



The Great Choice: 2 Gates, 2 Ways & 2 Destinies

“Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat” (Matthew 7:13).

VCM-SOTM36

26 September 2018

“Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: 14 Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it” (Matthew 7:13-14).

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Key Points:

- 1) Teaching by Jesus, the living word, the author and finisher of our faith, hence necessary to pay attention to. “Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let them slip. 2 For if the word spoken by angels was stedfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just recompence of reward; 3 How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him” (Hebrews 2:1-3).
- 2) The teaching is about choices and decisions in life. God made man a free moral agent, not robots, so they can decide and face the consequences of the decisions. That principles has not been changed by the grace of God.
- 3) Beware of extreme doctrines like:
 - 4) Eternal security: once saved, always saved irrespective of the life lived.
 - 5) Stretching grace: Once forgiven, no more need for repentance after sin.
- 6) Scriptures on endurance to the end / restoration, etc. would make no sense if eternal security and extreme ‘grace’ were scriptural principles / facts.
- 7) Avoid easy fads that provide false sense of security and only prepare people for surprises at the end. Note Matthew 7:24-27 “Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock: 25 And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock. 26 And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand: 27 And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it”.
- 8) The teaching spells out the consequences of each choice to inform decision.
- 9) Consider the implications of:
 - Wide Gate, Broad way and many going in. Consider characteristics of broad-way people.
 - Strait gate, narrow way and few going in. Consider the characteristics of narrow way people.
- 10) Which category do you belong?
- 11) Challenge to consecrate. Recall:
 - Israel’s journey from Egypt to the Promised land.
 - Sodom and Gomorrah
 - I Cor 10:12 Let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall.
 - I Cor 9:27 But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway .
- 12) Prayers