

## FEW FIND THE NARROW WAY

God chose before creation that He would allow Adam and Eve to sin.

God chose before creation that He would send Jesus to take away the sin of the world.

God chose before creation that He would save those who believe His promise to save from sin through the Messiah. God chooses today to save those who totally put their faith in Jesus to save them from sin and to make them into instruments of righteousness (right works).

In John 15:16 "You have not chosen Me, but I have chosen you", Jesus is talking specifically to the twelve disciples and He is telling them that He chose them for a special task and ordained (appointed) them to take the gospel to the world empowered by the Father in Jesus' name.

Today, when a person has cooperated with the Spirit of God and been brought to saving faith, God chooses that person for eternal life, everlasting relationship with God in Christ, discipleship in a life of love toward God and all mankind. Men cooperate with the Spirit. Men do not choose of their own volition to follow Christ. On our own we would never choose Jesus. But by the goodness of God we have the ability to respond to conviction and through the love of God be drawn to His goodness. God is not irresistibly forcing a sinner to salvation, but He does take the first step in making salvation available. God chooses to save those who allow themselves to be brought to saving faith and to be followers of Jesus Christ. Many are called but few are chosen (Matthew 22:14). The many are all mankind. All mankind is given the ability to respond to the conviction of the Holy Spirit. Only those who cooperate with the Spirit and allow themselves to be brought to saving faith are chosen. Faith precedes being chosen. God only elects to salvation those who cooperate.

God has chosen us in Christ before the foundation of the world (creation). Notice God only chooses those who are in Christ. This was His plan before creation, that even though God allowed man to fall into sin, God would provide Christ, and all those who believe in Christ will be saved from sin and become the chosen.

And He has chosen us (in Christ) to be holy and without blame before Him in love (Ephesians 1:4). The narrow way to eternal life is (in Christ). In the day of Jesus, few found the narrow way to avoid destruction. Jesus warned Israel of their destruction, even the destruction of Jerusalem and the Temple. They refused Jesus even after His resurrection and in 70 AD destruction came.

Broad is the way which leads to destruction and many go in there. Narrow is the way that leads to life and few find it. Matthew 7:13,14