

THERE CAN BE ONLY ONE – PART FOUR: ONE WAY OF SALVATION

Since the fall of man in the Garden of Eden, every generation has sought a way to be right with God. Philosophers, prophets, and priests have proposed countless paths to redemption—through ritual, self-denial, good works, or religious devotion. Yet the Bible declares with divine clarity that there is only one way of salvation, revealed by God, accomplished through Christ, and received by obedient faith. The world may offer many roads, but only one leads to life eternal. This lesson affirms the exclusiveness of salvation through Jesus Christ and warns against every counterfeit way.

Introduction:

1. This is the fourth lesson in the series *There Can Be Only One*, which presents five unchanging truths: one God, one revelation, one religion, one way of salvation, and one church. Each truth builds upon the other in perfect sequence. The one God has given one revelation to establish one true religion that leads to one way of salvation, culminating in one church composed of the redeemed. The unity of these truths demonstrates the harmony of God's plan and the consistency of His nature—He is not the author of confusion but of order and truth (1 Corinthians 14:33).
2. The question of salvation is the greatest question of all time: *How can man be saved?* Philosophers have speculated, religions have multiplied, and countless teachers have offered their own answers, yet apart from divine revelation, man remains lost. Every human system of salvation, whether based on good works, self-denial, or ritual, ultimately exalts man's ability instead of God's grace. The Scriptures declare that "all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23), proving that the human condition is helpless apart from divine intervention.
3. Only God could bridge the gulf created by sin, and He has done so through His Son, Jesus Christ. Jesus declared, "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me" (John 14:6). His statement excludes all other paths and declares salvation to be exclusively through Him. It is not a matter of opinion or preference but of revelation and obedience. Salvation cannot be inherited through family, nationality, or religious tradition; it is received by grace through obedient faith that submits fully to the will of God (Ephesians 2:8–9; Romans 1:5).
4. In this lesson, we will study the one way of salvation as revealed in the gospel of Christ. We will see why salvation is necessary for all, how God has provided it through His Son, what man's response must be, and why salvation is found only in Jesus Christ. The goal is not merely to understand the doctrine of salvation but to be moved by its message—to recognize the depth of God's mercy, the seriousness of sin, and the urgency of obedience.

1. The Necessity Of Salvation (Romans 3:23; Romans 6:23):

Every human being stands in need of salvation because all have sinned and fallen short of God's glory. Sin is not a minor flaw—it is rebellion against the Creator that separates man from His presence.

- a. Paul declares, "All have sinned, and come short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23). Sin is universal; no person is exempt. From the first transgression in Eden, mankind has been enslaved by sin's power and condemned by its guilt (Genesis 3:6–7; Romans 5:12).
- b. The result of sin is spiritual death—separation from God, who is holy (Romans 6:23; Isaiah 59:2). Religion, morality, and good works cannot remove guilt, for sin demands atonement.
- c. Recognizing our lost condition is the first step toward salvation. Until man acknowledges his sinfulness, he will not seek the Saviour. Like the prodigal son, he must "come to himself" and return to the Father in repentance (Luke 15:17–20).

2. The Provision Of Salvation (John 3:16; 1 Peter 1:18–19):

The one way of salvation is made possible only through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ. God, in His love, took the initiative to redeem the world by offering His Son as the atonement for sin.

- a. Jesus declared that God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life (John 3:16). Salvation is God's gift, born of divine mercy and not human merit (Titus 3:5).

- b. Peter explains that we are redeemed “not with corruptible things, as silver and gold, but with the precious blood of Christ” (1 Peter 1:18–19). The cross stands at the center of God’s redemptive plan, where justice and mercy meet (Psalms 85:10).
- c. The death, burial, and resurrection of Christ form the foundation of the gospel—the good news that God has provided a way for sinners to be reconciled (1 Corinthians 15:1–4). Without the shedding of blood there is no remission of sins (Hebrews 9:22).

3. The Response To Salvation (Acts 2:37–38; Romans 6:3–4):

Though salvation is offered freely by grace, it must be received through an obedient response of faith. God’s grace does not nullify man’s responsibility—it makes it possible for him to respond rightly.

- a. On the Day of Pentecost, when sinners asked, “What shall we do?” Peter answered, “Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins” (Acts 2:37–38). Genuine faith always moves to action.
- b. Paul describes baptism as a burial with Christ, by which we rise to walk in newness of life (Romans 6:3–4). This is the moment of union with Christ’s death, where sins are washed away and the old man is crucified (Acts 22:16; Galatians 2:20).
- c. Obedience from the heart is the mark of saving faith (Romans 6:17–18). Faith without repentance, confession, and obedience is lifeless and cannot save (James 2:24–26). God’s plan unites grace and obedience in perfect harmony.

