

**The God Questions (1 of 4)**  
**“Do All Roads Lead To Heaven?”**  
**Cornerstone Church of Poway**  
**Pastor Ed Turley**  
**April 9, 2023**

The angel said to the women, "**Do not be afraid**, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. <sup>6</sup> **He is not here; he has risen, just as he said.** Come and see the place where he lay. <sup>7</sup> Then go quickly and tell his disciples: '**He has risen from the dead** and is going ahead of you into Galilee. **Matthew 28:5-7a (NIV)**

**Big Idea:** Religion is man trying to save himself or become like God. Christianity is God saving man through the **atonement** sacrifice of Jesus Christ. When we misunderstand who God is, we fail to understand His Holiness, His Justice, and His love.

“This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an **atonement sacrifice** for our sins.” **1 John 4:10 (NIV) Remember Verse**

### **1. The Bible Teaches The Savior Will Pay For Our Sins**

He was despised and rejected by men, a man of **sorrows**, and familiar with **suffering**. Like one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not. <sup>4</sup> Surely he took up **our infirmities** and **carried our sorrows**, yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him, and afflicted. <sup>5</sup> But he was **pierced for our transgressions**, he was **crushed for our iniquities**; the **punishment that brought us peace** was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed. <sup>6</sup> We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; and the **LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all. Isaiah 53:3-6 (NIV) God in the Flesh** “Therefore the **Lord himself** will give you a sign: The **virgin** will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call him **Immanuel.**” **Isaiah 7:14 (NIV)**

“For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called **Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**” **Isaiah 9:6 (NIV)**

- ✓ **The One Who Make The Blind See, Deaf Hear, Lame To Leap, And Mute To Sing**  
 “Then will the eyes of the blind be opened and the ears of the deaf unstopped.  
<sup>6</sup> Then will the lame leap like a deer, and the mute tongue shout for joy.”  
**Isaiah 35:5-6a (NIV)**
- ✓ **Not a bone of Him would be broken** Psalm 34:20
- ✓ **Betrayed for thirty pieces of silver** Zechariah 11:11-13
- ✓ **Will rise from the dead** Psalm 16:8-11

Peter Stoner, “Science Speaks” Moody Press 1958

The probability that even 8 of these would be fulfilled in one person is 1 in 10<sup>17</sup>.

The probability that 48 of these would be fulfilled is 1 in 10<sup>157</sup>.

## 2. Jesus Claims To The Savior of the World

Jesus said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: **Everything** must be fulfilled that is written about me in the **Law of Moses**, the **Prophets** and the **Psalms**." <sup>45</sup> Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. <sup>46</sup> He told them, "This is what is written: The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, <sup>47</sup> and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to **all nations**, beginning at Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup> You are witnesses of these things. **Luke 24:44-48 (NIV)**

### ✓ Forgives Sin.

Which is easier: to say, '**Your sins are forgiven**,' or to say, 'Get up and walk'? <sup>6</sup> But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth **to forgive sins....**" Then he said to the paralytic, "Get up, take your mat and go home." <sup>7</sup> And the man got up and went home. **Matthew 9:5-7 (NIV)**

### ✓ Raises The Dead.

"For just as the Father **raises the dead** and gives them life, even so the Son gives life to whom he is pleased to give it." **John 5:21 (NIV)**

### ✓ The Judge.

"Moreover, the Father judges no one, but has entrusted **all judgment to the Son**" **John 5:22 (NIV)**

### ✓ The ONLY Way To Heaven.

Jesus said to him, "I am the **way**, and the **truth**, and the **life**; **no one** comes to the Father but through **Me**." **John 14:6 (NASB)**

## 3. Who Do You Say Jesus Is?

Now Thomas (called Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup> So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord!" But he said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe it." <sup>26</sup> A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" <sup>27</sup> Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe." <sup>28</sup> Thomas said to him, "**My Lord and my God!**" **John 20:24-28 (NIV)**

"That if you **confess** with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and **believe** in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be **saved**." **Romans 10:9 (NIV)**

### ➤ **Will you confess Jesus as Your Lord and Savior?**

#### **My next right step, I will:**

- [ ] Accept Jesus Christ as my Savior and Lord.
- [ ] Sign up for Cornerstone Partnership Class April 30, 12:15-2:30PM.
- [ ] Sign up for Believer's Baptism May 7, 2023.

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**Open in Prayer.**

**Discussion Starter:** What religions have you experienced or been exposed to?

**Big Idea:** Religion is man trying to save himself. Christianity is God saving man through the atoning sacrifice of Jesus Christ. When we misunderstand who God is, we fail to understand His Holiness, His Justice, and His love.

This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an **atoning sacrifice** for our sins. **1 John 4:10 (NIV) Remember Verse**

**Discussion Questions:** (Choose how many questions you would like to discuss)

**1. The Bible Teaches The Savior Will Pay For Our Sins**

What do these names tell you about the Savior of the world?

- Read Isaiah 53:3-6. What will the Savior do?
- Read Isaiah 7:14 & Isaiah 9:6.  
List the names given for the Savior:

How does this identify Who the Savior is?

How does John 14:1-24 compare?

- Read Micah 5:2. How does this prophecy narrow down who the Savior will be?
- Read Psalm 22:1, 6-8, 14-18; Matthew 27:33-55.  
How does this prophecy compare to what Jesus went through on the cross?
- Read Zechariah 11:11-13. Matthew 27:3-10. Discuss the details of this prophecy.  
How does this prophecy compare to what Judas did?
- Read Daniel 9:24-26  
How does this narrow down when the Messiah would come?

## 2. Who Does Jesus Say He Is?

Read Luke 24:44. What does Jesus claim?

He is: \_\_\_\_\_

Read Mark 2:5-7. What does Jesus claim?

He is: \_\_\_\_\_

Read John 5:21. What does Jesus claim?

He is: \_\_\_\_\_

Read John 5:22. What does Jesus claim?

He is: \_\_\_\_\_

Read John 5:23. What does Jesus claim?

He is: \_\_\_\_\_

Read John 14:6. What does Jesus claim?

He is: \_\_\_\_\_

What do all of these claims teach you about Jesus?

## 3. Who Do You Say Jesus Is?

**C.S. Lewis, Mere Christianity** wrote, *“You can shut Him up for a fool, you can spit at Him and kill Him as a demon; or you can fall at His feet and call Him Lord and God. But let us not come up with any patronizing nonsense about His being a great human teacher. He has not left that open to us. He did not intend to.”*

Do you agree or disagree? Why?

Why would it be patronizing to call Jesus only a “good teacher?”

Read John 20:24-30. What was Thomas’ response to Jesus?

What does Jesus say about those who have not seen him?

– If Jesus is the only way to heaven, then what does that mean for you?

Read **Romans 10:9**.

**Close in Prayer:** Start praying. Be bold and pray specifically.

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