

# The Promises of God

*The Way, the Truth, and the Life*

Jesus said to him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.”

(John 14:6)

<https://tinyurl.com/GodOfPromises>

<https://tinyurl.com/promiseknowledge>

## Introduction

### The Setting of John 14

He is giving comfort and clarity.

***“Do not let your hearts be distressed. You believe in God; believe also in me.” (John 14:1)***

Thomas asks a real question.

***“Lord, we don’t know where you are going. How can we know the way?” (John 14:5)***

Jesus answers with a claim no prophet ever made.

***“I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.” (John 14:6)***

This is covenant language.

This is relational language.

This is fulfillment language.

## Introduction: The Setting of John 14

- John 14 happens the night before the cross.
- Jesus is speaking to troubled disciples.
- He is not giving a slogan.
  
- He is giving comfort and clarity.
  - ***“Do not let your hearts be distressed. You believe in God; believe also in me.” (John 14:1)***
- Thomas asks a real question.
  - ***“Lord, we don’t know where you are going. How can we know the way?” (John 14:5)***
- Jesus answers with a claim no prophet ever made.
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This is relational language.

This is fulfillment language.

## The New Covenant Background

**Jeremiah 31:31-34; Hebrews 8:1-13**

Jesus is not speaking in a vacuum. He is fulfilling a promise.

***“Indeed, a time is coming... when I will make a new covenant with the people of Israel and Judah.” (Jeremiah 31:31)***

This covenant is different.

***“I will put my law within them and write it on their hearts.” (31:33)***

And the goal is clear.

***“They will all know me, from the least to the greatest.” (31:34)***

**Knowing God** is the center of the New Covenant.

Not ritual. Not location. Not lineage.

Knowing as in Relationship.

Jesus claims to be the means of this knowing. “***I am...***”

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## **“I Am the Way”**

### **The Way to God, Not a Method, Process, nor Demonstration**

Jesus does not say, “I show the way.”

He says, **“I am the way.”**

In Scripture, “the way” means access.

**“Teach me your way, O LORD.” (Psalm 27:11)**

Under the old covenant, access was limited.

Only priests. Only sacrifices. Only once a year.

Jesus changes this...

**“Therefore, brothers and sisters, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, by the fresh and living way he opened for us through the curtain.”**

**(Hebrews 10:19-20)**

Jesus is the opened way.

Not steps. Not laws.

A person. The Way of Relationship.

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- Not steps.
- Not laws.
- A person.

## The Way of Relationship

- Early Christians called the faith “*the Way*.”
  - “**I persecuted this Way to the death.**” (Acts 22:4)
- Why?
- Because following Jesus meant walking with Him.
  - “**The one who says he resides in God ought himself to walk just as Jesus walked.**” (1 John 2:6)
  - This is covenant walking.
  - Life shared with God.

## **“I Am the Truth”**

### **Truth as Revelation; that Sets Mankind Free**

#### **Truth as Revelation, Not Simply Information**

- In Scripture, truth is not just facts.
  - Truth reveals God's character.
  - **“You are my God, my faithful God.” (Psalm 31:14)**
- Jesus does not simply teach truth.
  - He embodies it. Truth has a face; and a voice.
  - **“The Word became flesh and took up residence among us... full of grace and truth.” (John 1:14)**

#### **Truth That Sets Free**

- Jesus connects truth with freedom.
  - **“You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” (8:32)**
  - This is covenant freedom.
  - Freedom from sin. Freedom from false images of God.
  - **“For the law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came about through Jesus Christ.” (John 1:17)**
- Early Christian teaching was clear.
  - Truth is not an idea system. Truth is loyalty to Jesus as Lord.
  - **“Jesus is Lord.” (Romans 10:9)** That confession defines truth.

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## **“I Am the Life”**

### **The Life that Overcomes**

#### **Life as from God’s Own Life**

- In Scripture, life comes from God alone.
  - “**For with you is the fountain of life.**” (**Psalm 36:9**)
- Jesus claims that life is found *in Him*.
  - “**Just as the Father has life in Himself, thus He has granted the Son to have life in Himself.**” (**John 5:26**)
  - This is shared life.

#### **Life That Overcomes Death**

- Jesus is not only alive. He gives life.
  - “**I am the resurrection and the life.**” (**John 11:25**)
- This life starts now.
  - “**The one who has the Son has life.**” (**1 John 5:12**)
- Early Christian writers emphasized this.
  - Salvation was participation. Not just forgiveness.
  - “**Just as Christ was raised from the dead... so we too may live a new life.**” (**Romans 6:4**)

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- Not borrowed life.

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## The Way, Truth, Life

Together and Fulfilled

### How the Three Belong Together

- The way leads to truth.
- Truth results in life.
- Remove one and the others collapse.
  - A way without truth becomes confusion.
  - Truth without life becomes dead doctrine.
  - Life without the way becomes self-made spirituality.
- Jesus is all three. At the same time. In one person.

### New Covenant Fulfillment in Christ

- Jesus fulfills Jeremiah 31 fully.
  - The **Way**: access to God.
  - The **Truth**: God revealed.
  - The **Life**: God shared.
- ***"This is eternal life: that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you sent."*** (John 17:3)
- This is *Relational Knowledge. Covenant Knowledge. Shared Life.*

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- This is relational knowledge.
- Covenant knowledge.
- Shared life.

## **Application**

### **Through Him, We Know God**

#### **Application for the Church**

- Christianity is not a path we master.
  - It is a person we follow.
- Truth is not winning arguments.
  - It is staying loyal to Jesus.
- Life is not future only.
  - It begins now.
- “**I have come so that they may have life and may have it abundantly.” (John 10:10)**

#### **Closing Call**

- Jesus invites us to **know** Him.
  - “**Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.” (Matthew 11:28)**
- He is the **Way**. He is the **Truth**. He is the **Life**.
- “**For as many as are the promises of God, in Him they are yes...**” (2 Corinthians 1:20)

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- “**I have come so that they may have life and may have it abundantly.” (John 10:10)**

#### **Closing Call**

- Jesus does not invite us to study Him only.
  - He invites us to come to Him.

- “Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.” (**Matthew 11:28**)
- He is the **Way**.
- He is the **Truth**.
- He is the **Life**.
- **And through Him, we know God.**

Every covenant — Abrahamic, Mosaic, Davidic, and New — finds its “Yes” in Christ.

- “For as many as are the promises of God, in Him they are yes; therefore also through Him is our Amen to the glory of God through us.”
- — **2 Corinthians 1:20**
- God’s invitation is simple: **believe, follow, and know Him through His Son.**