

Identifying the Pilgrim along the Road

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I. Introduction.

A. Text: Matthew 7:13-14.

B. There are only two ways available to man.

1. One is narrow and one is wide.

2. They have different destinations. One leads to life.

II. The narrow road is not for everyone. (Isaiah 35:8-9)

A. The narrow road is only for the redeemed.

B. The grace of God manifested in Jesus is free but not cheap.

C. The grace of God will cost us our life.

III. The narrow road is the way of holiness.

A. The righteousness we receive is imputed through Jesus, but God also intends for us to have experiential righteousness. (Hebrews 12:14; 1 Thessalonians 4:7; 1 Peter 1:15-16; 2 Corinthians 7:1; 1 Peter 2:9; Titus 2:14)

B. There is a difference between the divine nature and Christian character.

1. Divine nature is given to us when we receive Jesus Christ. (2 Peter 1:4)

2. Christian character is a matter of growth. (Luke 2:52; Hebrews 5:8)

3. God uses trial and testing to grow us.

a. Look at it with a positive attitude.

b. Ask God for wisdom to know what to do about it. (James 1:5)

c. Ask God for the ability to endure.

III. Those traveling on the narrow road have the banner of love.

A. Love is the law of the road we travel. (Song of Solomon 2:4; James 2:8; Romans 13:10)

B. The banner of love is a free gift from Jesus. (Romans 5:5)

IV. Those traveling on the narrow road have unity and open-hearted honesty with God and one another.

(Romans 15:5-6; Ephesians 4:1-3; 2 Corinthians 3:18; Acts 4:13)

V. Those traveling on the narrow road have a different fragrance about them. The fragrance is the fragrance of Christ. (2 Corinthians 2:14-16)

VI. Those traveling on the narrow road wear the right uniform. We are clothed with the garments of salvation and the robes of righteousness. (Matthew 22; Isaiah 61:10)

VII. We cannot travel on both roads.

A. To get on the right road recognize your need, be willing to suit up, realize that Jesus purchased that uniform for you and ask Christ into your life as an act of your will—be born again.

Application questions

1. What is the narrow road?

2. How does the narrow road change our perspective on suffering?

3. How can we get on the narrow road?
