The Two Ways

Matthew 7:13-14

Intro:

A. The concept of a “way” is often seen in the Bible.
   1. It is used to illustrate one’s destiny.
   2. Jeremiah 221:8 - “And unto this people thou shalt say, Thus saith the Lord: Behold, I set before you the way of life, and the way of death.”

B. God has a “way”.
   1. Psalm 86:11 - “...Teach me thy way, O Lord: I will walk in thy truth: Unite my heart to fear thy name.”
   2. Psalm 128:1 - “Blessed is every one that feareth the Lord; that walketh in his ways.”

C. God’s way is a good way.
   1. Jeremiah 6:16 - Thus saith the Lord, stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein...”
   2. Psalm 18:30 - “As for God, his way is perfect: the word of the Lord is tried: He is a buckler to all those that trust him.”

I. The Way To Destruction.

A. “Enter ye in at the strait gate:” v.13
   1. enter = εἰσερχομαι = “to come or go into”.
   2. strait = στενός = “narrow”
   3. There are two ways, entered by two gates.

B. “…for wide is the gate”
   1. wide = πλατύς = “broad, wide.”
   2. gate = πύλη = “one wing of a pair of double gates, in plural, the gates of a city.”

C. “…and broad is the way...”
   1. broad = συρυχωρός = “roomy”, “spacious”
   2. way = οδός = “a highway”, “a road”

D. “that leadeth to destruction...”
1. leadeth = απαγω = “to lead away”, “conduct away”
2. destruction = απωλεια = “waste”, “ruin”, “death, esp. by violence, perdition.”

E. “…and many there be which go in thereat:”
   1. “and many are those entering through it.” - Ber
   2. “and there are many people going that way” - Phi

II. The Way That Leads To Life.

A. “Because, strait is the gate…” v.14
   1. strait = στενος = “narrow”
   2. gate = “a gate”, “the gates of a town”

B. “…and narrow is the way…”
   1. narrow = θλιβω = “to press”, “compressed”
   2. way = οδος = “highway,” “road”

C. “which leadeth unto life…”
   1. leadeth = απαγω = “to lead away,” “conduct”
   2. life = ζωη = “life”, “to breath”

D. “…and few there be that find it.”
   1. few = ολιγος = little, few in number.
   2. find = ευρισκω = to find out, discover.

E. Jesus is the way.
   1. John 14:6 – I am the way, the truth…”
   2. Acts 4:12 – “Neither is there salvation…”