

The world believes there are many ways to God

Our Gospel shouts a POINTED MESSAGE: The door to heaven is narrow!

Jesus begins by insulting the Jews saying: *For many, I tell you, will seek to enter [heaven] and will not be able.*

- Jesus makes an exploding best and final offer
- His best and final offer is grace

Jesus is on a journey to Jerusalem and is asked: *Lord are those being saved few?*

- The question – *am I one of the few being saved* is in the third person
- He responds in the 2nd person – in effect - *questioner are you saved?*

First warning on the journey [admonition]

- Jesus warns in an imperative: *struggle to enter through the narrow door*
- Struggle comes from the Greek: *agonizomai*
- The struggle is repentance

The answer to the question: *are those being saved few* – is a reverberating YES – few indeed!

Second warning on the journey [time is short]

AUDACITY: The outsiders claim merit – *we ate and drank in your presence – you taught in our wide streets*

The shut door is irreversible

Third warning on the journey [prediction]

Jesus now asks you: *are you one of the few saved? What is the end of your journey?*

- The surprise in our text for Israel
- Jesus is the narrow door – the only way to salvation
- Jesus is first person and personal – for you!