

SERMON OUTLINE

'Who do you say I am?'

The 'I Am' sayings in John's Gospel - 6

John 14 v1 - 14

Key Text (v6a) - "I am the way and the truth and the life...."

Key Question (arising from context - see v1 - 5) - Do you want to get to heaven? Jesus says - "I am the way...." In other words - If you entrust yourself into my care - I'll take you there.'

There are 3 things which we can say about this claim of Jesus:-

1. THIS CLAIM IS A TOTALLY COMPREHENSIVE CLAIM

That is - it covers all that we need to know, not just about Jesus but about ourselves. In it Jesus speaks explicitly about Himself - He is (in His very own person) the way to God, the truth about God, and the life of God. But He also speaks implicitly about ourselves....

If we need this Jesus who is the way to God - the implication is that we are lost.

If we need this Jesus who is the truth about God - the implication is that we are ignorant.

If we need this Jesus who is the life of God - the implication is that we are dead.

A. WE ARE LOST - AND SO WE NEED JESUS WHO IS THE WAY

Key Verse - see Lk 19 v10. When the Bible uses the word 'lost' it's speaking about man living his life apart from God. The Bible speaks of this in 2 senses:-

(i) Man has been banished by God

This is the story of the man's fall to temptation and sin in the Garden of Eden. He was banished from the Garden (from the presence of God) - and doesn't know how to get back. There is this barrier - sin.

(ii) Man has wandered from God

See Lk 15 and the parables of lostness - especially the parable of the lost sheep. See Is 53 v6. Key Point - lost, man doesn't know that he's lost. See Lk 15 - the parable of the prodigal son.

Jesus is the way because He comes to find us - and finding us, brings us back to God as in His death and resurrection He deals with the barrier of sin which bars the way back to Him. See Eph 2 v13.

B. WE ARE IGNORANT - AND SO WE NEED JESUS WHO IS THE TRUTH

Key Point - Jesus is the truth not just in that He tells us the truth about God, but because He is God. See Jn 1 v17 & 14 v9 - 10a.

C. WE ARE DEAD - AND SO WE NEED JESUS WHO IS THE LIFE

Man is physically alive - but spiritually dead. See Eph 4 v18 & Jn 17 v3.

2. THIS CLAIM IS AN UNASHAMEDLY EXCLUSIVE CLAIM

Jesus is not one of many ways, rather, He is - "The way and the truth and the life....." He is the one and only way....

He is the only way to God because it was He alone who died on the cross dealing with the barrier of sin.

He is the only truth about God (perfectly revealing God to us) because it was He alone who came from God and is God.

He is the only life of God because it was He alone who rose from the dead to give us that resurrection life which is life eternal.

Notice how this is underlined (v6b) - "No-one comes to the Father except through me." See Acts 4 v12 & 1 Tim 2 v5.

3. THIS CLAIM IS A WONDERFULLY ATTRACTIVE CLAIM

This claim tells us that we don't need to try and work our way to heaven (which we can never do) - all we need to do is to trust this Jesus who is the way and the truth and the life.