

# A Journey That Ends In Disaster

# Some people travel, never return

- Mrs. Lot, Gn.19
- Young prophet, 1 K.13
- Ananias and Sapphira, Ac.5

I. How does a Christian  
fall into moral compromise?

# 1. Does not recognize flattery, the appeal of the forbidden

- Gn.3:1-6 –
  - <sup>1</sup> serpent shows interest in Eve
  - <sup>2</sup> markets the forbidden fruit
  - <sup>3</sup> promotes advantage of eating it
  - <sup>4</sup> ignores consequences of eating

## 2. Underestimates evil; flirts with temptation

- Gn.3: knowledge of good and evil
- Gn.6:5-6, obsession with evil

Sin grows when we feed it

In time, sin thrives and devours us

### 3. Sudden, deliberate choice to yield to sin

- 2 Sm.11, David –
  - Excuses?
    - I'm a good king
    - I deserve leisure
    - Nobody is perfect
    - Who will know?
    - My good outweighs my bad
  - Forgot consequences of sin. 2 Sm.12

## 4. Whitewashes sin

- 2 Sm.13, David's fall opened door for sons to walk in (e.g.: Amnon, ch.13)
  - David sinned against a hero . . .
  - Amnon would violate trust of own sister and brother . . . and reflect on father
    - David did nothing, 13:20-22
  - Absalom felt obliged to avenge his sister, 13:23-29 **exile** **hatred** **coup attempt**
  - David was the worst influence on his family... Solomon followed his example

## 5. Lies, Liars, and Life

- 1 K.22, Ahab
  - Showed mercy to monster
  - Rejected true prophet of God
- Strangely: Jehoshaphat believed God's prophet, but went to battle with Ahab despite the prophecy
- **Ahab lost his life; Jehoshaphat came close**

Never let a friendship take you  
where God does not want you to go



## 6. Does not commit ahead of time to do right thing

- Dn.1<sup>8</sup> Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's delicacies, nor with the wine which he drank; therefore he requested of the chief of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself.

## 7. Fails to consider damage to church

- 1 Co.1-4, division
- 1 Co.5, sinful man, woman, church...
  - Clement, epistle to Corinth

I. How does a Christian  
fall into moral compromise?

II. How to win against sin?

<sup>1</sup> Admit: you are on satan's hit list

- He wants to control what you say, do, think
  - Sin and its misery stem from Genesis 3
  - Eve listened to satan, not God

What if Eve had quoted  
God's words and walked away?

...or called Adam to  
support her resistance?

– Gn.42:21

## <sup>2</sup> Attacks will come. Job 1-2. . .

1. he fights aggressively against righteous.  
[He despises Job]
2. will do anything he can to destroy us
3. does not care how much pain it takes to break us
4. never apologizes for damage he does
5. pain / suffering we endure on earth cannot compare to damage he causes after we die
6. dead victims have no hope of recovery

### <sup>3</sup> Aware: satan attacks with forbidden pleasures

- Gn.3: 'be like God' – a good thing?
- Hb.11<sup>25</sup> choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin.
- Prov.9<sup>17</sup> stolen water is sweet, and bread eaten in secret is pleasant.

## 4 Acknowledge danger of flirting with temptation

Gn.39: Joseph

1. Though Joseph resisted temptation, he went to prison for doing good
2. If satan can't conquer through lust, he will falsely accuse / punish
3. God blessed Joseph. His faith in God carried him through the nightmare

<sup>5</sup> Anticipate sin and compromise  
at every corner. Prov.5-7

- Forewarned is forearmed. 5:1-4
- See temptation for what it is. 5:5-6
- Keep your distance. 5:8-9
- Do not dismiss the instruction of parents.  
6:20-26
- Beware: every sin has consequences.  
6:37-35
- Run for your life. 7:6...26-27



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7:26: a warrior; the slain were strong men

- Samson
- Solomon
- David

Seeing their might...why  
think I am an exception?

- Greek maxim: *know yourself*
- Better: *know your enemy...yourself...God*

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at every corner. Prov.5-7

7:27: her house is way to hell ... and death

- Descending
- Chambers of death
- Things are not always as they seem
  - Sin is deceitful

Pleasure  
palace

House of  
horrors

<sup>6</sup> Ask for strength to endure  
the trial, to find way of escape

Mt.6<sup>13</sup> And do not lead us into temptation, But  
deliver us from the evil one.

1 Co.10<sup>13</sup> No temptation has overtaken you  
except such as is common to man; but God is  
faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted  
beyond what you are able, but with the  
temptation will also make the way of escape,  
that you may be able to bear it.

## <sup>7</sup> Avoid bad company

- Some people bring out the worst in us
- 1 Co.15<sup>33</sup> Do not be deceived: “Bad company corrupts good morals” – NASB