THE MYSTERY OF THE NARROW WAY

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Oluwatobi S. Adewuyi
Coordinator

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God bless you!

Topic:
THE MYSTERY OF THE NARROW WAY
Bible Text: Matthew 7:13-14

Prayer
Dear Lord we thank you for this moment we thank for your love and grace. I pray that you open our eyes during this study such that your body can be edified In Jesus name I have prayed. Amen

Bible text: **Matthew 7:13** - Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat:
Matthew 7:14 - Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.

Introduction
Today's study is an heart cry from the Spirit of the living God, as such God wants us to humble ourselves before Him as we take every bit of it into our spirits. Let's take this seriously as the day is fast approaching.

Study
"Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it." (**Matthew 7:13–14 KJV)**

Praise the Lord. Enter by the narrow gate. I know that many of us must understand what it means by **narrow**. When they say something is narrow, it means that the thing can hardly accept the passage of another thing. And if it will accept the passage of other things, it depends on the size. If we have a door and that door is not up to three inches in width, and something that is as

big as six inches wants to enter through that door, will it be possible for it to pass through that door? It will not. It will be impossible. So the gate to the kingdom of God, the gate to that celestial city, the holy city, is not a wide gate. It is a narrow gate. Jesus Christ Himself is the One speaking here. From this, the Lord Jesus Christ made mention of two types of gates. He said the other gate is broad. Broad is the way that leads to destruction. So there is a way to know the kind of gate or the kind of way that we are passing through. If there is a way you are walking in, and that way is only walked by few, walked by a very small number of people, then that is the narrow way. But when you see a way that thousands of people are walking in it, millions of people are walking in it conveniently, then that is not the narrow way. That is the wide way.

Look at what the Lord Jesus Christ said here. He said, "For wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction." So this means that the gate that leads to destruction is very big, that it can accommodate more than one person or more than two people at a time. It can accommodate them. So three, five people can move through that gate without any obstruction. It does not matter the loads, the baggages, the luggages that a man carries; to pass through that gate would be possible for the person, unlike the narrow gate. So the first thing the Lord Jesus Christ told us here is that we should enter in by the narrow gate. After that, He began to tell us how to recognize both gates.

The truth is that in the realm of the spirit, everybody on earth is passing through one way or the other. The thing is, there is nobody on earth that will claim that he or she is not passing through one specific way. It is not possible. No matter who you are on this earth, you are currently passing through a particular way. So it is left for you to identify the way you are passing through, if it is the broad way or the narrow way. And how you

can know where you are passing through is through what the Lord Jesus Christ said here. He told us about the distinctions about these two ways. Look at what the Lord said here: **"Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it."** Can you see that? So Jesus is saying that the gate that you enter in through into the kingdom of God is narrow. And the way is difficult. Now do you know why the gate is narrow? I'll tell you one of the reasons the gate is narrow. One of the reasons the gate is narrow is because it is only one gate. And how is it only one gate? The gate through which a person will enter into the kingdom of God is only through the Lord Jesus Christ.

So whoever wants to enter the kingdom of God must enter through that one gate. **John 10:9 KJV** I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture. When you have a particular door—probably there is only one door that leads into the city, just one small door that leads to the city—and everybody wants to pass through that door, then it will be difficult for somebody. It's not easy for everybody to just pass through that door at once. It's not easy. So it will take patience. It will take serious caution, struggles and perseverance. Another reason it is not easy to pass through, is that it is narrow, is because God wants to cut off some excesses. He does not want some things to pass through that gate. So Jesus Christ our God would always want to cut some things off. The Lord wants to make sure that it is only those who are qualified that will enter in.

Is someone with me?

So the Lord is saying in **verse 14,** "Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it." Therefore, what is the Lord telling us? He's telling us that

this gate is so narrow that it can only contain one person at a time. So if you have anything extra that you are carrying along, you can't pass through that narrow gate because it is very, very narrow. And the Lord Jesus Christ now says something that is striking, that many people do not want to accept today. And it is that "**narrow is the way**." The way to the kingdom of God is not an easy route as many people think it is. When you tell people that the way to the kingdom of God requires total seriousness, they do not want to accept it. It does not accommodate any form of unseriousness. It does not accommodate it. That is the way to the kingdom of God. It does not accommodate any form of laziness or lack of focus. Anybody that will make it to heaven, such a person must be determined.

