

I (Jesus) am the way, the truth, and the life.—John xiv. 6.

[ORIGINAL.]

Am I on the Right Way?*

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AS I was walking along one of our streets in the northern part of the city, not long since, a gentleman who was passing, stopped me, and speaking in a very courteous tone, said, "Can you tell me if I am on the road to —St.?" "Oh no," I replied, "you are going the wrong way altogether, you have come a long way in the wrong direction. It's away back there." And pointing down the street along which he had come, I showed him how far out he was, and how he was to get to the place he was seeking. I felt sorry for him for he had walked fast, and was some distance out of the way. All he could do however, was to make the best of his loss and get back as quickly as possible to the right road.

A simple every day occurrence! Yes it was. Yet I can never think of that simple and ordinary incident without reflecting that the *great majority of men* appear to be as much on the wrong way to God and Salvation, as that gentleman was on the wrong way to reach his destination.

I find that men are everywhere deceiving themselves, and that the great enemy of our race deludes men into the notion that they are on God's way to Salvation, when in reality they are on the way to Hell.

I find, for instance, that many think they are on the right way to God because they say, "I am doing the best I can." Dear friend, let me earnestly tell you as one who loves your soul; and knows God's word to be true, that if the road by which you are trying to reach heaven is "I'm doing the best I can," *you are on the wrong road altogether*. You are not on God's way.

I find again that many think they are on the right way to God, because they say, "I am *trying* to do my best, and I hope to be saved." Dear friend, let me tell you the truth from God's word. If this is the road by which you are walking to heaven, *you are on the wrong road altogether!*

Again I find a great many people deluding themselves with the notion that because they are trusting to the mercy of God, they are therefore on the way to heaven. They have not given their hearts to God. They cannot say they are converted. They know they are *not* converted,

still they say, "I am trusting to the mercy of God. He is kind and good, and all will be well."

Dear friend, earnestly and sincerely I would say, I know I am saying God's truth, that if the way by which you are going to heaven is the way "I am trusting to the mercy of God," you are *on the wrong way* altogether. Too many suppose that because God is merciful they may go on living unconverted lives and say they are hoping in God, when their only hope is that His judgments will not be strict and true. I know that if you are on the way "I am trusting to the mercy of God," you are on the wrong way altogether.

Many too think they are on the right way to heaven because they can say "Well I live a pretty good life, and pay my way, I never do anybody any harm, and I think I am all right." Let me tell you a fact that once occurred. There was a man once who thought just as you do, he was living a life that was pretty commendable in the sight of God. He was the son of godly parents, was trained carefully and piously, and, as was natural, was proud of his standing as a member of the religious community. His sole desire was to do right. No man could say of him, "That man defrauded me." All confessed that he lived as he thought, an upright life. But one day that man saw that he was entirely wrong, and that instead of getting nearer to heaven, he was every day getting further away, for the simple reason that *he was on the wrong way*. He was trusting to his *character* and fancying that because he was upright, and religious, God would save him. As by a flash from heaven, he saw the difference between man's way of salvation and God's way. That man was St. Paul. Read Phil. 3: 4-9. If you are on the way "I am living a good life, I do nobody any harm" then let me tell you in the name of the truth he preached, you are on the wrong way altogether. Do not say as a young man said to me once, "Well I believe what Pope the poet said, "He can't be wrong whose life is in the right." Do not listen to the fancies and theories of a poor ignorant *dead* man, whose bones are now becoming dust, but believe rather the words of the *living* and Omniscient God, *Jesus*, who is now *living* here and in heaven, "Except a man be *born* again he *cannot* enter the kingdom of God." "He that *hath not* the Son hath not life."

My heart's desire, and prayer to God is that you may get on the right way. There is but one way to heaven, and it is this:—

The narrow way of salvation. The new and living way by the blood of Jesus.

"Except ye be converted and become as little children ye cannot *enter* the kingdom of heaven."

* Condensed from an 16 pp. Tract just published at our Depository Price, 20c. per doz; \$1.00 per 100.