

Teaching Guide: When Leviathan Twists Our Path

Theme: Walking in the way God requires us to follow His path.

My Story

What stood out for me in these scriptures is that the Lord is very much part of our journey.

Psalm 23:3 "He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness For His name's sake."

It says that He will do it for His sake.

Psalm 16:11 "You will show me the path of life; In Your presence is fullness of joy; At Your right hand are pleasures forevermore."

It says again You will show me the path of life

Proverbs 3v5-6 Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not unto your own understanding, in all your ways acknowledge Him and He shall direct your path.

The Lord is part of our journey if we allow it.

- Proverbs 16v7
- Proverbs 20v24

The Lord directs our steps

There are times in our lives when things just seem to be going really well and we feel as if everything is on track.

We are sure of what we are doing and where we are going. We have it planned out and we are enthusiastic.

But then we slowly start to notice that suddenly we are not feeling so enthusiastic before. It seems we are not quite sure anymore of what we are doing or where we are going. Our path suddenly or over a period of time doesn't seem so sure anymore. Things don't feel as if they are going very well.

This can apply to various areas of our life in different ways or to some areas but not all areas, for example:

- Our ministry
- Our business

- Our finances
- Our children
- Our health
- Our walk with God
- · Our purpose and calling

We start asking the question what is wrong? We start asking God "Why do I feel this way"? We ask the questions once again - Is it me? Is it the enemy? Or is this God?

What am I supposed to be learning, what have I done wrong, or whatever form of questioning you may go into.

My default is "What is going on?" Lord show me what I am not seeing. Lord is this me? Lord are you teaching me something here or have I missed it or missed something? Lord have I unknowingly opened the door to the enemy?

Recently, I asked the question of the Holy Spirit, "Tell me what is going on that I feel this way".

Now I know you curious so I will share with you.

Over the past few months, I have been feeling as if I am in a limbo - I still have the big picture ahead of me, but the current picture and steps that were once so clear don't seem so clear anymore.

Some time back I asked the Lord to remove the things from my life that are not part of the big picture. Things I might have added, things that are wasting my time, things that take me away from the vision. It is good to this at times to make sure you are still on the right path.

Now I would say this might have been the precursor to the state I found myself in but I would also say it was because I could not figure out what was going on and I chose to not make a move or do anything until I had clarity.

So the Holy Spirit had an answer for me. Probably not what I wanted to hear but also what I needed to hear to understand. The Holy Spirit said that I had lost my path. He said that I had looked to too many paths and become distracted and disoriented. In order to get back He said I needed to disentangle myself from those paths. To break the neural patterns connected to those paths. He said you asked for the ancient path and got caught up. You asked for me to lead the way but then you did not follow. You need to recalibrate your compass by allowing Me to do the work. You started well and then got hindered.

My prayer: Show me the way! Open the paths for me and shutdown the wrong path.

So this led me on a search to discover paths and ways in the Word. The Lord works with me like this. I often have to go through something so I understand what it feels like so that He can teach me something new that applies not only to my life but that I can share with others. I welcome these teaching experiences because once I have the revelation I will never go down that path again. This is also important because we need to work on neural pathways that keep us stuck.

It is not like I purposely chose this path - it was somewhat veiled - I believe it was all part of what the Lord wanted to show me in this new season.

My prayer was not unbiblical as I knew within me that there was nothing I could do of myself to change where I was at. I had to stay humble, acknowledge any areas I had missed it and then trust the Lord to bring me to a broader place again.

Proverbs 4:18–19 "But the path of the just is like the shining sun, That shines ever brighter unto the perfect day. **The way of the wicked is like darkness**; They do not know what makes them stumble."

Why do I include this scripture? Did you know that the wicked are not only those who don't serve Christ or are doing really, really wicked things? The wicked are all those who do not live by the commands of God. They are those who do things they know they should not, and don't do things they know they should.

