

- 
- Life

## Psalm 1, a case study

### Walking the narrow road to life:

*Psalm 1:1 Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers,*

*<sup>2</sup> but his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night.*

*<sup>3</sup> He is like a tree planted by streams of water, that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers.*

### Walking the wide road to destruction:

*Psalm 1:4 The wicked are not so but are like chaff which the wind drives away.*

*<sup>5</sup> Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;*

*<sup>6</sup> for the Lord knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.*

Key: Page 2: God;

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## The Narrow Road

### The Narrow Road – Part 1

January 5, 2025

### Pilgrim's Progress

*Matthew 7:13 "Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. <sup>14</sup> But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it."*

### The two roads

- **The roads' description**

#### Road #1: the broad road; the wide gate

*Matt. 7:13... For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction*

*Isaiah 53:6 All we like sheep have gone astray. We have turned, each of us, to **our own way**, and the Lord has laid upon him the sin of us all.*

#### Road #2: the narrow road; the small gate

*Matt. 7:14 ... But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it.*

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- **The roads' nature**

*Matthew 7:13 "Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. <sup>14</sup> But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it."*

■ We either will live a God-centered life or a self-centered life. ■

■ *Mark 8:34 Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>35</sup> For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me and for the gospel will save it. <sup>36</sup> What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? <sup>37</sup> Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul?"* ■

- • **The roads' choices** ■

*Matthew 7:13 "Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. <sup>14</sup> But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it."*

■ On the wide road: ■

1. The danger is not apparent,
  2. The consequences are not immediate but far off,
  3. The naïve belief that this danger could never happen me,
  4. It appears easy,
  5. "Everybody's" going this way,
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6. It's the popular road,
  7. It produces immediate gratification,
  8. It "makes sense" to me
  9. We think we know better—than Jesus Christ!
  10. Ultimately, my desires are the real driver.

■ **How the bible describe man's failings...** ■

*Genesis 6:12 God saw how corrupt the earth had become, for all the people on earth had corrupted their ways.*

*Proverbs 12:15 The way of fools seems right to them, but the wise listen to advice.*

■ *Proverbs 1:7 The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction.* ■

*Ephesians 4:22 You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires;*

■ **2 predictable and certain outcomes** ■

- **Destruction**

■ *Matt. 7:13 ...For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. <sup>14</sup> But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life...* ■

*Matt. 7:13...broad is the road that leads to destruction...*

The danger is not immediately apparent.

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