# "The Way" John 14:4-6

#### **Introduction:**

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1. One Of The Earliest Ways:
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- To Describe The Church:
  - Was "The Way!"
    - And This Is Found All The Way Back:
      - In The Book Of Acts!
- In Acts 9:2 Before The Apostle Paul:
  - Was Saved On The Road To Damascus:
    - He Was On A Mission To Find Members:
      - Of "The Way" "Whether They Were Men Or Women" So That "He Might Bring Them Bound Unto Jerusalem!"
- And In Acts 19:23 After Paul Was Saved:
  - In The City Of Ephesus:
    - After Persuading & Turning Away:
      - Many People From Idolatry We Find:
        - That "There Arose No Small Stir About The Way!"
- 2. But What Was:
  - This "Way" All About?
    - Well, This Question Is Also Answered:
      - In The Book Of Acts!
  - Because In Acts 16:17:
    - The "Way" Is Called:
      - The "Way Of Salvation!"
  - And In Acts 18:
    - The "Way Of The Lord" And:
      - The "Way Of God!"
- 3. Well In The Verses We Come To This Morning:
  - In The Book Of John:
    - We Find The Source Of:
      - This Most Telling Description:
        - Of The Church!
  - So Let's Turn Back In Our Bibles:
    - To John 14 Where:
      - After Jesus Confronts:
        - The Fears & Faith:
          - Of His Disciples!
      - And After Jesus Comforts Them:
        - Through Some More Of His:
          - "Exceeding Great & Precious Promises!"
      - He Then Wants To:
        - Confirm & Reassure His Disciples:
          - About What They Already Knew:
            - About Him & His Journey!

- So In John 14:1:
  - Which We Saw Last Time:
    - Jesus Confronts:
      - The Fear & The Faith:
        - Of His Disciples!
  - When He Says To Them:
    - "Let not your heart be troubled: Believe in God! Believe Also In Me!"
      - Because This Kind Of Faith:
        - Can Overcome Fear!
- And Then In 14:2-3:
  - Jesus Comforts:
    - His Disciples:

- With The Promise Of A Future & Special:
  - Home & Host & Hope!
- When He Adds:
  - "In my Father's house are many mansions (Rooms / Places To Dwell In God's Mansion): if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. / And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also!"
- These Promises Provide:
  - For The Christian:
    - A Firm Foundation:
      - For A Faith That:
        - Can Overcome Our Fears!

- But Then In 14:4:
  - Jesus Seems To Want To:
    - Reassure His Disciples!
  - When He Adds:
    - "And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know!"
      - In Other Words:
        - They Already Knew Something About:

## 1. The Journey Of Christ!

- Already In The Upper Room:
  - Jesus Told His Disciples That:
    - He Was Going To Leave Them:
      - Very Soon!
  - And This Revelation:
    - Is What "Troubled" The Hearts:
      - Of The Disciples!
  - It "Troubled" Peter:
    - To Hear Jesus Say:
      - Back In 13:33 "Little children, yet a little while I am with you. Ye shall seek me: and as I said unto the Jews, Whither I go, ye cannot come; so now I say to you!"
  - And Now Jesus Just Told Them Again:
    - In 14:2 "I Go To Prepare A Place For You!"
      - And This Will Trouble Thomas:
        - And The Rest Of The Disciples:
          - As We Will See In 14:5!
  - But Here Jesus Wants To:
    - Reassure His Disciples:
      - And Confirm That:
        - They Already *Did* Know:
          - Something About His Journey!
    - Again John 14:4:
      - "And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know!"
- So Jesus Confirms That:
  - His Disciples Already Knew:
    - Something About:
      - The Destination Of His Journey!
        - Even "Whither" Or "Where" He Was Going!
  - Jesus' Journey From Heaven:
    - Was A Round-Trip!
      - He Had Already Told Them That:
        - He Had Come From Heaven!
      - And Now He Was Heading:
        - Back To Heaven!
      - Because Heaven:
        - Was & Still Is:
          - His Home!

- And This Was One Of: - The Many Lessons Jesus Taught: - His Disciples: - While He Was With Them! - And So - He Could Say: - "Whither I Go Ye Know! - And - If They Didn't Yet: - Fully Grasp Or Understand: - What Jesus Taught Them: - The Problem Wasn't With: - The Teacher! - The Problem Was With: - The Students! - But - Jesus Wanted To: - Confirm Their Knowledge & Faith! - As If To Say: - "You Know More Than You Think You Know!" - And - You Do Know: - The Destination: - Of My Journey: - Back To Heaven! - And - Jesus Was Going There: - To Prepare A Place: - For Them! Even For Us! - But Then - Jesus Also Confirmed That: - His Disciples Already Knew: - Something About: - The Direction Of His Journey! - And - "They Way" He Was Going To Get There! - There Was A Path: - Laid Out For Jesus: - From The Very Beginning: - And Even From Before The Beginning: - To Return Home! - And - This Pathway: - Would Be A Difficult Path: - And This Too: - Jesus Had Already Told Them About! - The Direction & Way Of Jesus' Journey: - Would Be One Of: - Sorrow & Suffering & Sacrifice! - Back In 12:32: - Jesus Told The Jews: - With His Own Disciples Surrounding Him: - "And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me!" - And In The Next Verse John Explains: - "This he said, signifying what death he should die!" - The "Way" Of Jesus' Journey: - Was To & Through: - The Old Rugged Cross! - So That He Could: - "Redeem Us From The Curse Of The Law, Being Made A Curse For Us! For It Is Written: Cursed Is Every One That Hangeth On A Tree!" (Galatians 3:13)
  - Would Be A Hard & Difficult One! - Jesus Never Shrunk Away From It!

