

## NARROW WAY

In our culture, we want everything quick and easy. This fights biblical reality, which indicates we are living in the midst of a war and, as a result, must often fight spiritual battles to move on to where God wants to take us.

Some trying to appeal to what pleases people, rather than what pleases God, are teaching a different gospel. In hopes of getting and keeping people so they can have a large ministry or church, they will tell people only what they want to hear. This sounds like what is described in Second Timothy about the last days:

2 Timothy 4:3

*“For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but {wanting} to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires;”*

This type of teaching is a gospel of the broad way as opposed to the gospel Jesus preached – a gospel of the narrow way:

Matthew 7:13-14

*“Enter by the narrow gate; for the gate is wide, and the way is broad that leads to destruction, and many are those who enter by it.*

*For the gate is small, and the way is narrow that leads to life, and few are those who find it.”*

The word narrow (verse 14) has a different meaning from the same English word narrow in the previous verse. This word in Greek means to press hard because of persecution and affliction. So, the way to life is hard and not easy, and we must count the cost if we are going to walk like Him (Luke 14: 26-35).

Matthew 10:22

*“And you will be hated by all on account of My name, but it is the one who has endured to the end who will be saved.”*

John 15:18

*“If the world hates you, you know that it has hated Me before {it hated} you.”*

The devil will fight all we do for God (in His Name), especially by using the world and the religious church to thwart us.

Immature, ignorant Christians that do not understand this truth will fall away if they aren't properly disciplined.

Mark 4:17

*“and they have no {firm} root in themselves, but are {only} temporary; then, when affliction or persecution arises because of the word, immediately they fall away.”*