



“The Straight & Narrow” Wed Aug 23, 2023

I. **Matthew 7:13-14**

A. Straight & Narrow or Wide & Broad

1. Remember the words of Jesus... *“Many are called, but only few are chosen.”*
 - * Chosen means “separate” or “set apart”.
 - * Chosen (in this world) means “different” (it’s ok to be different....because God’s definition of different is happy).
2. One path is easy to see...and the other, you must seek diligently to find.
3. On one path, there is a multitude of people....they are just following the crowd; and the other path...people have purpose and identity.

B. **How to Determine which path you are on**

1. Are you happy? (**Psalm 1:1-4**....Blessed...the ungodly are not so).
2. What does your circle of friends look like? (few or many).
3. What does your speech look like? (narrow-path people speak differently).
4. Your character will be of a different nature...a Godly nature...instead of a sin nature (in other words, you behave in a way that is honest and moral).
5. No compromise (If you are constantly wavering from one thing to the next, you already know which path you are on).

C. The Choice is Yours

1. There are only 2 choices....so how hard can it really be?
2. **Deuteronomy 30:19** *“Life and Death....Choose Life!”*

II. Stay the Course

A. **Luke 21:25-28**

1. The Failing heart – Heart disease has been the leading cause of death in the US since 1950....(hearts failing them – to breathe out or faint).
2. The “Fixed” Heart (**Psalm 57:7, Psalm 108:1, Psalm 112:7** / fixed – steadfast, ready, and established).

B. **Revelation 3:10-11**

1. **Hold Fast – Seize, Retain, or Keep**
2. **Proverbs 4:25-27**
3. *“Don’t be troubled by the enemy’s distractions and plans; keep your eyes on Me...this is how you overcome...this is how you stand.”*