am talking about retreating from the domination of fear, lust, anxiety and shame. I am talking about retreating from the domination of those things.*

- F. In the midst of the fears, lust, shame, manipulating, and scheming in the human heart—there is a sweet escape from that into “the Spirit of life and peace” (Rom. 8:6). It is our inheritance to love Jesus with “all our mind.” Our mind is empowered when it is engaged with the Spirit.

***<sup>5</sup>For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit. <sup>6</sup>For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. (Rom. 8:5-6)***

*Paul called it in Romans 8: “If you are spiritually minded.” You can read the whole passage on your own. It is Romans 8:5-6. It is a very important passage. It is worthy of spending some time on this passage, but I am not going to. However, the idea is that if you set your mind on normal human things, where we typically set our minds, it is going to be death. It is going to be death, the carnally minded. TO be naturally minded is death. It says in verse 6 that if you get into the conversation with the Spirit, and you engage with these truths with the Holy Spirit’s help—even in our weakness, we do not do it very well—it is life and peace in your heart. It is life and peace.*

## **VI. JESUS IS THE ONLY WAY TO THE FATHER AND TO RECEIVE SALVATION (JN. 14:6D)**

- A. Jesus claimed to be the only way of salvation. This was a major teaching throughout His ministry. One of the most detested and resisted truths in the Bible is that Jesus is the only way of salvation. Don’t be seduced with arguments by those who assume they are more loving and wiser than God.

*We are going to look at the other statement in chapter 14:6 where He says, “I am the way, the truth, and the life”—here it is—“No one comes to the Father but through Me.” Jesus made it very clear throughout His entire three-and-a-half-year ministry, He made it very clear, and He said it over and over and over. It is one of the most detested and contested truths in the Bible: “Jesus is the only way of salvation.” Do not let anybody give you some religious logic and argument that is based on the premise that they are more loving than God is, and they understand salvation better than God does.*

*If He was more like them, there would be other ways of salvation. I hear this all the time. And I tell young people on the college campuses “Don’t buy that rhetoric. Do not buy it!” That logic is based on the presupposition they are more loving than God and they know a better way to govern the universe than God does. And so, just look up and count the stars and, by the way you, can only see ten thousand of them with the naked eye. And there are over a billion galaxies. The Milky Way Galaxy is one of the smaller ones, so do not imagine that you are smarter than Him. Just look up and say, “Oh yeah! He probably knows stuff I don’t know.”*

*However, that is really popular, and I am not picking on campuses, but it is cool on the campuses among believers to disregard the authority of the word of God. They say, “Well, you know, I don’t know. You know what I think is....”*

*So, what, let’s think what God thinks. Let’s take what He says—because remember in verse 4, He said, “You know the way and you know where I am going because I have told you, but your predispositions and your own agendas have blocked you from seeing it. It is straight forward what I have told you, over and over.” That verse has alerted me, and I just do not want to be that guy who gets into those flows of conversation that are not honoring the word of God because I know it will not stand up. Jesus does not have some truth about God. He is the truth. It is very offensive that He is the only way of salvation, yet He said it unashamedly because He knows it to be true.*

- B. Jesus is the only “way” to know God because He alone embodies and tells the “truth” about God and man and about what is needed to be saved and reconciled to God (Acts 4:12; 1 Tim. 2:5).

<sup>12</sup>...nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name...by which we must be saved.  
(Acts 4:12)

<sup>5</sup>There is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus. (1 Tim. 2:5)

- C. To come to the Father “through” the Son means we believe in Jesus—what He said about who He is and what He would do on the cross for sinners as the only hope for forgiveness of sins.
- D. Many teach lies about there being various ways to God. In truth, we don’t deserve *any* pathway to God, much less one. It is only because of Jesus’ death on the cross that anyone can enter heaven. The innocent One became guilty so that the guilty ones might become as innocent (2 Cor. 5:21).

*Many teach lies about there being various ways to God. Again, they imagine they are more loving than God is, they are wiser than God, and if they were God, they would run the universe differently. However, in truth we do not even deserve **one** way to God. We do not deserve any way to God, much less even one. I mean, one is amazing! All we need is one, but we don’t even deserve one! The idea that there should be five, ten or a hundred in His great mercy? He made a way for us. It was very costly to God to do that.*

<sup>21</sup>For He made Him [Jesus] who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him. (2 Cor. 5:21)

*Look at this 2 Corinthians 5:21, “the Father made Jesus to be sin” What? He became sin? What? I mean our brains cannot begin to comprehend it. Why? So that we would become the righteousness of God in Him. Did you know that you possess a righteousness the day you are born again, so great of a quality of righteousness that it cannot be improved upon even by God? Because it is His own righteousness! A million years from now in the resurrection the righteousness you received the day you were born again will not be one degree greater in righteousness than the day you received it. He became sin and you became the righteousness of God! This is staggering, staggering!*