Isaiah 55v7 - 8 Proverbs 4v18-19 Isaiah 30v15

When we lose our way and we step onto the wrong path and we continue in our ways and not in the ways of God - we fall into this category. The fruit then will be the same for us as for those that are evil - darkness is the result. This means we won't know where we are going and we going to end up lost. Maybe this sounds harsh but if we are to live a repentant life and a life that is holy and committed to God, we need to make sure we are following God's ways. It does not matter how long we have been serving God or have been believers - none of us are safe from the enemy and his traps. If he tempted Jesus in the wilderness - how much more must we watch out for his temptations to lead us astray. We are only human and things happen to us that affect us but we need to be alert and we need to have strategy to fight or the enemy will have his way with us.

Sometimes it happens very subtly and it is not only related to our ministry or business or personal walk with God - it can be seen in our relationships, our marriages, our finances - any area of our life that has the potential to be diverted.

So how does Leviathan fit into all of this?

Isaiah 45v2 speaks about the Lord making the crooked places straight. Psalm 27v11 says teach me Your way and lead me in a smooth path. Hebrews 12v13 says strengthen the hands that hang down and the feeble knees and make straight paths for your feet so that what is lame may not be dislocated but rather be healed.

A profound scripture! We must make straight paths for our feet and we must get healing in areas that are lame or not moving right? We make straight those paths by dealing with what we need to.

Additional scriptures to meditate on:

2 Samuel 22v31,33, Ps 1v6, Ps 1v1, Ps 27v11, Psalm 139v 23-24, Proverbs 12v28, Proverbs 14v12, Isaiah 26v7, Isaiah 64v5, Isaiah 55v7, 8, Amos 2v7, Matthew 7v13,14, John 14v6, Acts 9v2, Acts 19v23, Acts 18v25, 2 Peter 2v21, Proverbs 4v18-19, Proverbs 3v5-6, Proverbs 18v9, Proverbs 14v14, Proverbs 16v7, 9, Proverbs 20v24.

Who loves to twist things? Anything twisted is not straight - it diverts and does not run linearly.

Leviathan has his own kingdom and therefore the spirits that work with him are going to have the same characteristics. They are are serpentine and twisting. They will try to divert the work of God in any way.

I had to start doing some spiritual warfare against any serpents that had come in. As the Lord would have it, I started to come across helpful resources and some reminders of resources I already had and I started on a mission to attack the enemy head on and take back the territory that had so subtly been taken.

Let me share some ways that the enemy slithers in very slyly:

- Disappointment and disillusionment
- Unresolved grief or loss over things
- Words you have spoken over yourself or others establishing contracts in the spirit
- Carrying unforgiveness and bitterness or resentment
- Weariness and passiveness
- Apathy
- Brokenness not dealt with
- Trauma unresolved
- Offence
- Twisted conversations
- Did God really call you should you really be doing this?

For me it was weariness and disappointment. And not taking enough time to rest added to the weariness which affected my body and therefore my ability to be efficient and to be alert and attentive. Rest is so important to our wellbeing on all levels because the enemy will use our physical health to also compromise us on a soul and spirit level.

The enemy feeds off of our pain - he loves those areas that he knows we show weakness - just like the snake nips at the ankles - he nips at us and when we don't fight back he starts his slow progressive paralysation to get us to a point where we don't want to stand up and fight and we just allow things to happen to roll onto us and over us.

So let's come back to paths and ways.

The way and the path are not the same thing.

The Two Paths - Walking in God's Way

Word Study: Way vs. Path

Way (Hebrew: derek, Greek: hodos) – speaks of the bigger direction, lifestyle, or course of life. **Path** (Hebrew: orach, Greek: tribos) – speaks of the smaller tracks, daily steps, or choices within that way.

Way = the whole road of life you've chosen.

Path = the daily choices and steps that keep you moving in that way.

Illustration: Imagine a highway (way) that represents your overall life direction. Off that highway are smaller trails (paths) — the steps you take each day within that way.

The Bible speaks often about paths and ways — our daily choices either align us with God's way (life, righteousness, peace) or with man's way (confusion, destruction).

Short prayer: "Lord, guide us into Your ways and teach us to walk in the path of life."

Scripture Foundation

Proverbs 14:12 "There is a way that seems right to a man, But its end is the way of death."

Proverbs 3:5–6 "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths.

A. God's Path - The Way of Life

Psalm 16:11 "You will show me the path of life; In Your presence is fullness of joy; At Your right hand are pleasures forevermore."

Proverbs 12:28 "In the way of righteousness is life, And in its pathway there is no death."

