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The Way

Have you ever stopped to wonder what exactly Yeshua was meaning when He told us that He was "the way" in John 14:6?

John 14:6

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

For most of us, it's obvious. It means He's the only way to the Father. No one can get to the Father except through Him. So, that's what He meant....right? Of course. We completely agree. However, do you think it's possible that maybe, just maybe, there is more to it than that?

Yeshua is indeed the way. But is it that He is just the path to the Father, or that he is "The Way" of life? Let's begin defining what the word "way" means in the English according to dictionary.com:

Noun

- 1- Manner, mode, or fashion: a new way of looking at a matter; to reply in a polite way.
- 2- Characteristic or habitual manner: Her way is to work quietly and never complain.
- 3- A method, plan, or means for attaining a goal: to find a way to reduce costs.
- 4- A respect or particular: The plan is defective in several ways.
- 5- A direction or vicinity: Look this way. We're having a drought out our way.

There you have it. Yeshua is the manner, mode or fashion of the Bible. He is the Word. It's through the Word we should filter all things. He is the characteristic of what the Word of God says and is.

He personifies the Word. He is, in the way He lived, the method, plan, or means of attaining salvation; it's impossible without Him. His life, how He lived, is how WE are supposed to live. He is the direction in which we need to turn our lives toward. He is the WAY, in every way or aspect of life.

Perhaps that isn't enough though. Let's look at the Greek word, *hodos* (G3598) which is used for the word "way" in John 14:6. This is what we find according to Strong's on blueletterbible.com:

- 1) Properly
 - a) A traveled way, road
 - b) A traveler's way, journey, traveling

- 2) Metaphor
 - a) A course of conduct
 - b) A way (i.e. manner) of thinking, feeling, deciding

In John 14, Yeshua is telling us that He's the road, the journey. Yet, at the same time, He's the course of conduct. He's our example on the way we should act and live our lives. He is our way of thinking, how we should feel and what we make our decisions based off of.

Yeshua really is "The Way" in every way! He is the path to salvation; the path to God. He is our example of how to live. We should be following all of God's commandments just as He did. He showed us the way to live. He showed us the life course to follow. He even showed us how our behavior and attitudes should be.

Yeshua is the way which is the truth and life, the narrow path as mentioned in Matthew 7:13-14.

Matthew 7:13-14

Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it.

For a closer look at these verses, please see our teaching titled, "Narrow Minded".

Yeshua is the answer to lead us to God in how we live, the path we take, and what our measuring stick is to actually be.

But we know that He could not add to the law or take away from it according Deuteronomy.

Deuteronomy 4:2

Do not add to what I command you and do not subtract from it, but keep the commands of (Yahweh) the LORD your God that I give you.

And:

Deuteronomy 12:32

See that you do all I command you; do not add to it or take away from it.

Knowing this, we can only conclude that He is referring to something that has already been established.

Plus, knowing that He is the Word, can we find any parallels in the Torah as to just what the "way" is? We believe so. Please compare:

Deuteronomy 5:33

Walk in all **the way** that (Yahweh) the LORD your God has commanded you, so that you may live and prosper and prolong your days in the land that you will possess.

Deuteronomy 9:16

When I looked, I saw that you had sinned against (Yahweh) the LORD your God; you had made for yourselves an idol cast in the shape of a calf. You had turned aside quickly from **the way** that (Yahweh) the LORD had commanded you.

Deuteronomy 11:26-28

See, I am setting before you today a blessing and a curse — the blessing if you obey the commands of the LORD your God that I am giving you today; the curse if you disobey the commands of the LORD your God and turn from **the way** that I command you today by following other gods, which you have not known.

But if Yeshua is indeed the way, meaning the way that we are to be in, wouldn't that mean there are other ways one could follow or even try to mix with the true way? Yes, indeed there is. Compare:

Deuteronomy 12:4

You must not worship (Yahweh) the LORD your God in **their way**.

Deuteronomy 12:31

You must not worship (Yahweh) the LORD your God in **their way**, because in worshiping their gods, they do all kinds of detestable things (Yahweh) the LORD hates. They even burn their sons and daughters in the fire as sacrifices to their gods.

We are clearly instructed NOT to worship Yahweh in any other way except what He has given. Thus the words of Yeshua saying how He is THE way.

There is no other WAY that is acceptable to Yahweh. Period.

Deuteronomy 13:5

That prophet or dreamer must be put to death, because he preached rebellion against (Yahweh) the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt and redeemed you from the land of slavery; he has tried to turn you from **the way** (Yahweh) the LORD your God commanded you to follow. You must purge the evil from among you.

So, live as Yeshua did, following the whole Word of God, not just a part of it...after all, He is the Way. All of it.

When searching for directions to go somewhere, do you need all the map or just bits and pieces of it? You need all of it. What good is a map that only gives you parts of the way to go? Likewise, we are to follow Yeshua's example in all of life. For He truly is the way that leads us to the Father. We shouldn't try to take bits and pieces of His life and say that will do. No. We need all of the map. All of the way. All that He lived and exemplified for us.

Knowing the manner in which He lived is the way we should live, then we certainly can't remove any part of it after He died and rose again. If that was the case, then the way changed. Yet, we know it didn't change as Christ is still the way, both before and after His death and resurrection.

In fact, notice these verses that actually show that believers were a part of what was even called "The Way" after His resurrection. Showing that they were indeed following Yeshua's example, after His resurrection.

Acts 18:26

So he began to speak boldly in the synagogue. When Aquila and Priscilla heard him, they took him aside and explained to him **the Way** of God more accurately.

Acts 19:9

But when some were hardened and did not believe, but spoke evil of **the Way** before the multitude, he departed from them and withdrew the disciples, reasoning daily in the school of Tyrannus.

Acts 19:23

And about that time there arose a great commotion about **the Way**.

Acts 24:14

But this I confess to you, that according to **the Way** which they call a sect, so I worship the God of my fathers, believing all things which are written in the Law and in the Prophets.

Acts 24:22

But when Felix heard these things, having more accurate knowledge of **the Way**, he adjourned the proceedings and said, "When Lysias the commander comes down, I will make a decision on your case."

"The Way". Are you a part of the way? Is it obvious to the world around you?

Pursue Yeshua, the Living Word, the example of how to live and you will find yourself closer to the Father than ever before.

1 John 2:6

Whoever claims to live in Him (that is Yahweh) must walk as Jesus did.

So, the next time you read about Yeshua being the Way, or even when we are told about "the way" to go or to live, think of Yeshua. For He is truly the way that exemplifies how we are to live our lives every day. That is, following the eternal Word of God.

We hope you have enjoyed this teaching. Remember, continue to test everything.

Shalom

For more on this and other teachings, please visit us at www.testeverything.net

Shalom, and may Yahweh bless you in walking in the whole Word of God.

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