

**He leads me in paths of righteousness
for his name's sake.**

(Psalm 23:3)

I am a traveler. *PILGRIMAGE!*

(If I'm not going anywhere there is no
need for a path)

The existence of a path implies
that the landscape is confusing,
dangerous, or difficult
PROBLEM!

A path (in such a landscape) would
provide **direction**, **security**, or **ease**

PROCESS!





Since the instinct to travel is built in
and the path is provided, there must be a
destination I am supposed to reach!

PURPOSE

COORDINATION! There is no existential need to have a destination or a traveler.

But if these two exist, the path is mandatory!

PLAN!

- a place
- a path
- God's pleasure, prestige, praise

“He leads me...”

- He will **show** me the righteous path
(information)
- He will **shove** me toward the righteous path
(motivation)

The **direction** of my life is determined by the **desires** of my heart. So God's main concern is the condition of my heart.

“A crucible for silver and a furnace for gold, but the Lord tests the heart.” (Prov. 17:3)

“...in paths of righteousness...”

"Path" describes the most basic **division** of reality!

✓ order vs. chaos

✓ off [the path] vs. on [the path]

“Are you for us or are you for our enemies?”

– Joshua

“If you are not with me, you are against me.”

– Jesus

[note plural] The cause or sake of righteousness may lead individuals into many different **types** of **service** or discipleship. In that sense, an individual may be led in multiple paths of righteousness.

Righteousness – **morally** right

“... for his name’s sake.”

God's reputation is determined
by man's representation.

... Everyone called by my name
whom I created for my glory (*Is. 43:7*)
... The people I formed for myself
that they may proclaim my praise (*Is. 43:21*)
I am the one who blots out your transgressions
for my own sake (*Is. 43:25*)

Every human life/civilization **belongs**
to God, and his concern/interference
[leading to the righteous path] should
be **welcomed!**

None of us lives unto himself above
and none of us dies into himself
alone... So whether we live or die
we belong to the Lord.

(Romans 14:8)

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