

And It Came to Pass in an Evening-Tide

by C.H. Spurgeon

C.H. Spurgeon's sermon warns of the ever-present dangers of temptation, particularly in moments of idleness and the importance of vigilance and prayer.

Scripture: Psalm 121:7-8, Proverbs 4:23, Matthew 26:41, Romans 13:14, 1 Corinthians 10:12, Galatians 5:16, Ephesians 6:11, 2 Timothy 2:22, James 4:7, 1 Peter 5:8

Topics: "Vigilance in Faith", "Temptation"

Description

C.H. Spurgeon emphasizes the ever-present danger of temptation, illustrating how even the most secure can fall prey to sin, as exemplified by David's encounter with Bathsheba. He warns that idleness and luxury can lead to spiritual complacency, making one more vulnerable to temptation. Spurgeon urges believers to remain vigilant and active in their faith, recognizing that no place is immune to sin's allure. He highlights the necessity of divine grace to guard against the corruptions of the heart and the schemes of Satan, especially during the evening when temptations may arise. The sermon serves as a reminder to seek the Holy Spirit's protection and to maintain a watchful spirit at all times.

Transcript

At that hour David saw Bathsheba. We are never out of the reach of temptation. Both at home and abroad we are liable to meet with allurements to evil; the morning opens with peril, and the shades of evening find us still in jeopardy. They are well kept whom God keeps, but woe unto those who go forth into the world, or even dare to walk their own house unarmed. Those who think themselves secure are more exposed to danger than any others. The armour-bearer of Sin is Self-confidence.

David should have been engaged in fighting the Lord's battles, instead of which he tarried at Jerusalem, and gave himself up to luxurious repose, for he arose from his bed at eventide. Idleness and luxury are the devil's jackals, and find him abundant prey. In stagnant waters noxious creatures swarm, and neglected soil soon yields a dense tangle of weeds and briars. Oh for the constraining love of Jesus to keep us active and useful! When I see the King of Israel sluggishly leaving his couch at the close of the day, and falling at once into temptation, let me take warning, and set holy watchfulness to guard the door.

Is it possible that the king had mounted his housetop for retirement and devotion? If so, what a caution is given us to count no place, however secret, a sanctuary from sin! While our hearts are so like a tinder-box, and sparks so plentiful, we had need use all diligence in all places to prevent a blaze. Satan can climb housetops, and enter closets, and even if we could shut out that foul fiend, our own corruptions are

enough to work our ruin unless grace prevent. Reader, beware of evening temptations. Be not secure. The sun is down but sin is up. We need a watchman for the night as well as a guardian for the day. O blessed Spirit, keep us from all evil this night. Amen.

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