FOLLOWING THE PATTERN

Lesson #3 -Entering the Church Scripture Reading: Matthew 7:21-23

Introduction:

- 1. The safest place to be during a tornado -in solid shelter
- 2. We must enter the church to have salvation for our souls.

I. THE IMPORTANCE OF "IN"

- A. CONSIDER SOME EXAMPLES:
 - 1. Noah and the ark -Ge 7:16
 - 2. The wise and foolish virgins -Mt 25:10

B. BLESSING FOUND WITHIN

- 1. All spiritual blessing -Ep 1:3
- 2. Salvation for our souls -2Ti 2:10
- 3. There are no spiritual blessings on the outside!

II. ONLY THROUGH JESUS

- A. THERE IS NO OTHER SAVIOR
 - 1. No one comes to the Father except through Jesus -Jn 14:6
 - 2. There is no other name for salvation -Ac 4:12
 - 3. There is no other Mediator -1Ti 2:5; 1Jn 2:2; He 4:15

B. THERE IS NO OTHER AUTHORITY

- 1. All authority belongs to Jesus -Mt 28:18
- 2. He is the head of the church -Ep 1:22, 23
- 3. He has preeminence over all things -Co 1:16-18

C. JESUS IS THE DOOR -Jn 10:7-9

- 1. All others are "thieves and robbers" -vs. 8
 - a. The sheep do not hear them
 - b. The true sheep of Jesus knows His voice -Jn 10:4, 5
- 2. We too must know the voice of our Savior
 - a. He has the words of eternal life -Jn 6:68
 - b. We must follow His words -Lk 6:46

III.<u>THE WAY IN</u>

- A. WE MUST FOLLOW THE STEPS OF SALVATION
- B. WE MUST CONTINUE TO GROW IN THE FAITH
 - 1. Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ -2Pe 3:17, 18
 - 2. Our labor is not in vain -1Co 15:58

Conclusion:

- 1. The safest place for us to be truly is in the Lord
- 2. When we read, study, and follow the Scriptures we know the way in.