## A Different Take On: 'No one comes to the Father except through me'

Jesus said that no one comes to the Father, except through him.<sup>1</sup> Christians think that means, "Confess your sins and pray the sinner's prayer", and then the door will open for you to Father. But, maybe what Jesus meant was that access for every person would be through the work of the cross. That's a <u>way</u> of access, rather than a <u>door</u> opening when someone makes a confession.

Let's investigate that.

Here's a variety of different ways the Greek has been translated in that verse:

**John 14:6** (AMPC $^2$ ) – Jesus said to him, I am the Way and the Truth and the Life; no one comes to the Father except <u>by</u> (through) Me.

**John 14:6** (ASV) – ... I am the way, and the truth, and the life: no one cometh unto the Father, but  $\underline{by}$  me.

**John 14:6** (DARBY) – ... I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father <u>unless</u> by me.

**John 14:6** (EXB<sup>3</sup>) – ... The only way to the Father is <u>through me</u>

John 14:6 (PHILLIPS) – ... No one approaches the Father except through me.

John 14:6 (YLT<sup>4</sup>) – ...no one doth come unto the Father, if not through me

These few translations indicate that what Jesus said, as recorded in many English Bibles, is not straight forward. Therefore, it cannot be taken at face value in any one form.

Here's François Du Toit's MIRROR translation. He exchanges the Greek for English based on an understanding of Father's love, which was the perspective that Jesus had.

John 14:6 (MIRROR) – Jesus said, "My I-am-ness [mirrored in you] is your way; this is your truth and also your life. Every single person is now brought face to face with the Father entirely because of my doing."

François' commented in the MIRROR on the Greek word erchetai which is translated in English as 'come' (in, "come to the Father"):

"When Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth and the life, no one <u>comes</u> to the Father but by me!" He wasn't being exclusive! This is the most all-inclusive statement embracing all humanity! The verb ἔρχομαι erchomai, is in the Present tense [continually ongoing] and the Passive voice – ερχεται erchetai – which makes the subject the recipient of the action."

The "recipient", which is the subject of the verb erchetai, is oudeis ( $o\dot{o}\delta\epsilon i\varsigma$ ), the person referred to as 'no one' (or literally, 'not even one').

Therefore, Jesus is saying that every single person has already been brought into Father's presence, and that's for <u>every one</u> since the day of his death on the cross. Not even one person misses out on the accomplishment of what he did to bring us to Father.

<sup>1 –</sup> John 14:6 (NKJV) – Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."

<sup>2 -</sup> Amplified Bible, Classic Edition

<sup>3 –</sup> Expanded Bible

<sup>4 –</sup> Young's Literal Translation

It appears, then, especially from a perspective of Father's all-inclusive action in which he reversed The Fall on the cross, that the way has been opened, and every one has been brought to Father. We don't need to do anything more, just know that it's happened, and start being in relationship with him.

Mike Parsons writes about <u>not</u> needing to do any more:

"Unconditional love requires absolutely no sacrifices or offerings, but an Old Covenant mindset always requires something: it requires our obedience, our obligation, our duty - which are all dead works and none of them have any value whatsoever before God. The Father does not require them (and actually He never did, which may be a shock to a lot of people)...

Operating under an Old Covenant works-based performance-orientated mindset towards God will wear us out; we will never be at rest if we think we have to earn His love and favour. There is no guilt, shame or condemnation within unconditional love: they are just religious concepts which will keep us coming back for more religion."5

## He also wrote:

"Unconditional love requires no conditions of my faith in God for my salvation, forgiveness, reconciliation, inclusion in Christ, being born from above or acceptance as a child of God. All these things He has done for me freely and unconditionally."6

(Permission to quote Mike Parsons received on 20-7-2020)

So, it's quiet clear what the cross has achieved for every single person on Earth. The only reason someone can't accept the full impact of that is because they've been indoctrinated to believe something else. Thankfully, Father doesn't listen to religious theology, he just acts out of his character of unconditional love, great mercy and abundant grace.

## Believe It or Not! The choice is yours

Whatever you choose to believe won't negatively impact Father's relationship with you

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<sup>5 –</sup> Mike Parsons (29-5-2022) "Unconditional Love in Action" freedomarc.blog/2022/05/29/286-unconditional-love-in-action

<sup>6 –</sup> Mike Parsons (2022/2023) "Unconditional Love 4" p:9 [PDF]

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