



SERMON ON THE **MOUNT**

**“The Way of Life
vs. The Way of Destruction”
Matthew 7:13-14**

¹³“Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the way is broad that leads to destruction, and there are many who enter through it. ¹⁴For the gate is narrow and the way is constricted that leads to life, and there are few who find it.

Matthew 7:13-14

Introduction

Near the end of the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus moves from teaching to decision.

For three chapters, Jesus has described what life in His kingdom looks like. Now He confronts His hearers with a choice.

Introduction

Jesus presents two gates, two roads, and two destinations.

**The question before every person is:
Which road am I on?**

1. The Narrow Gate That Must Be Entered

¹³“Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the way is broad that leads to destruction, and there are many who enter through it.

Matthew 7:13a

1. The Narrow Gate That Must Be Entered

The Command

“Enter by the narrow gate.”

This is not advice—it is a command.

The word enter implies:

- **urgency**
- **intentional choice**
- **personal responsibility**

1. The Narrow Gate That Must Be Entered

The Exclusivity of the Gate

The gate is narrow because not everything can pass through it.

You cannot enter carrying:

- **pride**
- **self-righteousness**
- **love of sin**
- **trust in your own goodness**

1. The Narrow Gate That Must Be Entered

Entrance requires:

- **repentance**
- **humility**
- **faith in Christ alone**

1. The Narrow Gate That Must Be Entered

John 14:6

“I am the way, and the truth, and the life.”

Acts 4:12

“There is salvation in no one else.”

The narrow gate is Christ Himself.

2. The Broad Road That Leads to Destruction

¹³“Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the way is broad that leads to destruction, and there are many who enter through it.

Matthew 7:13b

2. The Broad Road That Leads to Destruction

The Wide Gate

The wide gate places no demands on the sinner.

You can bring:

- **your pride**
- **your autonomy**
- **your self-rule**
- **your sin**

2. The Broad Road That Leads to Destruction

This represents the natural condition of fallen humanity.

Ephesians 2:1–3

¹And you were dead in your transgressions and sins, ²in which you formerly walked according to the course of this world, according to the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now working in the sons of disobedience, ³among whom we all also formerly conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, doing the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, even as the rest.

Ephesians 2:1-3

2. The Broad Road That Leads to Destruction

The Comfort of the Broad Road

The broad road is:

- **easy**
- **comfortable**
- **culturally accepted**
- **morally flexible**

2. The Broad Road That Leads to Destruction

The Comfort of the Broad Road

People on this road often:

- **follow cultural norms**
- **define their own morality**
- **resist Christ's authority**

2. The Broad Road That Leads to Destruction

Proverbs 14:12

“There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death.”

2. The Broad Road That Leads to Destruction

The Destination

Jesus says this road leads to destruction.

This means:

- **ruin**
- **judgment**
- **eternal separation from God**

2. The Broad Road That Leads to Destruction

**The Tragedy of the Crowd
“Many enter through it.”**

Most people choose the broad road because:

- **Sin feels natural**
- **Repentance feels costly**
- **Submission feels restrictive**

2. The Broad Road That Leads to Destruction

Scripture confirms this pattern:

- **Genesis 6**
- **Luke 13:23–24**
- **Matthew 22:14**

3. The Narrow Way That Leads to Life

¹⁴For the gate is narrow and the way is constricted that leads to life, and there are few who find it.

Matthew 7:14

3. The Narrow Way That Leads to Life

The Restrictive Gate

Entrance into the kingdom requires leaving things behind.

You cannot cling to:

- **self-rule**
- **cherished sin**
- **self-righteousness**
- **worldly identity**

3. The Narrow Way That Leads to Life

Jesus describes the attitude required:

Matthew 5:3

“Blessed are the poor in spirit.”

We enter empty-handed.

3. The Narrow Way That Leads to Life

The Difficult Road

The narrow road is hard.

The Christian life includes:

- **self-denial**
- **repentance**
- **perseverance**
- **opposition from the world**

3. The Narrow Way That Leads to Life

Matthew 16:24

“If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross.”

Acts 14:22

“Through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God.”

3. The Narrow Way That Leads to Life

The Glorious Destination

The narrow road leads to life.

Biblical life means:

- **reconciliation with God**
 - **spiritual renewal**
- **eternal life in Christ**

3. The Narrow Way That Leads to Life

John 10:10

“I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.”

3. The Narrow Way That Leads to Life

The Sobering Reality

“Few find it.”

Because of human sinfulness:

- **People do not naturally seek God**
- **Salvation requires God’s grace**

3. The Narrow Way That Leads to Life

Romans 3:11

“No one seeks for God.”

John 6:44

“No one can come to me unless the Father draws him.”

Conclusion

Jesus leaves us with a clear picture:

There are:

- **Two gates**
- **Two roads**
- **Two destinations**

There is no third option.

Conclusion

The broad road is:

- **easy**
- **popular**
- **culturally accepted**

But it leads to destruction.

Conclusion

The narrow road is:

- **difficult**
- **costly**
- **unpopular**

But it leads to life.

Conclusion

Today we must ask ourselves:

Not:

What road are most people on?

What road did my family walk?

What road do I hope I am on?

Conclusion

Today we must ask ourselves:

But:

What road am I on right now?

Conclusion

This gate is not:

- **a philosophy**
- **a religion**
- **self-improvement**

The gate is a person.

Conclusion

Jesus said:

John 10:9

“I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved.”

**When you surrender everything to Christ,
You gain life itself.**