Psalm 119:105 "Your word is a lamp to my feet And a light to my path."

Proverbs 4:18 "But the path of the just is like the shining sun, That shines ever brighter unto the perfect day."

Hebrews 12v13

Reflection: What are some ways you've seen God make your path clear, even in difficult seasons?

B. Man's Path - The Way of Destruction

Proverbs 14:12 "There is a way that seems right to a man, But its end is the way of death."

Proverbs 4:19 "The way of the wicked is like darkness; They do not know what makes them stumble."

Proverbs 15:9 "The way of the wicked is an abomination to the Lord, But He loves him who follows righteousness."

Reflection: Why do you think it's sometimes easier to choose "our own way" instead of God's? What helps you resist that pull?

C. Choosing Daily - Which Path?

Proverbs 4:26 "Ponder the path of your feet, And let all your ways be established."

Proverbs 3:5–6 "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths."

Reflection Question: What small daily practices help you stay on God's path (prayer, worship, accountability, Scripture, community)?

Practical Application

Reflect: "Which path am I walking in right now in this season of my life?"

Option: Have paper and pens — write one area where God needs to redirect your path.

Let us get back to Leviathan. What does the word say about Leviathan?

Leviathan in the Word of God

(primarily Job 41, Psalm 74:14, Isaiah 27:1)

- Powerful and untamable Job 41 paints Leviathan as an unconquerable creature. No man can control or subdue it (Job 41:1–10).
- Fierce and terrifying It inspires dread; no one dares to stir it up (Job 41:33).
- Prideful Leviathan is described as "king over all the children of pride" (Job 41:34).
- Twisting/serpentine nature** Isaiah 27:1 calls Leviathan a "twisting serpent," associated with chaos and evil.
- Breath of fire Symbolic of destruction, anger, or intimidation (Job 41:19–21).
- Lives in the deep/waters Represents hidden, deep, or dark places (Job 41:31; Psalm 104:26).
- God alone can defeat it Psalm 74:14 says God crushed the heads of Leviathan. Isaiah 27:1 says the Lord will punish Leviathan with His sword.

There are also many teachings on Leviathan and these are some of the themes.

Leviathan in Popular Teaching

1. Spirit of Pride

- Exalts self, resists humility, and is unyielding.
- Can harden hearts against correction or repentance.
- (Job 41:34 king of all the children of pride).

2. Twists Communication

- Misinterprets words, creating misunderstanding and strife.
- Couples this with suspicion and offense.
- Isaiah's "twisting serpent" ties into this.

3. Brings Division & Strife

- Causes conflicts in families, churches, and relationships.
- Especially seen in miscommunication or spiritual pride.

4. Hardness/Unyielding Nature

• Job 41 describes Leviathan's scales as sealed tightly together. Teachers interpret this as stubbornness, being unteachable, or resistant to the Spirit of God.

5. Lives in Hidden Depths

• Often represents deep-seated strongholds, generational patterns, or things lurking beneath the surface.

6. Counterfeit Power & Intimidation

- Tries to appear unstoppable, breathing out "fire" (threats, fear).
- Creates a sense of hopelessness against its power.

7. Defeated by God's Power Alone

- No man can tame Leviathan; it is only by God's Spirit and Word.
- This points us back to Christ's victory over every principality (Col. 2:15).

In short:

Biblically, Leviathan is a terrifying, proud, chaotic sea creature only God can subdue. Spiritually, it represents pride, twisting, strife, and an untameable stronghold — but one that God alone defeats.

How Leviathan Is Defeated in the Bible

1. By God's Power Alone

Job 41:10–11 – "No one is fierce enough to rouse Leviathan. Who then is able to stand against me? Who has a claim against me that I must pay? Everything under heaven belongs to me."

Only God has the authority and power to subdue Leviathan.

2. God Breaks Leviathan's Heads

Psalm 74:14 – "You crushed the heads of Leviathan; you gave him as food for the creatures of the wilderness."

This shows total defeat and humiliation of Leviathan by God.

3. By the Sword of the Lord

Isaiah 27:1 – "In that day the Lord with His severe sword, great and strong, will punish Leviathan the fleeing serpent, Leviathan that twisted serpent; and He will slay the reptile that is in the sea."

