

The Hard Way Genesis 4:9-13

Confirm from scripture, observation and experience.
Then look at why the way of the transgressor is hard. - **Proverbs 13:15**

History Confirms

Adam and Eve **Genesis 3**

Even before they were driven out of garden

Became ashamed and tried to hide; Adam became hostile, tried to blame Eve for his sin; Were driven out of the garden and made to earn their living by the sweat of the brow; Ultimately came under the sentence of death

Cain's life demonstrates this principle **Genesis 4:13**

Transgressed God's law

"My punishment is greater than I can bear."

Israelites demonstrate. When served Lord they prospered, when turned from Lord they suffered consequences

David's sin demonstrates this principle **2Samuel 11**

Committed fornication & murder; Though he repented he suffered consequences the rest of his life

Many other examples - Ananias & Sapphira in **Acts 5**; zealous Saul **Acts 9:5**

Experience Confirms

All around us we see evidence: this is not to say that evil men do not prosper and seem happy, but not truly

A transgressor of law always has fear of retribution, punishment

Also may make hard the way of those associated with him.

Just think of how many times you have seen this happen again & again.

Why Is This Way Hard?

It is a way without God - **2John 9; Isaiah 59:2**

One cannot afford to be separated from God - **Acts 17:28**

It is a way without Christ - **John 4:10; John 6:35; John 8:12; Ephesians 1:7; 1John 2:1; Ephesians 1:3; Hebrews 12:1**

Not only the heavy burden of their own sins, but through their influence they are carrying others to destruction with them - **Matthew 11:28-30**

Hard because of the characters who use it

The filth of the earth walk this way

Would we like to spend the night on a road filled with all kinds of wicked and ungodly people

Yet when we transgress God's law we are choosing to walk among the basest of humanity

At the end there is no rest, no relief

At the end of a journey it is pleasant to find rest - **Matthew 25:46; Jeremiah 6:16; John 14:6**

Let's not be deceived by the appearance of the hard way

It appears to be smooth and pleasant but turns out to be hard and rugged. - **Proverbs 14:12; Matthew 7:13-14**

Jerry Henderson ???