

Salvation ~ *Easy or Hard?*

Luke 13:22-30

Some countries have porous borders and allow thousands of immigrants to flow into the land with little interference. Other countries enforce strict immigration policies and have walls and gates which make it very difficult to enter. In the spiritual realm, it is extremely difficult to enter the heavenly country. With respect to the narrow gate that leads to life, only a few will enter therein; the vast majority will continue on the road to destruction (Matt. 7:13-14).

Why is it so difficult to be saved? On the one hand, it is not difficult at all. Salvation is so simple even a child can understand it. Salvation is as easy as receiving a gift (John 1:12). It's as easy as eating and drinking (John 6:35). It's as easy as going through a door (John 10:9) or opening a door (Rev. 3:20). It's as easy as looking (John 3:14-15; Isa. 45:22). On the other hand, there are reasons why salvation can be very difficult:

✘ 1) Depraved people find it very difficult to humble themselves and acknowledge their utter sinfulness and spiritual bankruptcy (Luke 18:9-14).

✘ 2) Proud men believe they must do something to earn their salvation, and they have difficulty believing it is all of grace and all of God (Eph. 2:8-9).

✘ 3) Lost men love their sins and do not want to come to the light (John 3:18-20).

✘ 4) Christ taught that it was extremely difficult, yea, impossible, for a rich man to be saved, due to the fact that no one can be saved while trusting anything or anyone other than Christ (Matt. 19:23-26). But all of these difficulties can be overcome because the gospel is "the power of God unto salvation to all who believe" (Rom. 1:16). **God is able! Has God opened your heart to the truth of the gospel (Acts 16:14)?**

~George Zeller: www.middletonbiblechurch.org



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