*And to have people saying—I mean many pastors are saying it, churches, seminaries, PhDs, Doctors of Theology—“Well, we don’t know about this idea of God sacrificing His Son.”*

*I mean, let’s be honest! Like, “Do not say that! Stop! It is hurting my ears!” What it cost Him and then for humans to say in their pride and arrogance that they know better, they love more, and they get it better. It is like “No! No, do not do that!”*

*I have heard people debate. I cannot even hear the debates; it hurts my stomach. I’m saying, “Do you know what it cost Him? Do you know who you are to Him?”*

*“Well, all the other ways! Well, what about this one? What about that one?”*

*I tell you the Man who gave everything for love has an answer for the “What about that one” guy, the “What about that tribe in Africa” guy, “What about that?” He has answered the “what abouts,” and He has far better answers than we do.*

*If you question it, go outside, and look up. You will only be able to see ten thousand and it is one billionth of the stars that exist. “Yeah, I bet You could beat me in chess too!” He is so smart. He has answered that what about thing. Do not imagine you are going to exhaust the wisdom of God and figure out that one guy.*

<sup>18</sup>And if it is with difficulty that the righteous is saved, what will become of the godless man...?  
(1 Pet. 4:18)

*There is a verse in 1 Peter 4:18 that says about salvation that “even for the righteous to be saved, they are saved with difficulty.” It is a strange verse, and you never hear it preached on because it is like, “What?” “With difficulty the righteous are saved,” 1 Peter 4:18. I have looked at that verse over the years as it kind of bothered me when I was a young pastor in the 70s and the 80s. I thought “With difficulty for me to be saved? You mean I can’t be saved? I thought it was free!”*

*The difficulty was not that it was difficult for me to believe, the difficulty was how much it cost God to provide the way. With great difficulty or at great cost God became a human. And when Jesus became a human, He became a human forever. He did not become a human, then rise from the dead, get to the Father, and say “Whoa! That was weird! Take that human thing back! I want to go back to just being God!” No, when He said yes to the Father to becoming a man, He is a human forever. I mean incredibly costly! He is still fully God, but He is also fully man forever. And then to live in perfection because if He had sinned one time, He would not qualify to be the sacrifice to pay the debt of our sin. The innocent One takes the role of the guilty, and the guilty take the role of the Innocent One, very costly, with difficulty the righteous are saved. It was costly. That is one view of that and translation of that which is the one that makes the most sense to me. I have heard other views in other translations.*

## **VII. JESUS AS LORD, LUNATIC, OR LIAR—CS LEWIS’ ARGUMENT**

*We will end with this. Jesus is Lord, Lunatic or Liar. It is a famous argument by C.S. Lewis. He is not the first to make the argument, but he is the one who popularized it in the 1960s and 1970s. I remember in college in the 70s, we were reading his book, “Mere Christianity,” and we were all talking about Jesus: “Lord, lunatic, or liar.” It was really powerful, and C.S. Lewis was one of the brilliant minds of the last one hundred plus years in the body of Christ.*

*Now, if this is new to you, well, I will say it really fast. I just got this information from Wikipedia, and I am just taking the quotes directly. I do not remember all of the sources, but you can go and find it all. I just took some of this word for word. Some of it is my own, but most of it is word for word just straight off the internet. However, I remember us being fascinated with this argument in the university.*

- A. *Lewis popularized the argument against those who claim that they reject Jesus as God but admire Him as a good moral teacher. Lewis wrote, “I am trying to prevent anyone saying the really foolish thing that people often say about Him: ‘I’m ready to accept Jesus as a great moral teacher, but I don’t accept His claim to be God.’ A man who was merely a man and said the sort of things Jesus said would not be a great moral teacher... You can shut Him up for a fool, you can spit at Him as a demon; or you can fall at His feet and call Him Lord but let us not come with any patronizing nonsense about His being a great teacher.”*

*C.S. Lewis popularized the argument against those people who claim they reject Jesus as God, but they admire Him as a good teacher. They said, “Oh, He is not God, but oh, He is such a good teacher!”*

*C.S. Lewis said, “That is completely illogical!”*

*And at first you might think “Well, why is it illogical?”*

*He wrote, “I am trying to prevent anyone from saying the really foolish thing that so many people say about Jesus: “I am ready to accept Him as a great teacher, but not as God.”*

*That is really kind of cool like, “Man, His teaching is so good, His humanitarianism, but not as God.”*

*Lewis was saying, “I am ready to prevent anyone from that foolish argument.” And so, if you have not heard the argument, you are thinking, “Okay, I am listening.”*

