

*If I Make My Bed in Hell...*

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The Lord doesn't stop us from doing evil because that would take away our freedom. So if we choose an evil, is He still with us? And how is He still with us?

We tend to think of His being "way up there," maybe looking down on us with a bit of disapproval. He isn't "way up there." "If I make my bed in hell, behold, You are there!" A beautiful passage in the *Apocalypse Explained* says that if our spirits go down into hell, the Lord is right at our side, leading us "as if by the hand."

And if we want to escape from our bad choices, can we do it on our own? Of course not. Can the angels show us the way out? No. If we turn to Him He leads us by paths that only He knows. Think of being lost in a huge forest, with countless ways to get lost even more, and forever. Only the Lord knows which path we should take out of all the countless ones. Only He knows how to find new paths if we stray again. He holds our hands and leads us in freedom.

How does He lead in freedom? That same passage says it. We have lots of truths in our minds. Each truth is a pathway. He alone knows which one we need right now. He touches our hearts with an affection for a certain idea, and if we choose to follow it He opens up other ideas, using *truths we already know*, and slowly He leads us "up out of hell towards heaven and into heaven." *Apocalypse Explained* 1174

We are never alone, not even if we choose evils. He's right next to us, holding our hand, ready to show us the paths which alone can save us. And each step of the way, He is walking with us.