
Is there a
heaven and
who will be there?
Date: 15 November 2026
Passage: Matthew 7:13-23
Theme: Making our Election sure

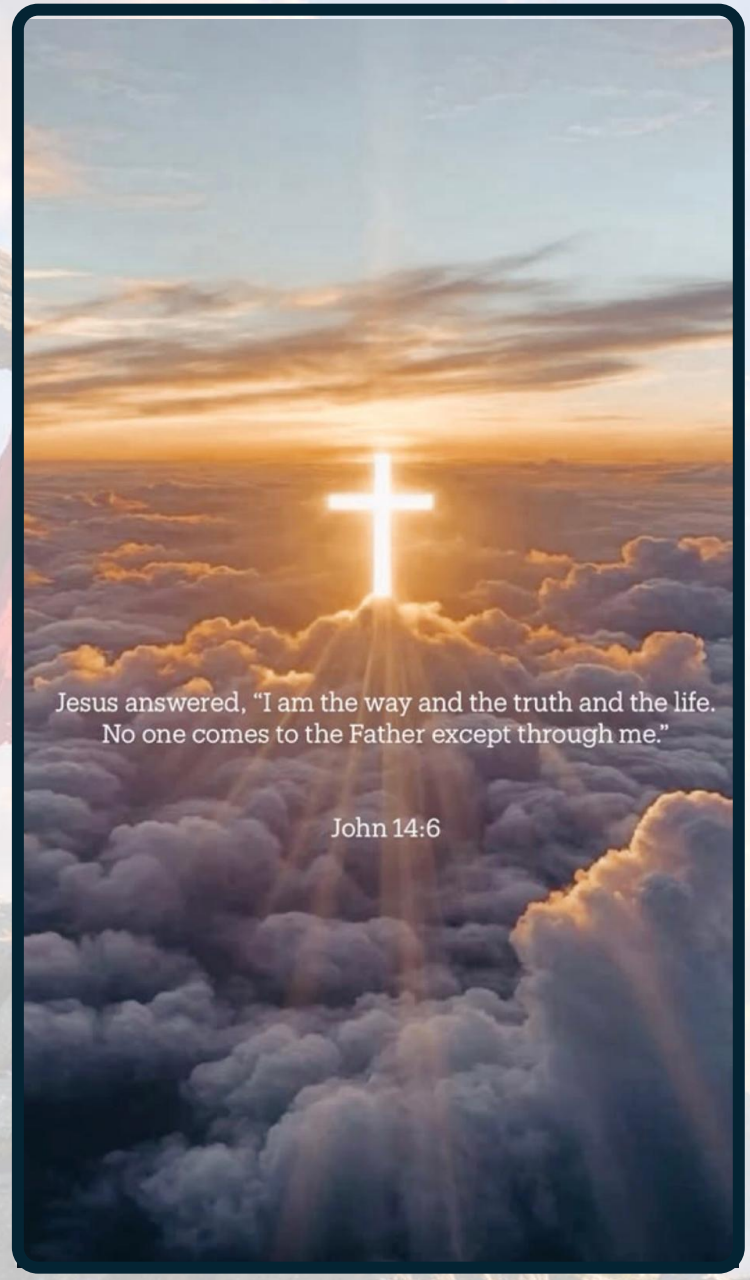
Matthew 7

13 “Enter through the narrow gate. For wide
is the gate and broad is the road that
leads to destruction, and many enter
through it. 14 But small is the gate and
narrow the road that leads to life, and only
a few find it.

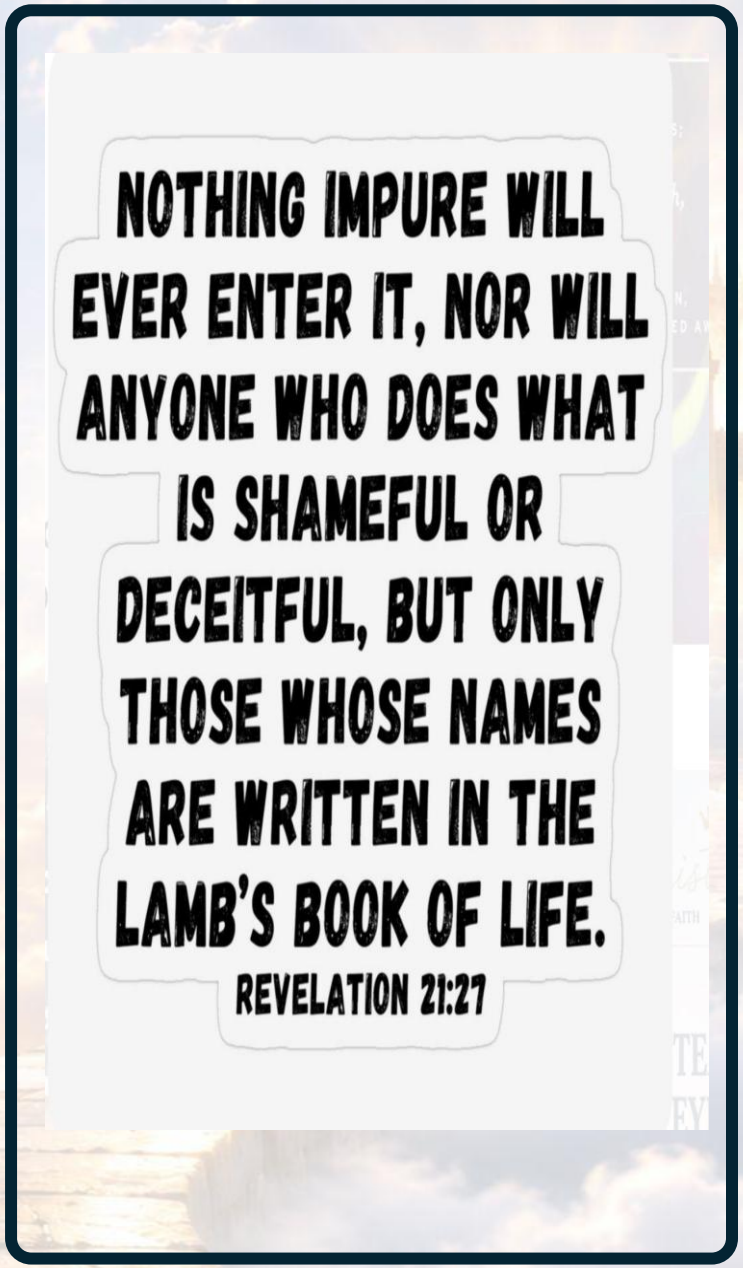
15 “Watch out for false prophets. They
come to you in sheep’s clothing, but
inwardly they are ferocious wolves. 16 By
their fruit you will recognize them. Do
people pick grapes from thornbushes, or
figs from thistles? 17 Likewise, every good
tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears
bad fruit.

