

The Kingdom Of God: A Difficult Choice

Luke 13: 22-30

Intro. [A] There were two things that occupied the thoughts and time of Jesus.

Vs. 22a 1. "And he went through the cities and villages, teaching".
Vs. 22b 2. "... and journeying toward Jerusalem".

[B] As Jesus did these, He was asked a question.

Vs. 23 1. "Lord, are there few that be saved"?
"few" = ολιγοι = "little", the opposite of "much".
"saved" = σωσω = "to make sound", "to preserve safe from danger"

I. The Answer of Jesus.

[A] "Strive to enter in at the strait gate:"

1. "strive" = αγωνισομαι = "to be a competitor in an athletic contest, hence to contend, 'exert one's self,' 'to strive very earnestly,' 'agonize'".
2. "strait" = στενος = "narrow".

[B] "... for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able".

1. "seek" = ζητησω = "look for", "to strive to find".
2. "able" = ισχυω = "to have physical ability", "to be strong"

[C] Kingdom work is a difficult work.

1. The words above do not apply to personal salvation.
2. Eph. 2: 8 - "... it is the gift of God".
3. "unto good works", This is the exertion of one's self.
4. Paul's assessment - I have fought a good fight".
5. "The disciple is not above his master" - Jesus.
6. "Endure hardness as a good soldier of Jesus Christ"

Heb. 2:10 = Jesus was made perfect through suffering.