

# COUNTER CULTURE

## THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT



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# The Narrow Road

Matthew 7:13–14

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<sup>13</sup> Enter by the narrow gate. For the gate is wide and the way is easy that leads to destruction, and those who enter by it are many. <sup>14</sup> For the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life, and those who find it are few.

## James 1:22

But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

## Responding to the Sermon on the Mount

- 7:13–14: two kinds of **roads**—easy and hard
- 7:15–20: two kinds of **teachers**—diseased and healthy
- 7:21–23: two kinds of **claims**—deceived and genuine
- 7:24–28: two kinds of **foundations**—sand and rock

## Seeing the End from the Beginning

- 7:13–14: The wide road will lead to **destruction**.
- 7:15–20: The bad tree will be **cut down** and **burned**.
- 7:21–23: The fake Christian will be **turned away**.
- 7:24–28: The unstable house will **collapse**.

## 1. Don't choose the path for its appearance.

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## 2. Don't choose the path for its convenience.

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## John 10:7–9

<sup>7</sup> So Jesus again said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the **door** of the sheep. <sup>8</sup> All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. <sup>9</sup> I am the **door**. If anyone **enters by me**, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture.”

## John 14:6

“I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”

## Acts 4:12

“And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”

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## Hebrews 10:19–22

<sup>19</sup> Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, <sup>20</sup> by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh... <sup>22</sup> let us draw near...

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## 1 Peter 4:12

<sup>12</sup> Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you... <sup>14</sup> If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you.

## 2 Timothy 3:12

Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted...



## Acts 14:22

“...through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God.”

## Acts 5:40–42

<sup>40</sup> And when [the authorities] had called in the apostles, they beat them and charged them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. <sup>41</sup> Then they left the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the name. <sup>42</sup> And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they did not cease teaching and preaching that the Christ is Jesus.

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### 3. Don't choose the path for its popularity.

<sup>13</sup> Enter by the narrow gate. For the gate is wide and the way is easy that leads to destruction, and **those who enter by it are many.** <sup>14</sup> For the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life, and **those who find it are few.**

## Matthew 10:16

“Behold, I am sending you out as sheep in the midst of wolves...”

## Matthew 10:22

“...and you will be hated by all for my name’s sake.”

## John 15:20

“Remember the word that I said to you: ‘A servant is not greater than his master.’ If they persecuted me, they will also persecute you.”

### 3. Don't choose the path for its popularity.

<sup>13</sup> Enter by the narrow gate. For the gate is wide and the way is easy that leads to destruction, and **those who enter by it are many.** <sup>14</sup> For the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life, and **those who find it are few.**



#### 4. Choose the path for its destination.

<sup>13</sup> Enter by the narrow gate. For the gate is wide and the way is easy **that leads to destruction**, and those who enter by it are many. <sup>14</sup> For the gate is narrow and the way is hard **that leads to life**, and those who find it are few.

## Jeremiah 14:13–16

<sup>13</sup> Then I said: “Ah, Lord GOD, behold, the prophets say to them, ‘You shall not see the sword, nor shall you have famine, but I will give you assured peace in this place.’” <sup>14</sup> And the LORD said to me: “The prophets are prophesying lies in my name. I did not send them, nor did I command them or speak to them. They are prophesying to you a lying vision, worthless divination, and the deceit of their own minds.”

## Jeremiah 14:13–16

<sup>15</sup> Therefore thus says the LORD concerning the prophets who prophesy in my name although I did not send them, and who say, ‘Sword and famine shall not come upon this land’: By sword and famine those prophets shall be consumed. <sup>16</sup> And the people to whom they prophesy shall be cast out in the streets of Jerusalem, victims of famine and sword, with none to bury them—they, their wives, their sons, and their daughters. For I will pour out their evil upon them.”

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