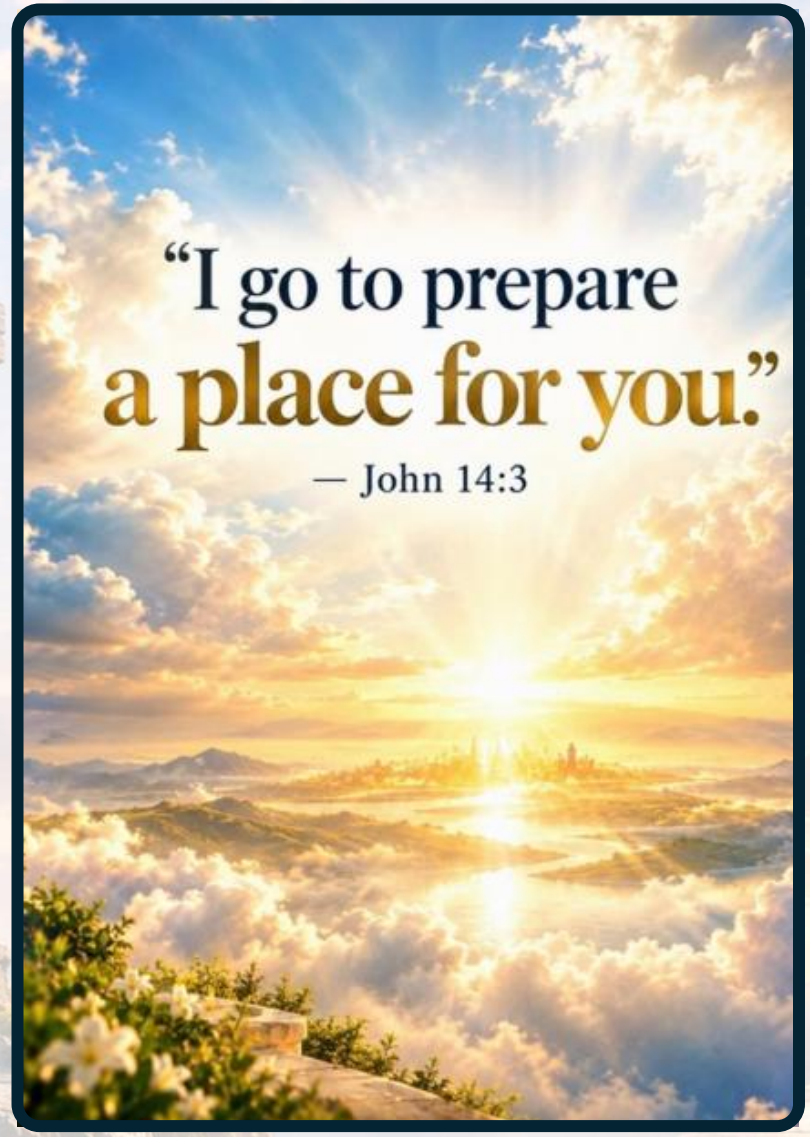
18 A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, and
a bad tree cannot bear good fruit. 19 Every
tree that does not bear good fruit is cut
down and thrown into the fire. 20 Thus, by
their fruit you will recognize them.

21 “Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord,
Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven,
but only the one who does the will of my
Father who is in heaven. 22 Many will say
to me on that day, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not
prophesy in your name and in your name
drive out demons and in your name
perform many miracles?’ 23 Then I will tell
them plainly, ‘I never knew you. Away
from me, you evildoers!’


Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life.
No one comes to the Father except through me."
John 14:6


HEAVEN
MATT 7.21
NOT EVERYONE
WHO SAYS TO ME,
'LORD, LORD,'
WILL ENTER
THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN,
BUT ONLY THE ONE WHO DOES
THE WILL OF MY FATHER
WHO IS IN HEAVEN.


NOTHING IMPURE WILL
EVER ENTER IT, NOR WILL
ANYONE WHO DOES WHAT
IS SHAMEFUL OR
DECEITFUL, BUT ONLY
THOSE WHOSE NAMES
ARE WRITTEN IN THE
LAMB'S BOOK OF LIFE.
REVELATION 21:27

