

The Narrow and Gracious Way

Luke 13:22-35

#1: Common Answers to “Who would be saved?”

1. *Ethnic Israel*
2. *Righteous Israelites*
3. *Israel and some Gentiles*

#2: The Narrow Door (vs. 22-24)

²² *He went on his way through towns and villages, teaching and journeying toward Jerusalem.*

²³ *And someone said to him, “Lord, will those who are saved be few?” And he said to them,*

²⁴ *“Strive to enter through the narrow door. For many, I tell you, will seek to enter and will not be able.*

Ephesians 2:8-9

⁸ *For you are saved by grace through faith, and this is not from yourselves; it is God’s gift—⁹ not from works, so that no one can boast.*

Colossians 2:8

See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the world, and not according to Christ.

Three ways of striving to enter the narrow way:

1. Renounce anything that denies salvation is through Christ alone
2. Reject anything that makes salvation: Jesus+ something else
3. Affirm that Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the father, except through him (John 14:6)

#3: Activity Around the Door (vs. 25-30)

²⁵ *When once the master of the house has risen and shut the door, and you begin to stand outside and to knock at the door, saying, ‘Lord, open to us,’ then he will answer you, ‘I do not know where you come from.’²⁶ Then you will begin to say, ‘We ate and drank in your presence, and you taught in our streets.’²⁷ But he will say, ‘I tell you, I do not know where you come from. Depart from me, all you workers of evil!’²⁸ In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God but you yourselves cast out.²⁹ And people will come from east and west, and from north and south, and recline at table in the kingdom of God.³⁰ And behold, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last.”*

#4: A Plot to Kill Jesus (vs. 31-33)

³¹ *At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to him, “Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.”³² And he said to them, “Go and tell that fox, ‘Behold, I cast out demons and perform*

cures today and tomorrow, and the third day I finish my course. ³³ Nevertheless, I must go on my way today and tomorrow and the day following, for it cannot be that a prophet should perish away from Jerusalem.'

#5: A Lament for Jerusalem (vs. 34-35)

³⁴ O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! ³⁵ Behold, your house is forsaken. And I tell you, you will not see me until you say, 'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!''

#5: Final Thoughts

Walk through the door

Show others the door

- Live like Christ
- Rightly order your affections
- Share Christ amid suffering
- Ask good questions