LORD ARE THERE FEW THAT BE SAVED? Lu.13,23.

This question was asked the Saviour after He had given the lesson illustrating the groth of the Kingdom,by the parables showing the growth of the mustard seed,and the leaven hid in three measures of meal until all was leavened.Then one said unto Him,Lord are there few that be saved?And He said unto them,Strive to enter in at the strait gate; For many are called but few are chosen.Mt.22,14--beginning at the first verse to the 14th Jesus had told them of a certain king who had made a marriage feast for his son,and invited many to the feast,but they made light of his servants,entreated them spitefully,and slew them;He sent out again,Go ye therefore into the highways,and as many as ye shall find bid to the marriage.So these servants went out into the highways and gathered together as many as they would,both good and bad;and the wedding was furnished with guests.The king came in to see the guests,and found one who did not have on the wedding garment,he was cast out. verse 14 For many are called but few are chosen.

Another illustration.1 Pe.3,20 Speaking of those in Noah's day,Which sometime were disobedient,when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days od Noah,wherein few,that is eight souls were saved by water. The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us.Now let us turn to Mt.19,16-25 The rich young ruler came to Jesus and asked what he must do to inherit eternal life.Jesus reminded Him to keep the commandments,he replied that he had kept these from his youth up,and inquired ,What lack I yet? Jes answered,If thou wil be perfect,sell what thou hast and give it to the poor.The young man went away sorrowing,for he had great possessions.Then Jesus said unto His disciples,Verily I say unto you,that a rich man shall hardly enter into the kingdom of heaven.And again I say unto you,It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle ,than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God. Verse 25 When the disciples heard it,they were exceedingly amazed,saying,Who then can be saved ?.

Another good lesson is found in Lu.14.Beginning at verse 15,Jesus said unto them,A certain made a great feast supper,and bade many,17 And and sent his servants at supper time to them that were bidden,Come,for all things are now ready.---Those who were bidden began to make excuses, one said he had bought a yoke of oxen,and I must go to prove them,another had bought a piece of land,and I must go and see it;I pray thee h have me excused.Another had married a wife and could'nt come. The master of the house was angry and said unto his servants,Go out quickly in to the streets and lanes of the city,and bring in hither the poor,the and the maimed,and the halt,and the blind.Verse 23Go out into the highways and hedges and compel them to come in,that my house may be filled. For I say unto you that none of those men whiwh were bidden shall taste my supper.

Another good lesson is THE SEED AND THESOWER.Some seed fell into good ground and brought forth,some thirty,some sixty and some an hundred fold.Other seed fell bythe wayside and was devoured by birds,other seed fell into stony places whereq soil was shallow.Jesus made the applicatin tion,the seed that fell into good ground was the word of God which fell into good and honest hearts and brought forth fruit unto God.That which fell into stony places,The word fell into unstable hearts and the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches choked out the word.And this reminds of the rich young ruler.How hardly shall a rich man enter into the Kingdom of heaven.Strait is the gate and narrow the way,that leads to life and few there be that find it,Mt.7,14--From the above references,we come to the conclusion,that there are few that be saved.

1 Jn.2,15 Love not the world,neither the things that are in the world If any man love the world,the love of the Father is not in him.16 For all that is in theworld,the lust of the flesh,and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life,is not of the Father,but is of the world.

All of these were set before Eve when Satan tempted her,The fruit was pleasant to the eye,good for food,and desired to make one wise.They took and eat of it.And were cast out of the garden,Death passed on all men.

When Jesus was led of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of thedevil,He was forty days without food,Satan tempted Him to turn the stone into bread,but He refused,Satan then showed Him all the kingdoms of the earth,and promised them to Him if He would fall down and worship him.He refused.In Heb.4,15 We read,He was tempted in all points like as we are,yet without sin.

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PAGE #2 ARE THERE FEW THAT BE SAVED? Lu.13,23.

ENTRANCE INTO THE KINGDOM. Mt.7,13 Enter ye in at the strait gate 14 Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way that leadeth unto life and few there be that find it. Jn.10,7 Jesus Verily, verily, I say unto you, I am the door of the sheep. 9I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved--. Jn.14,6 I am the way, the truth, and the life, No man cometh unto the Father but by me. Jn.8,12 Then Jesus spake again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.

He is the gate, the door, the way, the truth, the life, and the light.

Jn.10,1 He that climbeth upsome ather way the same is a thief and a robber,

Now the question is, How do we get through the gate or door? If we can get into Christ we are surely into or through the door, we read in 2 Cor. 5,17 Therefore if a man be in Christ, he is a new creature. And we read in Ro.6,3-5 Know ye not that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ, were baptized into His death? therefore we are buried with Him by baptism into death; that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the Glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. These few verses tell us how we get into Christ BUT-

There other things required of us before we are ready to be baptized into Christ. For Christ says Except ye believe that I am He (the Saviour of the world) ye shall die in your sins. He.11,6 But without faith it is impossible to please Him; for he that cometh to God must believe that He is , and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently, seek Him.

Again Jesus says Except ye repent, ye shall die in your sins Thenin Lu,24,46 And said unto them, thus it is written, and thus it behooved Christ to suffer, and to rise the third day, and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name, beginning at Jerusalem.

Again Jesus said to his disciples, Mt.10,32 Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven. Christ being the mediator between God and man, interceds for us. And we have the record in Ac.8,36-37 when Philip preached Jesus to the Ethiopean, they came to a certain water, and the eunuch said See here is water, what doth hinder me to be baptized? Philip said if thou believest with all thine heart thou mayest, he said I believe that Jesus Christ is the son of God, Philip baptized him. Do you think Philip baptized him into Christ? Ac.2,38 When the Jews were convinced that they had crucified the Son of God, and, said unto Peter and the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren what shall we do? 38, Then Peter said unto them, Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of your sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost for the promise is unto you and unto your children and all that are afar off. 41 Then that gladly received His word were baptized, and there were added unto them about three thousand souls, Were they baptized into Christ Verse 47 And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.

Those mentioned in Ro.6,3-4 were baptized into Jesus Christ, and in the 17th verse we read of them God be thanked ye were the servants of sin, but you have obeyed from the heart that form pf doctrine, being then made free from sin, ye became servants of righteousness.--Obeyed that form of doctrine, the death burial and resurrection of Christ, by being buried with Him by baptism into death, and raised to walk a new life, Baptized into Christ, In whom we have redemption through His blood, even the forgiveness of sins Col.1,14.--We hear the gospel, believe the Gospel repent of our sins , confess that we believe Christ to be the Son of God the saviour of the world, and are baptized for the remission of our sins, and arise to walk in a new life in Christ Jesus. If a man be in Christ he is a new creature (a spiritual change) Salvation is in Christ, Is there any way to ~~get into Christ~~ get into Christ other than being baptized into Him after complying with the other conditions, Faith , confession , repentance and baptism.---I sure don't find it in my bible. When we get through the gate or door, we are in the fold, the church, the kingdom, saved, redeemed and can walk in the light. Thy word is a lamp to my feet and a light to ~~my~~ pathway, that narrow way, the way that leads to Life eternal;.

Strive to enter into the strait gate, for strait is the gate the and narrow the way that leads to Life and few there be that find it. Enter ye in at the strait gate; for wide is the gate, and broad the way that leadeth to destruction, and many there be that go in thereat.

2 Pe 1.10 Wherefore the rather brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure.

J.H.Lackey Church of Christ.