

The Paths of Life

Psalm 16:11- Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore. (KJV)

Believers are required to make decisions throughout daily life for their salvation. Responsible decision-making begins when the mind begins functioning well. Conscious decision-making acts to guide the believer toward the Kingdom of God. God's Kingdom becomes the primary goal of believers at the time of Baptism. The Psalmist provides wise guidance for following the paths to God's Kingdom.

Psalm 17:4- Concerning the works of men, by the word of thy lips I have kept me from the paths of the destroyer. (KJV)

Vigilance is necessary for choosing the paths to follow to avoid perils to the soul. Temptations and perils to the soul are always present and eager to tarnish the soul. The Lord God desires for believers to keep the soul untarnished throughout life. Repentance enables believers to turn from following paths perilous to the soul. Attentive believers heed the wisdom of God in choosing the path to follow.

Psalm 17:5- Hold up my goings in thy paths, that my footsteps slip not. (KJV)

Peace and joy abound in the life staying true to the narrow path to God's Kingdom. God's Church offers guidance throughout life for the journey to the Kingdom. Remaining faithful to God in the Church keeps the believer on the desired path. Hunger in the soul leads the believer to the path to eternal life in God's Kingdom. Rejecting temptations and perils keeps the believer's soul from being endangered.

Psalm 23:3- He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. (KJV)

Life in Christ flourishes when believers choose to follow the God-pleasing paths. Not all the paths available to believers will lead to the desired Kingdom of God. Believers' eyes and ears are to constantly remain attentive to perils on life's path. Guidance for safely traveling life's path comes from praying fervently every day. The Lord God is within reach of each believer through fervent and faithful prayer.

Psalm 25:4- Shew me thy ways, O LORD; teach me thy paths. (KJV)

The Mother of God, the saints and martyrs of the Church show the paths to follow. Learning from the lives of the saints and martyrs defines the God-pleasing paths. Faithfully being attentive in the Church enlightens believers on the paths to choose. Believers consistently choosing God-pleasing paths are in peace during earthly life. Joy fills the heart when believers remain safely on the God-pleasing paths of life.

Afterfeast of the Ascension. Holy Martyr Theodotus of Ancyra and Seven Martyrs
May 18/31, 2023. Hidden Valley, Pennsylvania. Father Rodney Torbic