*A man who is merely a man yet would say the things that Jesus said cannot be a good moral teacher. You can shut Him up as a fool for He said, “I am God! I am the only way!”*

*Like “Really? And you are a great teacher, and You think You are God?”*

*You can spit at Him as a demon, or you can follow and worship Him as Lord, but you cannot patronize Him with the nonsense that says, “He claims to be God, but He is not God, thought He is a great teacher.” That is absolute nonsense.*

- B. He pointed out that Jesus claimed to be God. So, His claim is either true or false. If it is true, then He is God. If the claim is false, then either He said it knowing it was false, in which case He is a liar, or He said it not knowing it was false, in which case He was insane. We are left with only three logical options: He is either a lunatic, a liar, or God. A great moral teacher would not, by definition, lie, and certainly not tell a lie of such magnitude as to claim to be God when He wasn't.

*A great moral teacher could never, by definition, lie at this level. Certainly, a great moral teacher could never lie at such a magnitude to claim He was God when He knew He was not.*

- C. To say Jesus was a lunatic is also a stretch, since His teaching appears to be the quintessence of sanity—and a great moral teacher is, by definition, sane. So, if He was not a lunatic nor a liar, the only other logically possible conclusion is that He is God. Logic forces those who don't believe He is God to reject the idea that He was a great moral teacher. Among the three possibilities, a great moral teacher is not one of them. It is possible to hold that Jesus was dishonest or insane. But for the vast majority of people, these are not acceptable options.

*To say He is a lunatic is a stretch because His teachings are so brilliant. His teachings are so good, from the standard of the moral to the purity of the mercy, a lunatic could not come up with it, so that does not make any sense for him to be a lunatic. Well, if He is not a liar or a lunatic, it is true then.*

*Among the three possibilities, logically Jesus being a great teacher can't be true. He is a great teacher if He is God. He is a liar if He knows He is not God and teaches that He is, and He is a lunatic if He thinks He is God but He is not. Lewis said, “That is it! It is not more complicated than that.”*

*Well, amen and amen! Lord, lunatic or liar. Let's just stand before the Lord, if you want to. You can stay seated if that is more comfortable.*

*I want us to settle the issue in our spirit that in Him is life. And there is no life, no Zoe life, outside of Him, so we are not going to go seek for it. And I believe that a majority of this room, the vast majority if not everyone, we have already settled the issue that He is the truth about salvation and there are no other ways of salvation. There is not a superior way that Jesus missed. There might be a few struggling with that, but I challenge you to go back and read the word of God clearly and say, “Lord, talk to me.” Those arguments are increasing rapidly in the culture, and there is a great falling away that is in the making.*

*However, the point I am really, really connected with is that **in Him is life**. This idea that in a minute from now, forever the fullness of blessing, no pain, because of Him! Because of the glorious nature of who this Man is!*

*Oh, we love You Jesus! We love You Jesus! Father, here we are before You. We want to realign our heart with You. We want to realign our heart. You are the way. You are the truth. You are the life. Thank You, Father, show me more of each one of these truths, show me more. You are the truth. You are not just some of the truth; You **are** the truth. You are not just a way; You **are** the way of my eternal blessing. It is You that I am blessed. Thank You, Lord. Thank You that You are the way. Thank You that You are the truth and the life. You are the only way to the Father. You and only in You is there life and You love me. Thank You. The only way to You, Abba. You sent the Beloved One to us.*

*It is possible that there is someone in this room, you have never given your life to Jesus. You have never asked Him to be the Lord and Savior of your life. You can ask Him right now, and He will say yes. You can ask Him to forgive you, but He wants more. He wants you to say, “I want You to take the leadership of my life. You are worthy! I don’t know You! Forgive me and take the leadership of my life!” You can ask Him, and He will answer you tonight. I believe You, Jesus.*

*Oh, we love You, Jesus. We believe every word that You say. What a privilege to have Your word! To eat Your word, to talk about Your word. To stand for Your word in a culture that is hostile to You. We love standing for You, Jesus, for You stood for us, so much! I believe You. I love You, Jesus.*

*He said, “Do not let your heart be troubled. Do not let trouble dominate your heart. Believe the things I am telling you! Do not let trouble dominate your heart, believe what I teach you.” He said that in John 14.*

*Jesus, You are the life. Who are You? You became a Man. The angels fall before You. Who are You? The angels sang in the heavens at Your birth. All of heaven rejoiced at Your return. All heaven adores You, Jesus. We say we love You. We love to love You, Jesus! Beautiful God! Glorious Man! Beautiful King! More beautiful than the sons of men. I will declare the Beloved!*

*We love You. We trust You. It is our privilege to trust You. Blessed is the man or woman who trusts the Lord! Blessed is the one who trusts Him!*