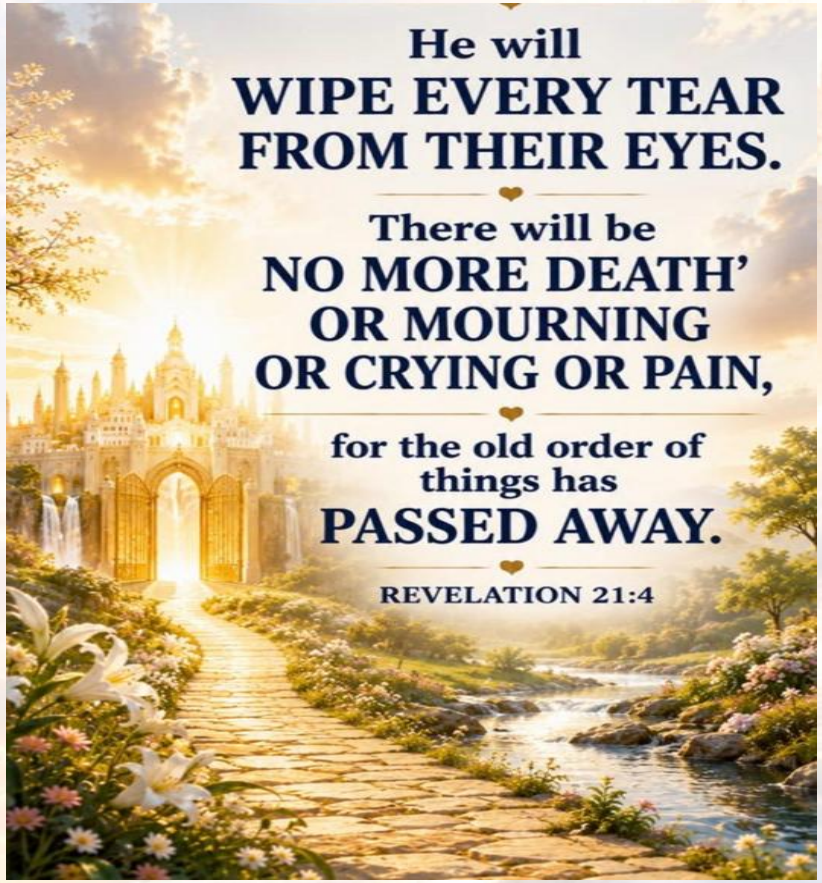


1. What the Bible says about Heaven

Heaven is the glorious dwelling place of God

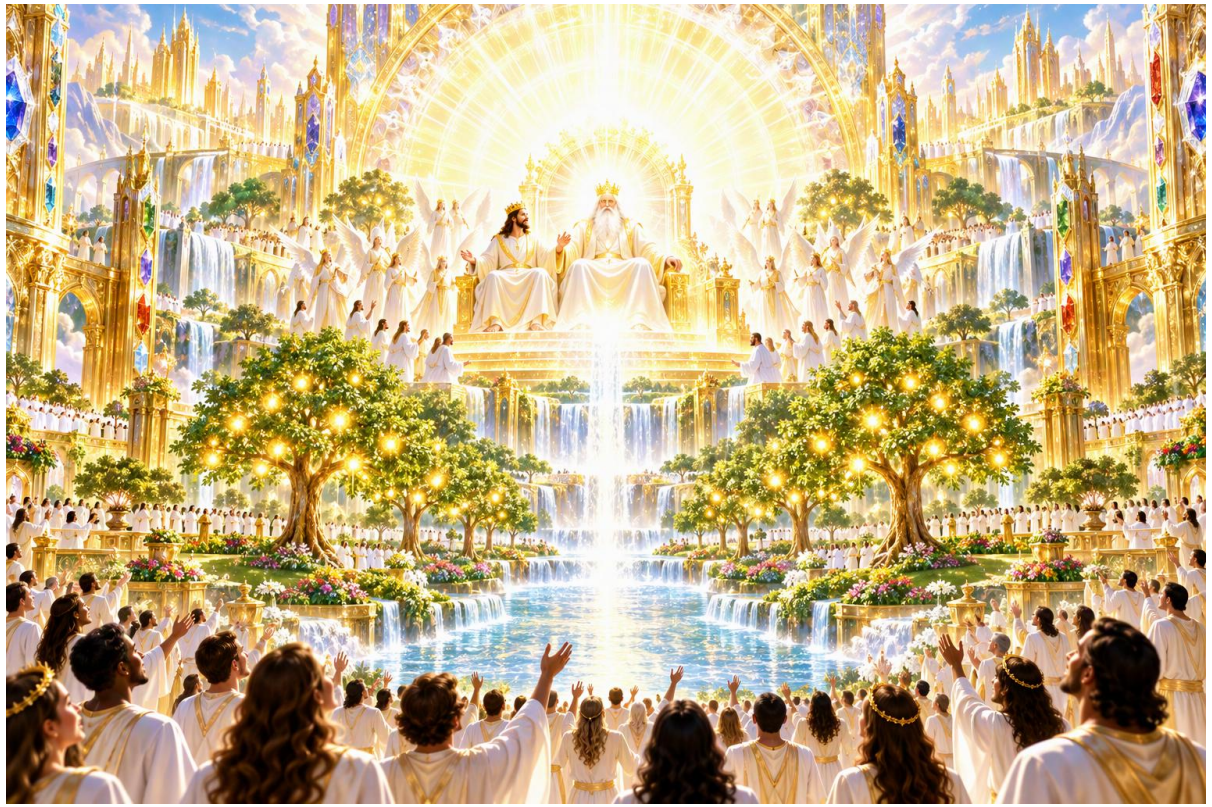
What the Bible says about Heaven

1(b) Heaven is a place without the presence of sin.



