

If I were going to ask __ _ how to get to Walmart my guess is *several different answers*.

going to heaven is NOT like going Walmart. There aren't many..

John 14:1-11

"One Way"

On Easter 2004 **Bobby Bowden**, and told a story about him trying to get directions to the post office from a boy over in Two Egg to mail a letter.

Although I may not give you the best directions from here to 2 Egg's Post Office either, I can certainly, like Coach Bowden tell you how to get to heaven.

Not because we are so brilliant, but because we got directions from the best direction giver there ever was!

The Word of God.

If the **book Oprah describes as wonderful** in the video says one of the wrong things people believe is that there is only one way, then what does that imply **about the Bible, specifically Jesus who says** there is only one way?

The question is are we going to trust some book by some guy whose never cured the Common Cold, or a guy who

-Walked on Water, healed the Blind, and raised the Dead.

Jesus **proclamation** is based on Father God's Authority.

But if you don't by that, Jesus says then **look at my works (v.10)** as proof of the Authority.

So being that Jesus is the only way to the Father (who is in heaven), what does that all entail?

1st - One Way Means, There is No Other Way

Jesus left no gray area in what He was communicating.

*He made it clear that He & the Father are 1 and He is speaking with authority.

And the reason He ties to why we can know He is the Way,

is because He is the source of Truth & the Source of Life.

Emphasis on the singular. "The Way" "The Truth" "The Life"

No other way, but by me.

These four statements give a Quadruple emphasis - the "umph" in it.

Jesus was saying if you want to get to heaven,

I'm the only train & you better get on board.

He had **already made that clear** in **John 3:18** - "...whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God."

The reason people are already condemned is because all are sinners!

If people like Oprah were right, that Jesus isn't the only way, do we understand what that means? *The implications?*

1-Jesus was a lunatic & a liar.

(The Man claimed to be God & said He was the only Way) John 1:1-3, 14

What if someone walked in here & said they were God?

We would think they were crazy.

But what if they did all that Jesus did? Back to v.10

The **miracles did not** make Jesus the Son of God,
they simply **gave credibility** to His claims. He fulfilled prophecy.

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When **John the Baptist was struggling**...Jesus sent a message to him reminding him that He is the one fulfilling all the prophecies that were promised.
Go tell John *I'm the one* who **heals the deaf**, the blind see,
diseased are healed...

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If Jesus **isn't** the only way, then **HE is no way** at all because
it **would mean HE lied** & is a sinner just like us. (sinners can't die for sinners)
He would have been the **greatest deceiver** in history.

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But because Jesus **isn't** a liar, but is the Truth, We better understand what he meant in **Mat 7** when he spoke about the 2 paths.

*The **Wide path** is full of all the people with the wrong ideas on how to get to God & aren't followers of Christ.*

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Narrow path- the few who find Jesus – that path leads to life.

If there are **many paths** then why did Jesus
emphasize the Importance of being on the narrow path?

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That means people who think like Oprah, either believe they are smarter than Jesus, that He was deceived, or just out right lying.

Ever heard people say "to believe only 1 way is
"Narrow Minded"?

If Jesus is the Son of God it's right minded, not narrow.

And to **not be open** to Jesus claims is be closed minded.

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Jesus is either No Way at all, or the only way & people better get full blown committed to Him.

He seems to be very **un-impressed** with Half hearted believers!

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2nd-If Jesus isn't the Only Way, It means he died for no reason at all.

If there is another way, **what is so special** about Him & His blood.

And why in the world did he waste His time suffering.

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3rd- If Jesus isn't the only way.

what a **waste of time & money** it is doing missions & evangelism.

*Bring the missionaries home & **leave the Buddhists, Hindu's alone**

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Think of all the followers of Christ who have died for their faith.

Think of all the **trouble & torture** Paul went through.

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If every religion leads to heaven then the Apostle Peter was wasting his time when he was confronting the Jewish Religious Leaders about the healing of a man in the name of Jesus.

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Listen to what he says in Acts 4:11-12

Acts 4:10-12 Peter is speaking to **well meaning** religious leaders... let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead-by him this man is standing before you well. This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. And there is **salvation in no one else**, for there is **no other name** under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."

