



Avoiding the pitfalls of life!

A topical series for men!



# DANGER

**Every Man's Battle**

**2 Samuel 11**

**Men's Breakfast**

**Sermon given on August 20, 2016**



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# Danger: Anger

## 2 Samuel 11

### Opening Comments

- Today we continue the series: **DANGER: Avoiding the pitfalls of life!**
- Turn in your Bible to **Genesis 2**
- Last month I said that the dangers we will be looking at affect each man differently
- Some men will struggle these things more than others
- In fact, some of them may not even be a problem for you
- Last month it was anger
- Not all men struggle with anger
- Today's topic is different – it affects more men than any other kind of sin – even more than pride
- Here at the beginning of the Bible we have the account of God creating the man and the woman and everything else
- He creates the man first – and then
- **Genesis 2:15**
- God created a perfect man and gave him a perfect job – but not everything was perfect
- **Genesis 2:18**
- Man was perfect in a perfect place with a perfect job
- So God gave Adam another job
- **Genesis 2:19**
- As you read that verse, not a lot of excitement bound up in it
- The animals came by and Adam assigned them names
- **Genesis 2:20**
- Adam did the job he was assigned but something was still missing
- **Genesis 2:21-23**
- A whole different sense to this – Adam is excited
- Standing before is a perfect woman – and this is before fig-leaf bikinis so she is naked
- His response to her is totally different than when he saw the animals

- God created this woman in such a way that it would cause a natural response in Adam
- We need to understand something about how God made us
- Men were created to be attracted to the female form and women were created to be appealing to the male eye
- **Genesis 2:25**
- And if we had stayed in chapter 2 of Genesis we would all still be naked and unashamed
- But, Chapter 3 of Genesis happened and sin entered the human race
- And men have been engaged in a battle ever since
- For some men this battle is fierce, for others it is a nuisance or distraction, and many it is a source of great shame and defeat in their life
- Sadly, many men are ignorant of the danger they are in, and will discover too late just how their ignorance is going to cost them
- Let's pray and ask God to begin to show us a pathway to victory
- **Pray**

### Teaching

- **Danger: Every Man's Battle**
- Turn to **2 Samuel 8**
- We are going to look at a very familiar account in the life of David
- David has become the king of Israel
- In chapter 8 is listing of some of his conquests
- **2 Samuel 8:1-5**
- King David is kicking butts and taking names – no nation can stand against him
- Which is what told David in the previous chapter
- **2 Samuel 7:8-9**
- God had big plans for David and the people of Israel
- God was going to make Israel great in the eyes of the whole world
- Turn to **2 Samuel 11**
- God's plan was to use David to establish a kingdom that would have led to the introduction of the Messiah

- A kingdom that would be a living testimony of God’s grace, power, and mercy
- But then something happened – something that derailed much of the good that God had planned for David
- **2 Samuel 11:1**
- The text doesn’t explain why David stayed back from the battle
- He was a very successful warrior, and his presence would have inspired his men to great feats of courage
- Like the time he was thinking out loud about the water in Bethlehem **2 Samuel 23:15-17**

**And David said with longing, “Oh, that someone would give me a drink of the water from the well of Bethlehem, which *is* by the gate!” So the three mighty men broke through the camp of the Philistines, drew water from the well of Bethlehem that was by the gate, and took it and brought *it* to David. Nevertheless he would not drink it, but poured it out to the LORD.**

- ‘But’ here he is in Jerusalem
- He was not where he should have been
- And then comes the beautiful female form
- **2 Samuel 11:2**
- Now, we might question this woman’s character, why was she bathing where someone could see her?
- But the issue is not what she was doing, but what David did
- David looks out from the roof of his home and he sees a very beautiful woman in all her glory
- Guys, this is important – we can’t always control what we see, but we can control where we look
- I have shared my own struggle with this before
- I was driving in my neighborhood and saw a very attractive woman
- I noticed but it didn’t really register with me as a danger
- Some days later I happened to be driving by her house again and she was doing yard work in a bikini
- Over the next few weeks I noticed her a few more times
- And then one day as I was turning out of my driveway in the direction of her house, the thought crossed my mind, ‘I wonder what she is wearing today?’
- What I realized in that moment was that I intended to look

