“The Wide Path to Destruction” (Phil. 3:17-19)
(Philippians—Choose Joy! – Lesson #22)
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Introduction
1. The Great Christian Race is on one path. There is another path.
2. The paths are very different, and your choice of path lasts for an ____________.

I. There Are _______ Two Paths.

1. The path of salvation is narrow.
   A. Salvation comes only through faith in Christ (John 3:16; Acts 4:12).
   B. Jesus called it a narrow __________ (Matt. 7:13).
   C. _______ people take this path.
   D. Once on this path, you __________ leave it!
2. The path to destruction is wide.
   A. There are __________ people on this path.
      • People can leave this path at any time for the narrow path, but most do not.
   B. Jesus called it the _______ gate (Matt. 7:13).
   C. There are many ways to take this path.
      1. The __________
      2. The agnostic
      3. The ________ member
      4. The member of a false religion
      5. The nones
      6. The __________ church attender or member
   D. The wide path is enticing.
      1. Sin always looks great on the outside but is __________ on the inside.
      2. Sin is effective in advertising its message.
         • It is __________ today in the news and entertainment industries and the field of education.

II. Take the Right Path!

1. __________ from godly Christians who are running well.
   A. Follow Paul’s example.
   B. Observe those on the __________ path.

III. Christ’s Enemies Walk on the Wide Path.
1. Their ________ is destruction.
2. Their glory is their __________.
   A. They criticize and belittle Christianity.
   1. The world says Christianity is for the weak minded.
      • The Bible says:
         A. The Gospel is foolishness to the world, but the __________ of God to Christians (1 Cor. 1:18).
         B. The Gospel is a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles (1 Cor. 1:23).
   2. The world says Christianity is a __________.
      • Jesus said:
         A. “I came that they might have __________, and might have it abundantly” (John 10:10b).
         B. “Take My __________ upon you, and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you shall fine rest for your souls” (Matt. 11:29).
   3. The world says Christians have no fun.
      • The Bible says:
         A. Christians can have ______ even in difficulties (James 1:2).
         B. Christians have God’s perfect peace (Phil. 4:7).
         C. Christians have the __________ of the Spirit (Gal. 5:22-23).
   3. They set their minds on __________ things.

IV. Conclusion

1. We must do all we can to:
   A. Encourage people who are on the right path (Christianity).
   B. Winsomely __________ people on the wrong path to join us on the right path.

Next Week (Nov. 4) – “Our Heavenly Citizenship” (Phil. 3:20-21)