

# Is Jesus Christ The Only Way To Know God?

People are asking “*what is so special about the man Jesus Christ?*”

Why do you confirm that Jesus Christ is the **only** way someone can get to know God and please Him?

At the same time a parallel question is asked, “*what about the vast majority of humans who have never heard of Jesus Christ, are they all condemned?*”

Let us first confirm the answer to the first two questions.

Christians are accused of being narrow-minded bigots because we believe and preach acceptance of Jesus Christ as the **only** way to know and please God.

**First of all Christians did not invent this claim, it was made by Jesus Christ Himself.**

Christians are merely relating Jesus Christ’s claim, and the claim of the writers of the Christian Bible’s New Testament.

The faithfully recorded words, claims and promises made by Jesus Christ.

**John 14:6-7** [NIV] “*Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No-one comes to the Father except through me. If you really knew me, you would know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him.”*

**We can only know God the Father through a knowledge of the words and life of Jesus Christ.**

**John 8:24** [NIV] “*I told you that you would die in your sins; if you do not believe that I am [the one I claim to be], you will indeed die in your sins.”*

The **only** way we can receive eternal life is through Jesus Christ.

**Acts 4:10-12** [NIV] “*then know this, you and all the people of Israel: It is by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified but whom God raised from the dead, that this man stands before you healed. He is “the stone you builders rejected, which has become the capstone.’ Salvation is found in no-one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved.”*

Only by accepting the crucified and resurrected Jesus Christ can we have a Saviour from eternal death.

**1 Timothy 2:3-6** [NIV] “*This is good, and pleases God our Saviour, who wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth. For there is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all men, the testimony given in its proper time.”*

It is the united testimony of the New Testament in the Christian Bible that no-one can know God the Father except through the person of the man Jesus Christ.

To understand this we must go back to the beginning of creation and human history.

**Genesis 1:1** [NIV] “*In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.”*

An infinite God created this earth and the universe of which the earth is a very small part.

Why?

**Genesis 1:26** [NIV] *“Then God said, **“Let us make man in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.”**”*

All that had been created before had this in mind.

**Genesis 1:27** [NIV] *“So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.”*

**Why human beings and why male and female?**

**1 John 4:8** [NIV] *“Whoever does not love does not know God, because **God is love.**”*

God is love, and any true love needs a reciprocal love, to be fulfilled.

**Genesis 1:27** [NIV] *“So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.”*

Note that humans were **only created in God’s image**, both male and female.

The Hebrew of the word translated “image” means a shadow of the real product, [Hebrew “tselem”].

But the original goal was not only “image” but also “likeness” the different Hebrew word meaning character, [Hebrew “demûwth”].

Character **cannot** be instantly created but is the result of a period of time in the presence of one who has a certain character, in this case God Himself.

Human beings were originally given a perfect environment and relationship to develop this “likeness”.

What went wrong?

**Genesis 2:15-17** [NIV] *“The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. And the LORD God commanded the man, “You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it you will surely die.”*

God gave Adam one test commend **not** to decide for himself what was good and evil.

**Only an infinite Creator God could decide this.**

**Genesis 3:1-7** [NIV] *“Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God really say, ‘You must not eat from any tree in the garden’?” The woman said to the serpent, “We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, but God did say, ‘You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.’” “You will not surely die,” the serpent said to the woman. “For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” **When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realised that they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.**”*

**First Eve then Adam rebelled against their Creator God, and for the first time experienced shame.**

Human beings since that day have followed their example, still being prompted by the serpent, that is Satan.

**Revelation 12:9** [NIV] *“The great dragon was hurled down, **that ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, who leads the whole world astray. He was hurled to the earth, and his angels with him.**”*

The serpent of **Genesis 3:1** is identified in this scripture.