By Peter saying there is no other name, no one else that saves, and Jesus saying there is no other way this is what that entails...

A) We cannot make a way by our works.

There is no way we can cancel out the wrong we have already done.

We can't be saved by our name or our way.

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B) No other religious leader or system can get us there.

Buddha, Muhammed, & **Yomamma**, they can't save!

You may have had a **momma that could take you out,**

but not save!

Like **John Macarthur** says "we preach and exclusive Christ in an inclusive age."

Not popular, but it is TRUTH! I'd rather be right with God, than popular.

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There was only 1 name that gave power for the crippled to walk

deaf to hear. & to raise the dead.

No one ever went up to a dead person &

said in the name of Buddha get up.

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Buddha's blood does not atone for sin.

Wash can wash away my sin? Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Nothing special about "**Buddha Blood**"

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If you want to be saved from your sins & from an eternity in Hell, then Jesus is your only Hope.

Isaiah 43:11 I, I am the LORD, and besides me there is no savior.

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Well, not only does 1 mean there is no other way...

2nd- One Way Sho Nuff Beats No Way

When Oprah & others bring up the good guy on the other side of the world who has never heard?

There are some flaws in their thinking.

#1- There are no good guys.

Rom 3:23- All have sinned. Romans 3:10 – no one is righteous, no not even one. Jesus in Luke 18:19 tells us no one is good but God.

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People can **spin things** how ever they want, but when we really understand the sinfulness of man, we better see the graciousness of God in the fact He provides just A WAY.

Since we don't deserve salvation, I say **1 way look pretty good.**

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Many people see the **glass half empty** because they don't like the way.

I heard a guy one time say who wants to serve a God who makes salvation so narrow? I know I do. I **don't** have a problem serving a God who is willing to forgive wicked sinners.

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Because God is gracious there is a way. We are owed no way, but because He is merciful He has provided a way.

If we believe God owes us we don't believe that salvation is by grace.

If it is owed it means we aren't violators of God's Law.

The only thing law breakers deserve is punishment.

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If **someone murdered someone** you loved and **the judge** looked at their life and saw they did more good than bad and sent them to the house with no punishment we would cry foul.

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When we stand before God on the issue of salvation, we will not be judged on the good we did, but on the bad we did.

And **if a person doesn't have Christ** they *are still in their sins*. If we are in Christ we have no sin to be judged on because He bore the punishment and wrath we deserved when He hung on the cross.

Isaiah 53 – the chastisement for our sins was upon Him. Pierced for our transgressions. His wounds healed us.

So to say it isn't right for there to be only one way is not only arrogant but is missing it big time.

That there is 1 way is a reason to be thankful, because in comparison to NO Way which means no hope, 1 way looks very gracious to me!

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Paul writes in Rom 10:11-14,& 17 For the Scripture says, "Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame." (meaning who ever doesn't believe will be) For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

Point is you can't be saved without hearing the Gospel.

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So, Since it is good news that there is A WAY, **last point**

3rd –We Way Better Go Tell the Good News

One of the things we as believers ought to be about is evangelism & missions.

Not just because Jesus tells us so, but when we put 2 & 2 together, that alone ought to spur us to action because souls are at stake.

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*One of the things I love about our church is the way we are committed to missions & growing in our emphasis in evangelism.

(Outreach to the neighborhoods coming up)

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Our pastor is really passionate about the **My Hope** with Billy Graham.

Last Training Session is next Sunday. If you haven't completed the course you need to take the time to do it.

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I want to ask a special favor. This is really important to our pastor.(Let's get behind our pastor – We are blessed to have him)

If you haven't committed to be a **Matthew Host Home**, please consider it.I want to see us **reach the goal** he has put out there. We aren't there yet.

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Listen we like Thomas know the way, it is our job to tell others.

Great responsibility & a honor

to be called to be a part of delivering the greatest news.

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How to get to heaven & by pass Hell is the most important issue anyone could ever deal with.

Heaven is a Real Place & there really is a way to get there.

But it's 1 Way & 1 Way Only

So since there is no other name, then Like Peter I agree we need to proclaim the right name.

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C Spurgeon. If you don't care enough to tell others your soul may be in danger. Are you in Christ, Are you on the Narrow Path?