

The Way

John 14:6



Jesus – The Way

- **John 14:6** - ⁶ Jesus said to him, “**I am the way**, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.
- **John 14:15** - ¹⁵ “If you love me, you will keep my commandments.”

Early Christians – The Way

- **Acts 9:1-2** - But Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest ² and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any belonging to **the Way**, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem.
- **Acts 19:9** - ⁹ But when some became stubborn and continued in unbelief, speaking evil of **the Way** before the congregation, he withdrew from them and took the disciples with him, reasoning daily in the hall of Tyrannus.

Early Christians – The Way

- **Acts 24:14** - ¹⁴ But this I confess to you, that according to **the Way**, which they call a sect, I worship the God of our fathers, believing everything laid down by the Law and written in the Prophets,

Transformed Life – Baptism for Forgiveness of Sins

- **Acts 2:38** - ³⁸ And Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Transformed Life

Dead to Sin and Alive to God in Christ Jesus

- **Romans 6:5-11** - ⁵ For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶ **We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin.** ⁷ For one who has died has been set free from sin. ⁸ Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹ We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰ For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. ¹¹ **So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.**

No Longer I Who Live But Christ Who Lives in Me

- YOU now find your identity in Christ and LIVE for HIM.
- **Galatians 2:20** - ²⁰ I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.
- This means adopting a new way of life **TOTALLY DIFFERENT FROM “THE WAY” OF THE WORLD**

Renewal of Your Mind

- **Romans 12:2** - Do not be conformed to this world but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

The Sum of Our Choices

Transformed Life – Never going back to the Old Life of Sin.

1. $A+B=C$
2. Values/Morals + Choices = Outcomes/Consequences
3. WE ARE THE SUM OF OUR CHOICES

The World Will Never Accept You

- **John 15:18-21** - ¹⁸ “If the world hates you, know that it has hated me before it hated you. ¹⁹ If you were of the world, the world would love you as its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you. ²⁰ Remember the word that I said to you: ‘A servant is not greater than his master.’ If they persecuted me, they will also persecute you. If they kept my word, they will also keep yours. ²¹ But all these things they will do to you on account of my name, because they do not know him who sent me.

**DEAR CHURCH, IF
JESUS SAID YOU
WOULD BE HATED
facebook.com/StopPlayingChurch
BY THE WORLD,
WHY IS IT YOUR
GOAL TO MAKE THE
WORLD LOVE YOU?**

The Church of Christ

**INSTEAD OF
"CONTEMPORARY"
OR "TRADITIONAL",
TRY "SCRIPTURAL"**

Do Not Love the World

- **1 John 2:15-17** - Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride in possessions—is not from the Father but is from the world. And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever.

**GOD
DOES
NOT BLESS
WHAT
HIS
WORD
FORBIDS.**

**YOU CAN'T CHANGE
THE WORLD
BY BEING LIKE THE
WORLD!**

A Christians Response to the Hostility of the World

- **1 Peter 4:12-16** - ¹² Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. ¹³ But rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed. ¹⁴ If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. ¹⁵ But let none of you suffer as a murderer or a thief or an evildoer or as a meddler. ¹⁶ Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in that name.

COMMIT OUR LIVES TO THE HOLY SCRIPTURES

- **Matthew 5:43-45** - ⁴³ “You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ ⁴⁴ But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, ⁴⁵ so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven. For he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.
- **Romans 12:19-21** - ¹⁹ Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, “Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.” ²⁰ To the contrary, “if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head.” ²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

The Way – A Higher Commitment

- **Matthew 22:35-40** - ³⁵ And one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. ³⁶ “Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?” ³⁷ And he said to him, **“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. ³⁸ This is the great and first commandment. ³⁹ And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. ⁴⁰ On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.”**

The Way – A Higher Commitment

- **Hebrews 13:8** - ⁸ Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.
- **Romans 1:16** - ¹⁶ For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

Discipline

- **1 Corinthians 9:24-27** - ²⁴ Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it. ²⁵ Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable. ²⁶ So I do not run aimlessly; I do not box as one beating the air. ²⁷ But I discipline my body and keep it under control lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified.