

PRECEPTS FOR LIFE

a Production of Precept Ministries International P.O. Box 182218, Chattanooga, TN 37422-7218 1-888-734-7707/ www.preceptsforlife.com

The following is an actual transcript of the PRECEPTS FOR LIFE Broadcast. For the purpose of filling transcript requests quickly, they have received only light editing. If you have questions concerning the material covered in this broadcast, Kay has published a number of books explaining the Scripture in depth. These books may be ordered by contacting the telephone number or address printed above.

SERIES: A Marriage Without Regrets

TITLE: Program 30 - What Do You Do After You've Yielded To Temptation

FRIDAY

OPEN

God is saying that He will forgive sins, that He is merciful, that He is full of loving kindness and that if we will do what He says, then God will meet us at our point of obedience. So 1 John 1:9, says, "If we confess or sins, if we name our sin for what it is, He, God is faithful and just to forgive us our sin, but to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

PART ONE

If only we would come to our senses in the heat of that temptation, in the pull of that desire. If only we would put on out brakes and pull it back even though it's a tug of war. If you pull back you can know this that God's behind you and He's pulling on you and if you will pull back when you're tempted you won't end up in the mud. But you can also know this: that if you yield and if you end up in the mud, God is there. He has a way for you to get out of the mud. He has a way to clean you up. And He has a path, a



direction for you to take. You say, "That's great. Then I can just go ahead and He'll get me out of the mud." No, because there are always consequences to our sin. We want to continue to look at David. David, who was enticed when he saw Bathsheba taking a bath, when he called and sent for her and brought her to his house, when he took her, when he lay with her and when she conceived and became pregnant. What did David do? Did David weep? Did David confess his sin? Did David cry out to God? No, Precious One, he didn't. He tried to get out of his predicament, his own way. And in doing it his way, he dug a deeper hole, a deeper pit that he sank down into. Little did he realize the consequences that would come his way. Let's go back to 2 Samuel. We know now that Bathsheba has sent to David and said, "I am pregnant." Instead of David falling on his face, instead of David weeping, instead of David confessing as God said, David came up with a scenario. Listen. And it says, "Then David spoke to Joab." Joab was his commander. "Saying, send me Uriah, the Hittite. So Joab sent Uriah to David. And when Uriah came to him, David asked concerning the welfare of Joab and the people in the state of war." Do you see the hypocrisy? Do you see the shaded lying? How is Joab? Well, he's just talked to Joab. He knows how Joab is. He's putting on a front. He's planning a way to cover his tracks, to cover his sin. And it says, "Then David said to Uriah, 'Go down to your house and wash your feet.' And Uriah went out of the king's house and a present from the king was sent after him. But Uriah slept at the door of the king's house with all the servants of his lord and did not go down to his house." Now why do you suppose David wanted Uriah to go home? Because he wanted Uriah to sleep with his wife so that that baby would be considered to be Uriah's baby. I mean, it just happened, he's called him home. You know, no lapse of time. He'll sleep with her. He'll go back to the battle front. He'll come home. She'll say, "I'm pregnant." And he'll say, "Oh isn't that wonderful!" He's got it all figured out, except for one thing. The integrity, listen carefully, the integrity of Uriah, the integrity of this Hittite,



not an Israelite, but a Hittite, a man that has come over to David's side and has gone to war with David, but is not an Israelite. He's a Hittite. Watch what happens. It says, "Now when they told David saying, 'Uriah did not go down to his house." Because after all, remember he sent a present to the house. Don't you wonder, didn't these servants kind of figure out what was happening? Sure they did. Don't you know that there was a lot of talk in the servants' quarters? "Now when they told David saying, 'Uriah did not go down to his house.' David said to Uriah, 'Have you not come from a journey? Why didn't you go to your house?' And Uriah said to David, 'The ark and Israel and Judah are staying in temporary shelters. They're in tents. And my lord Joab and the servant of my lord are camping in the open field. Shall I then go to the house to eat and drink and to lie with my wife? By your life and the life of your soul I will not do this thing. You can't get me to compromise. I'm supposed to be at war. My buddies are at war. They're out in the battlefield. They're not living in a house. They're living in temporary shelters. They're in tents. They're away from their wives. It's the time of war. Do you think I'm going to do that?" What do you think was happening to David as he listened to this? Where was David? David was at home in his house. Where should David have been? Well 2 Samuel 11:1 says, "It was the time when kings go to battle but David remained in Jerusalem." Here is this Hittite that's saying the ark of God is there and my lords are all in these tents. I'm not going to stay home. What did that do to David? It shamed him. Have you ever had someone talking to you about their convictions? They're talking about their standards. They're talking about the fact that they're not going to compromise. They're talking about the fact that they're going to be righteous, that they're going to be godly and what they are saying is really putting you to shame in the inner man. That's happened to me. I've listened to some people at times and I've thought, "You're more righteous than I am." And you know when I see that, iron sharpens iron. And it makes me determined. I'm going to be more righteous. "When he did this, then David



