

The Narrow Way Matthew 7:13-14

I. The Road to Destruction

Revelation 17:8; 19:20; 20:10-15
Matthew 25:31-33, 41, 46a

1. It has a wide gate.

2. It is a broad way.

The Greek word translated *broad* [*eurúchōros*] pertains “to having ample room, [to being] *broad, spacious, [or] roomy*” and can be used of “a large room ... in which one can live comfortably and unmolested” (BAGD3 #3290, BibleWorks). Such is the road about which Jesus speaks.

Judges 21:25

3. It has many travelers.

Proverbs 16:25

II. The Road to Life

Matthew 25:31-34, 41, 46

1. It has a narrow gate.

Numbers 22:26
John 10:9; 14:6
Acts 4:12

2. It is a difficult way.

The Greek word translated *difficult* here is *thlibō* [verb, Perf. Pass. Part.], which “strictly [means to] *press, [to] rub together; hence [to] compress, [or to] make narrow.*” Thus, a leading Greek lexicon suggests that this passage be translated “literally *restricted is the road that leads to life, i.e. in order to receive eternal life, one must live as God requires*” (Friberg #13706, BibleWorks). This word also often means “figuratively [to] *afflict, oppress, cause trouble to*” or to “*experience hardship, be afflicted*” (passive).

John 16:33
Acts 14:21-22

3. It has few travelers.