- This Direction:

- But - Even Though:

- - Because To Him:

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- It Was, At The Same Time, The Most Glorious Way Home As Well!
                         - Because - He Also Told His Disciples:
                                  - In 12:23 - "The Hour Is Come, That The Son Of Man Should Be Glorified!"
- So - The Direction Of Jesus' Journey:
        - Was Not Just On:
                 - The Path To Glory!
                         - And - The Glory Of:
                                  - His Destination & Heavenly Home!
                 - The Direction Of His Journey:
                         - Was On:
                                  - The Path Of Glory!
        - And - Jesus Wanted To:
                 - Confirm The Knowledge & Faith:
                         - If His Disciples:
                                  - About Both The Direction & The Destination:
                                          - Of His Journey!
        - 14:4 - "And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know!"
                 - But - All Of This:
                         - Was Still Too Much For:
                                  - The Disciples To Accept!
                 - They May Have Known:
                         - All Of This - Because Jesus:
                                  - Had Already Taught Them:
                                          - All Of This!
                         - But - It Was Just Too Hard:
                                  - For Them - Because It Still Meant That Jesus:
                                          - Would Leave Them!
        - But - This Journey Of Christ:
                 - Is What Makes Up The Gospel!
                         - The "Good News" That:
                                  - You Can Be Saved From Your Sins!
                 - And - You Must Accept & Believe:
                         - That Jesus Went On His Journey:
                                  - Both From & To Heaven:
                                          - So That You Can Eternal Life In Heaven With Him!
                 - His Way Was:
                         - The Way Of Sorrow!
                                  - So That You Might Have:
                                          - A Way Of Salvation!
                 - And - His Way Was:
                         - The Way Of Death:
                                  - So That You Might Have:
                                          - A Way To Life!
        - But Still - All Of This:
                 - Was Just Too Much For The Disciples:
                         - To Handle At That Point!
                 - And So - In 14:5:
                         - Thomas Speaks Up!
                 - And - He Speaks Up:
                         - Not Just For Himself:
                                  - And His Own Troubled Heart!
                         - But For All:
                                  - Of The Disciples!
                 - Because - As He Mulled Over Jesus' Words:
                         - In His Mind - He Uses Those Words:
                                  - To Express Their Confusion & Concern! So:
        - 14:5 - "Thomas saith unto him, Lord, we know not whither thou goest; and how can we know the way?"
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- Thomas Is Mentioned 8 Times In The Gospel Of John!

- At Times He Appears As:
  - A Very Strong, Devoted Disciple!
    - Who Was Ready To Die For & With His Lord!
- But At Other Times He Appears As:
  - A Discouraged & Despondent Disciple!
    - Even As A "Doubting Thomas!"
- And This Is How He Appears Here!
  - But He's Not Just Expressing:
    - His Own Doubt But The Doubts:
      - Of All The Disciples!
    - Perhaps They Are Even:
      - At The Point Of Denial:
        - About The Direction & Destination Of Jesus' Journey!
- But Even With This Doubt & Denial:
  - There Remains The Desire:
    - To Be With Jesus!
  - And So Jesus Then In 14:6:
    - Turns From His Own Journey To:

### 2. The Journey Of Christians!

- When He Makes This:
  - Unforgettable Statement:
    - 14:6 "Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me!"
  - So Even Though:
    - Thomas Wanted To Know More About:
      - The Where:
        - Of Jesus' Journey! And:
      - The Way:
        - Of Jesus' Journey!
    - Jesus Wanted To Teach Him More About:
      - The Who:
        - Of Their Own Journey!
  - And That To Get To:
    - The Same Destination As Jesus:
      - They Would Have To Go:
        - Through Him As:
          - Their Way!
  - As Someone Once Put It:
    - "Your Way To God Is Not My Way But Me!" (Don Carson)
      - That Is Jesus Went On His Way:
        - Of Suffering So That He:
          - Might Be Your Way Of Salvation!
- Now When Jesus Uses The Words:
  - "I Am" Before This Great Statement:
    - He Is Using The Special Name Of God:
      - Found In The Old Testament:
        - When He Spoke To Moses Out Of The Burning Bush In Exodus 3:14!
  - And In Doing So Jesus Identifies Himself:
    - As God! Not As:
      - Another God But The God!
        - Along With God The Father & God The Holy Spirit!
    - But The Name Itself:
      - Has Deep Meaning!
    - Because To Be:
      - The "I Am" Means:
        - That He Is, He Has Always Been, And He Will Always Be!
          - He Is Truly Eternal & Infinite & The Source & Substance Of