**John 8:42-44** [NIV] *“Jesus said to them, “If God were your Father, you would love me, for I came from God and now am here. I have not come on my own; but he sent me. Why is my language not clear to you? Because you are unable to hear what I say. You belong to your father, **the devil**, and you want to carry out your father’s desire. He was a murderer from the beginning, **not holding to the truth**, for there is no truth in him. **When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies.**”*

**It was and is Satan’s lies that withhold the truth from human beings and cause them to die, spiritually, not knowing their need for a Saviour from the death penalty that their rebellion against their Creator God has brought on them.**

**Romans 6:23** [NIV] *“For **the wages of sin is death**, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”*

The Greek word translated “sin” means to miss the mark, that is miss the reason for our being created human beings, such an act will earn us death, eternal death.

How can humans on “death row” avoid this eternal death?

**Genesis 3:21** [NIV] *“**The LORD God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife and clothed them.**”*

There had to be the shedding of blood for these skins to cover the shame of their sin.

**Hebrews 9:22** [NIV] *“In fact, the law requires that nearly everything be cleansed with blood, and **without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness.**”*

To emphasise the evil of sin God demands a life laid down before a Holy God can accept a sinner in His presence.

What life sacrifice will be of such great value in God the Father’s eyes that he is able to accept it as a substitute death for all humanity?

**John 1:1-4** [NIV] *“**In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of men.**”*

Who was this Word who was God, through Whom all things were created, that includes all human beings?

**John 1:14, 29** [NIV] *“**The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.**” ... “The next day John saw Jesus coming towards him and said, “**Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!**”*

The Son of God who became the human Jesus Christ.

**Jesus Christ who’s shed blood would take away the penalty of all human sin.**

**2 Corinthians 5:16-19** [NIV] *“So from now on we regard no-one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer. Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come! All this is from **God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men’s sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation.**”*

This reconciliation between God the Father and human beings is through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, the Word, the only Son of God who became a human being to be able to shed His life blood, for our salvation from deserved eternal death.

Jesus Christ paved the way back to God the Father.

**God has done in Jesus Christ all that was needed for this reconciliation.**

We can do **nothing** to add to this work of Jesus Christ.

**Ephesians 2:8-10** [NIV] *“For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith, and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God, not by works, so that no-one can boast. For we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.”*

All we have to do is believe the truth about the future life and **not** the lies that Satan is spreading throughout humanity.

**The “good works” God wants us to do is to counter Satan’s lies with the truth.**

If humanity could reach God the Father any other way or through any other person, Jesus Christ would **not** have had to die.

Jesus Christ’s death illustrates the fact that there is **no** other way.

Therefore **no** other religion or religious leader can bring any human being to the knowledge and presence of the one true Creator God.

**When it comes to eternal matters who are we going to look to! One who is alive and can never die again or those who are dead or will soon die?**

**Muhammad, Buddha, Confucius or any other religious leaders are all dead.**

**We know that present religious leaders are also in the process of dying.**

**Romans 1:1-4** [NIV] *“Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle and set apart for the gospel of God, the gospel he promised beforehand through his prophets in the Holy Scriptures regarding his Son, who as to his human nature was a descendant of David, and who through the Spirit of holiness was declared with power to be the Son of God, **by his resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ our Lord.**”*

**The human Jesus Christ is unique, and through His resurrection from the dead, by the power of the Holy Spirit, is the eternal Son of God, who can never die.**

**Hebrews 4:14-16** [NIV] *“Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has gone through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathise with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are, yet was without sin. Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.”*

The resurrected Jesus Christ is now in the presence of God the Father acting as our High Priest, to intercede on our behalf.

**Hebrews 12:1-4** [NIV] *“Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. **Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith**, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured such opposition from sinful men, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart. In your struggle against sin, you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood.”*

**We have many millions of humans who have placed their faith in the life, death and resurrection of the man Jesus Christ.**

As a result they have become holy and acceptable to a Holy Creator God. Being made now in the holy “likeness” of God by the work and indwelling of God the Holy Spirit.

**Galatians 5:22-25** [NIV] *“**But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.** Against such things there is no law. Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful nature with its passions and desires. Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.”*

**No other religion or religious leader can offer what we can receive through belief in the resurrected Jesus Christ and the work of the Holy Spirit in us.**