said to Uriah, 'Stay here today also and tomorrow I will let you go.' So Uriah remained in Jerusalem that day and the next. Now watch, David's not through with this. David is going to get that guy in bed with his wife, with Uriah's wife. "Now David called him and he ate and he drank before him. And he made him drunk." He thought, "There's another way. If I get him drunk his standards are going to be lowered." And you know what? That's what happens many, many times. I remember the story of a girl that went to a party and got so drunk. And she woke up after having slept with a couple guys. That night in her drunkenness, she lost her virginity. The one thing that a woman can give to a man and a man, listen carefully, can give to his wife that they give to no other. You know the Bible talks about staying away from strong drink. The Bible talks about, and you can find it in Proverbs, staying away from it when it's moving in the cup, you know when it's fermented. Stay away from it because you lose your memory. You lose your convictions. You know what? It didn't work with Uriah, much to David's dismay. It says, "In the evening, he went out to lie, Uriah went out to lie on his bed with the servants, but he did not go down to his house." He was drunk. David had gotten him drunk, but he didn't go home. Those convictions held. That nobility held. It says, "Now it came about in the morning that David wrote a letter to Joab and sent it by the hand of Uriah." He takes the paper. He writes the letter, puts the king's seal on it, and says, "Here Uriah, take this to Joab." This is a noble man. He's not going to break the seal. He's not going to see what it says. He trusts his king. And it says, "And he had written in the letter...," David had written in the letter, "... 'Place Uriah in the front line of the fiercest battle and withdraw from him so that he may be struck down and die." Do you realize what he has just done? He has said, "I want you to get rid of this man." He has just murdered him. David could have fallen on his face and said, "God, forgive me. I have taken another man's wife and I have made her pregnant." And yet David did not stop dead in his tracks and confess his sin. How do you handle



temptation? What do you do when you have sinned? The first thing you need to do, Beloved, is fall on your knees, and I would do it just as an act of penance. I would get as low as I could get and I would confess to God. David didn't do that. You see, David thought he could cover sins. So when you sin, Beloved, the most important thing to do is not to try to cover that sin, not to ignore that sin, not try to get out of the consequences of it, but the most important thing you can do is fall flat on your face and confess it to God. I want to share with you a very important scripture, that you've got to know and you've got to follow, 1 John, chapter 1, verse 9 says this, "If we confess or sins...," And the word for confess there is "homo logeo", "h-o-m-o1-o-g-e-o". Logeo is from logos, from the word. Homo means the same. In other words, you confess your sin. You say the same thing about your sin that God says about it. You don't whitewash your sin. You don't gloss over your sin. In other words, if you have been immoral, you name it as immorality.

PART TWO

This is what Proverbs says. And we need to understand this. And I would write it down. It's Proverbs 28 and it's verse 13. And it says, "He who conceals, he who covers up his transgressions, his sin, will not prosper, but he who confesses and, forsakes them, will find compassion." What is God saying to us? God is saying that He will forgive sins, that He is merciful, that He is full of loving kindness and that if we will do what He says, then God will meet us at our point of obedience. So 1 John 1:9 says, "If we confess or sins...," if we name our sin for what it is, "...He...," God "...is faithful and just to forgive us our sin...," Now watch. Not only to forgive us what we confess, but "...to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." In other words, the minute that you are crying out to God, the minute that you are agreeing with God that you have sinned, the minute that you say to God, "God, You are righteous. You are right. I was wrong. Then God sees that heart and when



