**SERMON OUTLINE**

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| **SERMON TITLE:** | The Holy Highway |
| **SERMON REFERENCE:** | Matthew 7:13-14 |
| **LWF SERMON NUMBER:** | #1709 |
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1. INTRODUCTION
   1. There are all kinds of roads in the world.
      1. There are some good roads.
      2. There are some very bad roads.
      3. There are some dangerous roads.
   2. Matthew 7:13-14
      1. This passage of Scripture is about the holy highway, the King’s highway.
         1. It is the strait and narrow way.
   3. If you have not yet done so, then today, put your feet on the strait and narrow path that leads to life.
   4. In today’s message, we will look at the following:
      1. There is a decision to face.
      2. There is a direction to follow.
      3. There is a destiny to find.
2. There is a decision to face (matthew 7:13)
   1. The Lord says, “Enter in.”
      1. Matthew 7:13
      2. It is up to you.
         1. There is a decision that you must make.
   2. There are only two ways:
      1. The broad way
         1. The way that leads to destruction.
      2. The narrow way
         1. The way that leads to life.
   3. Modern man doesn’t like that there are only two ways.
      1. People get all uptight when you tell them that there is only one way to Heaven.
      2. We like to put people in all kinds of categories and gradations.
         1. We like to talk of people as being upper class, middle class, and lower class.
   4. God never divides people horizontally; God always divides people vertically.
      1. Right and left
      2. Sheep and goats
      3. Saved and lost
   5. The Lord Jesus never preached to please the crowds.
      1. Matthew 7:13-14
         1. There are only two kinds of travelers.
         2. There are two kinds of roads.
      2. Matthew 7:17
         1. There are only two kinds of trees bearing two kinds of fruit.
      3. Matthew 7:24, 26
         1. You are a builder building one of two houses.
      4. God doesn’t look on the outward appearance; God looks on the heart.
   6. There are only two categories of people:
      1. The saved and the lost.
         1. Those who are with Jesus; those who are against Jesus.
         2. Those who are loving Jesus; those who are hating Him.
         3. Those who are receiving Jesus; those who are rejecting Him.
         4. Those who are crowning Jesus; those who are crucifying Him.
         5. Those who are on the road to Heaven; those who are on the road to Hell.
      2. Everyone is in one of these two categories.
         1. Either you are on the holy highway, or you are on the broad way.
   7. People today say that we’re not to be narrow minded.
      1. They say that we are all headed toward the same place, just on different roads.
   8. But the Lord Jesus Christ said, “I am the way. No man comes unto the Father but by Me.”
      1. John 14:6
      2. Jeremiah 21:8
         1. That’s narrow.
   9. Some people say that it is not nice to be narrow; they want to broaden the strait and narrow.
      1. But Jesus didn’t preach that way.
         1. Matthew 7:14
      2. Galatians 1:8-9
         1. The word for “accursed” here literally means, “Let him be damned.”
            1. Paul was saying that the road to Hell is any other gospel other than the Gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.
   10. The Bible is a narrow book; there can be no compromise with the Gospel.
       1. It would be far better for someone to say that two and two equals five than to compromise the Gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.
       2. People don’t like ministers to say that this is the way it is.
          1. They want their airplane pilots to be very narrow minded.
          2. They want their pharmacists and bankers to be very narrow minded.
          3. But in the thing that matters the most – eternal life – they say that it really doesn’t make any difference.
   11. The Lord Jesus said that there are two ways, and there is a decision to face.
       1. Matthew 7:13-14
   12. There are certain things we must know about this decision:
       1. There is the freedom of decision.
          1. You have the freedom to decide.
             1. Don’t let anyone tell you that you have been predestined to go to Hell.

Otherwise, Jesus never would have said, “Enter.”

* + - 1. Jesus said that you can choose, and you must choose.
         1. We are not machines; we are human beings.

You are free to do as you wish.

* + - 1. Apart from the grace of God, we are not free to do as we ought.
         1. We are free to do as we wish, but it takes the grace of God for us to do as we ought.
         2. The problem is with our “wanter”.

We want what is wrong until we have the grace of God in our hearts.

* + - * 1. The only reason we can choose to do right is because He first chose us.
        2. He has chosen us, and He has invited us.

Revelation 22:17

He will give us the power and the ability to come if we want to come.

* + - 1. The only reason that we have this freedom to decide is because He has loved us and set His grace upon us.
    1. There is the forcing of decision.
       1. While we are free to decide, we are not free not to decide.
          1. We are forced into a decision this very moment.
       2. We cannot do what Pilate thought he was doing, which is to wash our hands of Jesus Christ.
          1. Matthew 27:24
          2. Pilate said that he wouldn’t decide; he would let the people decide.

History and eternity have proven that Pilate’s indecision was his worst decision.

The decision not to decide was a decision.

* + - 1. When we refuse the Lord Jesus Christ, we are not merely neutral.
         1. Matthew 12:30
         2. The decision not to decide is a decision.
    1. There are the fruits of decision.
       1. We are free to choose, we are not free not to choose, and we are not free to choose the consequences of our choice.
          1. A person may decide to jump from a ten-story building, but they are not free to negate the law of gravity.

They are free to choose, but they are not free to choose the consequences of their choice.

* + - * 1. People talk about free love.

But when the flames of lust turn into the flames of Hell, that is a part of the consequence of their choice.

1 Corinthians 6:18

Exodus 20:14

* + - * 1. People talk about the freedom of choice.

They want to say that they are pro-choice.

They say that they have decided not to have this baby, but they already have a baby.

What they are deciding is whether it will live or not.

