

SHORT WAY TO TRUTH.

What is your most important business in this life?—It is to save your soul. This is the “one thing necessary,” [Luke x. 42.] “What shall it profit a man, if he gain the whole world and suffer the loss of his own soul,” says our Blessed Saviour. [Mark viii. 36.]

What must you do to save your soul?—You must follow the religion taught by Christ. He is “the way, the truth, and the life.” [John xiv. 6.] “Go ye into the whole world,” He said to His Apostles, “and preach the Gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized, shall be saved : but he that believeth not, shall be condemned.” [Mark xvi. 15, 16.]

How many religions did Christ teach ?—Most certainly only ONE, for this plain reason, that He cannot contradict himself. “There shall be one fold and one shepherd,” he says. [John x. 16.] And St. Paul tells that there is “one Lord” and “one Faith.” [Ephes iv. 5.]

What, therefore, is to be thought of the many religions in this country ?—As our Saviour taught but one religion, it must follow that all these religions are false *except* ONE, wherever that is. Hence St. Paul says, in his epistle to the Galatians [i. 8.] “Though we, or an Angel from heaven, preaching a Gospel to you, besides that which we have preached, let him be anathema.”

Is it not very uncharitable to say that all religions are false except one ?—It is not more uncharitable than to point out the right road to you when you are on a journey, and to tell you that all other roads will lead you astray.

But are you not safe in following the religion in which you were born ?—From what you have been reading, it is as clear as noonday that you are not safe in following the religion in which you were born, unless it be the one true religion, which Christ taught.

What then are you to do ?—You must strive to find out whether the religion you were born in be the one true religion or not : and if it be not, you must leave it, and embrace the true religion.

But how are you to find out the true religion ?—You must truly and heartily repent of all the sins you have committed : you must have *no other wish* than to learn the will of God and to do it : you must be resolved that neither persecutions, nor losses, nor worldly interest, nor anything else whatsoever shall prevent you from doing the will of God, when you know what that will is ; and you must often pray that He will teach you His holy will, saying : “*Lord what wilt thou have me to do ?*” [Acts ix. 6.] If you will follow this advice you may be sure that God will hear your prayer, and lead you into the right way, for He promises to give His Holy Spirit to those who ask it. [Luke xi. 13. ; Matt. vii. 7, 8.]