1 (c) Heaven is a place of unimaginable glory

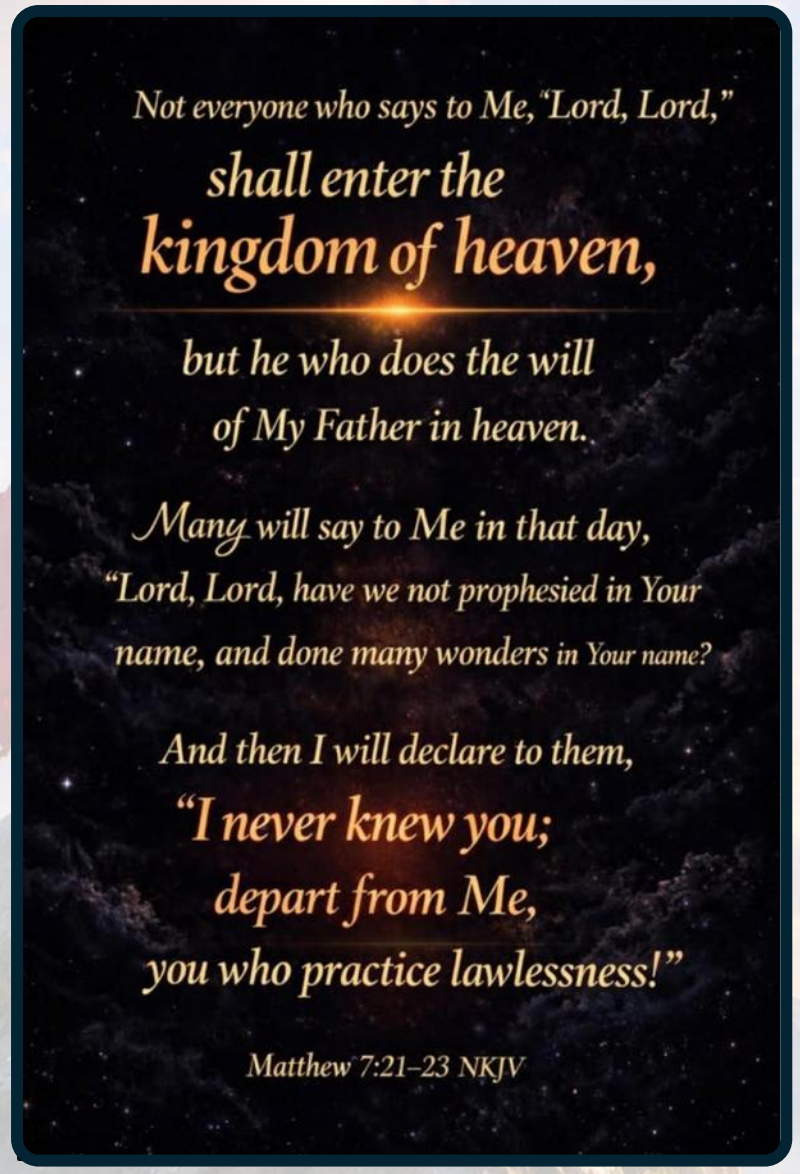
Revelation 21 and 22



The glory of God shines
- Adorned with jasper, precious stones, pure gold, and crystal.
- The tree of life is there.
- The throne of God and of the Lamb
- Beautiful, Majestic, Purity, Glorious.

- Most astonishing statement comes in Revelation 22:4:
"They will see his face."

Co-Confidential / Internal Only



2. Who will be there in Heaven?

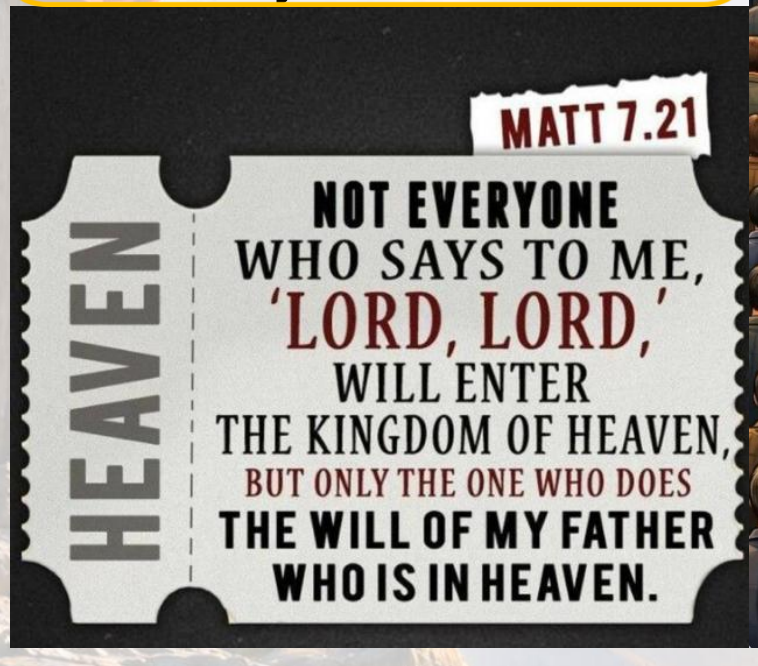
"... only the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven" (Matthew 7:21) will enter heaven.
They are the ones who truly belong to Christ.

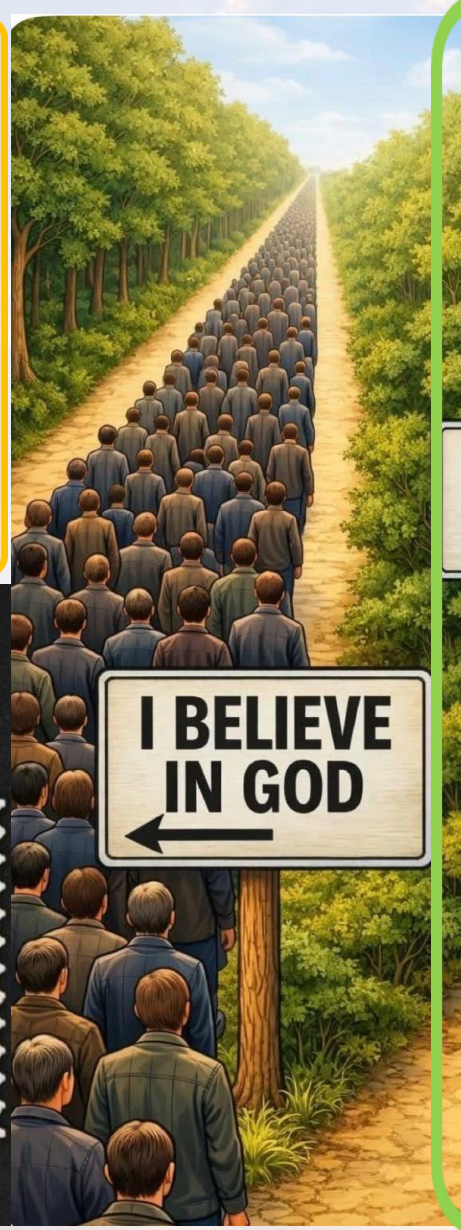
(a) They enter through the narrow gate.

