

Warrington  
1/20/68

Bridget  
2/19/68  
A.M.

"Jesus Christ, the Way"

St. John :- 14: 1 - 6.

Text:- St. John 14: 6. "I am the way, the truth, and the life; no man cometh to the Father, but by me".

Introduction:- This text has brought reassurance and peace to the hearts of the disciples of Jesus day, and has brought assurance to his disciples of today. There was in this text the assurance and comfort enough to quiet all of the heart yearnings <sup>and</sup> of understandings, and to furnish power to set ~~in~~ ~~the~~ ~~great~~ ~~Christian~~ ~~move-~~ ~~ment~~, into action.

Christianity is something which can be measured. History measures its impact on the progress of man. It records its effect upon the changing currents of time. Human experience measures its bearing upon man's behavior, his moral actions, and reactions. The church is the measure of its value in community life, and its social implications.

If you are a Christian, you must accept the entire challenge of Christ for your total personality. Thousands have gone part way with Christ, but that is not enough. Jesus said unless you are willing to deny yourself and take up his cross and follow Him, you cannot be His follower. Jesus demanded of the rich young ruler that he give all he had, or he could not be recei-

ved into the kingdom of God.

Many of you have had mental concepts of Christianity. But that was not enough. You did not go on to perfection.

Others of you have had emotional experiences which, perhaps, were valuable, but you failed to absorb the Word of God.

Still others have exercised your wills to a degree and your own strength have resolved to "live right", but you have also discovered that you possessed an inadequacy and that your resolutions to be "better" usually ended in defeat.

But, Christ is the "Way". Christ is more than "A way of life". Christianity is more than "A good way to live". Nowhere in the Bible does it say that Christ is "a way". It says, "He is the way", the one and only way.

God's laws have never been amended. God's prescriptions have never been adulterated. God's directions have never been changed. Old remedies are still prescribed for old sins. Old directions still point to old established destinations. Old laws, which were made for man's good, are still in force.

The Bible says, "Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way that leadeth to destruction!" "But straight is the <sup>gate</sup> and narrow is the way, which leadeth to life, and few there be that find it!" Matthew 7:13-14.

Christ is first the life, and then He is the way. Many have thought, mistakenly, that if they lived a good life and did the best they could, they would

or could earn salvation. But the Scriptures say,  
"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that  
not of yourselves, it is the gift of God"

(Eph. 2:8 & 9.)

Some one asked a learned Christian to sum up the  
Christian life in the fewest words possible. He  
said, "Not my will but thine be done" (Luke 22:42).  
After reflecting a moment he said, "Take out my  
ill, and say, "Thy will be done," That is the es-  
sence of the Christian life: renouncing of our own  
will, and allowing His will to be done.

Christ becomes the way to him, and he lives the  
way a man ought to live.

## II.

Christ is the truth. This refers to the redemp-  
tion of our minds. Paul said, "Be not conformed  
to this world, but be ye transformed by the renew-  
ing of your minds." (Romans 12:2).

"For to be carnally minded is death; but to be  
spiritually minded is life and peace." (Romans 8:6)

The Bible says also, "Let this mind be in you  
which was also in Christ Jesus."

Christ is not merely "A truth", but He is the  
truth.

Having redeemed our minds, Christ gives us a  
creed. Like secret codes, they seem meaningless  
to those who are not in the kingdom. "But whoso  
keepeth His word, in Him, verily is the love of God  
perfected; hereby know we that we are in Him."

## III.

A glance at the Bible will reveal that Christ,

and He alone, is the source of spiritual life. The Bible says, "In Him was life; and the life was the light of men." ( Jhon 1:4)

"He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not ~~eternal~~ life"

( I John 5:12)

The Bible says furthermore, "I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly." (John 10:10).

The new birth which Jesus requires of every man is equally as important as your first birth. Your first birth was involuntary; but your second birth is voluntary. The life which you received at your first birth terminates at death; but the life you are given at your second birth continues forever. Your first birth was made possible in order that you might experience the second birth, and if you fail to find Christ, who is the source of spiritual life, the purpose of your first birth will be unfulfilled.

The new life which is given you at your second birth touches one part of your nature in particular, your spirit. As I have said before, you are a spirit and you possess a mind and a body. God wants to redeem you completely through Christ. He wants to make complete in Him every area of your life. The Bible says, "And I pray God your whole spirit, and mind, and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ." (I Thes. 5:23)

He begins with your spirit, or as we say, "our hearts." The Word of God says, "And I will give them one heart, and I will put a new spirit within you." (Ezekiel 11:19)

And again, "If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold all things are become new." (II Cor. 5:17)

This is the impartation of life. Call it the new birth, conversion or regeneration. It is by faith, according to the Word, and through the Spirit. It is the fulfillment of the purpose for which you were born into the world. It means that you will live forever. "And I will give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand." ( John 10:28)

Remember, Christ is the life. It is in Him and through him and by Him. "Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ is born of God." ( I John 5:1.

Conclusion:- Yes, Christ is the way. He redeems our conduct by dealing with our rebellious wills and sets us going on the highway of holiness. He redeems our minds by cancelling the "carnal mind", and by giving us the mind of Christ. Christ is the life that transforms our hearts, and supplants the fleshly emotions of envy, greed and lust with love joy and peace.

To a world that cries out with doubting Thomas, "Lord, how can we know the way?) (John 14:5), Jesus answers with positive assurance, "I am the way, the truth, and the life." ( John 14:60).

Will you not let Christ come into your life and heart today? Accept Him by faith, for God so loved "YOU", that he gave his only Son to be your Savior.

*Have you accepted Him <sup>with faith</sup> but are cold & following afar off today. If you would be happy & have a life without doubt & fear draw*

And again, "If any man be in Christ, he is a  
new creature: old things are passed away; behold  
all things are become new."  
near to Him today. I know of no better  
place to get close to part of cross,  
than here at the altar.  
Does anyone need to get closer.  
that a M.?

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