Lord Are There Few Who Are Saved?

Robert Harkrider · Luke 13:22–27

INTRODUCTION

- Then one said to him, Lord, are there few who are saved? And he said to them, Strive to enter through the narrow gate. For many I say to you, will seek to enter and will not be able.
- We live in a society now where it's certainly publicized as though everybody's going to go to heaven.

1 External Acquaintance Is Not Enough

Matthew 7:13–14; Matthew 22:1–14

- What it really says is that external acquaintance is not enough.
- Narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it.
- Perhaps indicating maybe someone who had been given the garment, but who didn't bother to put it on.
- There is a life to be lived. There are responsibilities to be accepted and to be obeyed.

2 Many Called, Few Chosen

1 Peter 3:20–21; 1 Corinthians 10:5; 1 Corinthians 10:11

- In the day of the flood, how many were saved? Only eight.
- Of those who were above 20 years of age when they left Egypt, only two. Joshua and Caleb.
- With most of them, God was not well pleased, for their bodies were scattered in the wilderness. Many called, few chosen.
- All these things happened to them as examples, and they were written for our admonition upon whom the ends of the ages have come.

3 God Wants All to Be Saved, Most Are Not Willing

2 Peter 3:9; 1 Timothy 2:4; Hebrews 2:9

- Is it God's fault or man's fault? The fact is, the scriptures are very clear in answer to that. God wants all to be saved.
- God is long suffering, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.
- Like a thief in the night without being announced, he's going to come. And those who really are faithful, that's the ones who will be saved.
- The reality is most are not willing. And that's the answer why it is that only few are saved.

4 Strive to Enter

Genesis 32; 1 Corinthians 9:24–27; Colossians 1:28–29

- Strive. Put forth all you can. Don't just play around with it. The word strive carries that idea, there's a struggle involved.

- Run in such a way that you may obtain it.
- We ought to strive, compete, struggle, give it your very best all the way through, but all receive the prize.
- Brethren, let's not play around as a Christian. Let's not just be indifferent about it.

5 The Christian Life Is a Fight

Ephesians 6:10–18; Hebrews 12:1; 2 Timothy 4:7–8

- The fact is, the Christian life is a fight.
- Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.
- I have fought a good fight. I've finished the course. I've kept the faith.
- There's a daily fight, seven days a week.

6 We Ate and Drank in Your Presence

- I can eat and drink in their presence. But they don't know me.
- We're in his presence, but we do not have an intimate relationship with the Lord. And it's our fault, not the Lord's.
- Why is it that some do not enter? They seek. How do they seek? Well, sort of half-heartedly.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **Let it not be of that number that Jesus described. Of the many who seek but will not be able. Let's be of that few that will be able, because we have served the Lord.**

MY NOTES