* 1. Choice is before all of us.
     1. Our Lord says, “Here is a way. Enter in.”
        1. Matthew 7:13
     2. Everyone is free to choose.
        1. You are not free not to choose.
        2. You are not free to choose the consequences of your choice.
     3. You don’t have to choose to go to Hell.
        1. To go to Hell, all you have to do is refuse to receive Jesus.
           1. You are already on the broad way.

The Lord doesn’t say not to enter the broad way.

He says to enter the narrow way because you are already on the broad way.

Matthew 7:13

* + - 1. What must you do to be saved?
         1. Acts 16:31
      2. What must you do to be lost?
         1. Nothing.
         2. You are already lost without the Lord Jesus Christ.

We are sinners by birth, sinners by nature, sinners by choice, sinners on the broad way, and sinners on the way to Hell.

* 1. There is a decision to face.

1. there is a direction to follow (matthew 7:13-14)
   1. Matthew 7:13-14
   2. The narrow way is the way that every blood-bought child (everyone who is saved) is walking today.
      1. This is the holy highway.
   3. The narrow way is a disciplined way.
      1. Matthew 7:13
         1. When the Bible says “strait” here, it is not talking about “straight” like a straight line.
            1. It means discipline.
            2. Rigorous is the way.
      2. There is not a cheap way, easy way, or lazy way to serve the Lord Jesus Christ.
         1. 2 Timothy 2:3
            1. We’re to endure hardness as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.
      3. It pays to serve Jesus, but it also costs to serve Jesus.
         1. The problem with many people is that they have sort of a cheap grace, easy believe-ism.
         2. While salvation is free, there is a discipline to the Christian life.
      4. Without discipline, there is no power.
         1. Loose wires disconnected don’t make a beautiful sound.
            1. But if we connect the wires and put them in a piano and stretch them until there is tension (discipline), then we get the music.
         2. There is steam and vapor in the air, but there is no power.
            1. If we compress it and put it in an engine, then it will turn the turbine and pistons because there is power.
         3. Matthew 7:13
      5. Today, we are looking for an easy and lazy way to serve the Lord Jesus.
         1. But Jesus said that strait is the way.
            1. It is a disciplined way.
   4. The narrow way is a different way.
      1. Matthew 7:14
         1. “Few there be that find it.”
      2. Don’t expect the crowds to be on this way.
         1. Don’t follow the crowds.
            1. The crowds are almost always wrong.
      3. Most people take comfort in saying that they are just like everyone else.
         1. But our way is a different way.
            1. It starts at a different source.
            2. It follows a different course.
            3. It ends at a different conclusion.
      4. If you are on this way, then you will be going against the tide most of the time.
      5. We are twice-born people in a world of once-born people.
         1. They are different from us, and we are different from them.
   5. The narrow way is a delightful way.
      1. There is joy in serving the Lord Jesus Christ.
      2. Isaiah 35:8-10
      3. It is a clean way.
         1. Isaiah 35:8
         2. If your heart is full of sin and you have never repented, then you will not be on the holy highway.
      4. It is a certain way.
         1. Isaiah 35:8
            1. “The wayfaring men, though fools, shall not err therein.”

This means that a stranger without good sense can find his way on the holy highway.

* + - 1. We don’t have to have a PhD. to travel this highway.
         1. Matthew 11:25
         2. Just come to Jesus and believe on Him.

It is gloriously simple.

* + 1. It is a confident way.
       1. We don’t have to worry about losing our salvation.
       2. Isaiah 35:9
       3. We can get on this road and let the Lord Jesus be our companion.
       4. The Lord Jesus will keep us.
    2. It is a cheerful way.
       1. Isaiah 35:10

1. there is a destiny to find (matthew 7:13-14)
   1. Every road is going somewhere.
      1. The road you are on right now is going somewhere.
         1. When you get to where you are headed, where will you be?
   2. Matthew 7:13-14
      1. The Lord said that there are only two destinations:
         1. Destruction
         2. Life
   3. Decision determines direction, and direction determines destiny.
      1. Maybe you are on the broad way.
         1. If Hell is not in your plan, then why don’t you do something about it?
   4. It may be a fearful destiny.
      1. It may be destruction.
      2. Jesus had more to say about Hell than any other person in the Word of God.
         1. It was Jesus who talked about destruction.
            1. Matthew 7:13
      3. If you go past Calvary, then you will come to the gates of Hell.
         1. God has lifted up Calvary with the blood-stained Prince of Glory hanging in agony, and He says, “Stop, or you will end up at the gates of Hell.”
   5. It may be a fabulous destiny.
      1. It may be life.
         1. That life begins not when we die.
            1. It begins when we step onto the strait and narrow.
      2. John 10:10
      3. We are on our journey home.
         1. Each step we take is one step closer to home.
         2. It will be worth it all when we see Jesus.
   6. It will be a final destiny.
      1. There is no chance after death.
         1. Ecclesiastes 11:3
            1. When you die, your destiny is fixed.
      2. In the Bible, there is not one place where God offers one shred of hope to those who die outside the Lord Jesus Christ.
      3. Revelation 22:11
      4. Hebrews 9:27
2. CONCLUSION
   1. If you are on the broad way today, then you are on the turnpike to torment and the highway to Hell.
      1. You can exit that highway now.
   2. When you say you are not going to decide, that is a decision that keeps you on the broad way that leads to destruction.
      1. You say, “Well, I have plenty of time to decide.”
         1. But the Bible says, “Boast not thyself of tomorrow...”
            1. Proverbs 27:1
   3. There is a decision to face, a direction to follow, and a destiny to find.
   4. Do you know Jesus personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.
   5. Call upon Jesus today. Repent (turn) from your sins, and turn to Jesus. Ask Him to forgive you of your sins, and acknowledge Him as Lord of your life.
      1. Romans 3:23
      2. Romans 10:9-10
      3. Romans 10:13
      4. Acts 16:31
      5. John 3:16