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# **It Didn't Have to Happen**

**# 956-A**

**Series: God's Living Legends II**



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**INTO HIS LIKENESS RADIO**

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# It Didn't Have to Happen

It would have been the scandal of the century!

Had it happened in our day and age, the Daily Tribune would have hit the newsstand with bold, black headlines six inches high that read:

KING STEALS ANOTHER MAN'S WIFE  
INVESTIGATION UNDERWAY  
MURDER SUSPECTED

It would have been the scandal of the century, indeed.

Jehovah's fair-haired boy...this man after God's own heart has just proved himself to be less than a spiritual superman. Off came the cloak with the big red "S" ...And the bright red shoes that had catapulted him from a phone booth in Bethlehem to the palace have just turned to feet of clay.

King David has just broken the heart of his God.

But it didn't have to happen!

It wasn't just the natural thing that comes with success. If you read the daily newspapers today, you will be led to believe that greatness and success carry with them the price tag of immorality. You will be led to believe that you cannot be wealthy or powerful or successful and be holy at the same time.

That's a lie! It didn't have to happen!

But it did!

And this lesson, by far the darkest chapter in King David's life stands as a grim reminder to each of us that though the road to greatness passes by a million valleys where, alas, lurk temptations ere not known, our God has granted to each of us, as we travel by those valleys, what He has chosen to call *a way of escape*.

Our job is to recognize those dangers for what they are, and be alert to and take advantage of the way of escape God has granted us...before it is too late.

## It Didn't Have to Happen

God's account of David's great mistake is very clearly recorded in II Samuel, chapter 11. If you will turn there, you will witness the decline and fall of a national hero, the same national hero who only a few years before, led by God's Spirit, had taken aim and slain a giant. His God knew just where the giant was vulnerable, and David was in the will of his God.

Now he was not. And God's enemy knew just exactly the area of David's life that was vulnerable. Now it was Satan's turn to be the giant-slayer, and were it not for the amazing grace of God, he would have succeeded. Satan knew David's weakness.

He knows mine. And he knows yours. He knows the time and place we are most likely to forget about the way of escape, and *in our own energy* try to stand against the Goliaths of the flesh. He also knows that clothed in anything but the armor of God, we will not be able to stand.

So before we start throwing stones at David, we'd best examine our own lives in the light of the process that subtly took God's great king into the caves of despair.

Let's begin reading in II Samuel 11,

It happened in the spring of the year [after the war was expired], at the time when kings go out to battle, that David sent Joab and his servants with him, and all Israel; and they destroyed the people of Ammon and besieged Rabbah. But David remained at Jerusalem. [Dave stayed home.]

Then it happened one evening that David arose from his bed [he had been taking a nap before dinner] and walked on the roof of the king's house. And from the roof he saw a woman bathing, and the woman was very beautiful to behold.

So David sent and inquired about the woman. And someone said, "Is this not Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam, the wife of Uriah the Hittite?"

Then David sent messengers, and took her; and she came to him, and he lay with her, for she was cleansed from her impurity; and she returned to her house.

And the woman conceived; so she sent and told David, and said, "I am with child." (II Samuel 11:1-5 NKJV)

It is one of the most devastating five verses in Scripture. Here is a man after God's own heart, one whom God has raised up to a position of leadership and power, one to whom God has made an everlasting covenant, that of his kingdom there shall be no end.

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Here is a man who has everything, who deliberately, by an act of his will, chooses to disobey the will of God, and the word of God, and the way of God.

But it didn't have to happen! David allowed a pattern of things to go unchecked in his life that led up to this moment. At any one of those points, he could have chosen to take the way of escape. He simply either didn't think it could happen to him, or he came to believe that as a spiritual leader, he was immune to certain of God's laws; but at any rate, little by little, he set himself up to fall. And fall he did.

Now we are not here to hammer David. Any one of us here could fall as David fell. In one area of our lives or another, most of us have. The question is not, "How hard can we be on David"; the question is, "Where did David go wrong?" and "How can we keep from making the same mistake?"

Before we pursue the story itself and the progression of events that led up to David's fall, let's look at two or three essential principles that will help keep the whole story in perspective.

