



The Lord's Leading

When the Lord is with someone, He leads him and makes provision so that all that happens, whether sad or joyful, may bring him what is good. This is Divine Providence (*Arcana Coelestia* 6303).

Since the Lord alone leads a person to heaven, and opens the door, therefore He calls Himself “the way” and also “the door” (*Apocalypse Revealed* 176).

The Lord “leads a person as silently as an imperceptible stream or favoring current bears a vessel along” (*Divine Providence* 186).

Those who acknowledge God and His Divine Providence are like the angels of heaven, who regard with aversion being led of themselves, and who love to be led by the Lord (*Divine Providence* 208).

Peace has in it confidence in the Lord, that He directs all things, and provides all things, and that He leads to a good end (*Arcana Coelestia* 8455).

The Lord leads a person as if by the hand, permitting and withholding as far as he is willing to follow in freedom. If a person looks to the Lord, he is brought by continual steps out of hell up towards heaven and into heaven. This the Lord does without the person knowing it, because if a person knew it he would disturb the continuity of that process by leading himself (*Apocalypse Explained* 1174:2).