

Where Millions Miss “the way”

Introduction

1. Heaven – that is where every religious person says they want to spend their eternity.

A. Millions and Millions of people who say they want to go to heaven and think they are going to heaven will in the end, miss “the way.”

B. How do I know this? Because Jesus said that there are few who will find “the way.”

Matthew 7:13-14

2. Jesus made it clear that He is “the way!”

John 14:6 Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

A. Even though millions will claim to believe in Jesus, they will miss “the way” because of disobedience.

Matt 7:21-23 **21** "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. **22** Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' **23** "And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!"

3. Millions of religions people, while claiming to do what Jesus has said, in reality are only doing some of what Jesus has said.

A. We will show that one must believe and obey all that God has said in order not to miss “the way” into eternal heaven.

Religious Millions Will Agree on Some Things

1. God as creator

- A. As the Bible is opened to the very first verse of scripture, millions read and agree that God created all things**

Gen 1:1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

2. The Flood

- A. Noah is a household name, known for his complete obedience in doing exactly what God commanded of him.**

Gen 6:8 But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD.

Gen 6:22 Thus Noah did; according to all that God commanded him, so he did.

3. The Virgin Birth

- A. Millions agree that Jesus was born of a virgin as was prophesied.**

Matt 1:22-23 **22** So all this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying: **23** "Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel," which is translated, "God with us."

4. God's Son

- A. On the religious road the millions believe in Jesus Christ as being the Son of God.**

Matt 3:16-17 **16** When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him. **17** And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."

Matt 17:5 "...This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. **Hear Him!**"

5. Faith

A. Millions will agree that one must have faith in Jesus. Most believe that faith alone will save.

1) This is where the road begins to change.

John 1:12 But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name:

John 3:16 For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

6. Godly Sorrow

2 Cor 7:10 For godly sorrow produces repentance leading to salvation, not to be regretted; but the sorrow of the world produces death.

A. The text says “godly sorrow produces repentance.” There are millions that claim to have experienced “godly sorrow.”

B. But there will be millions that miss “the way” to salvation because they have not exhibited the true “godly sorrow” that produces REPENTANCE.

1) Repentance is a change of heart that results in a change of life.

C. It is at this point that millions stand at the fork in the road! And will take the broad way instead of “the way.”

The Broad Way

1. Why will millions take the “Broad way?”

BECAUSE:

Prov 14:12 There is a way that seems right to a man, But its end is the way of death.

A. Faith only

James 2:24 You see then that a man is justified by works, and not by faith only.

B. Thoughts

Isa 55:8-9 **8** "For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways," says the LORD. **9** "For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways, And My thoughts than your thoughts.

C. Feelings

Prov 28:26 He who trusts in his own heart is a fool, But whoever walks wisely will be delivered.

Heb 2:1 Therefore we must give the more earnest heed to the things we have heard, lest we drift away.

D. Join the church of your choice

Matt 16:18 And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.

- 1) Millions will say **“the preacher said so”** as an answer to why they believe what they do religiously.
- 2) As a result this religious error will only lead to **DEATH, DESTRUCTION, DAMNATION, and a DEVIL’S HELL!**

“the way”

- 1. The few that will travel “the way” unto salvation will do so because they understand that the Bible **IS** all inspired and that one **MUST** obey Jesus in **ALL** things in order to be saved.**

Heb 5:9 “...He became the author of eternal salvation to all who obey **Him**,

A. Repentance

Acts 2:38 Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

B. Confession

Rom 10:9-10 **9** that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. **10** For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

C. Baptism

Mark 16:16 He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned.

- 2. Once one is baptized they are added to the church.**

Acts 2:41 Then those who **gladly received his word were baptized**; and that day about three thousand souls were **added to them**.

Acts 2:47 praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord **added to the church daily those who were being saved**.

1 Cor 12:13 For by one Spirit **we were all baptized into one body**--whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free--and have all been made to drink into one Spirit.

**3. Once added to the church, God expects us to grow spiritually.
2 Peter 1:5-11**

A. Unfortunately, there are many who have been baptized into Christ that will not remain faithful to Him.

1) As a result, they will join millions of others in an eternal hell.

Matt 13:41-42 **41** The Son of Man will send out His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all things that offend, and those who practice lawlessness, **42** and will cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth.

4. To enter into heaven, eternal life with our Father one must “remain faithful until death.”

5. Let us not be counted among the millions who will spend an eternity in hell with the devil and his angels.

A. But rather, let us be committed to serve and live for Jesus understanding that: He is “the way” the truth and the life; that NO ONE comes to the Father except through Him!

Invitation

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Richard Thetford, September 2004