### DANGER AT HEADQUARTERS HILL

First of all, consider the setting. It was danger time at headquarters hill. David, the fugitive, had become David, the ruler. David, the warrior, had become David, the man of leisure. The David who had to hide in caves and beg for food was now basking in the lap of luxury. The famine had turned to feasts; the poverty to power; the humiliation replaced by honor. David, the has-been, is now David, the hero. David, the king's enemy, had become the king. Everything was going his way.

He had money, prestige, power, and respect. He was by anyone's assessment sitting on top of the world. That is a very dangerous place to be. It is not a bad place to be, but it is a dangerous place to be. When David was on the run, being persecuted, his life in danger, he had no hope and no help apart from God. He had no time to let his guard down, no chance to be slothful or indifferent. His every move placed his life in jeopardy. Now he had tasted the cup of success.

And Satan not only knows the vulnerability that accompanies that success, he is ever willing to exploit it to its fullest. So principle number one is this (and we will explore it further later in the lesson) beware when there is no visible warfare in your life.

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It is not a time to relax in your spiritual struggle. It is a time to intensify your time in the word, to deepen your time in prayer, a time to never be without the whole armor of God. It is a time when pride creeps in; when indifference develops; when temptations of all sorts subtly surround you, waiting to catch you off guard. Do not consider the lull in the battle a sign the battle is over. Consider it rather a time to send for reinforcements, lest the next onslaught of the enemy catch you unaware. Satan, you'll remember, used Job's time of peace, prosperity, and power as a signal that it was time to throw the book at him. He accused him of only loving the Lord because everything was going well. He well may have been accusing David now of the same thing.

### PRAISE GOD, HE'S NOT FINISHED YET

The second principle to keep in mind is that, Praise God, He wasn't finished with David yet. This isn't the end of David's life; it isn't even the end of David's reign. It simply marks a time when David, by choice, entered a deep valley where the power of God no longer energized his life. God knew, as He did with Job, that on the other side of that valley there would be a humbler David; a more mature David, a wiser David, a more sensitive David. He never would have chosen to do it this way, but He wasn't finished with His man yet.

And that is an important principle for all of us to consider. You may have made the same mistake that David made. You may have made a different kind of mistake, something less visible, but no less devastating. You may have found yourself in the throes of humiliation and grief, crying, "God, how can you ever use me again?" For a time the heavens may seem to be silent. That is a part of the process of repentance. Read the psalms of David. Listen to the grief that poured from his heart as his fellowship with God seemed at times to be irretrievable. Then watch as, at the very depths of his grief, when it seemed God would not listen, heaven opened again, sunlight flooded his tear-stained cheeks, love overwhelmed his grieving heart, and he was restored in the eyes of his God. God isn't finished with you. You may have sunk to the depths of degradation. Everyone may know. No one may know. God knows. And He is but waiting to not only restore you, but to lift you to heights you have not known. God wasn't finished with David yet. And God is not finished with you, no matter what you have done, if you have or if you will but repent.

TRUTH OR CONSEQUENCES

Principle number 3 to remember is that David didn't obey the truth, so he had to pay the consequences. Part of his problem in the next few verses stems from the fact that Satan had subtly sold him the lie that it is possible to sin and not get caught. Satan tries to tell us that some people can violate God's laws and never get a ticket. That some can flagrantly disobey and never have to answer for their behavior. That is not true. Scripture clearly states that,

Be not deceived, [don't buy a lie, that's what it means] God is not mocked: whatever a man [person] sows, that shall he [they] also reap. (Galatians 6:7 NKJV)

You may not see it, but God is not mocked. While God wasn't finished with David yet, and David had a lifetime of ministering yet before him, the sins he was committing could not go without their consequences.

That may be where you are today. You may still be sinning and enjoying it. You may have assumed that because you have seen no visible signs of discipline that God either hasn't seen what you are doing, or He is so enamored with the rest of your life, He has chosen to overlook those indiscretions.

Be not deceived; God is not mocked. Whatsoever you sow, you must reap. Separation from God's power and certain inevitable consequences await you unless you repent; and certain fruits of your rebellion follow you even after you repent. You either live by the truth or pay the consequences. David had to pay a high price for his sins; and because he had been elevated by God to a position of authority in the kingdom, the consequences would be even greater.

If you are living in rebellion to God's plan for your life, either through immorality or disobedience to His principles in your marriage, your job, your finances, your disciplines of life...be not deceived; God is not mocked. *You may avoid the eye of man, but you cannot avoid the eye of God*, and God will not nullify His eternal laws for you or me or David or anyone else.

