Questions for Christians: Is Jesus the Only Way?

Wylie United Methodist Church Pastor Jeff Hatcher – June 21, 2015

Luke

1:1 Many have undertaken to draw up an account of the things that have been fulfilled among us, 2 just as they were handed down to us by those who from the first were eyewitnesses and servants of the word. 3 Therefore, since I myself have carefully investigated everything from the beginning, it seemed good also to me to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, 4 so that you may know the certainty of the things you have been taught. 18:31 Jesus took the twelve aside and told them, "We are going up to Jerusalem, and everything that is written by the prophets about the Son of Man will be fulfilled. 32 He will be handed over to the Gentiles. They will mock him, insult him, spit on him, flog him and kill him. 33 On the third day he will rise again." 22:37 [Jesus said] It is written: 'And he was numbered with the transgressors'; and I tell you that this must be fulfilled in me. Yes, what is written about me is reaching its fulfillment." 24:44 [The resurrected Christ] said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms." 45 Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. 46 He told them, "This is what is written: The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, 47 and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. 48 You are witnesses of these things.

Fulfilled prophecies prove (among other things) that Jesus...

1. IS THE CHRIST

Matt 16:16

Simon Peter answered, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

John 4:25-26

25 The woman said, "I know that Messiah" (called Christ) "is coming. When he comes, he will explain everything to us." 26 Then Jesus declared, "I who speak to you am he."

Mark 14:61-62

Again the high priest asked him, "Are you the Christ, the Son of the Blessed one?" "I am," said Jesus.

Christ: (Title) Anointed One, Messiah, Son of God

Fulfilled prophecies prove that Jesus...

2. IS THE WAY TO GOD THE FATHER

John 14:6

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

Acts 4:12

Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved."

Fulfilled prophecies prove that Jesus...

3. HAS THE POWER OVER SIN AND DEATH

John 11:25-26

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. <u>He who</u> <u>believes in me will live, even though he dies;</u> and whoever lives and believes in me will never die."

HOW DID HE PROVE IT? RESURRECTION!

 OVER 500 EYEWITNESSES SAW AND TESTIFIED TO THE RESURRECTED JESUS!

Acts 2:32 (Peter's first sermon)

God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of the fact.

WHAT IF THE RESURRECTION DIDN'T HAPPEN?

• A HUMAN, SINFUL SAVIOR, IS <u>NO SAVIOR</u> AT ALL.

WHAT IF IT DID?

 THROUGH <u>FAITH</u>, YOUR LIFE WILL BE <u>TRANSFORMED!!</u>

Romans 10:9

... if you <u>confess</u> with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and <u>believe</u> in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be <u>saved</u>.