4. The Exclusiveness Of Salvation (John 14:6; Acts 4:12):

There is only one way of salvation because there is only one Saviour who can save. Jesus Christ is not one of many paths to God but the only door through which man can enter life eternal.

- a. Jesus said, “I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me” (John 14:6). He is not a way among others—He is *the* way. His claim excludes every alternative route.
- b. Peter boldly declared before the Sanhedrin, “Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved” (Acts 4:12). No prophet, priest, or teacher can replace the Redeemer.
- c. The gospel of Christ is universal in invitation but exclusive in access. Salvation is offered to all, but it is found only in Him (1 Timothy 2:5–6). To reject Christ is to reject the only bridge between heaven and earth.

Conclusion:

1. The one way of salvation stands as the heart of the gospel and the hope of mankind. It reveals both the seriousness of sin and the greatness of divine grace. Every other way—whether based on works, rituals, or feelings—is a road that leads to destruction (Proverbs 14:12). God’s way is clear, complete, and consistent: salvation through Christ alone.
2. The provision of salvation demonstrates the depth of God’s love. He gave what was most precious—His Son—to rescue the undeserving. The cross shows the cost of sin and the compassion of the Saviour. To neglect such salvation is to despise God’s mercy (Hebrews 2:3).
3. The proper response to salvation is not mere belief but obedient faith. Repentance, confession, and baptism are not human works but divine conditions for entering the covenant of grace. They express faith’s surrender to the will of God.
4. The exclusiveness of salvation in Christ demands decision. There is no neutral ground. Jesus’ invitation—“Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden”—still stands (Matthew 11:28). But to delay or refuse is to remain lost. The way of salvation is singular, but it is open to all who will come.

Applications:

1. Since there is only one way of salvation, we must reject every teaching that offers another path to heaven (Galatians 1:8–9). Sincerity cannot make a false way true. Whether it be salvation by works, by feelings, or by faith alone without obedience, each departs from the gospel of Christ. The faithful must stand firm in the truth that only through Christ and His commands can man be saved.

2. Understanding the one way of salvation should deepen our gratitude. We were hopeless and condemned, yet God extended His hand through Christ to lift us from death to life (**Romans 5:8**). This gratitude must show itself in faithful living, humble service, and heartfelt worship.
3. The one way of salvation calls for personal obedience. Salvation cannot be inherited, purchased, or presumed—it must be personally accepted through faith, repentance, confession, and baptism (**Acts 2:38; Romans 10:9–10**). Every person must respond to God’s call individually.
4. The exclusiveness of salvation in Christ must stir evangelistic zeal. If there is only one way, then those outside of Christ are lost. We must share the gospel with compassion and urgency, proclaiming the message of grace to all nations (**Mark 16:15–16**).
5. Knowing the one way of salvation should bring peace and assurance. The world’s religions leave men uncertain, but the gospel gives confidence that salvation is sure for those who walk in the light and remain faithful unto death (**1 John 1:7; Revelation 2:10**).

Questions:

1. Why is salvation necessary for every person (**Romans 3:23; Romans 6:23**)?
2. What provision did God make to save mankind (**John 3:16; 1 Peter 1:18–19**)?
3. How does a sinner respond to the gospel to receive salvation (**Acts 2:37–38; Romans 6:3–4**)?
4. What makes Jesus the only way of salvation (**John 14:6; Acts 4:12**)?
5. How should we respond to the truth that there is only one way of salvation (**Mark 16:15–16**)?

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Questions & Answers:

1. Why is salvation necessary for every person (**Romans 3:23; Romans 6:23**)?

Answer: Because all have sinned and are separated from God, facing spiritual death without His grace (**Romans 3:23; Romans 6:23**).

2. What provision did God make to save mankind (**John 3:16; 1 Peter 1:18–19**)?

Answer: God sent His Son, Jesus Christ, who shed His blood on the cross as the perfect sacrifice for sin (**John 3:16; 1 Peter 1:18–19**).

3. How does a sinner respond to the gospel to receive salvation (**Acts 2:37–38; Romans 6:3–4**)?

Answer: By hearing the gospel, believing in Christ, repenting of sins, confessing His name, and being baptized into Him for the remission of sins (**Acts 2:37–38; Romans 6:3–4**).

4. What makes Jesus the only way of salvation (**John 14:6; Acts 4:12**)?

Answer: Jesus alone is the mediator between God and man, and only through His name can salvation be found (**John 14:6; Acts 4:12**).

5. How should we respond to the truth that there is only one way of salvation (**Mark 16:15–16**)?

Answer: We must obey the gospel ourselves and proclaim it to others, knowing it is the only message that can save the lost (**Mark 16:15–16**).