EVEN THIS, LORD?

The fourth principle to consider is that after David repented, God took and used even the results of his disobedience to change his perspective of his God. David's Psalms before his great sins spoke of God's righteousness in defending the king from his

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enemies. They spoke of David's confidence in God, of why God owed David success; of how God's prospering David was a sign of God's approval of David.

Ah, but after his fall, David's pen and ink were mixed with the catalyst of tears; and now a heart that was broken because it had broken the heart of its God spoke softly of God's mercy, quietly of God's grace; lovingly of God's forgiveness. Mark it down. It was not God's will for David to commit adultery or murder. God forbid. But once it happened, and once David repented, God took *David's very own mistakes* and turned them into heavenly sandpaper to smooth off the edges of self-centeredness that had formed in the heart of this successful man.

God will use everything in your life to change your life, if you'll let Him. You say, "Even this, Lord?" and God answers tenderly, as He did to David, "Yes, my child, even this."

So remember as you work your way through this story, that:

1- The absence of warfare and the presence of success are not times to relax, but to regroup. The battle is only beginning.

2- No matter what you have done, God isn't finished with you yet. He isn't finished changing you, and He isn't finished using you. *If you will repent*, God will graciously restore.

3- Even so, there will be consequences attached to any form of sin. And while some may seem to be slow-acting and not visible, the cancer of that rebellion is eating its way into the fiber of your soul, and it will leave its mark. Even once you've repented, though God will instantly forgive you, the consequences may well go on, even for the rest of your life.

4- But even this, provided you will allow it, God will use for your good. Romans 8:28 will always be there. And once you bow before your God in repentance, though the consequences may remain, the transformation will begin. And you will never see your God in the same light again. David didn't. Job didn't. You won't either.

So now let's journey through the passage and look at it in the light of the process, the problem, the poison, the progression, and the provision, keeping in mind one central thought—IT DIDN'T HAVE TO HAPPEN!

IT DIDN'T HAVE TO HAPPEN!

By the process, we mean the progression of decisions that David made, both consciously and unconsciously, that led up to the moment of his sin and on to the ultimate consequences. That process we will find in II Samuel, chapter 11. By the problem, we mean the unfolding of the three-fold attack of Satan described so perfectly in I John 2:15,16. By the Poison, we mean the deliberate lies that Satan whispered in David's ear, inviting him, as he did Eve, to ignore the absolutes God had clearly placed before him, assuming the consequences were not laws of God. By the Progression, we mean the pattern given to us in James 1:13-16, that describes what it was that was actually taking place in David's heart. Lastly, by the Provision, we mean the specific "way of escape" that God has promised to give to us in I Corinthians 10:13. Next week, Lord willing, I will give you an overview of how all of those principles fit together into one. But for the most part, today, we will concern ourselves with the process. For it is in the process, that we can best see the checkpoints that David ignored, and that we may be ignoring, as we ever so subtly are allowing ourselves to slide into the abyss of compromise.

David Lingered

Step one in David's downfall is found in verse one. There we read,

And it came to pass, after the year was expired, at the time when kings go forth to battle, that David sent Joab, and his servants with him, and all Israel; and they destroyed the children of Ammon, and besieged Rabbah. But David tarried still at Jerusalem.

It was spring, and after a period of forced retirement from the battlefields, the thaw in the weather and the increased availability of food inevitably meant a thaw in the peace process as well. It was time for the Israelites to return to their battle posts. So we read in verse one that at the time when KINGS go forth to battle David sent his men into the fray. Kings led; David sent. There was problem number one. Apparently David the man of war had become David the man of leisure. And so at the time when kings go forth to battle, David sent Joab, his servants, and the entire Israeli army into the conflict with the Ammonites. Everyone that is, except the king himself.

As one writer comments, "David was at home in Jerusalem.



