

The Faithful Few

1 Peter 3:20-21

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“... that aforetime were disobedient, when the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls, were saved through water:

21 which also after a true likeness doth now save you, (even) baptism, not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the interrogation of a good conscience toward God, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ”

Introduction

Faithful Christians are few in number ...

- Thus, in the minority, NOT the majority
 - Some become discouraged when in the minority
 - This should encourage us, not discourage

The faithful have always been the minority

- God desired all men be saved – 2 Peter 3:9
 - Man must come to the truth – 1 Timothy 2:4
- But, God knows that only a few will be saved
 - Matthew 22:1-14; 7:13-14

Introduction

The faithful few are a small but potent group in God's plan

- They are the “*salt of the earth*” – Matthew 5:13
- They are the “*light of the world*” – Matthew 5:14
 - Philippians 2:15 – are to “*shine as lights in the world*”

Let us consider some facts about the faithful few

Preserved Mankind

A few souls were saved by water – 1 Peter 3:20

- Noah and his family (8 souls) – Genesis 6:17-22

10 souls could have saved Sodom and Gomorrah

- Genesis 18:23-33; 19:15-25
 - 50 souls? – verse 24
 - 45? – verse 28
 - 40? – verse 29
 - 30? – verse 30
 - 20? – verse 31
 - 10? – verse 32

At least 4 souls were saved from Sodom and Gomorrah
– Genesis 19:15-16

A faithful few can prevent a nation from being totally wicked – Proverbs 14:34

Rely On God

Only a few wise, mighty, and noble of this world are called – 1 Corinthians 1:17-31

The faithful few rely on God, NOT ...

- The wisdom of this world
- Physical strength
- Social standing and popularity or numbers

The truly wise, mighty, and noble rely on obedience to God

- Acts 17:11; Matthew 7:7-8; John 5:39

Have Found “Life”

The Faithful Few

Why have multitudes NOT found “life”?

- Deuteronomy 30:19; cf. John 12:37-42
- “choose life, blessing” = obedience to God
- “death, cursing” = The consequences of sin – Roman 6:23

Because they are blinded by ...

- The god of this world – 2 Corinthians 4:4
- Error and false teachers – 1 Timothy 4:1-2
- Love of the world – 1 John 2:15-17
- Rebellion and stubbornness – 1 Samuel 15:23
- Apathy and complacency – Zephaniah 1:12

Are The Worthy Ones

The Faithful Few

These walk according to God’s direction

- 1 Thessalonians 2:11-15

These are the minority of the majority

- “few there be that find it” – Matthew 7:14

These worthy ones walk with God “in white”

- Revelation 3:4

These are “whom the world is not worthy”

- Hebrews 11:32-40

Preserved Mankind

The Faithful Few

Rely On God

Have Found “LIFE”

Are The Worthy Ones

REVIEW

➤ Never Be Ashamed To Be Of The Faithful Few

➤ Never Forget What God’s Word Says About The Few

➤ Only Few Will Enter In

CONCLUSION

Luke 13:22-24

CONCLUSION

“22 And he went on his way through cities and villages, teaching, and journeying on unto Jerusalem.

23 And one said unto him, Lord, are they few that are saved? And he said unto them,

24 Strive to enter in by the narrow door: for many, I say unto you, shall seek to enter in, and shall not be able.”

Matthew 7:13-14

“13 Enter ye in by the narrow gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many are they that enter in thereby.

14 For narrow is the gate, and straitened the way, that leadeth unto life, and few are they that find it.”