**R952\_Rumination for Apr. 23, 2023**

The **T**heme: **Jesus, the Way, the Truth and the Life.** [berita-bethel-ung.com](http://www.berita-bethel-ung.com)

The **T**ext: *Jesus saith…**I am the* ***W****ay, the* ***T****ruth, and the* ***L****ife…* Jn. 14:6

The **T**hots*:*

1. **The Divinity of the Person** **– “*I Am*”**
2. He lay Claim to **P**re-existence.
3. He was before Abraham – *Jesus said…Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, I am.* Jn. 8:58
4. He was before the Creation of the World –

*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.*  Jn. 1:1

1. He was the *I AM –* …*if ye believe not that* ***I am*** *[He], ye shall die in your sins*. Jn. 8:24 cf. Exo. 3:14
2. He lay **C**laim to **P**rescience.
3. The **C**hallenge attached to **P**rophecy. Isa. 41:22, 23

*Let them bring them forth, and shew us what shall happen: let them…declare us things for to come.*

*Shew the things that are to come hereafter, that we may know that ye are gods…*

1. The **C**all to verify the **P**roof. Jn. 13:19

*Now I tell you before it come, that, when it is come to pass, ye may believe that* ***I am****.*

1. The Coming Betrayal of **J**udas – *I say unto you, that one of you shall betray Me…* Jn. 13:**21**-**26**
2. The Return of **J**esus – *Ye have heard how I said unto you, I go away, and come again unto you…*

*I have told you before it come to pass, that, when it is come to pass, ye* *might believe.* Jn. 14:28, 29

1. He Lay Claim to **P**re-eminence – *that in all things He might have the preeminence*. Col. 1:18b
2. *He is the Head of the body, the church: Who is the beginning, the* ***F****irstborn from the dead;* Col. 1:18a
3. *Christ should suffer…and that He should be the* ***F****irst that should rise from the dead*… Acts 26:23
4. *For it pleased the* ***F****ather that in Him should all* ***F****ulness dwell…* Col. 1:19
5. *But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the* ***F****irstfruits of them that slept.* I Cor. 15:20
6. **The Unique Qualities of the Person: The Way, The Truth and the Life.**
	1. The Singulari**ty** in the Unity – ***I am*** *the* ***W****ay, the* ***T****ruth, and the* ***L****ife.* Jn. 14:6a
	2. The Personali**ty** of the Unity –
7. Christ, The **Way** to the ***W****ither* – *the Father*. Cf. Jn. 14 5, 6
8. The **W**ho of the Way – *I am the Way.*
9. The **W**hy of the Way – *no man cometh to the Father but by Me.*
10. Christ, the **Truth**.
11. He **E**mbodies Who God is – God is Truth.
12. He **E**mphasizes what God wants – *Worship Him in spirit and in truth.* Hn. 4:24
13. He **E**nsures that Man obeys God – W*e have received a commandment from the Father…*

 *that we love one another.* II Jn. 4, 5

1. Christ, the **Life**.
2. He is the **S**ource of Life – *In Him was life; and the life was the light of men.* Jn. 1:4
3. He is the **S**ustenance of Life. I Jn. 5:11, 12

*And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in His Son.*

*He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.*

1. He is the **S**on of Life. I Jn. 5:13

*These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God;*

*that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.*

1. **The Necessity of the Person**
2. The **E**xactness of the **S**tatement – *no man cometh unto the Father, but by Me…* Jn. 14:6
3. The **E**xclusiveness of the **S**aviour – *but by Me*
4. He is the Only Person –*for He shall save His people from their sins.* Matt. 1:21
5. His is the Only Name – *Neither is there salvation in any other…* Acts 4:12

*for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.*

1. He is the Only way – *How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation…* Heb. 2:3

*which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard Him?*

* 1. The **E**xtent of the **S**alvation Jn. 6:37

*All that the Father giveth Me shall come to Me; and* *him that cometh to Me* *I will in no wise cast out.*

1. An Invitation with a **P**romise – *I will in no wise cast out*
2. An Invitation without a **P**rejudice – *him that cometh to Me* cf. Jn. 6:37
3. An Invitation with **P**ower – cf. Jn. 1:12

*But as many as received Him, to them gave He power* [right, authority] *to become the sons of God,*

*even to them that believe on His name:*

*I am the Way, the Truth and the Life, that’s what Jesus said.* (x2)

*Without the Way there is no going, without the Truth there is no knowing,*

*without the Life there is no living.*

*I am the Way, the Truth and the Life, that’s what Jesus said.* <http://www.billysloan.co.uk/songs/i_am_the_way_the_truth_and_the_life.html>

**REFLECTIONS FOR THE WEEK R. 952**

1. It is noteworthy that when Jesus told His disciples (including Thomas) that they knew where they were going, Thomas interjected and insisted that he did not! (John 14:5).

He could not understand what his Master was saying. That brought out from the Lord His very famous axiom of all time that has endured through the ages –

Consider the background to Thomas’ query and Jesus’ reply: **John 14:1-6**

*Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in Me.*

*In My Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you.*

*I go to prepare a place for you.*

*And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto Myself; that where I am, there ye may be also. And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know.*

***Thomas saith*** *unto Him, Lord, we know not whither Thou goest;*

 *and how can we know the way?*

***Jesus saith*** *unto him,* ***I am the way, the truth, and the life:***

 ***no man cometh unto the Father, but by Me.***

The above is one statement that has been quoted innumerable times throughout all ages since it was first stated by the Lord Himself in sermons preached by numerous evangelists and Bible teachers as well as quoted in numerous books and publications since the dawn of printing.

It is a Gospel truth that has saved myriads of souls in history and has changed the lives of many – ***I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by Me.***

Do you believe it? **REFLECT.**

1. Another incident where Thomas was involved was when He refused to believe what his disciple-colleagues told him concerning their Master, Jesus, Whom he had personally witnessed crucified on the cross, died and was buried but was now told by them that He had risen from the dead, and had appeared to them in person. He just could not believe what his ears heard and refused to believe all that was told to him concerning the resurrected Jesus, until he himself personally could see Him with his own eyes. He asserted: (John 20:25) –

*Except I shall see in His hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print*

*of the nails, and thrust my hand into His side, I will not believe.*

And we know that the next Lord’s Day, the Lord Himself appeared personally to all His disciples (except Judas) and this time with Thomas present, and challenged him thus:

**John 20:26-28** (KJV)

*And after eight days again His disciples were within, and Thomas with them: then came Jesus, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, Peace be unto you.*

***Then saith He to Thomas****, Reach hither thy finger, and behold My hands;*

*and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into My side: and be not faithless,*

*but believing.*

No Thomas did not do what he claimed He would do as his conditions to believe in a resurrected Saviour. The Living Jesus before him had driven away all his doubts and Thomas could only acclaim and confess:***My Lord and my God.***

Then the Lord Himself made this timeless promise to all people all over the world from that time onwards until now and to all future generations in whatever clime: **John 20:29 –**

*Jesus saith unto him, Thomas* ***Because thou hast seen Me, thou hast Believed:***

 ***Blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have Believed.***

 Have you Believed? **REFLECT**

 **Points To Ponder:** *Only* ***C****hrist has the* ***C****redentials to be the* ***I Am*** *the Way,*

 *the Truth and the Life – Seeing is Believing need not always be* ***T****rue!*

***T****rust and Obey – there’s no other Way!*