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He found himself with time on his hands and soon got involved in moral problems. Beware of having lots of free time available and no constructive plan as to how to use it." Ezekiel 16:49 paints this picture of Sodom,

Look, this was the iniquity of your sister Sodom: She and her daughter had pride, fullness of food, and abundance of idleness; neither did she strengthen the hand of the poor and needy.  
(Ezekiel 16:49 NKJV)

Idleness. We live in a world that encourages idleness. A world that teaches that it is only natural to flinch at the hard work or a consistent call to battle. A world that teaches that the wise man is the man who finds a way to rest while others work. But an idle mind is the devil's workshop. The mind in neutral is Satan's invitation to slip it in reverse. It's easy as you reach a level of success in your business or in your ministry to feel you have earned the right to a measure of slothfulness, that you are now above the mundane day-to-day grind. Not so. David was tasting of the cup of idleness. When he should have been leading the troops into battle, he remained back at the palace, where leisure and luxury inevitably lead to lust.

The problem was according to I John 2, to:

...not love the world or the things in the world,  
(I John 2:15a NKJV)

The problem was

No one engaged in warfare entangles himself with the affairs of this life, that he may please him who enlisted him as a soldier.  
(II Timothy 2:4 NKJV)

That was the problem. The poison was Satan's lie. "Take thine ease; eat, drink, and be merry. You've earned a rest from the conflict." But our loving God always provides a way of escape. And had David taken the way of escape at this point, the rest of chapter 11 need never have been penned. His way of escape at this point was clearly recorded in Luke 12. There we read about two kinds of servants. One becomes slothful and lazy, taking his ease, not knowing when the master is coming; the other one stays in a spirit of preparation and never assumes the battle is for someone else to fight. Jesus says,

Let your waist be girded and your lamps burning;  
(Luke 12:35)

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And the Lord said, "Who then is that faithful and wise steward, whom his master will make ruler over his household, to give them their portion of food in due season?"

Blessed is that servant whom his master will find so doing when he comes.

Truly, I say to you that he will make him ruler over all that he has...  
(Luke 12:42-44a NKJV)

Now I realize there is danger in generalizing. But you check your daily lifestyle and be sure to remember that somewhere in between that pressure cooker that allows no time to be alone or to be alone with God, and that life of leisure that allows far too much time to look, to linger, and to lust, there lies the balance of stewardship of time. Be careful, that once you have reached the pinnacle of what the world calls success, you do not compromise the principle of diligence and eat the bread of idleness. David did, and it cost him dearly.

### David Looked

Step number two down the road to defeat: David looked. He arose from what was apparently an afternoon nap and went up on the roof of his house to survey the city. Suddenly, something caught his eye. It was the kind of story Hollywood loves. There across the way was one of the most beautiful women David had ever seen, and she was taking a bath. Now there is no use questioning whether or not Bathsheba was being immodest. Certainly she could have been more careful. But the burden of responsibility here rests solely with David. He looked. Not a quick glance, followed by embarrassment, and a deliberate choice not to take that second look that could invite disaster. He looked. He looked with an eye to lust. We know that from the verse that follows. David trained his eye on that which he knew was potentially deadly and he looked long enough that the seed of lust had time to germinate. The problem is again clearly defined in I John:

Do not love not the world... (I John 2:15a NKJV)

For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world.  
(I John 2:16 NKJV)

What does John say about it? It is not of the Father. David looked. Satan's poisonous lies were at work in David's life. "It never hurts to look!" he'll say. What harm can a movie do? What's

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wrong with a few bad scenes? What damage can be done by looking? Answer: the same damage that comes from lighting only one match to a kerosene-soaked pile of papers. That's all it takes in many hearts to light the fire of lust, and once it has begun to burn, nothing in this world can extinguish it. That my friend, is why Satan has so labored to convince this world that pornography is a relative term, that you can't define it. God will define it for you. It is anything that excites the lower nature through the deliberate exposure of the senses to that which is sensual.

David lingered, and David looked, and David liked what he saw. But once again, David had a way of escape. It is found in Matthew, chapters 5 and 6. In Matthew 6 Jesus tells us,

The lamp of the body is the eye. If therefore your eye is good, your whole body will be full of light. (Matthew 6:22 NKJV)

In Matthew 5:28, He clarifies that principle as it applies to this issue. He says this:

“You have heard that it was said to those of old, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’

But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

If your right eye causes you to sin, pluck it out and cast it from you; for it is more profitable for you that one of your members perish, than for your whole body to be cast into hell.

