The Narrow Way

Jared Bollman · Matthew 7:13–14

INTRODUCTION

- 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.
- That word straight means strict or stringent. It means carefully defined and carefully controlled.
- It's an invitation to hear and to do and to avoid destruction.

1 Keep Your Path True

Proverbs 16:25; Proverbs 4:20–27

- If we're going to keep ourselves on the narrow way, the path of righteousness, we're going to have to commit ourselves to keeping our path true.
- Truth is never subjective. Truth is a standard. Truth is the opposite of lie.
- There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death.
- Man left up to his own facts and his own truth and his own wishes and his own desires is always going to fall short.
- You cannot walk a righteous path if you start with something less than the truth.
- Watch the path of your feet, and all your ways will be established. Do not turn to the right nor the left.

2 Keep Your Heart Pure

Proverbs 4:23; Matthew 5

- If we're going to walk the narrow way, we're going to have to learn the lesson that we have to keep a pure heart.
- It doesn't matter how compassionate we are. Ungodliness is ungodliness.
- If there's a clarion call that needs to be made for this generation, it's get back to purity in heart.
- Watch over your heart with all diligence. For from it flow the springs of life.
- You cannot serve righteously with impure motives.

3 Keep Your Eyes Fixed

Matthew 6:22–23; Matthew 5:27–30; Proverbs 4

- The eye is the lamp of the body. So then if your eye is clear, your whole body will be full of light.
- Godliness begins and sometimes ends with controlling what we put before our eyes.
- We have to learn to avert our gaze from the things that we covet.
- Covetousness begins with a heart that is not inclined to be satisfied with those things that God has already set before it.
- I made a covenant with my eyes not to look on such things.

- You cannot look to eternity if distracted by concerns and lesser things.

4 Keep Your Brethren in Love

James 1:27; Matthew 7:12; Matthew 22

- Pure and undefiled religion before God and the Father is this to visit widows and orphans in their afflictions and keep oneself unspotted from the world.
- Treat people the same way you want them to treat you. For this is the law of prophets.
- He intended for us to be used in service to each other and in service to those that are around us.
- There's no such thing as a path of righteousness that brings evil to our brothers and sisters.
- You cannot keep a true path. Your heart is truly not pure, and your eyes are fixed on something lesser if your concern is not brotherly love.
- Being pure and undefiled begins with getting outside of self.

THE CHALLENGE

Don't go into eternity regretting the choice to walk a more trodden path. Get back on the narrower way.

MY NOTES