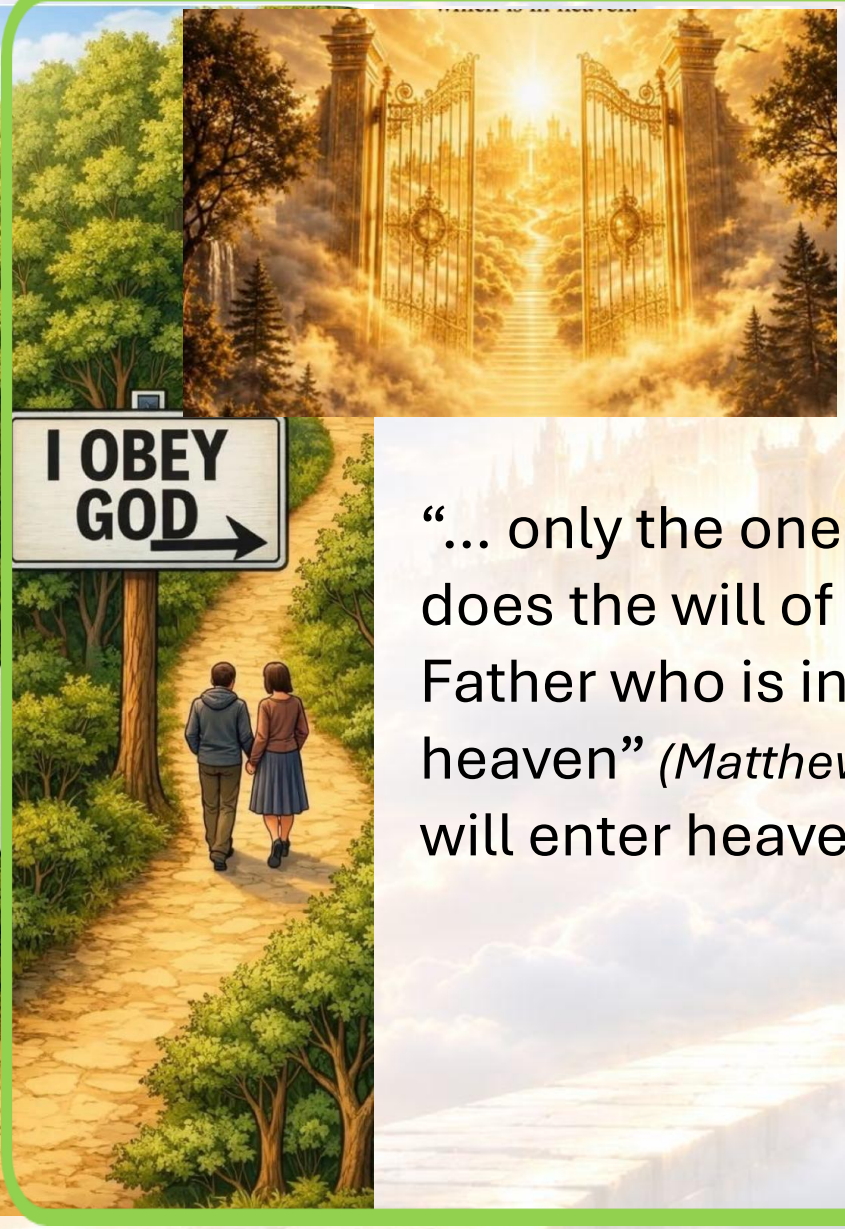
Jesus warned: *"Enter through the narrow gate... small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it."*
(Matthew 7:13-14)

(i) Because many choose the broad way.

(ii) Although they know about Christ, they don't follow Him faithfully.







"... only the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven" *(Matthew 7:21)* will enter heaven.



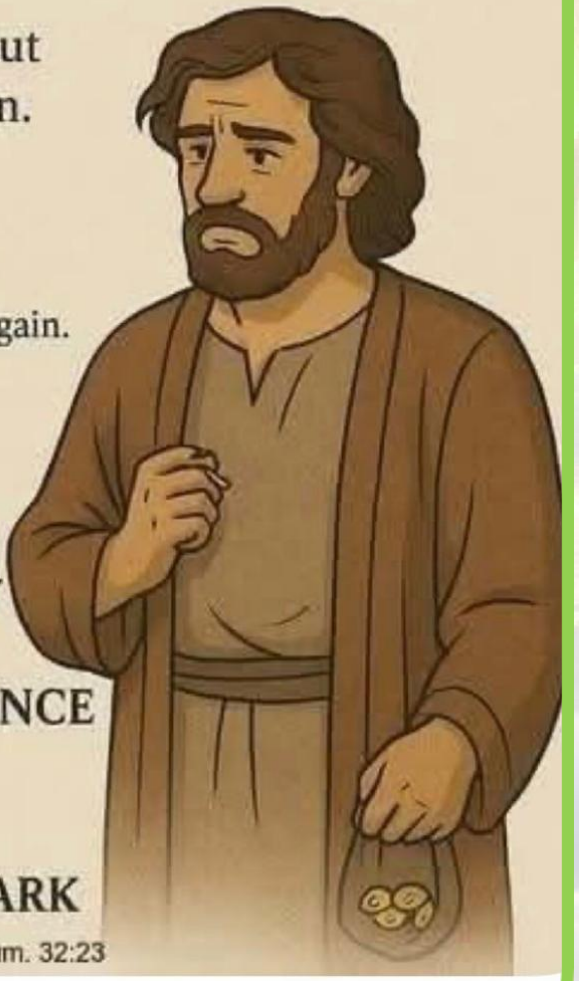
The life of Judas is a warning that:

You can hear truth and not obey it. You can be near holy things and still remain unchanged. You can look like a disciple and still resist surrender. *It is possible to appear faithful outwardly,* while inwardly resisting the very truth that could save you.

He was not lost because he was far from Jesus, but because he would not fully give his heart to Him.

LESSONS FROM JUDAS ISCARIOT

He walked with Jesus – but chose silver over salvation.



1. DON'T TRADE PURPOSE FOR PROFIT

He sold destiny for a moment of gain.

1 Tim. 6:10

2. PROXIMITY ISN'T RELATIONSHIP

Close to Jesus, but far from truth.