And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and cast it from you; for it is more profitable for you that one of your members perish, than for your whole body to be cast into hell. (Matthew 5:28-30 NKJV)

In a nutshell, what that passage says is that God has given every one who has ever lived a way of escape from the lust of the eye. It is this: Look the other way. He is saying take any measure, no matter how extreme, to avoid allowing the eye to make contact with that which is almost certain to lead to defilement of the mind. He uses the seemingly absurd illustration that, if necessary, pluck out your eye, rather than intentionally expose it to contamination. Jesus adds that it is because the eye is the lens, through which light enters the body. If you allow the eye to fall victim to lust, the light is filtered through a haze of evil, and the mind never experiences the sunlight of holiness. Jesus says, better off blind and pure than to have 20/20 vision focused on that which leads to immorality.

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### David Lusted

Having looked and having lingered, David lusted. He turned on the projector in his imagination and pictured himself and Bathsheba together. He knew virtually nothing about her. Upon inquiring, he learned that she was Eliam's daughter and the wife of one of his most trusted warriors. All he knew was that he liked what he saw, and he wanted what he saw. He allowed his mind to think about what he saw long enough to weaken him until he took the action of a fool. He deliberately chose to commit adultery. You say, why did God let that happen? Why did God allow her to be bathing just when he would be looking? Didn't God understand David had a weakness for women? Let me remind you, it wasn't God's fault. James 1 reminds us of that. It says this:

Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am tempted by God"; for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone.

But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed. (James 1:13,14 NKJV)

There is the truth about temptation. God is not the culprit. Satan is not the culprit, though he conspires again and again to bring things across your path to make you fall. Every man is tempted (there are no exceptions) when he falls captive to his own lusts. When he refuses God's way of escape and chooses instead to linger, to look, and to lust.

### David Took

In verse four there follows the inevitable consequences of looking, lusting, and lingering. David sent and inquired after the woman. You say, "But that will never happen to me. I'll never go that far." I would imagine nearly every man or woman who has fallen prey to adultery has thought that thought at some time or another in the process. It is a lie of Satan.

God continued to place obstacles in his path, but by now God's word was not even a consideration. One of his servants said to him, "Isn't this Bathsheba, Eliam's daughter, Uriah's wife?" David was already found to be taking another man's wife. Still he "sent messengers and took her." Oh, the foolishness of a heart that has succumbed to the cancer of lust. It no longer listens to logic. He should have known better. James goes on to tell us, "When lust hath conceived, it brings forth sin." David knew that. But he once again deliberately ignored his way of escape. He had lingered. He

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had looked. He had lusted. There was still time to flee this mire of quicksand before it was too late. God's way of escape is found in Proverbs 6 where we read,

Can a man scoop fire into his lap without his clothes being burned?

Can a man walk on hot coals without his feet being scorched?

So is he who sleeps with another man's wife; no one who touches her will go unpunished. (Proverbs 6:27-29 NIV)

David should have stopped and considered the consequences. Satan was selling him the lie, "What difference does it make? No one will ever know." God was whispering the truth from Proverbs 5,

Why embrace another man's wife?

For a man's ways are in full view of the Lord, and He examines all his paths. (Proverbs 5:20b, 21 paraphrased)

In the next lesson, we will follow the final four steps down the road to destruction that David took. If you will, please read the rest of chapter 11, and try to find the process, the problem, the poison, the progression and the provision, as each of those steps unfold.

But for today, I would have us go back now and focus on our central thought. It is this: It didn't have to happen. At every turn, God had given David a way of escape. I Corinthians remind us:

No temptation has overtaken [no, no, no, that means zero, nada] you except such as is [what?] common to man [everybody has the same problems]; but [what?] God is faithful, who will not [never, ever under any circumstances] allow you to be tempted beyond [above your capacity in Christ, to resist] what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it. (I Corinthians 10:13 NKJV)

That follows perhaps the sternest warning in all of the New Testament. The verse before it reads:

Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall. (I Corinthians 10:12 NKJV)

No one is immune. But the key issue is this: God has, in every case, given His children a way of escape. David lingered, but he had a way of escape. He could have recognized the danger of idleness, and the perils of slothfulness, and joined the troops

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on the front lines where he belonged. He had a way of escape. He chose to remain behind in the lap of luxury, just asking for trouble.

Then David looked. But again, he had a way of escape. He knew the light of the body was the eye. He could have, upon seeing Bathsheba, immediately turned away and turned his thoughts toward God, letting the Word cleanse his mind before the seeds had settled there. He had a way of escape. He chose to look, and look again.

