

Only Two Ways

January 7, 2018 Matthew 7:13-14

1. Two ways
 - a. Why can it be said that there are only two ways? Why not three or more?

 - b. In your experience, why is the wide path and gate considered "easy"?

 - c. Why is the narrow way "hard"?

 - d. Read the story of the rich young man in Matt. 19:16-30. How does this story relate to our text?

2. Two Destinations
 - a. The text tells us that the wide path leads to destruction.
 - i. What does "destruction" look like in terms of what we can see in this life?

 - ii. What does "destruction" look like spiritually speaking?

 - b. What does the text mean when it says the narrow way leads to life?

 - c. Read Matt. 18:7-9.
 - i. Discuss how this passage relates to our text in Matt. 7.

 - ii. Are there sins in your life that are preventing you from abiding in the narrow way that leads to life?

3. Two groups of people
 - a. What are these two groups of people, and why do they choose one path or the other?

 - b. What can be said about these two groups of people in relation to what we learned in the Beatitudes (Matt 5:3-12)?

- c. Read Eph. 2:1-10. According to this text, what is the ultimate reason that you find yourself in one group of people or the other?

4. Application

- a. Take an honest look at the trajectory of your life. If you stay on the life-path you are currently on, what will the final destination be?

- b. What "easy" things in life are tripping you up and hindering you from abiding on the narrow path?

- c. What "hard" things in life are you neglecting to do?

- d. Finally, this is a sobering text and meditation to consider. Nevertheless, it is right and good to consider and evaluate your life in light of the sobering truth of Scripture. As you consider these things and see room for growth in your life, flip back a few verses and think on Matt. 7:7-11 again. As you see needs in your life, ask, seek, and knock for help. Most of all, rest in the goodness of God (7:11) as you face difficulty in the narrow way.