Matt. 15.8

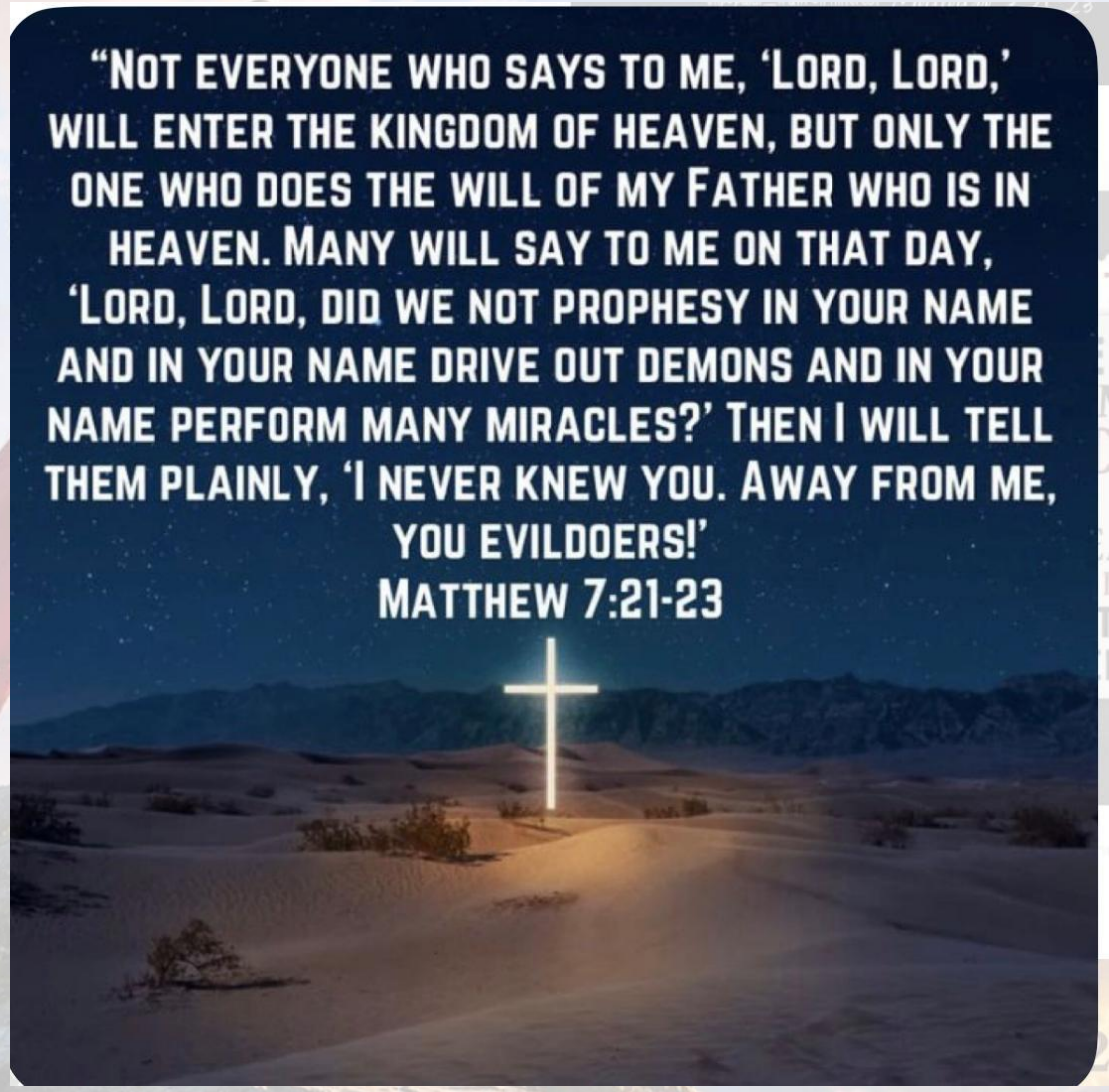
3. REGRET ≠ REPENTANCE

Tears don't mean turning.

2 Cor. 7.10

4. CHOICES LEAVE A MARK

One betrayal echoed forever. Num. 32:23



By "evildoers," Jesus refers to those who are lawless – without the law of Christ.

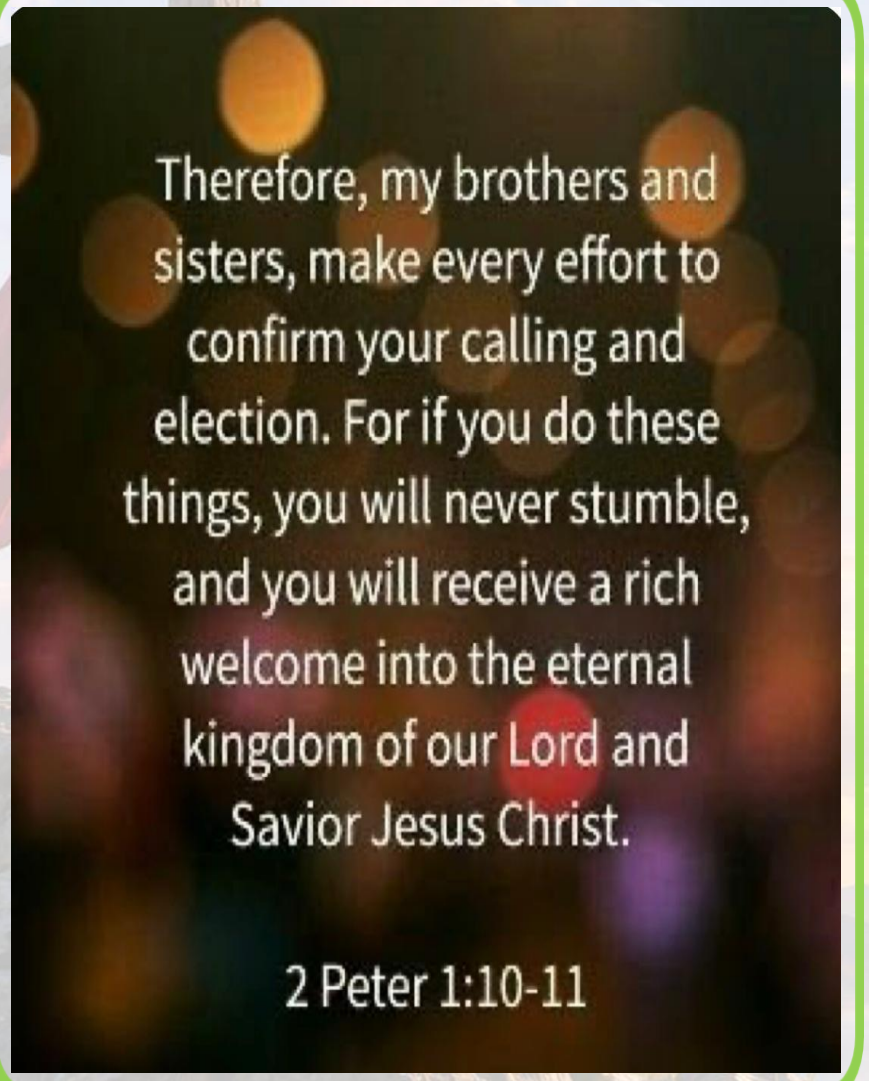
- Their profession of faith was external, but their hearts remained unchanged.