So Jesus said that the way is difficult. Then how did we now get to the position that makes many people now say that Jesus Christ is not that wicked, that He would now send someone to hell? They begin to say different kinds of things, that God is not as people think, that once you are saved you are forever saved. They claim that when you are saved, all you need to do is to believe on Jesus Christ. And after you have believed on the Lord Jesus Christ you can continue to commit sin because Jesus Christ has forgiven you of the sin that you sinned before you came to him, and the one you sinned after you came to him, and even the sin that you will sin in the future, he has forgiven you of everything.

So when you come to Christ, after you have accepted Him, you have believed on him, the next thing you can just do is to rely on His grace. And once you rely on His grace, even if you sin, you don't have any problem, you don't even need to ask for forgiveness—you'll make it to heaven. Now if that is it, then the way is not difficult. What is difficult in me believing on Jesus and confessing the Lord as my Saviour, and I should now continue to

walk in the ways I used to walk before and be enjoying myself in sin? Then what's difficult in that? There's nothing difficult in that. So it means that the way to the kingdom of God is easy. That's just it. But Jesus Christ said, the way is difficult. That is what many people are shying away from. If anybody must enter into the kingdom of God, such a person must be ready to enter by the narrow gate. Do you want to make it to the kingdom of God? Then enter by the narrow gate. You see, there are many things that will not make many people to enter in by the narrow gate and Jesus Christ made it clear. He said the narrow gate needs striving. That is, you must strive to enter into it. Striving is not something you do without struggle. It is struggle. Striving means struggle. So it is not something that will come easy. It does not come on a platter of gold. No. It is struggle.

Because even the flesh wars against the spirit, and the spirit against the flesh. So because the two of them are at loggerheads, the flesh will be struggling to capture you. The Spirit also is struggling to capture you. So in that time, you are in a hedge. You should know it is not something that is easy. When you begin to walk on the narrow way, you'd begin to see that it's not easy to pray, it's not easy to fast, it's not easy to read the Word of God, it's not easy to do some things, that's because the gate is narrow, and the way is difficult. So because of that, you too will put in your best, asking for the grace of God to help you. And you begin to put in your best to say that, no, I must walk on this narrow way. I must.

Luke 13:24 (KJV) – "Strive to enter in at the strait gate: for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able." The scriptures says, "Ye have not yet resisted unto blood, striving against sin" (**Hebrews 12:4 KJV**). So you see, it is a matter of striving. It is a matter of struggle. You must struggle. You will struggle with sin and say, "**No, I will resist you. I will resist**

you."Yes, the Lord has given us power to overcome. Yes, He has given us power to be free—He has given us that dominion over sin. But sin will not leave you just like that. As a matter of fact, there is nobody on earth that sin will just leave like that and say, "**Ah, you have given your life to Jesus Christ, bye-bye, I'm no longer coming."** It's a lie. In this flesh, sin will always want to find its way into your life. So it is now left for you to struggle. Striving— **"Ye have not yet resisted unto blood, striving against sin."** Striving against sin is something that is continuous. And why is it continuous? It is continuous because it is what you must do to pass through the narrow gate and walk on that difficult way.

So the Lord said, "Strive to enter through the narrow gate: for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able." He said many, I say unto you—many, not a few. Many will seek to enter and will not be able. He did not say many will seek to enter and they will be able; He said they will not be able to enter. So if you want to enter into that narrow gate, you want to pass through that difficult way, then you must be ready. You must be ready to struggle. You must be ready to strive. You must be ready to strive if you would enter into that glorious city.

