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HADEREK YHWH DEFINED

In any attempt to define the concept of *Haderek YHWH* – “The Way of YHWH” – we run into the difficulty of pinning down only one single idea that adequately explains it. For this reason, we will define it for you by what we already know from our own scriptural research, which has shown many diverse facets of “Haderek YHWH” that, combined together, make one whole picture. We will first look at the literal definition of the Hebrew word, then apply what we know from Scripture to that.

Derek – דֶּרֶךְ – refers to a path worn by constant use and translates in English as “way,” “road,” “journey,” “manner,” and “work.” Derek can apply to any of these in just about any context, such as something common, set-apart, unrighteous, righteous, and so on. However, when we prefix the word with the definite article “Ha” – הַ – and follow that with the name of YHWH, we make the phrase *Haderek YHWH* most specific, as referring to “the way,” “the road,” “the journey,” “the manner,” and “the work” that YHWH has established for His children so that they can conform to His own image and that of His son, Yehoshua Hamashiach.

To define something, we often use the word “is” to mean “is the same as” or “is equal to,” which makes the phrase following “is” some kind of metaphor. Here, we intend to provide you with some of the metaphors that Scripture gives for *Haderek YHWH*.

Thus, Haderek YHWH is...

- ...the loving way that one puts others’ interests before his own.
- ...the pure road, unstained by the world’s ways.
- ...the blessed journey of one who guards the Torah of YHWH.
- ...the humble manner of one who says to YHWH, “Not my will, but Yours be done.”
- ...the righteous works one does to esteem the Father in heaven.
- ...the lighted way that shines in the world’s darkness.
- ...narrow road, which few will find, that leads to eternal and abundant life.
- ...the epic journey of endurance to the end, faithful to YHWH.
- ...the loving manner of one who lays down his life for his friends.
- ...the generous works of one who gives, expecting nothing in return.
- ...the trusting way of one who follows the commandments of YHWH.
- ...the hope-filled journey of those trusting in the Son of YHWH, Yehoshua Hamashiach.
- ...the peaceful road that guards the heart and mind through Yehoshua Hamashiach.
- ...the kind works that provide for the orphan, widow, and the stranger among His children.
- ...the one and only correct path that leads to communion with Elohim, and community with His children.

Although this is not a complete definition by any stretch of the imagination, we can see that the examples given cover a broad range of ideas which, combined, contribute to the concept of *Haderek YHWH*. And we have found that Scripture contains many metaphors of *Haderek YHWH*. Learn them, then do what He says. Perhaps one day He will point at you and say, “See that one there? Imitate him. He walks according to *Haderek YHWH*.” Amein!