

“Pathways”

“Ponder the path of your feet...” (Proverbs 4:26)

“There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death.” (Proverbs 14:12, 16:25)

Paths of Destruction

(1) “Path-Illogical” Pursuits

Psalm 49:5-13 – ⁵“Why should I fear in times of trouble, when the iniquity of those who cheat me surrounds me, ⁶those who trust in their wealth and boast of the abundance of their riches? ⁷Truly no man can ransom another, or give to God the price of his life, ⁸for the ransom of their life is costly and can never suffice, ⁹that he should live on forever and never see the pit. ¹⁰For he sees that even the wise die; the fool and the stupid alike must perish and leave their wealth to others. ¹¹Their graves are their homes forever, (*Septuagint, Syriac, Targum; Hebrew- Their inward thought was that their homes were forever*) **their dwelling places to all generations, though they called lands by their own names. ¹²Man in his pomp will not remain; he is like the beasts that perish. ¹³This is the path of those who have foolish confidence; yet after them people approve of their boasts.”**

Psalm 52:6-7 – ⁶“The righteous shall see and fear, and shall laugh at him, saying, ⁷See the man who would not make God his refuge, but trusted in the abundance of his riches and sought refuge in his own destruction!”

(2) “Wanderlusts”

Proverbs 7:21-27 – ²¹“With much seductive speech she persuades him; with her smooth talk she compels him. ²²All at once he follows her, as an ox goes to the slaughter, or as a stag is caught fast ²³till an arrow pierces its liver; as a bird rushes into a snare; he does not know that it will cost him his life. ²⁴And now, O sons, listen to me, and be attentive to the words of my mouth. ²⁵Let not your heart turn aside to her ways; do not stray into her paths, ²⁶for many a

victim has she laid low, and all her slain are a mighty throng. ²⁷Her house is the way to Sheol, going down to the chambers of death.”

Proverbs 4:14-15 – ¹⁴“Do not enter the path of the wicked, and do not walk in the way of the evil. ¹⁵Avoid it; do not go on it; turn away from it and pass on.”

Path of Life

Proverbs 15:24 – “The path of life leads upward for the prudent, that he may turn away from Sheol beneath.”

Psalms 16:11 – “You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.”

Matthew 4:18-19 – ¹⁸“While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, ‘Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.’”

2 Timothy 2:22 – “So flee youthful passions and pursue righteousness, faith, love, and peace, along with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart.”