

Does Christianity regard other paths to God as valid?

Many who argue for “many paths” to God attempt to distort the Bible’s clear teachings. Some say Jesus never claimed to be God. Others say the Bible nowhere teaches that Christianity is the only valid religion.

But consider...

Jesus claimed to be God

- By his many miracles
- By referring to himself using Old Testament designations for God: “I AM” (John 8:58), Good Shepherd (John 10:11), Bridegroom (Matthew 25:1), Light of the World (John 8:12), Judge of all Men (John 5:27f., Matthew 25:31f.)
- By referring to himself as the Son of God (Matthew 26:63; 27:43; Luke 22:70; John 19:7)
- By claiming divine prerogatives: to forgive sins (Mark 2:5f.), to raise people from the dead (John 5:29; 11:25), to be worshiped (Matthew 14:33, 20:21; Mark 5:6; John 20:28)
- By teaching that his words carried the authority of God’s own words (Matthew 5:21-22, 24:35, 28:18-19; John 13:34) and that people should pray in his name (e.g., John 14:13-14)
- By fulfilling the OT messianic prophecies (e.g., Genesis 3:15, 12:1-3, 22:18, 49:10; 2 Samuel 7:12f.; Psalm 22; Isaiah 7:14, 40:3, 53:1f.; Micah 5:2; Malachi 3:1)
- Also compare the reaction of his opponents: “We are stoning you...for blasphemy, because you, a mere man, claim to be God.” (John 10:30-33)

The Bible claims that one’s eternal destiny depends solely on Jesus

- “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me” (John 14:6)
- “Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved” (Acts 4:12)
- “For there is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus” (1 Timothy 2:5)
- “Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life, but whoever rejects the Son will not see life, for God’s wrath remains on him” (John 3:36)
- “Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned” (Mark 16:16)
- “He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life” (1 John 5:12)

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