

16. Will You Get in Heaven?

Many people believe they will go to heaven but are sadly mistaken. Jesus explained the road to heaven is very narrow, and many people will not be able to get in. Just because you go to church and pray and read the Bible doesn't guarantee you a spot in heaven. It's very important that we understand the verses below.

Luke 13:24-28 24 "Make every effort to enter through the narrow door, because many, I tell you, will try to enter and will not be able to. 25 Once the owner of the house gets up and closes the door, you will stand outside knocking and pleading, 'Sir, open the door for us.' "But he will answer, 'I don't know you or where you come from.' 26 "Then you will say, 'We ate and drank with you, and you taught in our streets.' 27 "But he will reply, 'I don't know you or where you come from. Away from me, all you evildoers!' 28 "There will be weeping there, and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, but you yourselves thrown out.

Matthew 7:21-23 21 "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. 22 Many will say to me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name and in your name drive out demons and in your name perform many miracles?' 23 Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!'

So what would those verses look like today? See below a chart showing the verses then, and what that verse could look like today.

THEN	TODAY
Matthew 7:22 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name?	Lord, did I not witness about you to many people and some people were saved because of it?
Luke 13:26 We ate and drank with you.	I volunteered at church events. I helped the needy and comforted the discouraged.
Luke 13:26 You taught in our streets.	I went to church every Sunday and listened to every sermon intently. I went to Bible studies and learned your word.
Matthew 7:22 Did we not in your name drive out demons and in your name perform many miracles?	Was I not on a prayer team and prayed for many people in your name? Did you not hear my prayers and honor them?
Matthew 7:23 Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!'	I will tell you plainly; Yes, you did a lot of good things that people taught you to do, but you didn't listen to <u>my</u> directions. You did not make me your Lord. You never invited me into your heart and allow me to change you and lead you. You didn't tell me your deepest secrets and regrets and allow me to comfort you. You were not born again spiritually. We did not have a personal relationship. I never knew you. Away from me.

This is scary stuff. Jesus said this would happen to many people.

Does Jesus live in your heart? Is he your Lord? Do you tell him everything? Do you follow and obey him?

Are you sure you will be invited into heaven? Let's make Jesus our Lord and have a personal connection with him and allow him to mold us into what he wants us to be.