

Two Ways

In Matthew 7:13-14 Jesus spoke of **two ways**, the broad way and the straitened (walled, confined, compressed, constricted) way. The broad way is entered by a wide gate and leads to destruction. The straitened way is entered by a narrow gate and leads to life. He exhorted His listeners, *"Enter ye in by the narrow gate."* He also revealed this disturbing information: **Many** will enter the wide gate and follow the broad way, but few will find the narrow gate and follow the straitened way. Throughout human history this has been the case, because most prefer to live as they please. Friends, take warning; every accountable person on earth is walking in one way or the other. Which way are you in?

Examples, Good & Bad

In the light of the preceding it is obvious that there are always far more bad examples than good examples among people. The bad examples should be avoided (Matt. 23:3b), and the good examples should be emulated (1 Cor. 11:1). But many are young, naive, gullible, easily influenced, with limited experience and little wisdom, and these have a difficult time determining whether someone who has a lot of influence over them is a good example or a bad example (please read Prov. 7:6-23; Gal. 2:13; Heb. 5:11-14). That is precisely why we need to listen to God as He speaks to us in His revealed word, the Bible. In His word He has identified for us numerous examples, both good and bad, over a span of more than 4,000 years. He shows us how their lives turned out; He presents the consequences to which their lives led. And He who alone can see the end from **the beginning** (Prov. 14:12), who knows the consequences of every choice we make, of every course we choose to follow, has told us what He wants us to believe, to do and to be. Let us be wise enough to listen.

Be Choosy

There are so many who take marriage lightly, and so few who take it seriously; therefore, "let the buyer beware." Marriage was originated by God, is monogamous, involves a man and woman (never two men or two women), and is to last as long as each partner lives. (Please read Gen. 2:18-24; Matt. 19:3-9; Rom. 7:2-3.) All the world's philosophers, sociologists, learned men, and legislative bodies cannot change any of this. But only a few believe it and are willing to abide by it. The vast majority are either ignorant of it or unwilling to accept it. In every state of our own United States of America it is easy to dissolve one marriage and to enter into another. May I say to all of you who have never been married: Be particular, be very choosy in regard to whom you date, court and marry (it is a good rule to never date anyone you would be unwilling to marry). Don't even consider a person who does not believe in the sanctity and longevity of marriage. Life is too short and eternity is too long for you to mess up your life and your soul over a marriage that turns out to be a tragic mistake. What is worse than never being married? Being in an unhappy or unscriptural marriage. You not only have the right; you have the obligation to be very choosy in regard to whom you marry.

Evidence Of Pardon

In Mark 5:29 the woman who suffered from hemorrhaging for twelve years *"felt in her body that she was healed of the plague"* (surely all of those who were healed of physical ailments "felt" healed). Many think that that is also what happens when one is saved from sin -- he will "feel" it in his physical body. Many testify of some physical feeling and appeal to it as proof that they have been saved. But where does the Bible teach any such thing? Where is even one example of such? "The eunuch in Acts 8," you say? How so? "Well, he went on his way rejoicing." Yes he did, but he went on his way rejoicing because he had been saved. His rejoicing was not the proof of his salvation, but the result of it. Please read the whole story in Acts 8:26-39.