

Your Walk
Surrender - The Path of Transformation
Sermon Notes

Romans 12:1-2 (NET)

1 - Therefore I exhort you, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a sacrifice- alive, holy and pleasing to God- which is your reasonable service. 2 - Do not be conformed to this present world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may test and approve what is the will of God – what is good and well-pleasing and perfect.

- A renewed mind will always result in a transformed life.

- Why should we care?

The situation:

Everyone ends up spending eternity in either a real heaven or a real hell, both spoken of by Jesus.

Heaven -

Where Jesus is preparing a dwelling place for each believer (John 14:2)

where your reward can be great (Matt 5:12)

and long-lasting (Matt 6:20)

in the presence of God the Father. (Matt 5:16, Matt 10:32...)

Hell -

Eternal torment (Luke 16:23)

Unquenchable fire (Mark 9:43)

Eternal fire (Matthew 25:41)

Where the worm does not die (Mark 9:48)

Where people will gnash their teeth in anguish and regret (Matt. 13:42)

From which there is no return, even to warn loved ones (Luke 16:19–31)

A place of “outer darkness” (Matt. 25:30)

Comparing it to “Gehenna” (Matt. 10:28), which was a trash dump outside the walls of Jerusalem where rubbish was burned and maggots abounded.

A great chasm over which “none may cross from there to us” (Luke 16:26)

The terrifying problem:

At some point in time, each person here today or listening online either was on their way to hell or is still on their way to hell.

(Eccl 7:20, Rom 3:23, Rom 6:23)

And...

The sad reality is this:

More people will end up in hell than in heaven. (Matt 7:13-14)

John 14:6 - Jesus replied, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”

But, God provided a glorious way for you ...

The Way to heaven:

“For this is the way God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life.”(John 3:16 NET)

The solution decision:

We must trust Jesus Christ alone for salvation. We must understand and confess that Jesus is Lord. We must believe in our heart that God raised Jesus from the dead. (Rom 10:9-10)

But, what if we wonder if we really are saved?

Are there transformations that we should see in a person who is saved which we should not see in a person who is lost and on their way to hell?

Referencing the book, "Saved Without a Doubt" by John MacArthur, Jr.

1) Have you enjoyed fellowship with Christ and the Father?

Related scriptures:

Your invitation to fellowship : 1 John 1:1-3

Evidence of being born of God : 1 John 5:1

God's personal invitation to you : 1 Cor 1:9

Related questions:

Have you sensed their presence in your life?

Do you have a love for God and Christ that draws you to them?

Do you experience joy by talking with the Living God?

Do you love discovering a new truth to you in His Word?

If so, then rejoice! You've experienced the fellowship of salvation!

If not, then make a note about this.

2) Are you sensitive to sin?

Related scriptures:

Prescription to be cleansed and forgiven from all sin (1 John 1:7, 9)

God provides a way out of temptation for believers (1 Cor 10:13)

Believers will have a heightened awareness of their sin (Rom 7:24)

Related questions:

Are you sensitive to sin?

Are you aware of a spiritual battle raging inside you? (last week's msg)

Do you realize that you cannot walk in darkness and have fellowship with God?

Are you willing to confess sin in your life when you become aware of it?

When you sin, do you confess it to your advocate, Jesus?

Are you sometimes weary from the burden of sin in your life?

If so, you are obviously a Christian. Rejoice in your salvation!

If not, make a note about this.

3) Do you routinely obey God's Word?

Related questions:

Are you grateful for all that Jesus Christ has done for you?

Does that gratefulness bring a desire in you to obey God's Word?

Do you see an overall pattern of obedience to God's Word?

If so, you have passed an important test indicating the presence of saving faith. Rejoice in your salvation!

If not, make a note about this.

4) Do you reject this evil world?

Related Scriptures:

Who is in control of this world? (1 John 5:19) "We know that we are from God, and the whole world lies in the power of the evil one."

Can you still be lured into this world even if you hate it? (Rom 7:15)

What sins take us toward the world? (1 John 2:16-17)

Jesus prayed for you specifically to be kept from the evil one in control of this world. (John 17:14-16)

Related Questions:

- Do you recognize the evil in this world and its luring influence?
- Do you reject the world's false religions and godless vain living?
- Do you love God, His truth, His kingdom, and all that He stands for?
- Would you rather walk in the light of the scriptures rather than trying to "hide sins" in the darkness?

If so, these are all indications of a new life in Christ. Rejoice in your salvation!

If not, make a note about this.

5) Do you eagerly await Christ's return?

Related Scriptures:

- Jesus will definitely return! (Acts 1:11) "Men of Galilee, why do you stand here looking up into the sky? This same Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven will come back in the same way you saw him go into heaven."
- Jesus will return and transform our bodies into conformity with the body of His glory. (Phil 3:20-21)
- Knowing that Jesus will return will help purify your life (1 John 3:2-3)
- Looking for the return of Jesus will help us to live godly lives in this present age. (Titus 2:11-13)

Related Questions:

- Do you eagerly await Christ's return?
- Do you believe what the angel said in Acts 1:11 (This same Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will return in just the same way as you have watched Him go into heaven.)?
- Does the knowledge that Jesus will return help to purify your life?

