

Ancient Paths

June 14th, 2026 – The Ancient Path of Holiness

Jeremiah 6:16 NIV

This is what the Lord says: “Stand at the crossroads and look; ask for the ancient paths, ask where the good way is, and walk in it, and you will find rest for your souls. But you said, ‘We will not walk in it.’”

At the Very CORE of this scripture, the imagery is that there is a CROSSROADS - with OPTIONS of which path we will choose.

Jeremiah didn't say, "*Find the easiest path.*"

If you look at the options and choose the Best Path, it won't be the Easiest Path initially. Why? Because it will require you to be **DIFFERENT**.

2 Corinthians 6:17 (NKJV)

...Come out from among them and be **separate**, says the Lord.

Salvation should have an effect on us. We shouldn't stay the same.

Beyond Salvation, there IS a CALL for us to Be Different.

Question: If Salvation is the only reason for us to have a relationship with God, why doesn't He simply take us to Heaven as soon as we're saved?

Answer: He leaves us here to Impact this World for Him.

**Living a Holy Life isn't about RULES.
It's about a RELATIONSHIP.**

James 1:13-18 NLT

¹³ And remember, when you are being tempted, do not say, “God is tempting me.” God is never tempted to do wrong, and he never tempts anyone else.

¹⁴ Temptation comes from our own desires, which entice us and drag us away.

¹⁵ These desires give birth to sinful actions. And when sin is allowed to grow, it gives birth to death.

¹⁶ **So don't be misled**, my dear brothers and sisters.

¹⁷ Whatever is good and perfect is a gift coming down to us from God our Father, who created all the lights in the heavens. He never changes or casts a shifting shadow.

¹⁸ He chose to give birth to us by giving us his true word. And we, out of all creation, became his prized possession.

John 10:10 NASB

¹⁰ The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I came so that they would have life, and have it abundantly.

The enemy is all about three things: **Steal, Kill, and Destroy.**
So he sends temptations into our lives to lead us off-track.

And everything we see in the Bible that tells us about “*Thou Shalt*” and “*Thou Shalt Now*” – “*Do this*” and “*Don’t Do This*” – is simply God in His Mercy **GUIDING** us into a lifestyle that protects us from the enemies tactics to Steal, Kill & Destroy!

When God says, “*Here’s something I need you to do*” - Do you push back?

For lots of Christians, this is the way it looks:
They accept Christ as their Savior, and give Him PARTIAL access to their personal lives.

God gives us **GUARDRAILS** to keep us on track.

Guardrails: *A system designed to keep vehicles from straying into dangerous or off-limit areas.*

3 Places we see Guardrails:

- Bridges
 - Which keep us from going off a huge drop-off
- Medians
 - Which keep us from running over somebody, or somebody running over us
- Curves
 - Which are Unexpected changes in Direction

**Culture doesn’t encourage Guardrails.
It encourages Blurred Lines.**

A Holy Life is when we pursue God’s Guard Rails

4 Keys to Real Holiness

1. Truly FALL IN LOVE with Jesus
2. Compare your life with the teachings of the Bible
3. Be willing to take action and CHANGE
4. Be Careful

Ephesians 5:15 NIV

Be very **careful**, then, how you live...