Then David lusted. He let his imagination run wild. He thought thoughts in the caverns of his mind he would never have wanted projected on the screen of the palace. He pretended that no one would know but him. But the principle of Romans 2:16 was already clearly defined to him. It speaks of the day...

God will judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ, according  
to my gospel. (Romans 2:16 NKJV)

He had a way of escape. He could have pulled the plug on the projector of his mind and cried out to God to be cleansed. He chose to lust.

And finally, David took. Having been drawn away by his own lusts and enticed, he allowed lust to conceive and bring forth sin. It didn't have to happen. God had given him a way of escape. He was reminded by his men of what he was doing. He was reminded surely by his conscience of what he was doing. He had a way of escape. He could have stopped and considered the consequences: the broken hearts of his followers, the broken heart of Uriah, the broken heart of his God, the inevitable reaping that would take place, the loss of power, the loss of his prestige, the loss of his respect. All the things that had brought him to this place, he was about to barter away for a few moments of pleasure with someone he did not even know. God gave him a way of escape. He chose to take a woman who was not his, even though the law demanded that those who do so be put to death.

### THE TWO-FOLD CONCLUSION

#### 1- Sin Is a Progressive Disease

The issue here is two-fold. Number 1, sin is a process. It is a progressive pattern where each compromise leads to a greater compromise. The only safe thing to do is to develop safeguards that cut it off at the pass. Had David not lingered, there would

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have been nothing to see. Had David not looked, there would have been no lure to lust. Had David not lusted, there would have been no temptation to take what was not his, and risk losing everything that was. Sin is a progressive disease, and the real cure is to stop the process before it reaches the runaway stage. Once you have injected your bloodstream with the germs, to ask God to heal you is presumption. Why deliberately drink from a contaminated cup and then pray that the disease will not touch you? If you know a cup is contaminated, you stop before you pick it up.

### 2 - There Is A Way of Escape

The second issue is just as clear. There is no temptation taken you but such is common to man. We all walk in David's shoes. We all live in danger of David's sin. Yours may not be the lust of the eye. It may be the lust of the flesh or the boastful pride of life. It may be disobedience in other areas of your life. The key is not what your problem is; the key is: knowing that whatever it is God has given you a way of escape. And whatever it takes, do it. It may be counseling. It may mean linking up with a prayer partner to whom you can go when the battle is intense. It may involve fasting or days alone with God until the temptation is past.

Forget your pride. Forget your reputation. Forget your self-confidence that cries out, "It'll never happen to me." The moment you see the progressive consequences of sin beginning in your life, be it anger or bitterness or greed or lust...regardless of what it is, stop immediately and cry out to God, and then do anything it takes to flee from the very appearance of evil. If your problem is drinking, then do whatever it takes. If your problem is a temper out of control, do whatever it takes.

Take the way of escape, because after the disease of sin begins to run its course, stopping it involves major surgery; and often times our eyes are too blinded by then even to see that we're dying. David was a man after God's own heart, but he had a weakness. He didn't treat it as though it were as serious as it was. He let it slide. He believed it could never happen to him. Again and again, God gave him a way of escape. But he deliberately chose, in seemingly rapid-fire order, to ignore his escape route, and run headlong into the hands of the enemy instead.

But it didn't have to happen, to David, to you, or to me. God gave to him, and he has given to us, a way of escape. By His grace, may we take it.

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OUR GOD HAS PROVIDED A WAY OF ESCAPE

Our God has provided a way of escape  
A door through which we can flee  
Lest any sin upon entering in  
Could take and destroy you or me.

Our God knows the depth of our weakness  
He knows the deceit of our hearts  
So He's given us each a way of escape  
To halt the disease ere it starts.

All He's asked us to do is to take it  
To make that deliberate choice  
And turning, to flee from the presence of sin  
As we heed every word of his voice.

We need not look back as David did  
And wonder oh, where did I err?  
For had David stopped, he, too, would have known  
That the way of escape was there.

For though God has made the provision;  
The decision's still ours; we must make it...  
Yes, God has provided this way of escape  
But the choice still is ours; we must take it.

Whatever your battle; whatever the cost  
Don't succumb to the enemy's tool.  
Run as fast as you can; take the way of escape  
Or else, just admit...you're a fool!

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