

The Sermon on the Mount

Enter by the Narrow Gate; Matthew 7:13-14

The Danger of Deception

I. Self-deception

II. False teachers

Scripture Reading. Matthew 7:13-29

Matthew 7:13-14 “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. For the gate is small and the way is narrow that leads to life, and there are few who find it.”

II Corinthians 13:5 Test yourselves to see if you are in the faith; examine yourselves! Or do you not recognize this about yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you—unless indeed you fail the test?

Narrow Road versus broad road

Galilee region

Pic: Location of the Sermon in the Mount

Matthew 28:16 But the eleven disciples proceeded to Galilee, to the mountain which Jesus had designated.

Pic: Arbel

Matthew 7:13-14 “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. For the gate is small and the way is narrow that leads to life, and there are few who find it.”

Enter, Imperative Command (You must enter)

Enter What?

The Kingdom, Matthew 5:20, 6:33, 7:21

Matthew 5:20 “For I say to you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven.”

Matthew 6:33 “But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.”

Matthew 7:21 "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven will enter."

Why?

If you do not enter you are not saved
Metaphor for Salvation, Luke 13:22-29

Luke 13:22-29

How?

Those who acknowledge their spiritual bankruptcy, Matthew 5:3
Those who seek the kingdom of God, Matthew 6:33
Those who confess Jesus as Lord, Matthew 7:21
Those who do the will of the Father, Matthew 7:21
Those who follow life and teachings of Jesus is the will of the Father, Matthew 7:24-27

Only Two Ways

The Broad Road
Little effort required
Plenty of company
Plenty of false teacher to help keep you there
This road leads to destruction

The Narrow Gate
Seeking and pursuing this path
Few on the path
Discernment and careful selection of teachers
This path leads to life

Jesus Christ as the gate and the way, John 10:9

John 10:9

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Quote from Bunyan.

"Then I saw that there was a way to hell even from the very gates of heaven."

