

OPENING PRAYER

- Dean - 2 hymns

Aug. 15-2024

2 Roads

Page 1

Today we will explore 2 different roads. In opening I want to read a poem written by the American poet, Robert Frost - called "The Road Not Taken".

Two roads diverged in a yellow wood.
And sorry I could not travel both -
And being one traveler, long I stood
And looked down one as far as I could
To where it bent in the undergrowth;
Then took the other, as just as fair,
And having perhaps the better claim
Because it was grassy and wanted wear
Though as for that, the passing there
Had worn them really about the same
And both that morning equally lay
And no leaves had trodden black

Oh, I kept the first for another day -
Yet knowing how way leads on to way
I doubted if I should ever come back
I shall be telling this with a sigh
Somewhere ages and ages hence -
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I -
I took the one less traveled by -
And that has made all the difference.

Jesus tells us about 2 roads in Matthew 7:13-14 that refers to the two paths in life where we all must make a choice

Matthew 7:13-14

ENTER Through the narrow gate - For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction and many enter through it But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it.

The wide road represents the path of sin, destruction and eternal separation from God.

— Many take this road as it is easy and appealing to the flesh.

People tend to take the Path of least resistance

— This path leads to Spiritual death and separation from God

The Narrow road represents the path of Righteousness, Salvation and eternal life with God.

Few people take this road as it can be difficult and requires surrender and obedience to God

The Narrow road leads to Spiritual life and a deepening relationship with God.

Let us for a moment take a close look at the two roads in our minds

The Wide road is very inviting - We are drawn to it like a moth to a flame - Bright lights - loud music - lots of company - good food and drink

→

We see beautiful houses but they are built on sand. We see luxury cars - the latest fashion. There are no rules - no roadmaps. Everyone is bent on pleasure -

Their motto is "Eat, Drink and be Merry for Tomorrow Never comes"

We see undisciplined children, families torn apart. There are church buildings but many are teaching a false doctrine.

Politicians are crooked and our country is divided. Unborn babies are destroyed because they interfere with the parent's life style. Men and women are unhappy - No peace - No real purpose in life.

And the saddest thing of all - they don't realize their Destination

Now let us look at the Narrow Road - At the entrance to that road is a gate. That gate is Jesus Christ

#1 John 10:7-10

#2 John 14:6-7

3 John 3:5

4 Acts 4:12

Just A

He (Jesus) is Not A way - He is the one and only way.

No one, regardless of wealth, reputation, achievement, special knowledge or personal holiness can come to God the Father except through Jesus Christ.

At the end of the Narrow Road
we can repeat what Paul said in
2 Timothy 4:7

I have fought the good fight,
I have finished the race,
I have kept the faith.

Now there is in store for me the
Crown of Righteousness, which the
Lord, the righteous judge, will
award to me on that day - and not
only to me, but also to all who
have longed for His appearing

There are 4,000 to 6,000 active religions world wide - Many believe that different religions are just different roads to Heaven. But Jesus says there is only ONE road that leads to Life - meaning eternal life with God

The gate that enters the Narrow Road is so narrow that you can only enter one person at a time. And you must leave behind a lot of baggage such as Greed, Selfishness, Pride, unforgiveness, hatred, lying, Cheating

When you begin the Narrow road, Jesus will hand you a Cross

READ 5

* Matthew 16:24

You look down that road and it looks rough - covered with thorns - rocky - dark and all uphill and there are very few travelers - You say "Lord, I love you - I want to serve you but I'm afraid. And there is a Roaring Lion ready to devour me"

Jesus answers - You are not alone - I will never leave you nor forsake you I am giving you a Roadmap - called the Holy Bible - Trust me - Hold my Hand Along the way will be times of Refreshing - you will lie down in green pastures - I will lead you beside still waters. And when you walk through the Valley of the Shadow of Death - I will be with you -

6 Your final destination is with me in
 ★ Read - John 14:1-4 Heaven

Look back at the Wide Road for just a moment - At every mile there is a Sign - A way of escape - a chance to Change your mind -

That sign says Repent - Without Repentance we will not walk the Narrow Way
IN Conclusion

This teaching is all about Choice and emphasizes the importance of choosing the Narrow road which symbolizes a life committed to following Jesus Christ and living according to His teaching -

God Bless you all on your Life's journey -

Let us choose the

Road Less Traveled

JESUS IS STANDING AT THE GATE
E WAITING FOR ONE OF US. WITH
OUT STRETCHED ARMS, COME

Dear ~~all~~ Hymn - Closing Prayer

MARK YOUR CALANDER'S

NEXT MONTH CHASS Sept 19TH. 11.00AM