- I knew that I was in sin
  - That night I confessed it to Kelly and I committed to not drive by her house anymore
  - I couldn't control what I saw, I had control over where I looked
  - I shared that at a Men's Breakfast and asked them to hold me accountable
  - To ask me a simple question; Left or right? Left was toward her house and right was away
  - Kelly has even gotten into the habit of not driving down that street when I am with her
  - What's the big deal you might ask
  - I would like to quote from the book we will be going through together
  - This is the danger of the look – **Every Man's Battle page 66**
- For males, impurity of eyes is sexual foreplay. Foreplay is any sexual action that naturally takes us down the road to intercourse.**
- Just seeing Bathsheba was not sin for David
  - But David did more than just see her – he looked – that look led to curiosity, just like it did with me
  - **2 Samuel 11:3**
  - Who is this beautiful woman?
  - David is in full blown temptation
  - God has made us a promise when it comes to temptation **1**
- Corinthians 10:13**
- 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*.**
- My way of escape was to turn right, and not left
  - David had a way out also
  - Bathsheba was the wife of Uriah – she was a married woman – married to one of David's mighty men
  - David chose to ignore the exit sign from his path to sin
  - **2 Samuel 11:4**
  - The Bible teaches clearly that there are consequences for sin **Romans 6:23a**

**For the wages of sin is death...**

- The sense of the text is that David only had this one hookup with Bathsheba
- But, oh the consequences – all began because of one look
- Bathsheba, Uriah’s wife becomes pregnant by David
- David tries to cover it up by recalling Uriah from the war and encouraging him to sleep with his wife
- Then they can say that Uriah is the father
- That doesn’t work so David conspires with the general of the army to have Uriah killed by the enemy
- All that resulted from one look
- And then after a time of mourning David takes Bathsheba as his wife
- **2 Samuel 11:27**
- He might imagine that he has gotten away with it
- God is not pleased and he is going to deal with David
- **2 Samuel 12:1-8**
- David took for himself something that belonged to another man
- David already had several beautiful women as wives
- And God said I could have given you more
- All this started with one look
- **2 Samuel 12:9-12**
- The consequences of this one look followed David all the rest of his life
- The son that resulted from his sin died
- One of David’s sons. Amnon, rapes his half-sister Tamar
- Tamar’s brother Absalom murders Amnon
- Later Absalom conspires to depose his father and make himself king
- Absalom is killed in the process
- All that began with a look
- Turn in your Bible to **Proverbs 5**
- We can’t totally prevent what we see, but we can control what we look at
- God created to you to be visually attracted to the female form
- But when God did that, He meant for you to be attracted to one female form

- **Proverbs 5:15-17**

- This is referring to choosing to look at anything that leads to sexual stimulation – pornography in any form – Victoria’s Secret commercials – look away
- ‘fountains be dispersed’ = ejaculation through sexual acts with someone or through masturbation

- **Proverbs 5:18-20**

- There is only one way given to men to satisfy their sexual desire, through one woman in the covenant relationship of marriage
- I want you to notice something about verse 19
- ‘Let her breasts satisfy you at all times’ – implies choice
- I can choose to let my wife’s female form satisfy me or not
- And the exhortation is that I should do it ‘at all times’
- Then it says, ‘and always be enraptured with her love’
- If you are dissatisfied with your wife, the problem is not her
- Of course, she may not be the perfect specimen of beauty that she once was, but then you probably aren’t either
- Your mind can be trained to believe anything you want it to believe
- I believe that God wants me to always be sexually attracted to my wife and her alone
- I believe that God gave her to me and that she is perfect for me
- I’m going to share with you something God gave me decades ago
- If you are married, I want you to picture your wife in your mind
- If you’re single, you can do this to, except you can’t put a face to this person – not until God brings Miss Perfect to you
- And I want you to imagine the perfect image of her, perfect face, hair, body, everything
- Oh wait, I forgot, there is one condition for creating this image
- Your image of her must be exactly what she is today – her face, her hair, body, everything
- If God gave her to you and He thinks she is perfect for you
- Then if you don’t think she is perfect, the problem is not her, it is your thinking that is wrong

- This does not mean that she is perfect, it just means that I don't need her to change to be sexually aroused by her, to be satisfied with her
  - And because she is perfect in my mind, no other woman can be perfect – less than perfect – makes it easier to resist the temptation to look
  - Doesn't make me immune, just makes it easier
  - Guys, there is danger out there
  - We can't always control what we see, but we can control what we are looking at
  - David's look at Bathsheba is a warning that even just one look can cost us everything **Job 31:1 NASB**
- I have made a covenant with my eyes; how then could I gaze at a virgin?**
- Guys, time to make a covenant with your eyes
  - Amen?!
  - **Prayer**