



What Does It Mean to Us?

1) Are you on the run

We all have times of questioning the strength that is in us. Down deep if, we have surrendered our lives to Jesus, we should know that we have an all-mighty God that can do all things and that we “Can do all things through Christ who strengthens me” (Philippians 4:13).

Like David that was running from Saul we all live in fear from time to time. The Covid Pandemic was a great example. Yes, Covid is real and absolutely Covid is bad. But Covid, like our other problems, is not bigger than an all-powerful God that loves us deeply.

We must remember and cling to Philippians 4:13. There is nothing that is too big for you and I when we keep our focus on Jesus Christ and what He did for us.

If you are on the run today from God, know that you can't outrun Him. He is right there waiting for you to turn around and come back to Him. David actually ran into the land of Gath, where he lived with the people that hated our God. Today's world hates our God and no matter if we even run into the middle of that place, God wants us back.

2) Are you shrinking your duties

Men, this is for you... God has given us responsibilities and in today's world we are being put down for living out the life and responsibilities that God has called us to. The world would rather see us home on the roof than being out and doing “battle”. We aren't expected to be the strong leaders that God has called us to be in our homes, work, churches and in the world.

Our world would rather have us be a Homer Simpson than a Ward Cleaver. For those that don't know who Ward Cleaver was, he was a strong father than loved and led his family. He worked hard to provide for them. Of course that was all TV, but it shows how our world wants to see men today.

Stand up and be a man of God in your world. Ladies, be a woman of God. Be strong and be an example for God.

3) Where are you walking, standing and sitting

God tell us that we are to be “In the world but not of the world”. This would seem to make it a hard in today's world. But this world has never been without sin, since Eve took the first bite. The same sins that plagued the world 2000 years ago are here now. They might be a little more in your face and out in the open, but they are the same.

Our world today has made many sins acceptable. What used to be hidden is now right out in broad daylight. That doesn't make it okay for God's children to be part of it. We are to be out there for others to see a godly example, without partaking of the sinful life.



With sin in the open and acceptable today we can easily walk into it at every turn, that isn't a problem. It's when we stand amongst it and then sit in it that we have an issue. Let's use a modern issue. Our computers and phones are full of all sorts of filth and sin. Things pop up in front of us often. We have a choice in what we do with it. We can "walk" past by it if we chose. If we take a quick glimpse instead of immediately deleting it, we are "standing" amongst it. When we "sit" down and desire to partake we are "sitting" in it. These sins lead to more and like David, we eventually end up over our heads and have lifetime consequences.

When I was in high school I remember my dad having a "talk" with me. He was warning me against sexual sin that can happen when a guy gets his driver's license and has a girlfriend. He told me that if I hadn't already decided ahead of time that I wasn't going to let that happen, I would be in the back seat before I even knew what was happening.

This is the case with all sin. If we don't decide ahead of time that we are going to "run away" like Joseph did from Potiphar's wife, but instead we stop and look down at the beautiful woman like David did with Bathsheba, we are already in the jaws of sin's trap. Make up your mind before you even see the temptation that you aren't going to give into it

4) Forgiveness and Redemption are waiting

It is hard to know how long David's fall lasted from the time that he didn't go to war with his soldiers in the spring until Nathan confronted him with his sin. The story lasts from 2 Samuel 11 thru 2 Samuel 12. There are times when our sinful walk is minutes and there are times when for some it might last a lifetime.

If we only took chapter 11 and studied that we would see a man with few godly qualities. J. Vernon McGee once said, "There is nothing in this chapter that would reveal that David is a man of God."

The enemy knows that if He can get our focus off of the Lord and onto ourselves in the events and situations that come into our lives this year, then our witness for Christ will not be what it should be. There will be times that, like David, we will fail. But the one thing that we can count on is the fact that God is standing waiting to forgive us.

Romans 6:23

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Jesus has paid the price for our sins and the forgiveness has been extended to us. Our redemption is secured by the blood of Jesus Christ.

**BEAR
MAN**



Wherever you are in your walk with the Lord, know that you are never out of His love. You might fall but Jesus is there to lift you back up again. You can count on that.

God sees something that is beautiful in you that He really wants to bring out. He wants you to shine before the others in this world. Are you fighting Him? Or are you allowing Him to turn you into all He sees in you?