

One Way

Because we humans are so limited in our knowledge, we are prone to mistakes and miscalculations. From a limited human perspective, it is easy to feel very confident about our conclusions. This is especially true when it comes to theology. That is why we have so many different religions.

A blind man may grasp an elephant's tale and conclude that an elephant is like a rope. Another blind man may feel the leg and conclude that the elephant is like a tree. But because their experience with elephants is limited, both conclusions are quite wrong. Likewise, as people look at the failings of mankind, they conclude that there are multiple ways to fix the failures. But we must not look at sin and forgiveness from our own limited perspectives, but from God's. When we do, things are really quite simple.

God created man to live forever and enjoy fellowship with Him. But man sinned and the consequences of God's law came to bear upon him. That law says: "The wages of sin is death" (Romans 6:23).

Since death is the penalty for sin, bloodshed was required to redeem man from sin. Animal sacrifices were originally used as a temporary means of payment for sin. But since man was created as a higher being (in God's image) and animals were not, the death of a lower creature could not pay for the sins of the higher. The blood of animal sacrifices was only temporary payment and had to be performed over and over demonstrating the need for a better sacrifice.

To pay the price for man's sin, once and for all, a sacrifice of like kind was needed, a human. But because sin had infected the entire human race, there was no human who qualified as such a sacrifice.

But God had a plan. He laid aside his heavenly form and became a man. This God-man is Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ lived a sinless life as a man and thus qualified as a sacrifice for the sins of the world. Jesus gave Himself willingly for this purpose. Yes, the wages of sin is death, but the good news is in the second half of that verse:

"The wages of sins is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

—Romans 6:23 (NKJV-Underline Added)

This is God's perspective and this is why there is no other way to receive forgiveness for sins, except through Jesus Christ. Jesus is God's plan and there is no plan "B." There is no plan "B" because plan "A" is perfect!

The belief that there are ways to God other than through the name of Jesus Christ is due to a failure to understand or embrace God's perspective. Jesus is the one and only way to find forgiveness for sin and escape the wages of sin. Regarding Jesus, the Bible says:

"Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."

— Acts 4:12 (NKJV)