

“Man’s **Responsibility** to **Choose**: Part 2”

Matthew 7:13-14

Message Title: “Man’s **Responsibility** to **Choose**: Part 2”

II. Man Must Choose the **Way** to **Travel**

a. The **Difficult** Way

1. The Difficult Way is the **God-Enabled** Way

John 6:44 “No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day.”

Ephesians 1:4 “According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love:”

2. The Difficult Way is the **Diligent-Searching** Way

Jeremiah 29:13-14a “And ye shall seek me, and find *me*, when ye shall search for me with all your heart. ¹⁴ And I will be found of you, saith the LORD...”

3. The Difficult Way is the **Forced** Way

Acts 14:21-22 “And when they had preached the gospel to that city, and had taught many, they returned again to Lystra, and to Iconium, and Antioch, ²² Confirming the souls of the disciples, and exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God.”

4. The Difficult Way is the **Beatitude** Way

5. The Difficult Way is the **Self-Denying** Way

Matthew 13:44-46 “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto treasure hid in a field; the which when a man hath found, he hideth, and for joy thereof goeth and selleth all that he hath, and buyeth that field. ⁴⁵ Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a merchant man, seeking goodly pearls: ⁴⁶ Who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had, and bought it.”

6. The Difficult Way is the **Committed** Way

7. The Difficult Way is the **Obedient** Way

Matthew 11:28-30 “Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. ³⁰ For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

1 John 5:3 LSB “For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments; and His commandments are not burdensome.”

8. The Difficult Way is the **Persecuted** Way

Matthew 5:10 “**Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**”

2 Timothy 3:12 “Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.”

2 Corinthians 4:8-12 LSB “in every way afflicted, but not crushed; perplexed, but not despairing; 9 persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; 10 always carrying about in the body the dying of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body. 11 For we who live are constantly being delivered over to death for Jesus’ sake, so that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh. 12 So death works in us, but life in you.”

9. The Difficult Way is the **Overcoming** Way

John 16:33 “**These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.**”

10. The Difficult Way is the **Rejoicing** Way

John 16:22 “**And ye now therefore have sorrow: but I will see you again, and your heart shall rejoice, and your joy no man taketh from you.**”

11. The Difficult Way is the **Life-Giving** Way

John 3:16 “**For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.**”

12. The Difficult Way is the **Satisfying** Way

Psalms 17:15 “As for me, I will behold thy face in righteousness: I shall be satisfied, when I awake, with thy likeness.”

13. The Difficult Way is the **Divine** Way

John 14:1-3 “**Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. ² In my Father's house are many mansions: if *it were* not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, *there* ye may be also. ⁴ And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know.**”

b. The **Easy** Way

Proverbs 14:12 “There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof *are* the ways of death.”

III. The **Application**

a. **Individual** Commitment

b. **Collective** Commitment