

Title: Being Where You Should Be
Text: 2 Samuel 11

INTRODUCTION

Romans 15:4, "For whatever was written in earlier times was written for our instruction, so that through perseverance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope." And be warned as 1 Corinthians 10:12 says, "Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed that he does not fall." Scripture is faithful in recording the faults of even those who it praises the most. It does not hide the sins, nor the danger of doing something on your own. We learn from the mistakes that are recorded in the Scriptures of those who fall to them. It also warns us of thinking too much of ourselves.

It is pride that presupposes sin. It's thinking you are strong enough. It is thinking you have achieved some sort of spiritual state that boasts your own strength. What can we learn from this account of David? This is why the text has recorded such a sin. Too often we think we are safe, we have read our bibles, prayed and are actively involved in church functions.

Application: One important truth we can learn from this, it doesn't take long to slip and fall into a pit. And don't be so arrogant that you are immune.

POINT 1 - THE NEGLECT OF HIS WORK

1A - David should have been far away from the rooftop. David should have been at the head of his forces, instead he found himself on the rooftop where temptation was. It is the great warning that Jesus gave in Matthew 26:41, "Keep watching and praying that you may not enter into temptation; the spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak." The context of this is the prayer not to enter into temptation. Avoid it at all costs. Too many Christians think they are super spiritual to handle anything. It's best not to confront sinful temptations.

1B - He tarried at Jerusalem. Oh what a danger of tarrying in a place you shouldn't be. By definition the word tarry means, "stay longer than intended; delay leaving a place." When the angels were urging Lot to leave the city, "take your wife and your two daughters who are here, or you will be swept away in the punishment of the city" (Genesis 19:15), Lot lingered or hesitated. Genesis 19:16, "But he lingered. So the men seized him and his wife and his two daughters by the hand, the Lord being merciful to him, and they brought him out and set him outside the city" (ESV).

Application: Some of you may be lingering, you are in a place you shouldn't be. You are not about the work of the Lord. Furthermore, you are tarrying in a place you shouldn't be. Some of you are in great danger by not removing yourself from places that will draw you into a great sin.

POINT 2 - THE DRIFT BEGINS

2A - A love of ease. It was evening when he arose from his bed. [The Hebrews, like other Orientals, rose at daybreak, and always took a nap during the heat of the day. Afterwards they lounged in the cool of the evening on their flat-roofed terraces. It is probable that David had ascended to enjoy the open-air refreshment earlier than usual.](#)¹ Whatever the reason, had he been where he should have been, he would not have found himself in this predicament.

When a man does not take a notion to be on his guard, he will fall. You cannot be at ease spiritually in the battles of the day. Too many believes have set their lives on cruise control. You know, they are driving spiritual Teslas. They aren't aware of the dangers. They aren't looking and watching. They assume they can cruise into glory with no troubles.

There was a man who had so much goods. He thought he had it made. He was set for life. According to the parable Jesus told in Luke 12:16-21, ["And he began reasoning to himself, saying, What shall I do, since I have no place to store my crops? Then he said, This is what I will do: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods."](#) Sounds like a good business plan right? Here's what he said, ["And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years to come; take your ease, eat, drink and be merry."](#) But the danger was in his ease, ["But God said to him, You fool! This very night your soul is required of you; and now who will own what you have prepared?"](#)

The context in this parable is greed. But a point we cannot overlook is he assumed, by his ease, that it would all be there for a while. You see no need to increase your Scripture reading. No need to fellowship much. Your cruising through life, assuming that in the near future, you will get serious. Matthew Henry comments, ["Idleness give great advantage to the tempter. Still waters collect filth. The bed of laziness often turns into the bed of lusts."](#)²

2B - A love for ease brings about a wondering eye. David saw her bathing, probably from a ceremonial defilement, but she was beautiful to look upon. Why does the Scriptures include this description of her beauty? External appearances are a downfall to inward spiritual strength. Genesis 3:6 gives us this clearly, ["When the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes."](#) When God said no, satan lured them towards the beauty of what they could be. For most, their intention is not to violate the commands of God, but as they wonder, they see, and then forms the plan. James 1:14-15, ["But each one is tempted when he is carried away and enticed by his own lust. Then when lust has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and when sin is accomplished, it brings forth death."](#) It all started with what you thought was an innocent look.

