

The Kingdom and Its Ethic, Part 7
There Are Two Cities
Matthew 7:13-29

- I. Two Gates with Two Ways (13-14)
 - A. The narrow and wide gate
 - B. The narrow and broad way
 - 1. One is easy to find and well populated
 - 2. One is difficult to find and sparsely populated
 - 3. One leads to death, the other leads to life
 - C. There is entrance and movement – the two are inseparable
- II. Two Trees with Two Fruits (15-23)
 - A. This section mainly refers to those who teach, but also applies to those who claim to follow Jesus (see vs. 15 & 21-23)
 - B. The good tree and its good fruit
 - C. The bad tree and its bad fruit
 - 1. One will not produce the other
 - 2. It is the maturing effect of the trees that gives them away, not their initial growth and development
 - D. As with the gate/way metaphor, there is an inseparable link between the beginning and the end
 - E. The consequence of a “bad tree”
- III. Two Foundations with Two Buildings (24-27)
 - A. A house built on a rock
 - B. A house built on the sand
 - C. Again – there is an inseparable connection between the foundation and the building, between cause and effect
- IV. A Different Kind of Teaching (28-29)
 - 1. One demonstrates growth, strength, and resilience as life moves forward (maturity in Christ)
 - 2. One demonstrates a “caving-in” principle – an inability to endure over the long haul