

Sermon on the Mount Series  
"It's Your Choice..."  
The Narrow Gate or the Wide Gate"

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Note: Unless otherwise indicated, all Scriptures are from the NKJV Bible.

Matthew 7:13-14 "Enter by the narrow gate; for wide *is* the gate and broad *is* the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. Because narrow *is* the gate and difficult *is* the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it."

## **The Kingdom of God**

### **A Spiritual Kingdom**

John 18:36 "Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, My servants would fight, so that I should not be delivered to the Jews; but now My kingdom is not from here."

Romans 14:17 "For the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit."

The Kingdom = The Kings Domain = The King Rules

Revelation 17:14 "These will make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb will overcome them, for He is Lord of lords and King of kings; and those who are with Him are called, chosen, and faithful."

Jesus is giving an exhortation to all who would enter into the Kingdom of God.

### **The Narrow Way and The Wide Way**

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A. The entrance into the Kingdom is a "narrow" one and leads to life.

- It requires self-denial and obedience.

Matthew 16:24 "Then Jesus said to His disciples, 'If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me.'"

B. The entrance into what leads to destruction is wide.

- It allows people to enter with no sacrifice on their part.

### **Expose the Works of Darkness.**

Ephesians 5:11 "And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose them."

### **Avoid Wicked Customs.**

Deuteronomy 18:9-15 “When you come into the land which the Lord your God is giving you, you shall not learn to follow the abominations of those nations. **There shall not be found among you anyone** who makes his son or his daughter pass through the fire, or one who practices witchcraft, or a soothsayer, or one who interprets omens, or a sorcerer, or one who conjures spells, or a medium, or a spiritist, or one who calls up the dead. For all who do these things are an abomination to the Lord, and because of these abominations the Lord your God drives them out from before you. **You shall be blameless before the Lord your God.** For these nations which you will dispossess listened to soothsayers and diviners; but as for you, the Lord your God has not appointed such for you.”

### **We are Not Ignorant of Satan’s Devices.**

2 Corinthians 2:11 “...lest Satan should take advantage of us; for we are not ignorant of his devices.”

### **Spiritual Battle**

Ephesians 6:10-13 “Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.”

Joshua 24:15 “And if it seems evil to you to serve the Lord, choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.”

John 10:10-11 “The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly. I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep.”