"Or do you not know that wrongdoers will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor men who have sex with men, nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God.“

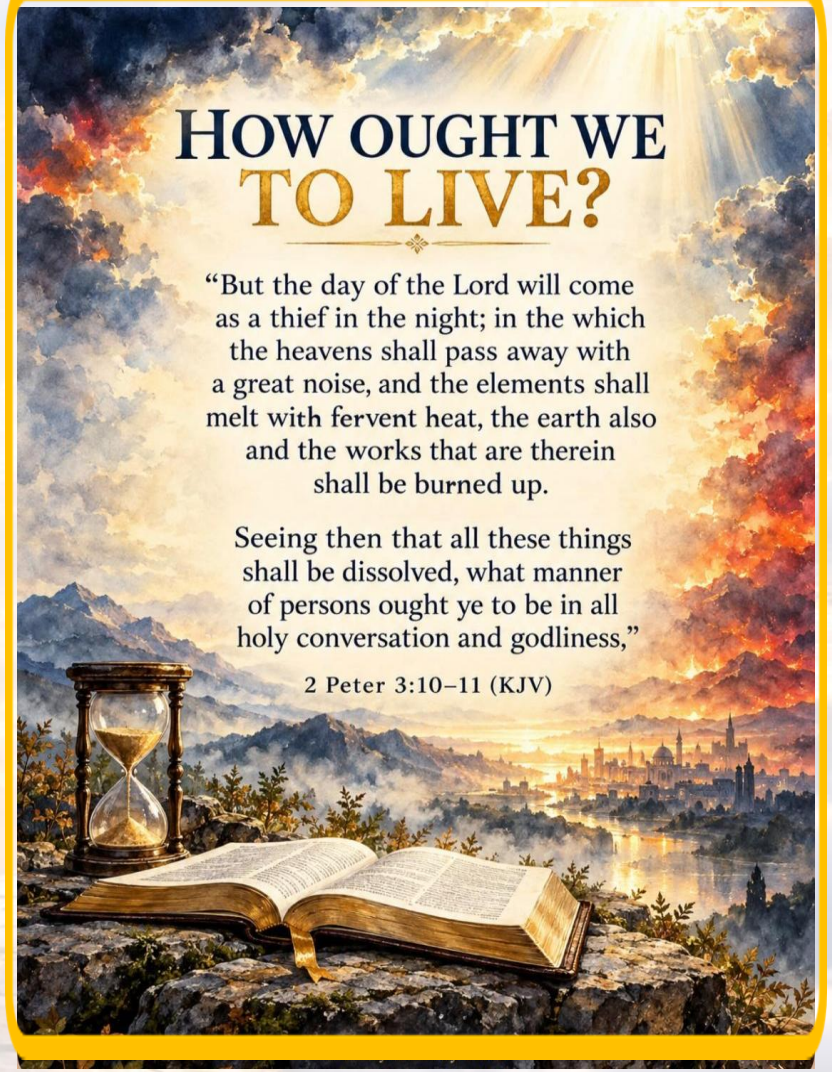
(1 Corinthians 6:9-10)

John writes:
"Nothing impure will ever enter it, nor will anyone who does what is shameful or deceitful, but only those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life." (Revelation 21:27)

3. How can I be sure I am going to Heaven?



As Paul writes: “But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the benefit you reap leads to holiness, and the result is **eternal life**.”
(Romans 6:22)



3(a) (i) Am I trusting Christ alone for salvation?

Faith in Christ

Our confidence must rest entirely upon Jesus Christ and His finished work on the cross.