If so, these are all indications of a new life in Christ. Rejoice in your salvation! And since salvation is firm forever in Christ, thank him for this fact and relax in His arms.

If not, make a note about this.

6) Do you see a pattern of decreasing sin in your life?

Related questions:

- Do you practice righteousness?
- Do you see a pattern of victory over sin in your life?
- Do you see righteous motives, desires, words, and deeds in your life?
- Would you say that you are, "Not all you ought to be for Jesus, but certainly not what you used to be"?

If so, you have passed an important test indicating the presence of saving faith. Rejoice that you have eternal life!

If not, make a note about this.

7) Do you love other Christians?

Related Scriptures:

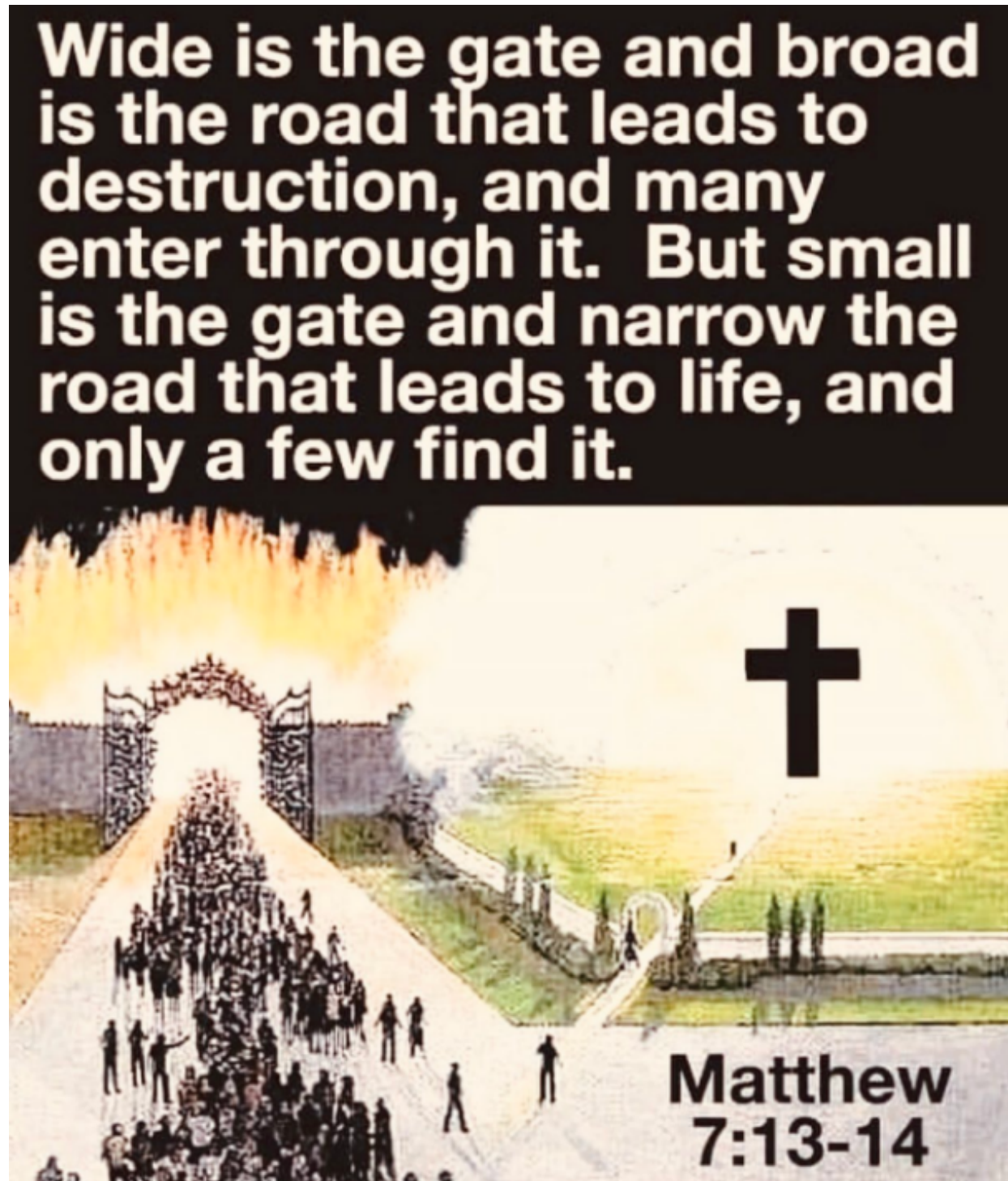
- If we love other Christians we have passed out of death and into life (1 John 3:14) "We know that we have crossed over from death to life because we love our fellow Christians. The one who does not love remains in death."
- We should lay down our lives for other Christians (1 John 3:16)
- Your love for other Christians will show all people that you are a disciple of Jesus. (John 13:35)

Related Questions:

- Do you love other Christians?
- Do you look for ways to give to other Christians in need?
- Do you look forward to gathering often with other believers?
- Have you ever met another Christian and felt an immediate bond with them?

If so, these are all indications of a new life in Christ. Rejoice in your salvation! And since salvation is firm forever in Christ, thank him for this fact and relax in His arms. If not, make a note about this.

How well did you score on the 7 examples of evidence?



Artwork used by permission courtesy of:

Emma

@Emmanue37844681