

Why Jesus Is Your Only Hope

I. Compared to other religions Jesus is truly unique as a founder of a religion.

A. Only Jesus claimed to be God.

⁵⁶ "Your father Abraham rejoiced to see My day, and he saw *it* and was glad." ⁵⁷ So the Jews said to Him, "You are not yet fifty years old, and have You seen Abraham?" ⁵⁸ Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was born, I am." ⁵⁹ Therefore they picked up stones to throw at Him, but Jesus hid Himself and went out of the temple. John 8:56-59 (NASB)

⁷ "If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also; from now on you know Him, and have seen Him." ⁸ Philip *said to Him, "Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us." ⁹ Jesus *said to him, "Have I been so long with you, and *yet* you have not come to know Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; how *can* you say, 'Show us the Father'?" John 14:7-9 (NASB)

³³ And those who were in the boat worshiped Him, saying, "You are certainly God's Son!" Matthew 14:33

²⁶ After eight days His disciples were again inside, and Thomas with them. Jesus *came, the doors having been shut, and stood in their midst and said, "Peace *be* with you." ²⁷ Then He *said to Thomas, "Reach here with your finger, and see My hands; and reach here your hand and put it into My side; and do not be unbelieving, but believing." ²⁸ Thomas answered and said to Him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹ Jesus *said to him, "Because you have seen Me, have you believed? Blessed *are* they who did not see, and *yet* believed." John 20:26-29 (NASB)

⁷ The Jews answered him, "We have a law, and by that law He ought to die because He made Himself out *to be* the Son of God." John 19:7 (NASB)

B. Only Jesus was resurrected from the dead.

C. Only Jesus claimed to be the only way to God.

⁶ Jesus *said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me." John 14:6 (NASB)

D. Only Jesus died for mankind.

⁴⁵ "For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many." Mark 10:45 (NASB)

¹⁴ "I am the good shepherd, and I know My own and My own know Me, ¹⁵ even as the Father knows Me and I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep. ¹⁶ "I have other sheep, which are not of this fold; I must bring them also, and they will hear My voice; and they will become one flock *with* one shepherd. ¹⁷ "For this reason the Father loves Me, because I lay down My life so that I may take it again. ¹⁸ "No one has taken it away from Me, but I lay it down on My own initiative. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This commandment I received from My Father." John 10:14-18 (NASB)

²⁴ and He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, so that we might die to sin and live to righteousness; for by His wounds you were healed. 1 Peter 2:24 (NASB)

II. How can you obtain the hope of eternal life?

²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, Romans 3:23 (NASB)

²³ For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 6:23 (NASB)

¹⁴ "As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up; ¹⁵ so that whoever believes will in Him have eternal life. ¹⁶ "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life. John 3:14-16 (NASB)