God sees that heart, then God says, "That's a heart that wants to be right with Me. That's a heart that wants to be clean." So I'm cleansing the whole heart. I'm cleansing the whole person because I see the heart of this one and I see that they want to be right with Me." Now that's not what David did, he tried to cover his sin. And it got worse and worse and worse. As Uriah stood fast and Uriah wouldn't compromise and Uriah retained his nobility. Well we began looking at: how do you handle temptation? The first thing we saw was: be where you are supposed to be. The second thing that we saw is, when you see what you shouldn't, turn immediately away from it. We saw number three, that you are to flee youthful lust. It doesn't mean that you're a youth. It means that there are lusts that you can have that just cry out for satisfaction. All right. So you're to watch what you see, because when you see then you desire, then you take and then you eat. And that's exactly what he did. Number four, if you sin, immediately confess that sin and immediately forsake that sin. Now I want to take you to 2 Corinthians, chapter 7. Paul wrote to the Corinthians because he had to correct sin in the church. And at first he regretted writing them because it made them so sorrowful. But then he says, "Now I rejoice, not that you were made sorrowful, but that you were made sorrowful to the point of repentance." Now what is repentance? You're right. It's a change of mind. It's thinking this way and you change your mind and when you change your mind then you change your direction. So he says, "You were made sorrowful to the point of repentance." Well David in all of this with Uriah was not made sorrowful to the point of repentance. And God gave him every opportunity. God used Uriah like a mirror so that when David looked at Uriah, David, looking in the mirror of Uriah's nobility and righteousness, he could have seen his own spots. He could have seen his own defects and he could have said, "God, I see my sin. You've given me a mirror. You've shoved it in my face. It couldn't be more clear. God, forgive me." But instead of doing that, David is now going to put Uriah to death, this noble man. And what David



doesn't stop and think about is, David's going to keep looking in a mirror for the rest of his life. And David's going to remember. And when other noble men like Uriah come around, David's going to remember what he did. But he's not thinking about that now. He's not taking the course. Now Paul writes to them and he says, "You were made sorrowful according to the will of God." There is a godly guilt. There is a godly sorrow. He says, "In order that you might not suffer loss in anything through us. For the sorrow that is according to the will of God produces a repentance without regret, leading to salvation." Now, listen to what he says. "But the sorrow of the world produces death." Now what's the sorrow of the world? You've seen it. You've seen it on public television. The sorrow of the world is the sorrow, I got caught. I got found out. Not, God, I hurt You. Not, God, I wounded you. Not, God, forgive me, I have desecrated Your name because I have professed to be a Christian and I've lived this way. But he says, "the sorrow of the world produces death." So there's a godly sorrow and there's a worldly sorrow. The godly sorrow leads to life. The worldly sorrow leads to death. The godly sorrow produces repentance. The worldly sorrow produces regret. "I am so mad that I got caught. If only they hadn't brought this up. I almost got away with it." That's the worldly sorrow. It's the regret. So let's go back now to 2 Samuel, chapter 11. In 2 Samuel, chapter 11, the next thing that I want you to see is you need to turn at God's reproof. How do you handle temptation? What do you do when you have sinned, when you didn't handle it right? Then you turn at God's reproof. Go to Proverbs, chapter 1, verse 23 because Proverbs, chapter 1, talks about wisdom. And it talks about listening to wisdom. It talks about paying attention to wisdom. And it tells us, how important wisdom is. As a matter of fact, I marked the word, "wisdom". I put a little red line around it and then I color it yellow because yellow is my color for God. And wisdom comes from God. And He personifies wisdom as a woman. And it says, "Wisdom shouts in the streets. She lifts her voice in the square." And then this is what she says, verse 23,



"Turn at my reproof, behold I will pour out my spirit on you." That's what David should have done. David should have turned at God's reproof and God would have poured out His Spirit on David. But instead, he doesn't listen. And where does he end up? He ends up really with Death. I want you to go to James, chapter 4. Because in James, chapter 4, we have God saying, "What's the source of quarrels and conflicts among you? Is it not the source your pleasures that wage war in your members?" He says, "You lust and you do not have so you commit murder." You lust. David lusted. He got what he wanted. He got Bathsheba, but he also got a woman pregnant. Now he wants to get rid of Uriah. He can't. So what does he do? He commits murder. Listen to me very carefully. Sin never stands still. Sin will take you, Precious One, farther than you ever wanted to go. It will cost you more than you ever thought you would pay. And it will keep you longer than you ever thought you would stay. Sin is very, very costly. And that's why God says, "Turn at My reproof." That's why God says, "Don't cover your sins. Confess your sins." That's why God is saying, "You deal with these lusts. You deal with these desires." David put himself at enmity with God because he wouldn't do it God's way. Don't you do that. Do it God's way.