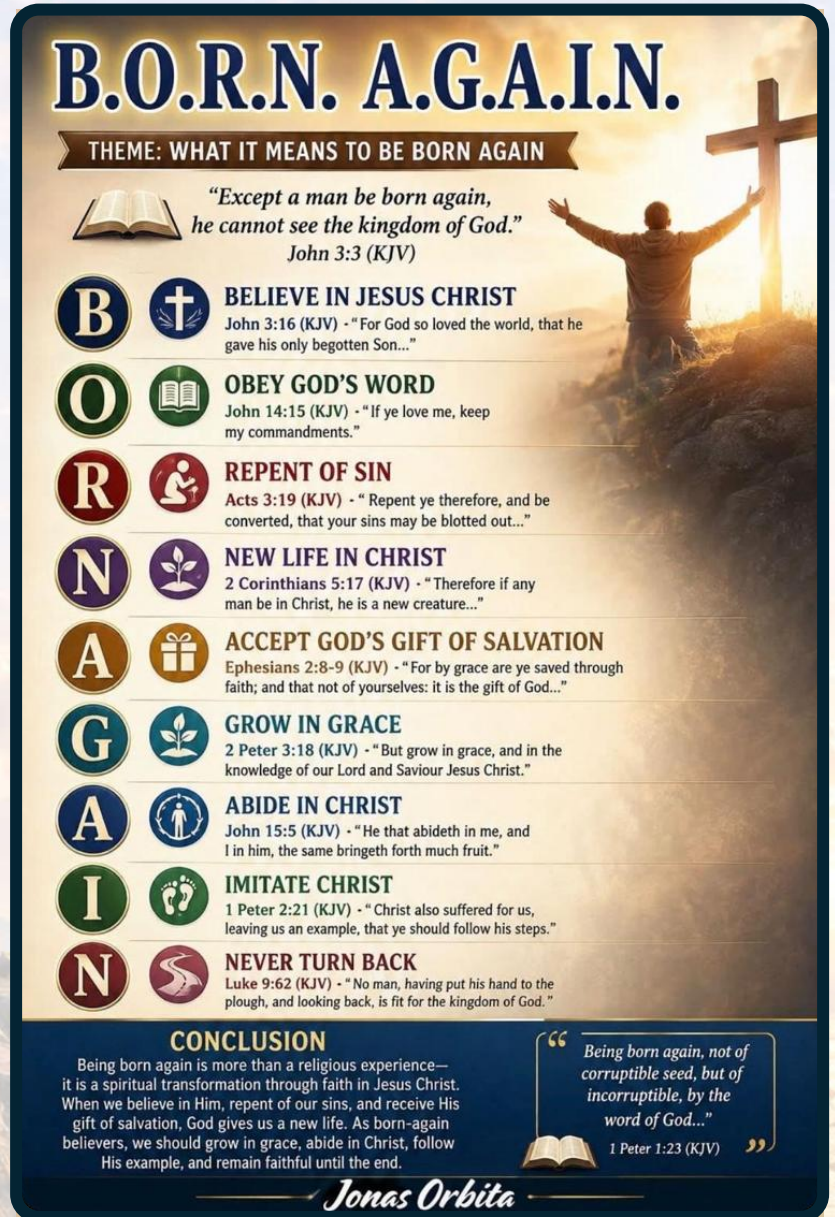
- Saving faith rests entirely upon Christ and His finished work.

"For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith. And this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God, not by works, so that no one can boast."

(Ephesians 2:8-9)



(ii) Has my heart been changed so that I love Christ?



Love for Christ

- Do I increasingly treasure Christ above the things of this world. *(Psalm 73:25)*

- Does my love for Christ show itself in my desire to obey Him.

"If you love me, keep my commands." (John 14:15)

(iii) Is God's grace producing a changed life in me?

A Transformed life in Christ

A transformed life gives evidence of salvation.

"For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works." (Ephesians 2:10)

- As the Holy Spirit works within us, we increasingly display repentance, obedience, love, and spiritual growth.

So ask yourself:

- Am I growing in repentance?
- Am I becoming more obedient to Christ?
- Do I love God's people?
- Do I desire to live a life that pleases God?

These are encouraging signs that God's grace is at work in your life.

Three Evidences of genuine faith:

- Faith in Christ
- Love for Christ = Obedience to Christ
- A transformed life.

Where these evidences are present, believers can find assurance that they belong to Christ.

True believers keep walking until the end

- True believers are those who persevere in faith.
- They continue walking with Him until the end.
- True believers do not abandon Christ

3 (b) Do I persevere as a citizen of Heaven?

- Saving faith is not merely a past decision.
- It is an ongoing covenant relationship with Christ.

- Paul describes the mindset of those who persevere as a citizen of heaven in ***Philippians 3:17-21***

17 Join together in following my
example, brothers and sisters, and
just as you have us as a model, keep
your eyes on those who live as we do.
18 For, as I have often told you before
and now tell you again even with
tears, many live as enemies of the
cross of Christ. 19 Their destiny is
destruction, their god is their
stomach, and their glory is in their
shame. Their mind is set on earthly
things.
20 But our citizenship is in heaven.
And we eagerly await a Savior from
there, the Lord Jesus Christ, 21
who, by the power that enables him
to bring everything under his
control, will transform our lowly
bodies so that they will be like his
glorious body.

3 Distinct Orientation Markers

Citizenship in Heaven	How This Confirms My Hope of Heaven
Imitate those who follow godly egs (Phil. 3:17)	My pattern of life is to follow godly examples
Show allegiance to heavenly citizenship by your appetites (Phil. 3:18-20)	My appetites (stomach) and pride (glory) to focus on Jesus
Anticipate ultimate transformation when Christ returns (Phil. 3:21)	My hope in life is hooked on His eternal perspective.

Revelation 22

12 “Look, I am coming soon! My
reward is with me, and I will give to
each person according to what they
have done.
13 I am the Alpha and the Omega,
the First and the Last, the Beginning
and the End.
14 “Blessed are those who wash their
robes, that they may have the right
to the tree of life and may go
through the gates into the city.
15 Outside are the dogs, those who
practice magic arts, the sexually
immoral, the murderers, the
idolaters and everyone who loves
and practices falsehood.

16 “I, Jesus, have sent my angel to
give you[a] this testimony for the
churches. I am the Root and the
Offspring of David, and the bright
Morning Star.”

17 The Spirit and the bride say,
“Come!” And let the one who hears
say, “Come!” Let the one who is
thirsty come; and let the one who
wishes take the free gift of the water
of life.

20 He who testifies to these things
says, “Yes, I am coming soon.”

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

21 The grace of the Lord Jesus be
with God’s people. Amen.

Application

The question is not merely: "Did I once make a profession of faith?"
The deeper question is: "Am I continuing to trust Christ, obey Christ, and follow Christ today?"

(1) Am I persevering as a citizen of Heaven? Check the following boxes

	✓
I imitate those with godly examples (Phi. 3:17)	
My appetites not dictated by early focus (Phil 3:18-20)	
My identity, lifestyle& values are transformed now as I focus on Jesus' return. (Phil 3:21)	

(2) Pray over each other:

→ "Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way." (Philippians 4:1)

→ Stand firm in Christ. Live as citizens of heaven. Persevere faithfully until He comes.