¹ Robert Jamieson, A. R. Fausset, and David Brown, [Commentary Critical and Explanatory on the Whole Bible](#), vol. 1 (Oak Harbor, WA: Logos Research Systems, Inc., 1997), 201.

² Matthew Henry Commentary; pp. 392

POINT 3 - THE DRIFT GIVES BIRTH TO SIN

3A - When he saw, the lust was born, the evil was created and the pursuit began. What he saw with the eyes, gave birth to what was in his heart. He asked about the woman. Maybe, he was intending to see if she was available. Perhaps if she was unmarried to send for her.

3B - His lust grew beyond the moral and noble response. When he found out she was married and obviously sent for her, someone with a working brain cell said to him, "And one said, Is this not Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam, the wife of Uriah the Hittite?" You are a friend of someone who is about to ruin a marriage, and you pull him aside and try to talk some sense into him. This is what this fellow tried to do. Hey David, she's married. Don't go there. Don't tread these waters, there's an alligator lurking to strike.

Application: How many times have you ignored the godly advise of a friend. Or how many times as the Holy Spirit urged you to stay away, you're in a bad spot, danger lurks? Some of you are flirting with danger now.

3C - Obviously she came with too much ease, but the look gave birth to the lust, and lust conceived into action.

POINT 4 - THE MATTER OF SIN GREW WORSE

4A - The eye is never satisfied. David had many wives and concubines. Ecclesiastes 11:8, "All things are wearisome; man is not able to tell it. The eye is not satisfied with seeing, Nor is the ear filled with hearing." A man who allows his heart to take over, numbs his mind with lust. He becomes immune to the desires that he has let take him over. The sin grew worse.

4B - She became pregnant and his cover up began. This wasn't planned and threw a consequence into David's sin. David now drifted deeper into sin, he sent for Uriah who was deeply committed to David as king. When Uriah wouldn't go down to lie with his wife, he made him drunk to try and go, and yet in Uriah's drunkenness, he had more integrity than David did, cf. vs. 6-13. NOTE: Men will do anything to cover their sin when it exposes their power.

4C - Murder plot of Uriah. David didn't kill Uriah directly, but he had to silence him because when his wife started to show her pregnancy, he would be exposed. Thus David sent him to the front of the most fearsome battle, there he was killed fighting for the honor of David, cf. vs. 14-25.

4D - David marries her after she finished mourning. As if this was making it all right. The secret would soon be exposed. As Matthew Henry says in his commentary, "God left him to himself this once. This sin teaches us that we need to pray everyday, Father in heaven, lead us not into temptation, and we must watch that we do not enter."

POINT 5 - SOME CONCLUDING THOUGHTS

5A - No matter all that occurred, vs. 27 sums up this truth, "But the thing that David had done was evil in the sight of the LORD." However, there is hope. God is merciful, kind and gracious to us. There are no human words to define the grace of God in our rebellion and sin.

5B - The conviction of his sin through Nathan, cf. 2 Samuel 12:7-13. A few things to note about our text that we can apply here in our lives today.

- Are you wondering upon the rooftops, and not being about the Lord's business? Do you think you are spiritual enough that sin won't creep into your doorstep?
- In your sin, God is merciful beyond our comprehension. He may even be sending others to tell you of your rebellion. How will you respond? David responded, I have sinned against the Lord.
- You have covered your sin for long enough...will you today, by the power of the convicting Holy Spirit, say, "I have sinned against the Lord" and repent?