



January 14, 2023

The Remnant Syndrome

Luke 13:22-30

On the way to Jerusalem, among the (Jewish) towns and villages: **v. 22**

Who is this “someone” that asks the question “Lord, will those who will be saved be few?” **v. 23**

The way the question is asked suggests a present bias

The remnant syndrome: Elijah in **1 Kings 19:10,14** (see also **Luke 3:8**)

Tribalism, meant as an antidote to pride (Babel), becomes little pride everywhere multiplied

Jesus answers indirectly with a picture of a narrow door: **v. 24**

Narrow suggests entry boundaries

Entry boundaries say nothing about capacity

Who will be the shut-out ones?

Near in body, far in heart: **Isaiah 29:13** (**Matthew 15:7-9**): **v. 25-26**

Depart from me you workers of evil: (**Psalms 6:8**): **v. 27**

The patriarchs and the prophets: **v. 28**

Gentiles from the east, west, north, south: **v. 29**

Again we are not talking about size of the group but make up of the group

The point: first will be last, last will be first (see also **Matthew 19:30, 20:16; Mark 9:35, 10:31,44**): **v. 30**

Rich young ruler, who is the greatest, like a child, laborers in the vineyard

Presumption, privilege, pride disqualify

Humility (willingness to be carried) allows access through the narrow door!

Carried on the back of Jesus squeezing through the door is a good picture

Jesus affirms there is a particular entry door (**John 10:1**) and that He is that door (**John 10:7**)

The lament over Jerusalem reinforces this: the power set in Jerusalem are on track to miss out: **v. 34**

I would have gathered you under my wings (maternal image of being cared for, carried): **v. 34**

Your house is forsaken: **v. 35**

Strive to enter: **v. 24; Luke 13:24**; fighting the good fight: **1 Timothy 6:12; 2 Timothy 4:7**

Powerfully working out of His power source working in me: **Colossians 1:29**

The great piggy back race: two very different kinds of energies at work!

The great assembly from every tribe, tongue, nation: **Revelation 7:9**

All whom the great Shepherd carries through the narrow door: **Psalms 28:9, Isaiah 40:11; 46:4**;

The Narrow Door or The First Will Be Last

22 Then Jesus went through the towns and villages, teaching as he made his way to Jerusalem.

23 Someone asked him, “Lord, are only a few people going to be saved?”

He said to them, **24** “Make every effort to enter through the narrow door, because many, I tell you, will try to enter and will not be able to. **25** Once the owner of the house gets up and closes the door, you will stand outside knocking and pleading, ‘Sir, open the door for us.’

“But he will answer, ‘I don’t know you or where you come from.’

26 “Then you will say, ‘We ate and drank with you, and you taught in our streets.’

27 “But he will reply, ‘I don’t know you or where you come from. Away from me, all you evildoers!’

28 “There will be weeping there, and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, but you yourselves thrown out. **29** People will come from east and west and north and south, and will take their places at the feast in the kingdom of God. **30** Indeed there are those who are last who will be first, and first who will be last.”

31 At that time, some Pharisees came up and said to Jesus, “Get away from here, because Herod wants to kill you.” **32** But he said to them, “Go and tell that fox, ‘Look, I am casting out demons and performing healings today and tomorrow, and on the third day I will complete my work. **33** Nevertheless I must go on my way today and tomorrow and the next day, because it is impossible that a prophet should be killed outside Jerusalem.’ **34** O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those who are sent to you! How often I have longed to gather your children together as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you would have none of it! **35** Look, your house is forsaken! And I tell you, you will not see me until you say, *‘Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!’*”