The Lord Himself strikes Leviathan with His mighty sword (symbol of His Word and judgment).

4. By the Victory of Christ

Colossians 2:15 – "Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it \[the cross\]."

Leviathan (if seen as a demonic principality) was defeated at the Cross when Jesus stripped all powers of their authority.

5. By God's Spirit

Job 41:33–34 describes Leviathan as "king over all the children of pride." Pride is only overcome by the Spirit of God working humility in us (James 4:6–7: "God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble. Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.").

When we humble ourselves under God, the grip of Leviathan (pride, twisting, strife) is broken.

Summary:

Leviathan is not defeated by human strength, strategies, or intellect.

- God Himself crushes it (Ps. 74:14).
- God uses His sword (Isa. 27:1).
- Jesus Christ triumphed over it at the Cross (Col. 2:15).
- In us, Leviathan's influence (pride, twisting, strife) is broken by humility and submission to God (James 4:6–7).

So practically: we don't "fight Leviathan" — we stand in Christ's victory, walk in humility, and let God's Word and Spirit cut it down. We have to submit to God and the enemy will flee!

Spiritual Application Guide: Overcoming Leviathan's Influence

1. Recognise the Source

- Leviathan represents **pride**, **twisting of words**, **strife**, **and intimidation** (Job 41; Isa. 27:1).
- Discern when conflicts, miscommunication, or stubbornness are spiritual in nature, not just personality clashes.

2. Acknowledge God's Authority

- **Job 41:10–11** Only God can defeat Leviathan.
- **Psalm 74:14** God Himself crushes its heads.

Declare: "Lord, this battle is Yours. I step out of self-effort and lean on Your power."

3. Take Hold of Christ's Victory

- **Colossians 2:15** Jesus disarmed all powers at the Cross.
- Stand in His finished work. Remind the enemy he is already defeated.

Pray: "I stand in the triumph of the Cross. Leviathan has no authority over me, my family, or my church."

4. Walk in Humility

- **Job 41:34** Leviathan is king over the children of pride.
- **James 4:6-7** God gives grace to the humble, resist the devil and he flees.

Practice humility: repent quickly, forgive, and prefer others above yourself.

5. Guard Communication

- Leviathan twists words (Isa. 27:1 "twisting serpent").
- Be slow to speak, quick to listen (James 1:19).

Before reacting, ask: "Is this what they truly meant? Or is something twisting it?"

6. Use the Sword of the Spirit

- **Isaiah 27:1** The Lord slays Leviathan with His strong sword.
- **Ephesians 6:17** The Word of God is the sword of the Spirit.

Declare scripture aloud in situations of confusion, pride, or conflict.

7. Stay Anchored in Worship

- **Psalm 74:14** God crushed Leviathan and gave it as food for His people (a picture of victory and provision).
- Worship shifts the atmosphere and dethrones pride.

Use worship to realign your spirit with God's truth.

Practical Steps in Daily Life

- **1. Pray daily for humility** invite God to search your heart for pride.
- **2. Refuse offence** don't let twisted words take root.
- **3. Pause before responding** give the Spirit room to correct misunderstanding.
- **4. Confess God's Word** wield scripture as your weapon.
- **5. Stay in community** Leviathan works in isolation; healing flows in healthy relationships.

Key Takeaway: You don't wrestle Leviathan in your own strength. You overcome by **humility**, **the Word of God, and the victory of Christ**.

Closing Prayer & Blessing

Prayer to Untwist the Path

"Father God, I thank You that You are the One who makes crooked paths straight. Lord, Your Word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path. Help us to walk in Your ways, to reject the false paths, and to trust You fully. Lead us in paths of righteousness for Your name's sake.

In the name of Jesus Christ, I renounce every way Leviathan has twisted my thoughts, my relationships, my words, or my steps. I break agreement with pride, confusion, and strife. I humble myself before You and submit my path to You. Lord, slay Leviathan with Your mighty sword and straighten every place that has been made crooked. I declare that my steps are ordered by the Lord, my path is righteous, and my way is life. In Jesus' name, Amen."

Blessing

"The Lord will guard your paths, establish your steps, and lead you in the way of everlasting life."