

# NARROW MINDED?

Today if you speak up and proclaim that you believe the Bible to be the absolute Word of God and the final authority on life and death -- you will be pegged as being "NARROW MINDED." Why?

If you throw a stone up in the air, it surely falls to the ground -- you believe it -- so you are "NARROW MINDED" about the law of gravity. If you believe that when you add 2 plus 2 you find the answer to be 4 and no other solution is possible -- you are "NARROW MINDED" concerning mathematics. If you mix flour with the proper ingredients and bake it in an oven you will end up with a loaf of bread -- you believe it because you have done it again and again -- you are "NARROW MINDED."

It seems that anything you truly believe and have faith in is perfectly all right -- but when it comes to believing the Bible, then you are questioned, ridiculed and even avoided as being "NARROW MINDED."

The Apostle Peter when on trial for preaching the Word of God proclaimed, *"Neither is there Salvation in ANY other, for there is NO other name under heaven given among men by which we must be Saved"* (Acts 4:12). This is a simple Biblical Truth -- there is NO other way to be forgiven and made acceptable for Heaven. If you agree with Peter, then you are "NARROW MINDED."

Jesus Himself assured us in saying, *"I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life -- NO ONE comes to the Father except by Me"* (John 14:6) -- now, that's really being "NARROW MINDED."

There is ONLY ONE WAY! -- we are told that it is the NARROW WAY -- Jesus tells us, *"Enter by the NARROW gate -- for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it -- because NARROW is the gate and difficult is the way that leads to Life, and there are few who find it"* (Matthew 7:13,14).

Regardless of who or how many people today proclaim that there are many ways to Heaven, the Bible is very clear -- there is ONLY ONE WAY -- through Jesus Christ. To believe this is to be accused of being "NARROW MINDED!"

Each of us must decide in our own hearts and lives -- was Jesus a liar? was Jesus demented? or was Jesus who He said He was -- the Son of God and Lord of All?

It is the same as the argument over Evolution and Creationism -- each of us must decide in our hearts and minds which path we will follow. Did we come from slime, frogs and monkeys as some theorize (that is indeed being "NARROW MINDED") -- or were we created in the image of God as the Bible says. Remember, there is a strong verse that says, *"All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable"* (2 Timothy 3:16).

We make hundreds of decisions every day -- some big and some small -- but the most important of all that will determine our Eternity is the decision to accept or reject Jesus Christ -- not seeing but Believing by Faith that He was born of a Virgin, lived a perfect sinless life, died on the Cross for our sins, and rose from the grave in Victory -- Victory for Himself -- and Victory for you and I.

We must all accept this by Faith. We are told, *"Without Faith it is impossible to please God"* (Hebrews 11:6) -- and, *"For by Grace you have been Saved by Faith, and that not of yourselves, it is the GIFT OF GOD"* (Ephesians 2:8). Think of these simple words -- GRACE, God giving to us by His Love that which we do not deserve. SAVED, rescued from an Eternity in Hell. FAITH, accepting as fact what we cannot see. GIFT, receiving something we have not earned, have not paid for, and we do not deserve.

The most famous verse in the Bible is very appropriate here, *"For God so loved the (people of) the world, that He Gave His Only Begotten Son (Jesus Christ), that whosoever Believes in Him should not perish (die) but HAVE Everlasting Life"* (John 3:16). This is the entire plan of Salvation in one verse -- this is God's promise of Eternity -- this is that Blessed Assurance of sins forgiven -- HALLELUJAH!

So, if to believe exactly what the Bible says is to be NARROW MINDED then I confess that I am very NARROW MINDED -- but as such I also have that BLESSED ASSURANCE of one day being with God and Jesus in Heaven.

It is so very simple -- *"Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be Saved"* (Acts 16:31). *"As many as received Him, to them He gave the Power to become the sons of God -- to as many as Believe in His name"* (John 1:12).

If this is to be NARROW MINDED then join with me, and KNOW that one day we will be together in Heaven, with the Lord Jesus Christ.

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