### Everything Else That Exists!

- And So As The Great "I Am!"
  - Jesus Calls On Thomas:
    - And On All Of His Disciples To:
- Follow Him!
  - Because He Is:
    - "The Way!"
      - "I Am The Way!" Jesus Says!
    - This Means That:
      - Jesus Is, Jesus Has Always Been, And Jesus Will Always Be:
        - "The Only Way!"
      - The Only Way:
        - Of God To Man! And:
      - The Only Way:
        - Of Man To God!
      - He's The Great Mediator:
        - For Both God & Man!
  - And Even Though
    - In Just A Few Hours Time:
      - From When Jesus Said These Words:
        - His Way Would Seem:
          - To Come To Its End:
            - When He Would Die On The Cross!

- His Way To Glory:
  - Became Our Way To God The Father:
    - Through Him!
  - Jesus Is "The Way!"
    - And When You Follow Him:
      - He Becomes Your Way!
- Jesus Also Calls On Us To Have:
- Faith In Him!
  - Because At The Same Time He Is:
    - "The Truth!"
      - "I Am The Way, And The Truth!"
        - Jesus Says!
    - This Also Means That:
      - Jesus Is, Jesus Has Always Been, And Jesus Will Always Be:
        - "The Truth" Of God & Heaven!
  - So Not Only Did Jesus:
    - Always Speak The Truth:
      - He Is The Very Source & Substance:
        - Of All Truth!
    - In A World That Says:
      - "Truth Is Relative!"
        - And You Can Have Your Truth & I Can Have My Truth!
    - Jesus Says:
      - "I Am The Truth!"
        - Because There Is Objective Truth And Reality:
          - And It All Flows From & Reflects Jesus Christ!
  - And Even Though:
    - That Very Night:
      - The Lies Of The Devil:
        - Would Seem To Overwhelm His Truth!
    - Since Jesus Is "The Truth!"
      - He Would Prevail!
        - And We Can Believe & Trust In Him With All Of Our Heart!
  - Jesus Also Calls On Us To Experience:
- Fellowship With Him!

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- Because - He Is:
                 - "The Life" As Well!
                         - "I Am The Way, And The Truth, And The Life!"
                                  - Jesus Says!
                 - Again, This Means That:
                         - Jesus Is, Jesus Has Always Been, And Jesus Will Always Be:
                                  - "The Life" Of God & Heaven!
                 - Jesus Is The Very:
                         - Source & Substance & Standard:
                                  - Of Real Life!
        - And - Even Though:
                 - Death Itself:
                         - Would Seem To Overcome:
                                  - The "Prince Of Life!"
                 - Since Jesus Is "The Life!"
                         - He Would Be Victorious Over Death:
                                  - Through The Power Of His Resurrection!
        - And That Is Why The Bible Teaches That:
                 - Without Christ:
                         - There Would Be No Life!
                 - Even In The Beginning Of This Book:
                          - Jesus Is Called The "Word Of God!"
                 - And - As "The Word" - 1:3:
                         - "All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made!"
                                  - Because Jesus Is The Life!
        - But - At The Same Time:
                 - Without Christ:
                         - There Would Be No Living!
                 - Back In John 10:10 - Jesus Said:
                         - "I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly!"
                                  - What Kind Of Life Do You Have?
                 - Only When You:
                         - Follow Jesus Christ:
                                  - As The Way! And:
                 - Only When You:
                         - Have Faith In Jesus Christ:
                                  - As The Truth!
                 - Can You Experience:
                         - Real Fellowship With Jesus Christ:
                                  - Through His Life!
                 - And - When You Do:
                         - You Can Say With Paul:
                                  - "For To Me To Live Is Christ!" (Philippians 1:21)
                                           - That Is - "Living Is Christ!"
                 - Because - Jesus Is The Life!
- And Now:
        - Since Jesus Is:
                 - All Of These Things!
                         - "The Way & The Truth & The Life!"
        - Your Journey To God The Father:
                 - Depends Entirely On:
                          - Jesus' Journey To His Father!
                 - Which Is Why Jesus Adds:
                         - In 14:6 - "No man cometh unto the Father, but by me!"
        - And So - When You Trust:
                 - In Jesus Christ:
                          - As "The Way" Of Salvation For:
                                  - Your Journey In Life!
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- Only Then:
  - Can Jesus's Way Of Suffering:
    - On His Journey:
      - Make A Way For You To One Day Arrive:
        - At The Same Destination As He!

### **Conclusion:**

- 1. Do You Know Jesus Christ:
  - As Your Way?
    - Its One Thing To Know:
      - The Where Of Jesus' Journey!
    - And To Know Even:
      - The Way Of Jesus' Journey!
    - But To Know:
      - The Who Of Your Own Journey:
        - Makes All The Difference!
          - Between Salvation & Sin!
          - Between Life & Death!
          - And Between Heaven & Hell!
- 2. Trust In This Truth!
  - "Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me!"

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