It is not a play matter. It is not something you can do under spiritual lukewarmness or laziness. It is something that you must have made up your mind to do. Yes, you must have made up your mind. And there are times that you just feel down—it does happen. Spiritually, you just feel like, **"Ah, what's wrong with me spiritually? I don't know what's wrong with me."** That time that you feel down, just be asking for grace: "**Strengthen me. I request for your grace. Jesus, strengthen me."** Just focus on Jesus at that time.

Are you with me?

Say, "**Jesus, strengthen me."** Just focus on Jesus at that time: "**Strengthen me at this moment."** Because the devil is always on the lookout to see that we miss it. So you must what? You must understand that the way to the kingdom of God is narrow, it is difficult. So if that way is difficult and it is narrow, many will not be able to enter through it. Then look around you. What is that way that many people are passing through? What is that way that only few people—that you see as children of God—are passing through?

In their speech, what do you see? What do you observe? In the speech of the few people that say they are saved, those few people... because in this world, if you look at the numbers of those who say they are saved, and you can see it in their lives, compared with those who say they are saved but you cannot see it in their lives, you will see that the numbers are very different. The margin between them is very wide. Now, there are those who say they are saved, but they are not different from those in the world. They walk in the ways of those in the world, and yet they say they are born again, they are confused and on their way to destruction, because they are walking in the way that many people are walking in, which is the broad way.

Jesus Christ said that the way is broad. He said, "Broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat" (**Matthew 7:13 KJV**). So if you sit down and begin to think, "**How many people in this world... how many people in this world?**" Okay, let us use some examples now. How many ladies in this world do not use attachments? Look at the number of those who are using attachments compared with those who are not using them when the Lord commands that women should be natural the way He created them. Now compare the number. If the number of those who are using attachments is more than those who are not, you know that is the broad way. Now this is

part of how you will be able to identify the way that is broad—from the world. Because the way that is broad is a convenient way. It can accept anything. It can accept painting of the face. Look at the world: how many people don't paint their faces? It is because it is the broad way. Because it is wide, it can accept many at a time. So Jesus is telling you and I that if we want to enter into His kingdom, we cannot pass through that broad way. We must now begin to look at it carefully. Today, look at the world. How many ladies don't wear trousers? Look at the world carefully and see that many of them are now doing that.

You'd see that the way is walked by many; it is a broad way. That is how to recognize it. Today, how many men don't drink, and don't smoke? Look into the world and begin to compare. How many men? If you see a man that says he does not smoke or does not drink, it is very few. Now you see that that is one of the activities of the broad way. So men are passing through that broad way because of their activities—what they do. Now today, how many people don't watch pornography? Look at the world today. In fact, the other day I saw on the Internet, and I saw the number of people who were watching pornography, all these pornographic sites and these things.

And I saw about five billion people. I was shocked—about five billion or even more than five billion in the world. Look at how many people are on their way to hell. Just look at it. So the broad way is wide enough to accept anything. It can accept worldliness. It can accept the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life. It can accept just anything. How many people are living in malice? How many people are living in envy? Look at it. How many people are living in unforgiveness? That's why the Bible says, "For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would" (**Galatians**

5:17 KJV). So those people who are carried away by the flesh will never yield to the dictates of the Spirit. And as such, they will continue to pass through the broad way, and there are many. There are those who are saved, and still want to enter by the narrow gate, yet they will not be able to enter. Apostle Paul listen some of the things that will make it impossible to pass through the narrow gate in **Galatians 5:19-21**

The reason some Christians will not be able to enter is because they did not strive. They were saved, but they did not strive. They did not struggle to do away with those things that would stop them from entering. Those things that make them look like the world, that make them behave like the world, that make them dress and think like the other many that are passing through the broad way. Truly, they are on the narrow way, which is difficult, but they refuse to recognize that it is difficult and begin to amend their ways and search their lives to see that they are able to pass through that narrow gate. So by that, they will not be able to enter.

