

Thought for the Day 22nd July - John Reed

Read John 14:1-14

Transport Minister Andrew Constance has urged students returning to school this week to avoid the NSW public transport network in the light of the latest spike in virus cases.¹ And Sydney office workers are likewise avoiding public transport and walking an hour or more to work in order to avoid crowded buses.²

Thinking of reconsidering your mode of transport brought to mind a song we used to sing in fellowship group at church when I was young: "Oh you can't get to heaven ..." As I recall, you can't get to heaven on roller skates, because you'll roll right past those gates. You also can't get to heaven in a rocking chair (it won't get you there) or a motor car (it won't get that far), and so on.

So how do you get to heaven? The version I remember singing included the line: "All my sins are taken away – praise the Lord!" That is, you get there only by having your sins forgiven.

And only Jesus can do that.

That is why Jesus says here in verse 6: "I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." Elsewhere we are told that eternal life is a free gift in Christ Jesus our Lord (Romans 6:23); and that whoever has the Son has life (John 3:36).

So why are so many people trying other ways to get there? Jesus says in Matthew 7:13-14:

"Enter by the narrow gate. For the gate is wide and the way is easy that leads to destruction, and those who enter by it are many. For the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life, and those who find it are few."

So, while you may be reconsidering whether or not to catch your regular bus or train to work, please don't ever reconsider your decision to jump on board the Jesus train to heaven!

¹ <https://www.smh.com.au/lifestyle/health-and-wellness/coronavirus-nsw-students-urged-to-avoid-public-transport-20200720-p55dj1.html>

² <https://www.smh.com.au/business/workplace/city-workers-walk-to-office-to-avoid-public-transport-20200712-p55bbx.html>