

The Right Path



**“There is a way that seems right to a man,
But its end is the way of death.”
(Proverbs 14:12)**

On a visit to another island, I wanted to have my usual morning walks, but was unsure of which way I should go. My host suggested a couple of options, but then told me of one particular path that would bring me right back to the house. On my first walk, I started up that path to return to the house, but as I went, I began to have some doubts as to whether this was truly the way. There was a small tree fallen across the path and as I continued, the path got narrower and darker and almost seemed to disappear, so I turned around and went back the way I had come.

When I mentioned this to my host, he confirmed that, yes, the path got narrower and looked a bit gloomy, but he assured me that it led right back to the house, that it was safe, and that it was shorter than the other way I had taken.

The next day I tried it again, boosted by my host's reassurances. I passed the fallen tree a little more confidently this time and proceeded along the narrowing, darkening path. Not too far along, there was another path that turned off this narrow one. It was wider and brighter and clear to see. "I wonder if I need to turn off here to get back to the house," I thought. But as I tried to remember my host's directions, I couldn't recall him saying that I needed to

turn off the path; he just said that this path would bring me back to the house.

So I continued on with a bit of trepidation because the path was becoming even narrower and darker. To my pleasant surprise, however, no sooner had I passed that turn off than there was a familiar tree laden with fruits within my reach. I picked and ate and filled my pockets, and as I continued there was yet another, with fruits even more accessible. Not long after these fruit trees, the path began to widen and clear, and I reached the end of it, just in front of the house, as my host had promised.

The Lord Jesus, in Matthew 7:13-14, mentions two paths or ways. There is the broad way with the wide gate where many go, but it leads to destruction. Then there is the strait (confined, narrow) way with the narrow gate that leads to life. The Lord's sad comment is "there are few who find it." This is the only way to heaven, however, because this narrow way is the Lord Jesus Himself who says: "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me" (John 14:6). There is no one else, there is no other way.

Now the path on which He leads us is certainly not alluring with the pleasures of this world. That seemingly bright and merry, broad path leads only to death. The path on which the Lord Jesus leads may seem at times too narrow, too restricting; it may seem dark and gloomy as we face life's trials and challenges, but oh, what pleasurable fruit He causes us to enjoy as He "loads us with His benefits" (Ps 68:19) and fills us with the enjoyment of Himself!

So which path are you on? The broad path filled with earthly pleasures is the **wrong** way. Get on the **right** path. The right path leads directly to the Father's house. Come to the Lord Jesus, accept Him as your Saviour and Lord. He will make sure that you get home to heaven safely (John 14:1-2).

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