May sin not push you out of that narrow gate in Jesus Christ's name

Yes, many will not be able to enter because they refuse to do the things that are expected of them to do at the right time. Although they recognize Jesus as Lord and Saviour, they will not enter. May it not be our portion in Jesus' name. So what is the Lord telling us now? The Lord is telling us that we should enter by the narrow gate. We should enter by the narrow gate and leave the gate that is broad. We should leave that broad way. We should leave it. We should understand that the narrow gate is narrow. It requires serious daily struggle. Struggle.Yes. Struggle with sin is required. It requires it every day. You cannot say, "Yesterday I lived a holy life; today I think let me suspend it." No! We should

continue to live a sin free life. We must continue to enforce it. There are times that you may feel down, maybe you are beginning to sleep spiritually, or you just feel that your spiritual life is not the way it used to be. What do you do at that time? You go into retreat. You go and stay with God. Say, "Jesus, I'm missing it. I don't want to hold on to this broad way. Bring me back into this narrow way." Then Jesus tries to drag you back. So it is not something that is easy that you can do by the power of the flesh. It's only something you can do by the Spirit of God. Yes. So when you bring God into the equation, He strengthens you. So let Jesus Christ be the source of your strength. Release yourself to Him. Release yourself to Him and He will help. Jesus Christ is always available. He's always ready to strengthen us, because He knows that we are in this world.

That's why the Bible says, "For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin" (**Hebrews 4:15 KJV**). So He has passed through what we are passing through. He knows it. He experienced it. So He understands what we are passing through. That struggle with immorality, He knows. That struggle with lust, He knows. That struggle with anger, He knows. That struggle with all these flashy things of this world, He knows. And He's ready to help—only if we too are ready. So it requires a joint, a collaborative effort.

To walk on that narrow way, remember that there's nothing you carry that is extra—no extra luggage of sin, no extra luggage of the world—that will pass through the narrow gate.It is too narrow to accept both you and your extra load. So you either drop it and pass, or you go through the broadway. So it's either drop it and struggle to pass, or you just follow the wide way without complaint. We will not pass through the wide way in the name of Jesus. Jesus Christ said the wide way leads to

destruction. That means many people are on their way to destruction. So you cannot compare yourself with others. The moment you begin to compare yourself with others, with the many who are on their way to destruction, it means there's a problem somewhere. Stop the evil comparison. Stop it. Stop comparing yourself with others. You should not lose your soul because of the temporal things they call enjoyment in this world. You cannot just lose your soul because of it. That's why you must be focused. You must concentrate on this heavenly race. And I pray that as you focus, you will not lose focus on this heavenly race in the name of Jesus.

Praise the Lord. I'd like you to bow down your heads now and tell the Lord, "Father, is there anything in my life that is making me pass through the broad way? Father, remove it from my life in the name of Jesus. Do I have any luggage of sin? Do I have any extra luggage in my life? Do I have any extra baggage in my life? Do I have any extra load in my life that is making me walk in the pathway of destruction? Jesus, remove it from my life in the name of Jesus."

Tell Jesus to remove it from your life—anything that is in your life that is making you walk in the broad way. Say, "Jesus, remove it from my life now in the name of Jesus. I want to walk into the narrow gate. I know now that the way is narrow, it is difficult. Jesus, help me. I want to walk through that difficult way so I can have eternal life, so that I can reign with You in eternity. Jesus, help me." Touch Jesus now. Touch Jesus and He will help you, that you walk through that narrow gate and that difficult way and make it to the kingdom of God to enjoy for eternity.

We have come to the end of this teaching, have a lovely day.

Invitation

If you know that you are still living in sin and you are ready to repent and begin to live your life in strict obedience to God so that you can overcome every sin in your life to make heaven, please place your right hand on your chest and say this prayer with your mouth.

Say,

"Lord Jesus, I accept You as my personal Lord and Savior. I believe that You died for me and took away my sins so that I will not face the penalty of them. I surrender my life to You today, and I make a decision to obey and follow You. Come into my life now and accept me as Your child. Thank You for saving me, in Jesus Christ's name I pray, Amen."

Congratulations, now you are saved. If you prayed this short prayer, please WhatsApp **+2347067511039** and let me know that you have just been saved. I want to have a word with you. God bless you!

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