

“Does the bible say they are peculiar, then? That’s odd. That book, somehow has got a dose for everybody. Yet, ma’am, you must allow that the commands that that book lays on us poor sinners are hard. It’s thou shalt not, and thou shalt not, all the time. Why, its precepts and views of things are not only systematic tyranny, but they are narrow, very narrow.”

“Yes,” replied the lady, “they are narrow, for the bible says they are. ‘Straight is the gate, and *narrow* is the way that leads to life.’ It is too narrow for pride, worldliness, selfishness, and sloth. It is too narrow for the service of two masters. It is too *narrow* for covetousness, envy, and all other evil passions. Hatred can find no place for so much as the sole of its foot, in the narrow way. Good deeds, kind words, faith, hope, and charity, occupy all the ground and will continue to hold it to the end.”

The stranger listened, surprised and annoyed, and at last arose and left the room, apparently a more thoughtful, if not a better man.

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**A** SOLDIER lay on his dying couch during our last war, and they heard him say, “Here!” They asked him what he wanted, and he put up his hand and said: “Hush! they are calling the roll of heaven, and I am answering to my name”; and presently he whispered, “Here!” and he was gone.